Guide to the Nina Winkel Papers
and Sculpture Records, 1931 - 1989

92.3

The Nina Winkel Materials were moved to the Plattsburgh State Art Museum in 2014.
Contact the Art Museum Director for more information.
http://organizations.plattsburgh.edu/museum/

Special Collections
Benjamin F. Feinberg Library
State University of New York College at Plattsburgh
2 Draper Avenue
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

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Photographic Materials Index by
Dr. Gordon Pollard

Title: Nina Winkel Papers and Sculpture Records, 1931-1989
Dates: 1931-1989
ID: 92.3
Creator: Winkel, Nina, 1905-1990
Extent: 7.46 linear feet archives; photographs and negatives
Language of Material: English, German, and French
Access Restrictions:
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Subject Headings: Winkel, Nina, 1905-1990

See also the Index to the Nina Winkel Photographic Materials:
Biographical Note

Artist Nina Koch Winkel was born in Borken, Germany in 1905. She attended the School for Arts and Crafts at Essen in 1921 and the Dusseldorf Kunstakademie from 1922 to 1923. Winkel left Germany for Paris when the National Socialist German Workers’ Party (Nazi Party) took control of the German government. In Frankfurt/Main and Paris, she studied sculpture until 1942, when she and her husband George fled the Nazi takeover of Paris. They moved to New York City, leaving much of her artwork behind.

Nina Winkel’s first job in New York City was as a cleaning woman at the Clay Club, where in her free time, she produced terra cotta sculptures while practicing her English language skills. She also taught at the serviceman’s canteen of the New York City Sculpture Center, of which she was President from 1970-73. Winkel became the first woman in New York City to get a welder’s license. Because of her small five-foot stature, coupled with long-lasting effects of a rare childhood illness related to tuberculosis, Winkel used the less physically-demanding acetylene torch, which helped her to create a unique, identifiable style of copper work. She was also heavily involved in the management of artistic organizations such as the New York City Clay Club, Sculptors Guild, and National Academy of Design.

Honors she received include the E. Watrous Gold Medal (three times), the Samuel F. B. Morse Medal, and the Louis Bennett prize. In addition, she was a Fellow of the National Sculpture Society and an Academician of the National Academy of Design.

In addition to her artistic endeavors, Nina Winkel was also an intellectual, with particular interests in the Antique and Byzantine periods of art, specifically mosaics. She spent several years as an outside reader at the Dumbarton Oaks, a research library managed by the Harvard University trustees.

The Winkel’s eventually settled in the town of Keene in Essex County, New York. She was appointed as an adjunct faculty member in the SUNY Plattsburgh Art Department in 1983. During her years at SUNY Plattsburgh she created a number of gallery exhibitions and received several awards, most notably, in 1987, the Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts and with her husband, the Distinguished Service Award.

With her passing in 1990 after an automobile accident, Nina Winkel left an artistic legacy emphasizing human emotion, war, religion and mythology, and philosophy. Her sculpture has graced some of the most prominent museums in the country and abroad. The Winkels selected SUNY Plattsburgh as the permanent repository for her artwork, research, and personal papers. The donated sculptures found a permanent home, formally dedicated on October 24, 1987, in the Meyers Fine Arts Building Winkel Sculpture Court. The papers described in this guide were received a few years later from the SUNY Plattsburgh Art Museum and are held in SUNY Plattsburgh’s Special Collections. The Winkels also established a major trust fund to provide for the care of these collections, additions to the college’s permanent art collections, and for student scholarships, faculty development and projects, and/or academic program enrichment.
Scope of the Collection

The Nina Winkel Collection includes 7.46 linear feet of materials, spanning the years 1931-1989. The collection includes correspondence in English, French, and German; exhibition catalogs and other materials; documentation of her relationship with SUNY Plattsburgh; news articles about her and her work in English and German; her research notes and writings; certificated and awards; records of the Sculpture Center/Society and other Art Organizations; and photographic materials.

