

# **Guide to the John Ashbery Collection of Artwork and Objects**

**YCAL MSS 1318**



by Michael Rush, Karin Roffman, and Nancy Kuhl

November 2021

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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:** YCAL MSS 1318

**CREATOR:** Ashbery, John, 1927-2017 , collector

**TITLE:** John Ashbery collection of artwork and objects

**DATES:** 1819–2018

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 82.0 linear feet (70 boxes) + 2 broadside

**LANGUAGE:** Materials in English and French.

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of artwork and objects collected by American poet John Ashbery. It includes paintings, glassware, ceramics, clothing, household objects, realia, printed material, collage materials, and other items of significance to Ashbery, some of which inspired his poetry or appeared in his published work. The collection includes materials by or received from Ashbery's husband David Kermani and artists Joe Brainard and Trevor Winkfield, among others. All materials were kept in Ashbery's house in Hudson, New York, or his New York City apartment.

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

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## 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.ashbery>.

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](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the Estate of John Ashbery and David Kermani, 2018-2021.

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## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The John Ashbery Collection of Artwork and Objects 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.

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## Preferred Citation

John Ashbery Collection of Artwork and Objects. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## 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 as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

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## Related Materials

John Ashbery Papers (MS Am 3189). Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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## Other Finding Aids

Many of the items included in this collection appear or are described in [John Ashbery's Nest](#), a virtual tour of Ashbery's Hudson, New York home, which was developed in a collaboration between Ashbery biographer Karin Roffman and designers, photographers, and coders from the Yale University Digital Humanities Lab, Yale ITS, and VR Habitat, Inc.

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## John Ashbery

John Ashbery (1927-2017), American poet.

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## Content Description

The collection consists of artwork and objects collected by American poet John Ashbery. It includes paintings, glassware, ceramics, clothing, household objects, realia, printed material, collage materials, and other items of significance to Ashbery, some of which inspired his poetry or appeared in his published work. The collection includes materials by or received from Ashbery's husband David Kermani and artists Joe Brainard and Trevor Winkfield, among others. All materials were kept in Ashbery's house in Hudson, New York, or his New York City apartment.

In close consultation with John Ashbery's husband David Kermani, curator Nancy Kuhl and Ashbery biographer Karin Roffman chose the objects in this collection from among many similar objects in John Ashbery's homes in New York City and Hudson, New York, shortly after his death. As representative samples from the poet's large and rich personal collections, the objects here suggest something of the wide range of Ashbery's interests and gesture towards the depth, complexity, and enormity of his collections in their entirety. As a subset of a much larger whole, this group highlights Ashbery's sensibility, an artist who collected both within and across categories (plates printed with rebus puzzles, for example, are at home in a larger collection of plates and a collection of rebus puzzles in various formats). Other objects from Ashbery's collections are held by libraries, museums, and institutions, including the Houghton Library at Harvard University, the Berg Collection of the New York Public Library, the Morgan Library and Museum, Deerfield Academy, the Pultneyville Historical Society, and the Flow Chart Foundation. The Beinecke Library's collection of Ashbery objects is organized both by place (New York City or Hudson) and by room, reflecting the location of objects at the time of Ashbery's death and for the preceding few years when decreased mobility inhibited the poet's practice of frequently moving individual objects from one room to another and from one home to another.

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## Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Artwork and objects from Ashbery's New York City apartment, 1819-2018, undated. II. Artwork and objects from Ashbery's Hudson, New York house, 1937-1995, undated.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Artwork and objects from Ashbery's New York City apartment, 1819-2018, undated

29.83 linear feet (26 boxes)

The artwork and objects from John Ashbery's New York City apartment are organized by room in sequence through the apartment: entryway, second bedroom / office, living room, bedroom, kitchen, and study.

#### Entryway

b. 1	Six French rebus plates, including one from the Paris Exposition of 1819	1819, undated
b. 2	Oval-shaped black and white ceramic box with papers	undated
b. 3	Black and white ceramic vase	undated
b. 3	Black and white ceramic dice	undated
b. 4	Bronze candlesticks Accompanied by two glass rings.	undated
b. 5	Puzzle Poem [Pour John] Jamme, Franck André, artist	2013
b. 5	Puzzle Poem [Four Wine] Jamme, Franck André, artist	undated
b. 6	Untitled print of leaves Katz, Alex, 1927- , artist  Woodcut, artist's proof #14/25, 5 3/4 x 5 1/2 inches, signed and framed. Printed by John Erikson and published by the Cooper Union, New York.  This work was reproduced as the cover of Ashbery's 2002 collection <i>Chinese Whispers</i> .  Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	1997
b. 6	Photographs of objects in situ in entryway	undated
b. 6	Photograph of apartment door plate	undated

#### Second bedroom / office

b. 7	Untitled collage Martory, Pierre, artist Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	1960
b. 7	"The Punctuator" volvelle inscribed to Ashbery from [Alan?] This item was behind the collage by Pierre Martory.	
b. 7	Set of three cut paper silhouettes 3 Folders	undated

