DOROTHY MORANG PAPERS

New Mexico Museum of Art Library and Archives

Extent: .833 linear feet [Box 118]
Dates: 1946-1990
Language: English
Access and Use: No restrictions

Related Materials: The museum's exhibition files, catalogs and other institutional archives mention Dorothy Morang.

The museum library has a vertical file on the Santa Fe Women Artists Exhibiting Group.

The museum library also contains biographical files on Dorothy and Alfred Morang.
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Introduction

Dorothy Morang [hereafter DM] was born in Bridgton, Maine on November 24, 1906, the daughter of Allen and Bertha Ingalls (Green) Clark. Her early formal study was in music at the Conservatory of Music in Boston, Mass.

Almost entirely self-taught in painting, except for advice from Alfred Morang (whom she married on June 13, 1930) and Raymond Jonson, and a class in Dynamic Symmetry with Emil Bisttram, she progressed as an artist, securing invitations to exhibit her work in a great many galleries, museums and traveling shows throughout the country.

She came to New Mexico in 1937 with Alfred Morang upon doctor's recommendation that Alfred needed a higher, drier climate for his health.

In addition to her work as an artist, she also worked for the Museum of New Mexico in various capacities from 1942 – 1967 and was an active member of the Santa Fe Women Artists Exhibiting Group.

She divorced Alfred Morang in 1950, and was remarried 15 years later to John C. Emmett. She died at the age of 88 years on December 19, 1994.

Details of her exhibitions, traveling shows, and awards are to be found in biographical statements in Section I, infra. She is listed in American Art, Who's Who In American Art, Who's Who in the West, Who's Who of American Women, and other publications.

Most of this Collection was found in an album containing a vast number of newspaper clippings and color photographs of her work, all attached to the album pages with an adhesive tape. Not otherwise protected from deterioration, the clippings became yellowed, faded, and fragile, and difficult to detach. The photocopies made for archive purposes are therefore only fair reproductions. All clippings are presented in photocopied form. Those clippings that are of special interest are abstracted in these digest pages; the others are simply noted.

The photographs are almost all in color and depict DM’s works. Many are clipped to small sizes. They give a broad survey of her talents in various media.
Section I: Biographic Statements

Additional biographic sketches are to be found incidentally in other material in this Collection.

   Detailed survey of DM's career.

2. [Source unknown; evidently autobiographic.]
   Similar in details to above statement.
Section II : Exhibitions

Related gallery and museum material is to be found in the newspaper clippings in Section IV infra. This Section II contains more formal Notices.


1. Tear sheet, catalog. Sixth Exhibition of Graphic Arts in New Mexico. MFA. January 4 - February 3, 1953.
   Picture of *Tree Fantasy*. Pastel. By DM. Honors in Drawing.

   Ink inscription, "*Oil Emerging Forms* in this show [by DM]. Sold.'

3. Deleted.

   Picture of *Spiraling Forms*. Pastel. By DM. Honors in Color Drawing.

5. Letter June 1, 1956 Edward Murray to DM
   Invites DM to serve as one of two judges of Indian Paintings at Inter-Tribal Ceremonial in Gallup

   Letter June 5, 1956 DM to Edward Murray
   Accepts invitation to judge at Gallup Inter-Tribal Ceremonial

   Letter July 16, 1956 DM to Ceremonial Association Housing Committee
   Inquires about housing in Gallup for Ceremonial

   Letter July 19, 1956 DM to Arrowhead Lodge
   Enclosing check for reservation for August 8th

   Housing Confirmation (2 copies) for Dorothy Morang
   Aug 8-10 at Arrowhead Lodge in Gallup

   2 postcards from Arrowhead Lodge Motel confirming above reservation

Indian Ceremonial - DM and Joe Hauser, jurors.
Lists awards in each class.

Employee ribbon for Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial in Gallup

6. Calendar of Events. Roswell Museum. 1 pg. fold-over.
   Exhibitions, March 30 – April 30, 1958. Sent to MFA.
   Paintings of Lia Nickson.
   Paintings of DM.


   Informs her of shipping of 13 new pastels. Titles with sales prices,
   $60. to $125.