Additional Nina Winkel Papers can be found at the Smithsonian Institution Archives of American Art in Washington, D. C.: http://www.aaa.si.edu/collections/nina-winkel-papers-7577

Container List

Box 1: New York City Sculpture Center Gallery Records

1/1 Gallery Records, record numbers between 578-595
1/2 Gallery Records, record numbers between 599-637
1/3 Gallery Records, record numbers between 1290-1460
1/4 Gallery Records, record numbers between 1499-1601
1/5 Gallery Records, record numbers between 1608-2034
1/6 Gallery Records, no record numbers, 1956-1978

Box 2: New York City Sculpture Center/Society Materials

2/1 Sculpture Center Brochures (Note that item 2/1/3 has Winkel as the Society President.)
2/3 1976 By-Laws
2/5 National Sculpture Review, Fall 1962; Fall 1977; Summer 1986
2/6 Meeting agendas and minutes, Society reports, Notices to membership
   2/6/1 Society notice to membership of the deaths of sculptors Cornelia Van Auken Chapin, Ralph J. Menconi, and Laurence Tompkins, and Patron Evelyn Fleri
   2/6/2 Membership Meeting Agenda, January 9, 1973
   2/6/3-2/6/11 Minutes of Meetings of the National Sculpture Society, 1976, 1981, 1988
   2/6/12 Honors and Awards Meeting—Agenda, May 10, 1988
   2/6/14 Transcription of Taped Proceedings, 11/10/1986, at National Arts Club (discusses National Sculpture Society)
2/7 Non-Winkel exhibitions at the Sculpture Center, 1952-1972
2/8 Non-Winkel exhibitions at the Sculpture Center, 1973-1988 (Note that Winkel prepared a lecture, “Tunisia, land of antiquity and tradition,” for the October 19, 1971 Cerny Retrospective—see the card inside the exhibition catalog in this folder.)
Box 3: Other Art Organizations Materials (Non-Sculpture Center/Society)

3/4 National Academy School of Fine Arts course catalog, 1988-89
3/5 The Academy Bulletin, Quarterly Newsletter of the National Academy of Design, Spring 1988
3/6 Sculptor’s Guild Materials
   3/6/1 Sculptor’s Guild Carnival brochure, March 4, 1949
   3/6/2 Sculptor’s Guild newsletter, June 1973
   3/6/3 The Guild Reporter, October 1987
   3/6/4 The Guild Reporter, October 1988
   3/6/5 Sculpture 1977, Annual Exhibition catalog
   3/6/6 Sculpture 1985, Annual Exhibition catalog
   3/6/7-8 Notices to Membership regarding the Guild Reporter
   3/6/9 Sculptor’s Guild 1986 Member Mailing List
3/7 Benefactors of the Art Gallery University of Notre Dame, 1973
3/8 Pictures on Exhibit Magazine
   3/8/1 February 1976
   3/8/2 March 1976
   3/8/3 Mach 1976
   3/8/4 April 1976
   3/8/5 January-February 1979
   3/8/6 May-June 1979
3/9 Miscellaneous exhibition catalogs and brochures (Non-Winkel, Non-Sculpture Center)

Box 4: Nina Winkel at SUNY Plattsburgh

4/1 Honorary Adjunct Faculty member—SUNY Plattsburgh, 1983
4/2 Winkel Gifts to SUNY Plattsburgh
4/3 Campus Beautification Committee, 1985
4/4 Nina Winkel Sculpture Court, 1986-1987
4/5 Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts—SUNY Plattsburgh, 1987
4/6 George and Nina Winkel Distinguished Service Award—SUNY Plattsburgh, 1987
4/7 Winkel presentations at SUNY Plattsburgh, 1984, 1988
4/8 Student essays about Winkel sculptures, 1988
4/9 Correspondence with SUNY and SUNY Plattsburgh, 1983-1989
4/10 Plattsburgh College Foundation President’s Club Plaque, 1984-1988