Second bedroom / office (continued)

b. 7	"Your Name Here" Lehman, David, 1948- , artist Collage.	2005
b. 7	Photograph of note on the back of David Lehman's collage	undated
b. 8	"M-A-G-I-C" scroll, John Wells Unframed, 18 x 3 3/4 inches.	undated
b. 9	"Odyssey" book safe	undated
Living room		
b. 10	"Eclipse" Winkfield, Trevor, 1944- , artist Oil on canvas, 12 x 12 inches. Signed, dated, titled and dedicated to Ashbery on back.	December 2006
b. 11	Ashbery's reading glasses	undated
b. 12	Contents of left side table The contents include matches, playing cards, tarot cards, pipe cleaners, coasters, clippings, incense, a film canister, and other miscellaneous objects.	undated
b. 13	Small paintings by John Wells <i>6 Folders</i> John Wells, a friend of John Ashbery and David Kermani who sometimes worked for them, made many small works of trees, orobouros and other shapes while staying in their apartment. Most are either watercolor on paper or gouache on paper. Most were gifts and were made in the mid to late 1990s. A few are signed on the back.	circa mid to late 1990s
b. 13	Ashbery's collection of barf bags	undated
b. 13	Hudson house keys Accompanied by a note from David Kermani.	undated
b. 14	Porcelain toys and dolls These items were formerly stored in the "Charles X" cabinet in entry of Ashbery's New York City apartment.	undated
b. 15 (Oversize)	"Still Life with Easel" Dunn, Anne, 1929- , artist Oil on canvas, 20 x 20 inches.	1999
b. 16	"Blue Ashbunny" Behrle, Jim , artist Acrylic on canvas, 12 x 9 inches. Signed, dated, and titled on back.  This piece was displayed in Ashbery's New York City apartment living room on top of the bookcase used to house Ashbery's CD collection.	2005 December 13
Bedroom		
b. 17 (Oversize)	Rosa Gallica Tontiana drawn by Pierre Jean Redoute Engraved by Poessin Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	1874

Bedroom (continued)

b. 18	Daffy Duck figurine	undated
b. 18	Porcelain unicorn	undated
b. 19 (Oversize)	Ashbery's seersucker sportscoat	undated
b. 20	Three cherry neckties	undated
b. 21	Convex mirror This mirror was a gift of Pierre Martory.	undated
b. 21	Photograph of convex mirror in situ	undated
b. 22	Untitled Bell, Leland, 1922-1991, artist Oil on masonite, 6 1/8 x 7 5/8 inches.	undated
Kitchen		
b. 23	Texts, images, objects from Ashbery's refrigerator Includes photographs of the arrangement of the items on Ashbery's refrigerator.	undated
b. 23	Nine refrigerator magnets	undated
b. 23	Photographs of Ashbery's refrigerator	
b. 24	Ashbery's teacup, saucer, spoon, and tea box	undated
b. 24	David Kermani note, photograph of Ashbery's tea arrangements, and copy of Jill Krementz photograph of Ashbery with teacup	undated
Study		
b. 25A-25B	Contents of Ashbery's desk drawer The contents of Ashbery's desk drawer consists of small notebooks (including a diary from his 1989 trip to Japan), letters, postcards, business cards, address labels, fortune cookie fortunes, and assorted desk supplies.	undated
b. 25A-25B	Photographs of desk items in situ by Emily Skillings These photographs were taken immediately prior to Ashbery's apartment being emptied on September 3, 2018.	2018 September 3



## Series II: Artwork and objects from Ashbery's Hudson, New York house, 1937-1995, undated

53.91 linear feet (44 boxes) + 2 broadside

The artwork and objects from John Ashbery's Hudson, New York house are organized by room in sequence through the house. First floor rooms include the center hall, music room, downstairs library, dining room, butler's pantry, and kitchen. Second floor rooms include the second floor center hallway, art closet, second floor sitting room, second floor study, yellow room, and master bedroom. Other locations in the house represented in this series include the back staircase and the basement.

Front door		
b. 26	Ceramic #39 Ashbery bought this ceramic number to display on the front of the Hudson house (39 West Court Street) shortly after purchasing the house at the end of 1978; it stayed on the house until it was listed for sale in 2020. (The house was sold in 2021.)	undated
Center hall		
b. 27	Cane belonging to Ashbery's great-great uncle, Horatio Throop (1807-1888) Ashbery inherited this cane from his grandfather Henry Lawrence and kept it in the umbrella stand by the front door.	circa 1878
b. 28	Lawrence grandparents jade cricket box	undated
Music room		
b. 28	Trompe l'œil walnut nutcracker dish	undated
Downstairs library		
b. 29	Green Grueby vase The first piece of Ashbery's ceramic collection. Found by David Kermani in the basement of their house in Hudson.	undated
b. 30	George Ohr mug Brown with holes. Signed at bottom. Purchased by Ashbery.	undated
b. 31 (Oversize)	Off-white Weller vase with flowers	undated
b. 31 (Oversize)	Pinkish/purple Roseville vase Price sticker from 1973 reads "\$38.00."	circa 1915
b. 31 (Oversize)	Blue/green signed Van Briggie vase	undated
b. 31 (Oversize)	Fulper crescent vase	undated
Dining room		
b. 32	Blue glass vase from dining room window	undated
b. 32	Heisey tumbler Ashbery inherited this tumbler from his grandmother, Addie Lawrence.	undated