8A. Notice. Dorothy Yepez Galleries. Saranac Lake, N.Y. Exhibition and Sale. N. d.
   Also: award to DM. First Honorable Mention Award. Ninth Adirondack Annual
   Exhibition, 1962. For pastels. DM.

   Exhibition until March 21.

    Also: List of 15 DM works by titles.

11. Announcement. Card. St. John's College. Painting Exhibit(s),
    April 2 – 28, 1967:
    Helen Rumpel - Projection Paintings.
    DM – Pastels.

12. List. Typewritten. Receipt signed by New Mexico Arts Commission.
    December 6, 1967:
    Lists 23 pastels, oils, with prices, shown at Commission Offices in
    December.


Updated 07/22/2015
Section III: Photographs

As indicated in the Introduction, the many photographs found pasted to pages of the scrapbook-album are scarred from indiscriminate use of plastic tape. Some of them are cropped; they differ in sizes. Most have descriptive comments on their backs, written (presumably) by DM. Great care must be taken to maintain them in the order found so that they correspond to the descriptions in the pages of this digest. Most pictures depict works of the artist. Titles and descriptions are those found on the bottoms or backs of the pictures. All are in color except where otherwise noted as black and white (B & W). Pictures have been grouped variously; viz. according to sizes or years or subject matter, etc. This is just a matter of archival convenience. It has no other significance.


   Window Sill. 1934. 11 x 8. $150.
   Portland Harbor. 1934. 7 x 13. $150.
   Still Life, Maine. 1935. 15 x 11. $150.
   Still Life, Maine. 1935. 15 x 11. $150.

   Nocturn #7. 1952. Marked "sold."
   Blue Descending.
   Everglades. 12½ x 19½.
   Spring Growth. 1957. 18 x 24.
   Aquatic. 1958. 20x16.
   Pastorale. 1958. 13 x 19.

4. Work done in 1950s, continued. Various sizes.
   Sunrise by the Sea. 1959. 20x25.
   Sea Birds. 1959. 13x19

5. Work done in 1950s, continued. Various sizes.
   I Heure Blue.
   Cold Front Coming,
   [No title; n.d.]
   Blue Descending [different from painting in Folder 3.]
   Hidden Shrine. 1962. 18x24.
   Wind Over the Plains. 1962. 20x25.
   Cathedral #2. 1962. 30x24.
   Cathedral. No size.

7. Work done in 1960s, continued. Various sizes.
   Portal. 1960s. 26x20.
   Transition. 1960s. 26x20.

8. Work done in 1960s, continued. 2 ¼ x 3.
   Flight Over Mountains. 1960s. 14x23.

    Names written on back.

   Capt. James W. Parmelee.
   Capt. James W. Parmelee.

10. Work done in 1970s continued. Various sizes. All these (6) purchased by
   United Savings & Loan Association. [No location.]
    Three, 2 1/2 x 3 1/2:
    Desert Heat. N.d.
    Watchers (collage). N.d.
    Sentinels (collage). N.d.
    Three, various smaller sizes:
    Canyons In Moonlight. 1979.
    Sunset. 1977
11. Work done or exhibited in 1980s. 3 ½ x 5.
   A. Santa Fe Society of Artists [SFSA] Outdoor Art Show.
      May 28-29, 1983.
      Floater card, invitation.
      Pictures (3) of outdoor hangings.

      Pictures (2) of outdoor hangings.

      Pictures (3) of outdoor hangings.

12. Work done or exhibited in 1980s, continued. 3 ½ x 4 ¼ (3).
    Exhibit in windows of First National Bank, Cordova Road Branch.
    January 5-31, 1983.

    = Urban Nocturn. 4x5. B&W. [See letter 6-8-66, infra.]
    Tom at base.
    = Cienega. 2x2. Sold at SFSA Outdoor Show. 1983 [?].
    = Group photo. 8x10. At Art Commission Office. 1971 [?]. B&W.
      DM
      Peter Hurd
      Rae
      Harlan
      Opal
Section IV : Correspondence

1. 5-8-46: The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation Art of Tomorrow [J. Levin] to DM.
Solicits DM art for exhibition at "loan show" on June 5.
Longhand note at bottom describing two works sent to show.

10-15-58: TWX. Maxey Jarman to DM.
Expresses "enchantment" with *Aerial Fantasy*.