Box 5: News Clippings, Awards, Exhibitions, Writings, and Other Materials

5/1 English-language articles about Nina Winkel
5/2 German-language articles about Nina Winkel
5/3 Non-SUNY Plattsburgh awards and certificates—see also oversized Box 16
5/4 Miscellaneous Winkel exhibition materials
5/5 Miscellaneous German language materials
5/6  Winkel Retrospective Exhibition, 1942-1972, at the NYC Sculpture Center
5/7  Winkel Sculpture, “Justice Protectress,” installed in New York State Supreme Court
     Building in New York City, 1981
5/8  Nina Winkel/Edgar Barton Joint Exhibition at SUNY Plattsburgh, 1983
5/9  Winkel School of Athens exhibit, 1984
5/10 “Educated Eye” Exhibit, SUNY Plattsburgh, 1985
5/11 Winkel art on magazine covers
5/12 Winkel progress log and calendar for work on “Christ Crucified” sculpture for town of
     Borken, Germany, 1980
5/13 Non-Winkel paintings, prints, and drawings (possibly gifts from friends)
5/14 Winkel family genealogical materials
5/15 Questionnaire, Congregational Church, Keene Valley, 1987

Box 6: Lecture Notes from Dumbarton Oaks and other Research

6/2  Dumbarton Oaks, 1970
6/3  Dumbarton Oaks, June 1973
6/4  Dumbarton Oaks, November 1973
6/5  Dumbarton Oaks, March 1974
6/7  Research on Orpheus Mosaics
6/8  List of photographic slides used for research
6/9  Souvenir postcards of museums and sites
6/10 Notes, brochures, and correspondence on museum sites and collections
6/11 Miscellaneous research notes
6/12 German-language astrological calendar, 1930
6/13 News clippings for research
6/14 Manuscripts in German and small book of poems
6/15 Keene Valley Library Bicentennial materials (with Winkel notes), 1975-1976
6/16 Proposed “Orpheus” article for the academic journal *Archaeology*
6/17 Lecture on Byzantine Mosaics delivered at Salem College and exhibits in Winston-Salem, NC, 1966
6/18 Biography of the artist Herman Hartwich, written by Dr. Georg Jacob Wolff, translated from German to English by George and Nina Winkel, 1973

Box 7: Typescript and Handwritten Notes for Chapters for the First Half of Winkel Book

7/1  Correspondence with publishers for potential book
7/2  Table of Contents and Introduction (3 versions)
7/3  The Art and Technique of Mosaics (2 versions)
7/4  Historical Survey of Antique Mosaics (2 versions)
7/5  The Earliest Mosaics in Greece and Asia Minor (2 versions)
7/6  Early Christian Mosaics in Italy (2 versions)
7/7  The Roman Black & White Style and the Silhouette Mosaics (2 versions)
7/8  Polychrome Mosaics in Pompeii, Herculaneum, Palermo, and Palestrina
7/9  Antique Mosaics in North Africa
7/10 Villa Herculis, Piazza Armerina, Sicily (2 versions)
7/11 Roman Mosaics in England (2 versions)
Roman Mosaics in Germany and Switzerland (2 versions)
Historical survey of Byzantine Mosaic Art
The Religious Significance and Artistic Execution of Byzantine Mosaics
Christian Symbols and their Meaning
Iconoclasm (3 versions)
Rome
Ravenna (3 versions)
Palestrina

Box 8: Typescript and Handwritten Notes for Chapters for the Second Half of Winkel Book

8/1 Sabian Mosaics in Edessa (7 versions)
8/2 Spain – Roman mosaics (2 versions)
8/3 Mosaics from the 9th-14th Centuries in Greece (2 versions)
8/4 Post-Iconoclastic Mosaics in the East (2 versions)
8/5 Constantinople (2 versions)
8/6 Antique Mosaics in the Near and Middle East (2 versions)
8/7 Late Byzantine Mosaics in the East
8/8 The Balkans – Istrian Peninsula
8/9 Pre-Iconoclastic Mosaics in Greece and the Balkans (2 versions)
8/10 The Animal Mosaic in Misis, Asia Minor (2 versions)
8/11 Early Tesselated Mosaics (3 versions)
8/12 Tomb Mosaics
8/13 Roman Mosaics in Portugal (3 versions)
8/14 Evidence of Romanization in Mosiac Art (incomplete)
8/15 Weinstock und Reben als Motif in Antiken und Frueh-Christlichen Mosaiken
8/16 Notes and alternate chapters

