

Robert Johnson records on Frans Wildenhain

RITArc.0486

Inventory by Lisa Witt
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Robert Johnson graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, came to Rochester in 1954, and while employed at Eastman Kodak, voraciously studied piano at Eastman School of Music. He was an avid collector of Frans Wildenhain's work. Mr. Johnson donated much of his Wildenhain collection to R.I.T.

Frans Wildenhain (1905-1980) joined the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in 1950 as a founding faculty member of the newly installed School for American Craftsmen (SAC). Over the next 20 years, he enriched the School's curriculum and its students, advanced the craft and art of ceramics, and broadened global appreciation for handcrafted pottery and other goods.

Box 1

Folder 1: Exhibition Catalogs

- 8" x 8" brown catalog titled "Frans Wildenhain" Exhibition in Bevier Gallery October 1975
[signed by Frans W. "To my friends, Bob and Winn"]
- Corresponding invitation to opening reception October 17, 1975
- 10" x 8" gray catalog from "Frans Wildenhain Retrospective" at University Art Gallery, SUNY Binghamton December, 1975

Folder 2: Clippings and Correspondence

- black and white invitation to Frans Wildenhain show at Shop 1
- black and white picture postcard of Frans and Lilli Wildenhain addressed to Bob Johnson Dec, 1972
- Shop 1 Christmas card of Wildenhain sculpture
- 8"x10" b/w phot of Wildenhain in his studio Aug 1979
- letter from the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester dated May 27, 1968
- receipt of ceramics from SUNY Binghamton 9/28/74 containing list of pieces received.
- undated letter from Metropolitan Museum and Art Center in Miami
- letter from the Museum of Contemporary Crafts Oct. 27, 1977
- letter from the Museum of Contemporary Crafts May 17, 1978
- letter from the Museum of Contemporary Crafts undated
- letter from the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester dated July 20, 1979 contains list
- letter from the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester dated Aug 2, 1979 contains list of items loaned

-letter from the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester dated October 18, 1979 to Robert Johnson regarding the use of Wildenhain art works used on display.

-letter from the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester dated December 17, 1980

-letter from the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester dated Jan. 8, 1981 confirming receipt of donations.

-letter from the Charles R Penney July 6, 1981

-Deed of Gift letter from Archives of American Art dated August 11, 1983 regarding Wildenhain slides.

-2 copies of letter to Bob Johnson from Archives of American Art dated August 23, 1983 regarding donation of Wildenhain slides to the Smithsonian.

-Exhibition checklist of Wildenhain art works no date or place.

-2 thank you cards

-Times Union newspaper clipping dated October 26, 1984 titled "Frans Wildenhain".

-2 copies of Democrat and Chronicle news article "Revealing the energy of ceramist Frans Wildenhain" dated October 28, 1984.

Folder 3: Receipts for Wildenhain artwork

Folder 4: Slides and Photographs

-19 color slides of Wildenhain artwork photographed by Geoff Tesch on April 20, 2000

-40 color slides of Wildenhain artwork unknown photographer-Johnson?

-30 color photographs of SUNY Binghamton Wildenhain Retrospective