2. 11-23-60: Ruth White Gallery [Ruth White] to DM.
Acknowledges receipt of 13 new pastels – superior to last ones.

Encloses check for sale of *Flight Over the Mountains*.

4-21-1964: Receipt for sale of DM works from Fine Arts Museum

2-7-1965: William V. Kirkpatrick to DM
Would like information on Alfred Morang for a book he is
writing and also to purchase some of his art

n.d. : DM to William V. Kirkpatrick
Will have to look for requested information, but gave most of what
she salvaged from Alfred's house to Mrs. Robinson

5-22-65: Mary Knickerbocker. Receipt from DM of 11 of her works.
Signed by DM.

11-11-65: Charles D. Clark [Charles Clark Chevrolet Co.] to Panoras Gallery.
Seeks prices, sizes of DM works being exhibited at Panoras.

3. 6-8-66: Charles Clark to DM.
"Elated" with *Urban Nocturn*.

9-10-68: New Mexico State Fair [Chloe Baker, Administrative Officer] to DM.
Thanks for jurying show.

11-4-90: Roland [Jones] to DM.

10-19-90: [Same parties.]
A. Columns: About the Arts

Through the years The Santa Fe New Mexican [herein referred to as SFNM] has carried a column on the arts variously titled About the Arts, Arts and Artists, Art In the News, etc. A succession of critics filled the columns. Periodically, DM was mentioned; and some such columns (but far from all) were saved. They are catalogued in Part A. All clippings in this Section V are from the SFNM unless otherwise noted.

1. (a) May 16, 1954. Describes traveling shows managed by Ralph Schaffer, a gallery owner. DM and her husband Alfred are mentioned.


   (c) November 7, 1954. Arts and Artists. Dave Weber. Describes DM as the "woman responsible" for many of the traveling shows.


   (c) November 11, 1962. About the Arts. Helen Peterson. Describes DM's retrospective show. Traces her development, and various works – Sonata Rigelian Ceremony Dream Tree Death of a King Psychic Maelstrom

   (d) January 20, 1963. About the Arts. Helen Peterson. Reports on show of Santa Fe Association of the Arts; mentions DM.


B. General Clippings


(b) - 1938: Special exhibit in Beauregard Gallery at [MFA]. Works by Alfred and DM; the latter's Orange Hills.

(c) 12-1-42: Victory Alcove at [MFA] to open Tuesday, December 8. DM contributing Adagio.

4. (a) 10-6-50: Alliance to Show Work of 2. DM and Gesha Kurakin.

(b) 12-6-50: [DM] To be Christmas Exhibitor ** In Las Vegas, [New Mexico]. Picture of artist.

(c) 1-13-53: [DM] Opens Exhibit. Sales At La Fonda Gallery. [Fragmentary.]

(d) Circa 1952: Speaking the Public Mind. Letter to Editor from Alfred Morang.
(e) 11-30-52: Albuquerque Journal. [DM] Defines Non-Objective Painting in One-Man Show at KOAT.
   Photo of artist; photo of work, Ceremonial.

5. (a) 8-29-54: Artists Set Large Scale Exhibition.
   Picture of DM and others.

(b) 11-4-56: Albuquerque Journal. Photo of DM and short article.

(c) 1-13-57: Photo of DM holding Night Bird at exhibit opening at Institute of Mining and Technology.

(d) 3-24-57: Portales News Tribune. [DM] To Show Works In Local Exhibit.
   Brief sketch of her background.

   Picture of artist.

   Show of DM works by West Texas Art Guild at Mary E. Bivins Memorial Library.
   Review of her career.

(b) 4-3-58: Roswell Daily Record. Reception Will Honor Artist [DM].
   Roswell Museum and Art Center to present exhibition of DM paintings.
   Photo of artist holding work.

(c) 12-6-58: Santa Fe's Space Agent Artist. By Harold Butcher.
   Photo of DM.
   Traces her career.

(d) 3-1-59: [DM] Pastels Produce Another Kind of Reality.
   Discusses her techniques.
(e) 10-4-59: Three Santa Fe Artists Take Fair Wins.
Show at N.M. State Fair Art Exhibit.
Third place win by DM.
Pictures of DM, Agnes C. Sims [second],
Jane Lippincott [First].