Box 9: Correspondence in English, 1941-1984

9/1 1941-1943
9/2 1944, February-June
9/3 1944, July-December
9/4 1945-1951, bulk 1945
9/5 Correspondence regarding Winkel exhibition, NY Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1951
9/6 1953-1970
9/7 1971
9/8 1972
9/9 1974-1980
9/10 Correspondence with the Allentown Museum, 1980s
9/11 Correspondence with the Nanovsky Family, 1980s
9/12 1981-1983
9/10 1984

Box 10: Correspondence in English, 1984-1988, and Undated

10/1 Letters from visiting schoolchildren, 1984 and 1986
10/2 1985-1986
10/3  Letters from Sahl Swarz, 1984-86
10/4  Correspondence with Philip Froeder, 1986
10/5  Correspondence with the Mater Dolorosa Monastery, Sierra Madre CA, 1986
10/6  Letters from sculptor Cleo Hartwig, 1985-1987
10/7  1987
10/8  Correspondence with the Cosentino Family, 1987
10/9  Correspondence with Rosalita Lek Rieos, sponsored by Nina Winkel through the Pearl S. Buck Foundation in Thailand, 1987
10/10  1988
10/11  Correspondence with Dr. Kiell Dahlen, Nina Winkel’s physician, 1988
10/12  Letters and news articles about federal taxation changes affecting artists, 1988
10/13  Undated

Box 11: Correspondence in German, 1924-1943

11/1  1924
11/2  October 1931
11/3  November 1931
11/4  December 1931
11/5  January 1932
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Box 12: Correspondence in German, 1940-1968; bulk 1940-1949

12/1  1944
12/2  January–June 1945
12/3  July-December 1945
12/4  1946
12/5  1947
12/6  1948-1949
12/7  “Spitz’s Letters” in German, 1945-1968
12/8  1950-55

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Box 14: George Winkel Correspondence, 1930s-1949

14/1 Business Letters and Documents in French, 1930s
14/2 Business Letters and Documents in French, 1940-1945
14/3 Business Letters and Documents in French, 1946-1949
14/4 Personal Letters in French, 1937-1949
14/5 Business Letters and Documents in English, 1943
14/6 Business Letters and Documents in English, 1946-1947; 1954

Box 15: Oversize Materials

Certificates and Awards

15/1 Architectural League of New York, Honorable Mention, Henry O. Avery Award Competition for the work in Small Sculpture, titled “Mother and Child”, 1958
15/2 Architectural League of New York, Honorable Mention, Henry O. Avery Award Competition for the work in Small Sculpture, titled “EOS”, undated
15/3 National Academy of Design, Samuel Finley Breese Morse Medal, 139th Annual Exhibition, 1964
15/4 National Academy of Design certificate showing Winkel is an Associate of the Academy, 1968
15/5 National Academy of Design certificate showing Winkel is an Academician of the Academy, 1973
15/6 National Academy of Design, Certificate of Merit for an outstanding entry in the Annual Exhibition for “Luna”, 1976
15/7 National Academy of Design, Elizabeth N. Watrous Gold Medal, 153rd Annual Exhibition, 1978
15/9 National Academy of Design, Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Entry in the Annual Exhibition for “Justice Protectress”, 1981
15/10 National Academy of Design, Gold Medal, 1982
15/12 National Sculpture Society, Certificate showing that Winkel is a Member of the Society, 1958
15/13 National Sculpture Society, Certificate showing that Winkel is a Fellow of the Society, 1963
15/14 National Sculpture Society, Exhibition Bronze Medal, 38th Annual Exhibition, 1971
15/15 National Sculpture Society, Mrs. Louis Bennett Prize for Sculpture, 42nd Annual Exhibition, 1975
15/16 National Sculpture Society, E/J Liskin Purchase Prize, 48th Annual Exhibition, 1981
15/17 National Sculpture Society, Medal of Honor for Notable Achievement in American Sculpture, 1988
15/18 “Distinguished Service Award”, presented to George and Nina Winkel by the SUNY Plattsburgh College Council, 1987
15/19 Citation from the Office of Aldred Del Bello, Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York, in recognition of Winkel for her presentation of “Justice Protectress” to the Surrogate’s Court of New York County, 1983

Book, Gift from Nina Winkel to Ed Brohel, 1984


Photographic Materials