RANDALL MORGAN
MATERIALS, 1967–1989

Collection Information

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Processed by

Lyndsey Blair
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:**
4 manuscript folders, 1 photograph folder

**COLLECTION DATES:**
1967–1989

**PROVENANCE:**
Sally S. Lugar, August 2006

**RESTRICTIONS:**
None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:**
2006.0367

**NOTES:**
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Randall Hall Morgan was born 24 February 1920 to Rowland and Ruth Morgan (née Hall) in Knightstown, Henry County, Indiana. He had one younger sister named Nova. The family lived at 129 Franklin Street.

After graduating from Knightstown High School, Morgan attended Indiana University from 1938 to 1940. He then traveled to the University of Cincinnati where he studied ceramics and architecture from 1940 to 1943. Morgan spent the next three years in the U.S. Army where he was trained as an Italian interpreter during World War II.

Following the war's conclusion, Morgan attended Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City. He taught ceramics courses at the school while working towards his graduate degree. After completing his program at Columbia, Morgan traveled to Italy on a two-year fellowship from Indiana University where he developed his skills as a painter.

Morgan returned to New York City once his fellowship ended and joined the city's art scene. He had several one-man exhibitions of his work throughout the 1950s and early 1960s. He also continued teaching during this time. In 1953, Morgan returned to Italy to serve as art director of Positano Workshop, located on the Amalfi Coast. From 1962 to 1963, Morgan came back to the United States to teach painting at the School of Fine Arts at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

In 1967, Morgan opened The Randall Morgan Art Workshop in Sant'Agata sui due Golfi, an Italian village in the Province of Naples. According to the workshop's brochure, the primary aim of the school was to help students in "the research and development of an individual expression and style of painting." Largely targeting people on vacation, the workshop was only open during the summer months of June, July and August.

Morgan's paintings continued to be exhibited during the late 1960s. From 1966 to 1968, a one-man show was held at Galleria 88 in Rome, Italy. The following year, the University of Arizona Museum of Art organized a show of the artist's work that later circulated to other U.S. museums from 1969 to 1970.

Outside of individual presentations, Morgan's work was also part of several group exhibitions. Such shows were held at The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), Whitney Museum of American Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. His work was also purchased for public and private collections, including the Whitney Museum, Detroit Institute of Arts, Toledo Museum of Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Amherst College, Dartmouth College and University of Nebraska.

Randall Morgan died 13 April 1994 in Naples, Italy.

Sources:

Materials in collection

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains materials related to the artist Randall Morgan. These items include a letter Randall sent to his sister Nova (aka "Nokie") from Italy in 1979, a price list of his artwork, a genealogy book on the Morgan family (Randall is on page 37), and an article about the historic Edward Morgan Log House in Pennsylvania.

There is also a selection of articles about Edward de Vere, the 17th Earl of Oxford, which were collected and assembled by Ruth Loyd Miller (1922–2005). Miller was an active member of the Shakespeare authorship community. As an Oxfordian, she believed that de Vere was the actual author of the numerous works attributed to William Shakespeare.
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