

CRANBROOK

CARL MILLES

CRANBROOK
ARCHIVES

SUBJECT GUIDE



INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Subject Guide is to provide researchers with a guide to all materials at the Cranbrook Archives concerning the Swedish sculptor, Carl Milles. The Subject Guide is organized by the following categories: Bibliography, Collections, Drawings, E & M Files, Film, Images, Microfilm, Oral Histories, and Scrapbooks.

Carl Emil Wilhelm Anderson was born 23 Jun 1875 in Lagga, Sweden. Milles attended the Jacob School in Stockholm and began as an apprentice to a cabinet maker/wood worker. He studied woodworking, carving, and modeling. He then returned to technical school full time and was awarded a prize of 200 kroner from the Swedish Arts and Crafts Society. Milles went on to work in Paris, attempting to support himself with cabinet making work, but continued to teach himself modeling. Between 1897 and 1900, Milles studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. While in Paris, he met artist Olga Granner, whom he married in 1905. In 1902, he received national recognition through his maquette for the Sten Sture monument at Upsala University. By 1920, Carl Milles was a pre-eminent sculptor in Sweden and the Professor of Modeling at the Royal Academy of Art in Stockholm.

In 1931, Milles accepted the invitation of George Gough Booth to live and work under the auspices of the Cranbrook Foundation in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. He held the position of head of the Department of Sculpture, Cranbrook Academy of Art from 1931-1951. In 1932 he settled permanently at Cranbrook and in 1934, the Cranbrook Foundation acquired a comprehensive collection of his work. He continued to win international awards, high praise, and many large commissions.

After World War II, he and Olga visited and worked in Sweden, and he further developed his estate at Lidingo. In 1950 the American Academy of Rome invited him to use their facilities, and he worked there almost full-time after his retirement from Cranbrook in 1952. He died at his home in Lidingo, Sweden on 19 Sept 1955.



Orpheus Fountain

The Cranbrook Academy of Art currently possesses 69 of Carl Milles' original sculptures and over 100 of his pieces.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Carl Milles: esculturas. Santiago: Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes. 1996. NB793.M5 A4

Lidén, Elisabeth. Between water and heaven: Carl Milles: search for American commissions. Stockholm, Sweden: Almqvist & Wiksell International; Montclair, N.J. : A. Schram, c1986. NB793.M6 L74

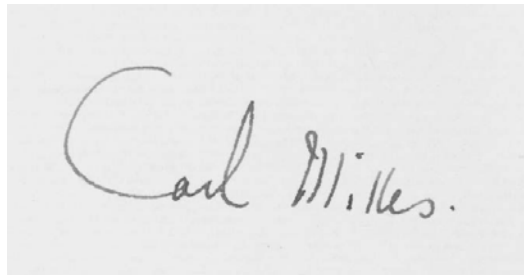
Milles, Carl. Milles at Cranbrook. Bloomfield Hills, MI: Cranbrook Academy of Art, 1961. NB79.M5 C89

Milles, Carl. Episodes from my life. Stockholm: Ehrenblad Editions AB, c1991. NB793.M6 A4

Kingswood, study in design. Bloomfield Hills, MI: Kingswood School Cranbrook, c1982. NA737.S3 K5

Rogers, Meyric R. Carl Milles: an interpretation of his work. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1940. NB793.M6 R7

Verneuil, M. P. Carl Milles, sculpteur suédois; suivi de deux études: Bildhauer Carl Milles. Paril, Bruxelles: Les Éditions van Oest, 1929. ART. VER



COLLECTIONS

Newell Hillis Arnold Papers (#2005-09)

Carl Milles was Hillis Arnold's teacher and mentor while Arnold studied at the Cranbrook Academy of Art. Milles commissioned Arnold to assist him on several projects, including the *Meeting of the Waters* in St. Louis. The collection contains personal letters between Arnold and Milles from the dates of 1935-1955.

