



Art Gallery of Ontario
Musée des beaux-arts de l'Ontario

E.P. Taylor Research Library & Archives

Description & Finding Aid:
C.S. Band Fonds
CA OTAG SC017

Amy Marshall

Gary Fitzgibbon, 2003

C. S. Band fonds

Dates of creation:

1939–1972

Extent:

7 cm of textual records

113 photographs

2 drawings

Biographical sketch:

Charles Shaw Band (1885–1969) was a Toronto business executive, philanthropist and collector of Canadian art. He was born in Thorold, Ontario and educated at Upper Canada College in Toronto. In 1914 he married Helen Huntington Warren (whose mother Sarah Trumbull Van Lennep Warren was a founder of the Art Gallery of Toronto) with whom he began collecting artworks. During his career, he worked with many Canadian firms, most notably Gutta Percha and Rubber Limited of Toronto.

Charles Band was a friend of members of the Group of Seven, especially Lawren Harris and Fred Varley. He was President of the Art Gallery of Toronto 1945–1948 and again in 1964–1965. In 1948 he was made *Officier d'Académie* by the government of France for his role in bringing an exhibition of French masters to Canada the previous year. The noted Collection of Mr and Mrs Charles S. Band was the subject of exhibitions in Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Vancouver, Los Angeles and other cities. C. S. Band died in Toronto in 1969, leaving most of his collection to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Scope and content:

Fonds consists of records created by art collector Charles Shaw Band in the development of his collection, chiefly in Toronto in the 1940s to 1960s: correspondence with art galleries, artists and others regarding the acquisition and lending of artworks, as well as general correspondence with members of the Canadian arts community. Correspondents include André Biéler, B.C. Binning, E.J. Hughes, Jean-Paul Lemieux, Arthur Lismer, J.W.G. MacDonald and Frederick Horsman Varley.

The fonds also comprises pen and pencil sketches by Arthur Lismer of C. S. Band, photographs of Band and his friends, photographs of his collection, and installation shots of works in his collection included in exhibitions, along with several exhibition catalogues.

Contains series:

1. Photographs
2. Correspondence
3. Miscellaneous items

Notes:*Variations in title:*

Previously known as the Charles S. Band collection.

Physical description:

Includes 112 photographic prints and 1 slide (photograph).

Immediate source of acquisition

The materials now constituting the C.S. Band fonds were donated by Helen W. Band in 1970 and 1971.

Restrictions on access :

Open

Terms governing use and reproduction/publication:

Copyright is held by the creator or his heirs. Copyright belonging to other parties, such as that of photographs, may still rest with the creator of these items. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission to publish any part of the fonds.

General note:

Series is contained in one box. Titles of series, files and items are supplied from contents where not otherwise noted. — No photographer is identified for photos in the collection. — An inventory for the fonds is available.

Description control:

Description and finding aid prepared by Gary Fitzgibbon in 2003 (revised 2012). — Description based on *Rules for Archival Description (RAD)*, Bureau of Canadian Archivists, 2008.

Provenance access point:

Band, Charles Shaw, 1885–1969

SERIES 1: PHOTOGRAPHS

Dates of creation:

1946–1963

Extent:

110 photographs

Scope and content:

Series comprises photographs taken chiefly in Canada during the 1940s to the 1960s of C.S. Band and others, including A.Y. Jackson, F.H. Varley, Vincent Massey, A.J. Casson, Augustin Filipovic, C.T. Currelly, Sigmund Samuels and others; photos of artworks by Binning, Lismer, Borduas, Carr, Harris, Jackson, Lemieux, Pellan, Varley and others; with installation shots of the Band art collection.

Notes:

Most photos are annotated on verso. — Some photos are duplicates.

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
Photos of social events	1946 1963	11 photographs : b&w prints ; 21 x 26 cm or smaller File contains photos of C. S. Band and others at social events, chiefly in Toronto.	1–1
Photos of artworks	[196-] 1963	34 photographs : b&w and col. prints ; 21 x 26 cm or smaller File contains photos of artworks in the collection of C. S. Band.	1–2
Installation shots	1953 1963	65 photographs : b&w prints ; 21 x 26 cm or smaller File contains assorted installation shots of the Band collection at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa in	1–3 1–4 1–5

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
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1953 and subsequently in Los Angeles, Vancouver and other cities.

SERIES 2: CORRESPONDENCE

Dates of creation:

1939–1972

Extent:

6 cm of textual records
3 photographs

Scope and content:

Series comprises correspondence regarding the Band art collection as well as C. S. Band's correspondence with Canadian artists and others on art-related subjects, chiefly from Toronto between the 1940s and 1960s.

Notes:

Photos include 2 photographic prints and 1 slide (photograph).

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
Correspondence on exhibitions	1947 1968	1 folder of textual records File contains correspondence regarding exhibitions of the Band collection, with exhibition catalogues and lists of artworks, some with insurance valuations.	1–6
Correspondence on artists	1948 1967	1 folder of textual records 1 photograph : col. slide File contains correspondence with Canadian artists including Biéler, Binning, Hughes, Lismer and others, with a photographic slide of <i>Lovers in a landscape no. 13: The murder</i> by Claude Breeze.	1–7
Varley correspondence	1946 1967	1 folder of textual records File contains correspondence with Canadian artist F. H. Varley and some replies, with letters about Varley from others. Also included is a 1951 film script, "Varley," by Allan Wargon.	1–8
Other correspondence	1939 1972	1 folder of textual records 2 photographs : b&w prints File contains correspondence related to C.S. Band's	1–9

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX- FOLDER
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position as president of the Art Gallery of Toronto and his award from the government of France; other art-related correspondence; social correspondence with photos of Vera Lamb and her dog; and exhibition catalogues.

SERIES 3: MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Dates of creation:

1949–1960

Extent:

1 folder of textual records

2 drawings

Scope and content:

Series comprises informal drawings of C.S. Band by Arthur Lismer, an exhibition catalogue of Paul-Émile Borduas from 1960–1961; and other material.

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	FOLDER
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Miscellaneous items	1949 1960	1 folder of textual records 2 drawings	1–10
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File contains drawings of C. S. Band, the catalogue of the Borduas exhibition and other material. Drawings are rendered on a magazine page and a fragment of paper.