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Armory Show, 1912-1915
Series 95
1 Folder

History or Biography: The Association of American Painters and Sculptors held their First International Exhibition at the 69th Infantry N.G.N.Y. Armory from February 15 - March 15, 1913. It was the largest exhibition of international modern art ever held, showing more than 1200 pieces. The impact on the art world, especially on young artists was immediate and intense. The A.A.P.S. was proclaimed more vital than the National Academy of Design had ever been, and artists no longer looked to the Academy for recognition even though the A.A.P.S. did not long continue as an organization or mount such an exhibition again.

John Mowbray-Clarke, who is the recipient for the correspondence in this collection, was assistant-secretary and one of the charter members of the Association, which was formed in December of 1911. Arthur B. Davies, painter, and president of the group, acted as sponsor, and Elmer L. MacRae, another member, both have autographed items in the collection.

Provenance: This material on the Armory Show was the gift of William I. Homer in 1984.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on use of the materials in the department for research; all patrons must comply with federal copyright regulations.

Processor: Sigrid Pohl Perry (revised 2008)

Contents List:

- A. The Association of American Painters and Sculptors
 - Statement of purpose and organization (with typed transcription); membership list; blank stationery
 - Announcement concerning the First International Exhibition of original art works at the 69th Infantry, N.G.N.Y. Armory, February 15 - March 15, 1913.
 - Notice from the Domestic Art Committee requesting examples of art work, January 20, 1913. Presumably sent to members of the A.A.P.S.
- B. Correspondence
 - Hamilton Holt, TLS to John Mowbray-Clarke, 1/6/1912, 1p.
 - [Arthur B. Davies], ACS to [John Mowbray-Clarke], 8/7/1912, 1p.
 - Lydia S. Hays, ALS to John Mowbray-Clarke, 2/12/1913, 3pp.
 - Elmer L. MacRae, ADS to J. Mowbray-Clarke, 4/5/1915, 1p. (dues receipt)
 - Empty envelope postmarked 1/29/1913 not on original gift list.
- C. Graphics
 - Original pencil sketch by George M. Luks, "American Sculptors and Painters Exhibition." Design is for Armory show poster.