

Guide to the Stephen Mopope Drawings

WA MSS S-4423



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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: WA MSS S-4423

CREATOR: Mopope, Stephen, 1898-1974 , artist

TITLE: Stephen Mopope drawings

DATES: circa 1932-1962

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.84 linear feet (2 boxes)

LANGUAGE: Manuscript annotations in English.

SUMMARY: Circa 490 sheets with pencil drawings, some signed, by Stephen Mopope, circa 1932-1962. Depicted are Indigenous men, women, and children; horses, buffalo, and deer; hunting scenes; dancers (including eagle dancers and ghost dancers); tipis; and musicians. Also present are mural designs. Indigenous peoples depicted include Apache, Pueblo, and Kiowa. Most drawings are on carbon paper on which Mopope created reverse images on the versos. Many of the drawings are drafts of scenes and figures used in larger works.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.mopope>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.mopope>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Vanessa Jennings, granddaughter of Stephen Mopope, on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2018 and 2019.

Conditions Governing Access

This material is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Stephen Mopope Drawings is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Stephen Mopope Drawings. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

Folder titles in this collection have been assigned in accordance with Vanessa Jennings's husband Carl Jennings's organization of the drawings by broad themes and topics of his conception. Folder titles in brackets have been supplied for groupings organized by Jennings but not identified. At the time of acquisition, each sheet was housed in a single folder--during rehousing, up to five sheets were rehousing into a single folder with their original order retained.

Biographical / Historical

Stephen Mopope (also known as Qued Koi) (1898-1974), Kiowa painter, dancer, and flute player, was born on the Kiowa Reservation in Indian Territory. His maternal grandfather was Kiowa warrior Appiatan and his great-uncles were ledger artists Silver Horn (Haugooah) and Oheltoint (Ohettoint).

In 1916, Mopope attended St. Patrick's Indian Mission School in Anadarko, Oklahoma. There, he received art instruction under Choctaw nun Sister Olivia Taylor and artist Mrs. Willie Baze Lane. Susan Peters, matron at the Anadarko Agency, promoted the artistic abilities of Mopope and other Kiowa students, introducing them to Oscar B. Jacobson, director of the University of Oklahoma's art department.

Mopope and artists Spencer Asah, James Auchiah, Jack Hokeah, Lois Smoky, and Monroe Tsatoke--together known as the Kiowa Six--were instructed by Jacobson and Edith Mahier as part of a special program at the school. The group made its debut into the international fine arts world in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1928 and received commissions in the United States in the early 1930s. Mopope's commissions include murals for the United States Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C., as well as works sponsored by the Works Progress Administration and the Public Works Administration.

Scope and Contents

Circa 490 sheets with pencil drawings, some signed, by Stephen Mopope, circa 1932-1962. Depicted are Indigenous men, women, and children; horses, buffalo, and deer; hunting scenes; dancers (including eagle dancers and ghost dancers); tipis; and musicians. Also present are mural designs. Indigenous peoples depicted include Apache, Pueblo, and Kiowa.

Most drawings are on carbon paper on which Mopope created reverse images on the versos. Many of the drawings are drafts of scenes and figures used in larger works.

Arrangement

Collection retains arrangement in which it was received.

Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-9	Animals	1953 and undated
b. 1, f. 10-22	Heads	1944 and undated
b. 1, f. 23-30	Hunt Scenes	undated
b. 1, f. 31-52	Dancers	1955 and undated
b. 1, f. 53-57	Eagle Dancers	undated
b. 1, f. 58-60	Tipis/Peyote	1958 and undated
b. 2, f. 61-66	Horseback	1953 and undated
b. 2, f. 67	Ceremonial Dancers	undated
b. 2, f. 68-72	Families/Children/Cradleboards	undated
b. 2, f. 73-75	Standing Figures	1932 and undated
b. 2, f. 76-77	Flute Players	undated
b. 2, f. 78	Drummers	undated
b. 2, f. 79-81	Sun Dance/Ghost Dance	undated
b. 2, f. 82-85	Apache	undated
b. 2, f. 86	Pueblo	1953 and undated
b. 2, f. 87	Circus Drawings	1944 and undated
b. 2, f. 88	November 11, 1938	1938
b. 2, f. 89-90	Mural Designs	1949-1962 and undated
b. 2, f. 91	Known Matches	1951 and undated
b. 2, f. 92	[Additional Figures]	undated
b. 2, f. 93-97	Letters, Written Materials/Miscellaneous	1936-1963 and undated
b. 2, f. 98	[Nude Figures]	1944 and undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

American bison -- Pictorial works
Apache Indians -- Pictorial works
Eagle dance -- Pictorial works
Ghost dance -- Pictorial works
Hunting -- Pictorial works
Indian artists -- Oklahoma
Indian art -- North America
Indian dance -- North America -- Pictorial works
Indians of North America -- Oklahoma
Indians of North America -- Pictorial works
Indians of North America -- Portraits
Kiowa art
Kiowa Indians -- Oklahoma
Kiowa Indians -- Pictorial works
Pueblo Indians -- Pictorial works
Tipis -- Pictorial works

Occupations

Artists -- Oklahoma -- 20th Century

Genres / Formats

Drawings (visual works)
Sketches

Geographic Names

Oklahoma

Acquired From

Jennings, Vanessa , bookseller