George Gough Booth Papers (#1981-01)

The collection includes correspondence between Milles and George Gough Booth concerning Cranbrook as well as personal matters.

CRANBROOK

Henry Scripps Booth, Carolyn Farr Booth Papers (#1982-05)

The collection contains correspondence between Henry S. Booth and his father George Booth pertaining to Carl Milles and his studio as well as the book *Milles At Cranbrook*.

Kate Thompson Bromley Papers (#1981-04)

Kate Thompson lived in Bloomfield Hills and her interests centered in the arts. She was a personal friend of Carl and Olga Milles. The collection consists of photocopies of excerpts from the diaries of Kate Thompson Bromley. Many of the excerpts pertain to Bromley's relationship with Carl and Olga Milles, and include accounts of visits to their home and studio. The entries provide a social perspective about Milles' work, his personality, and views.

Cranbrook Academy of Art Records of Administration (#1981-05)

The collection includes correspondence regarding Milles' work, his personal life at Cranbrook (1941-1955), and his relationship with Cranbrook at the end of his life. Annual reports also give insight into the sculpture department during Milles' tenure.

Cranbrook Foundation: Office Records (#1981-05)

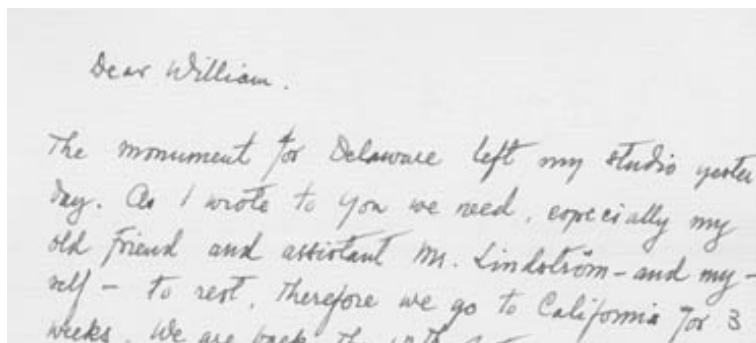
The collection contains correspondence beginning with Milles' arrival at Cranbrook through his career at the Academy of Art. Also included are lists of Milles' Sculptures at Cranbrook, purchase agreements, annual reports and publications.

Cranbrook Founders' Day Records (#1996-09)

This collection contains programs, brochures, invitations, and attendance statistics related to the Cranbrook Founders' Day event held annually at Cranbrook. Carl Milles received the Founders Medal on 23 Jun 1955.

William Gehron Papers (#2003-08)

Architect William Gehron was Carl Milles' first contact in the United States. The collection includes over 100 letters to and from Milles. Of special note are Milles' sketches included in many of the letters.



Dear William.

The monument for Delaware left my studio yesterday. As I wrote to you we need, especially my old friend and assistant Mr. Lindstrom - and myself - to rest. Therefore we go to California for 3 weeks. We are back the 19th.

Letter to William Gehron, 20 May 1937

Marguerite Kimball Papers (#1991-03)

Marguerite Kimball was a student at the Academy of Art and its financial secretary (1942 - 1968). The collection contains correspondence from and pertaining to Carl and Olga Milles (1937 – 1965). Many letters are between Marguerite Kimball and Anne Hedmark, the curator of Millesgarden in Sweden. There are also materials regarding the disposition of the contents of Milles House.

Nancy Leitch Papers (#2007-04)

Nancy Leitch was a student of Carl Milles while she attended the Cranbrook Academy of Art (1943 - 1945). The collection contains correspondence between her and Carl Milles as well as newspaper clippings about Milles.

Carl Milles Papers (#1989-13)

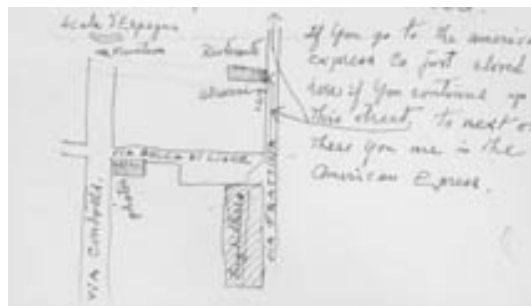
This is an artificial collection that includes correspondence, legal papers, newspaper clippings, and catalogs of exhibitions. Of special note are Milles' correspondence with Tony Rosenthal and Douglas Froeb which bring to light Milles' thoughts on spirituality and philosophy.