7. (a) 2-19-60: Santa Fe Scene. [DM] - Musician and Artist.
Biographic sketch.
(b) 2-5-61: [DM] Has Show At Sandia.
Photo of artist, identified as curator of MFA traveling
shows.
(c) 9-18-61: Duke City Artists Walk Off With Fair Awards.
DM takes First Prize.
DM shown holding Night Bird.
Show called New Frontiers In Art.
(e) 2-5-61: Rental-Sales Collections To Be Exhibited In Gallery.
DM curating.

8. (a) 4-16-61: State Museum [MFA] Opens New Shows Today.
Show features [DM], Olive Rush,
Fremont Ellis, and Dorothy McCray.
Picture of Exaltation.
(b) 7-14-61: SF Gallery Opening Set Sunday.
At Dawley-Morang Gallery.
Paintings and enamels of DM included.
Lists DM show credits.
(c) N.d. [1961]: Pastel Show Is Planned.
Includes DM works.
Photo of DM at works.

9. (a) 1-14-62: [DM] Show In Amarillo. 13 paintings.
DM has gallery, Dawley-Morang Gallery opposite MFA.
(b) 2[?]25-62: Hanging In Orbit.
Describes DM works at Santa Fe store.
(c) 4-26-62: Albuquerque Review. By Sidney Abbott.
Reports that DM "has forsaken pastels" and now works
in polymer paints.

(d) 11-4-62: Pasatiempo. Morang Exhibit.
Photo of DM at her studio; walls covered with her art of
past 34 years.
Describes her work and background.

10. (a) 10-10-63: Photo of DM holding oil painting, Sea Birds.
(b) Card, original. Announcing DM Show at Panoramas Gallery, NYC.
Picture (reproduction) on card of Urban Nocturn. Marked
"later sold."
Attached: miniaturized (cropped) photo of same painting.

11. (a) 3-7-64: Photo of DM, "New Mexico's 1953 director for
American Art Week."
(b) 10-8-64: Dorothy - Artist, Art Curator.
Picture of DM in front of wall hanging of Cathedral Number 4.
Comprehensive sketch of DM's achievements.

12. (a) 3-7-65: [DM] To Exhibit Pastels, Acrylic Paintings.
Announcing opening at artist's gallery, 558 Canyon Rd.
Sketch of DM's achievements.
Picture of artist in front of Inspiration on wall.
(b) 7-18-65: New Mexican Profile. [DM]. By Ralph Dohme.
Lengthy biographic sketch. Picture of artist.

Announcing that exhibit of DM's pastels and acrylics are
exhibited at Mayor's office.
(b) 12-11-66: [DM] and Rumpel In Artists Equity Show.
21 paintings of both artists in a current show at Mutual
Building and Loan.
   Photo of DM and Delmar Kolb, Director of MNM, upon her (DM) retirement as curator of MFA. 
   Definitive survey of her professional career and her private life.

   (b) 4-2-67: Rumpel, Emmett Painting Exhibit Opening At St. John's. 
               Sketches lives of both women.

   (c) 4-5-67: Picture of both artists holding their paintings.

   (d) 12-17-67: D. Morang Art Shows. 
               Announcing exhibit at New Mexico Arts Commission office on East Marcy. 
               Brief biographic sketch.

15.  (a) 4-2-69: Artists Showing Jointly at Southwest Savings, Loan. 
               Exhibit of works of DM and Anita Wood; five works each.

   (b) 11-9-69: Photo of DM in front of two of her works [not identified at Santa Fe National Bank.

16.  (a) 1-11-70: Photo of DM at work.

   (b) 11-8-70: Photos (2) of DM.

   (c) 11-12-72: Artists to Demonstrate. 
               Picture of DM and Susan Beaumont.
17.  (a) 2-18-73:  Photo of DM painting done under WPA program – 1940. Shown in exhibit described below.

(b) 3-18-73:  Photo of DM holding collage.

(c) 11-25-73:  [DM] and Ellen Ward Exhibition On Hill.
               Artist showing at Los Alamos Building and Loan.
               Collages.

               Discusses DM entry in "Santa Fe 21" Exhibition at New Mexico Arts Commission