Bernard "Tony" Rosenthal Papers (#2000-07)

The collection includes articles and correspondence of Tony Rosenthal who studied under Carl Milles at the Academy of Art in 1939.

Saarinens Family Papers (#1990-08)

The collection contains correspondence between Eliel Saarinen and Milles. Subjects include their friendship and the Milles sculpture collection at Cranbrook.



Letter to Hillis Arnold, 24 Jun 1938

DRAWINGS

Index to scheme of Harrisburg fountain. May 1946. AD.23.4

Scheme for the Harrisburg fountains. Jan 1946. AD.23.3

Sketch for type of fountains for Harrisburg, Penna. Blue black honed granit(e). Jan 1946. AD. 23.2

*Sketch for type of fountains for Harrisburg, Penna. Blue black honed granit(e). Jan 1946.
AD 23.1*

Saarinen, Eliel. *Pedestal for Bronze Sculpture, "Sven Hedin", by Carl Milles. June 7,
1937. AD. 19.36.*

E & M FILES

Carl Milles

The biographical files contain a variety of articles pertaining to Carl Milles and his sculptures, publications of his work, and Academy of Art docent training materials. Of particular note are Milles' own descriptions of the sculptures purchased by the Cranbrook Foundation. Subject files can also be found on many of Milles' sculpture, including Orpheus Fountain, Europa and the Bull, etc.

FILM

Cranbrook Academy of Art historical films (1939-1942).

The films show various scenes of Milles at Cranbrook and Millesgarden. The films are available on VHS and can be viewed at the Archives.

IMAGES

The Cranbrook Archives Photograph Collection includes over 1500 images of Milles and his sculptures. Cranbrook's photographer Richard G. Askew took many of the early photographs. Milles loved his work and invited Askew to travel with him to photograph his works in St. Paul, St. Louis, Delaware, and at the 1939 World Fair. Balthazar Korab, among others took more recent color photographs of Milles' work.



"Dancing Girls" by Milles 1944



Carl and Olga Milles

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Carl Feiss photo collection (#1988-23)

This collection includes photographs of Carl Milles and Eliel Saarinen.

Margueritte Kimball photo collection (#1991-03)

The collection includes color slides of Milles and his work.

Mary Riordan Slides (#2000-04)

The collection includes slides of Milles' sculptures at Cranbrook as well as Millesgarden.

MICROFILM

Microfilm, Carl and Olga Milles Papers, Archives of American Art- The Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts

ORAL HISTORIES

Tape 72, Richard Askew Oral History Interview (11 Jul 1990)

Tape 257, Marshall Fredericks and Signe Karlstrom Oral History Interview (13 Nov 1972)

Tapes 238-239, Marshall Fredericks Oral History Interview (2 Jun 1981)

Tapes 182-183, Marshall Fredericks Oral History Interview (15 Dec 1995)

Tapes 259-259, Signe Karlstrom Oral History Interview (2 Nov 1972)

Tape 236-237, Svea Klein On Milles Oral History Interview (29 Oct 1979, 16 Nov 1979)

Tape 212, Katherine McCoy Oral History Interview (June 1972)

Tapes 221-225, Tony Rosenthal Oral History Interview (20 & 27 Jun 1998, 4 Jul 1998)

Tape 266, Tony Rosenthal on Cranbrook Oral History Interview (31 Oct 1978)

SCRAPBOOKS

The Cranbrook Foundation Public Relations Department created scrapbooks of newspaper clippings pertaining to Cranbrook from 1927 - 1969. Clippings relative to Milles and his work can be found throughout.