Dining room (continued)

b. 33	Japanese doll Ashbery received this doll as a present in 1989. He kept it in the dining room cabinet.	undated
b. 34	Five match strikers Ashbery collected these match strikers in Paris beginning in the 1950s and later at Vito Giallo's antique shop in New York City.	undated
b. 35	Four plates with images of fruits Ashbery believed these plates were wedding gifts to his parents (his father owned a fruit farm), probably from a Francophile cousin of Henry Lawrence. The plates were made in St. Clement, France.	undated
b. 36	Child's plate with text from the nursery rhyme "The House that Jack Built" This plate was produced by a Roma manufacturer.	undated
b. 36	Ovaltine mug featuring Little Orphan Annie and Sandy Ashbery purchased this mug in an antique store to replace one he had as a child.	undated
b. 37	Six piece Fiesta ware serving platter	undated
Butler's pantry		
b. 38	Skaters tin tray This tray was a gift to Ashbery from Kenneth Koch.	undated
b. 26	Pocaro Sweat packet Purchased by Ashbery while travelling in Japan in 1989. Pocaro Sweat is a Japanese sports drink.	1989
b. 39	Blue glass seltzer bottle from butler's pantry window	undated
b. 39	Daffy Duck glass One glass from a collection of eight.	undated
b. 39	Pee cola bottle	undated
Kitchen		
b. 26	Cartoon clippings from Ashbery's refrigerator	undated
b. 26	Food magnets from Ashbery's refrigerator	undated
b. 38	"Take a Whiz" advertisement This advertisement hung in the kitchen.	undated
b. 40A	Boy in Raincoat: Uneeda Biscuit Boy cup This cup was originally displayed on a shelf; the shelf broke and it was moved to the top of the refrigerator. Ashbery also had a framed print of the image which was popular in advertisements in the 1930s. Ashbery used the image in two collages: the 1970s untitled postcard collage of Garfield Park Conservatory in Chicago and "Popeye Steps Out - for Joe Brainard" (2016).	undated
b. 40B	Fish tin mold	undated

Kitchen (continued)

b. 40B	Tin mold with pumpkin	undated
b. 41	Set of Ashbery's everyday dishes This dish set includes a cup, saucer, bowl, salad plate, and dinner plate.	undated
b. 41	Set of Ashbery's everyday utensils The utensil set includes two forks, two spoons, and a knife.	undated
b. 53 (Oversize)	Rodgers Book Barn paper shopping bag The Rodgers Book Barn in Hillsdale, New York, was one of Ashbery's favorite book stores.	undated
Second floor center hallway		
b. 42 (Oversize)	"Colleurs Unique" Bertholo, René, 1935-2005, artist Hand-colored screenprint, 26 x 19 3/4 inches, signed and dated.  This piece was a gift to Ashbery from the artist.  Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	1966
Art closet		
b. 43 (Oversize)	Untitled (Fairfield Porter's Mantel) Ashbery, John, 1927-2017, artist Oil on masonite, 21 1/8 x 24 1.8.  Ashbery painted this piece at the Southampton home of his friend, the painter and poet Fairfield Porter.  "Mantlepiece" was included in the Literary Vision show at the Jack Tilton Gallery that ran from November 1-26, 1988, and which focused on visual artwork by writers. The exhibition catalogue pairs reproductions of visual art with short prose pieces by the writers, and includes a black and white reproduction of Ashbery's painting with an untitled prose text by him.	1955
b. 44	Red shoebox This box of postcards was in the art closet off the second floor center hall in Hudson. It was casually referred to — and labeled in the closet — as Ashbery's "favorites." These postcard images were ones he especially liked and several were used in collages. There are three types of postcards in this box and one miscellany group.  Found postcards: Ashbery and friends scoured antique and thrift shops for collections of used old postcards. There were two types, used postcards with wonderful images, which he kept in this box, and postcards with banal descriptions of travel, three favorites of which he placed on the mantel in the upstairs study.  Blank (mostly vintage) postcards: Most of the postcards in this box are blank and were purchased at antique shops or sometimes sent to Ashbery as presents from friends. There are a few with images that ended up in collages such as Caravaggio's Bacchus, which became Ashbery's Still Life (2016).  Postcards sent to Ashbery or that he wrote and never sent, including the following: 1) from Kenward [Elmslie] a letter with a found Hudson postcard March 14, [1984]; 2) A birthday postcard from Kenward [Elmslie] to Ashbery n.d. 3) A belated happy birthday from Kenward n.d. 4) from Larry	undated

[Ashmead] and Walter [Mathews] to Ashbery on his birthday n.d.; 5) from Anni [Lauterbach] on his birthday n.d.; 6) from Joe [Brainard] on Ashbery's birthday n.d. 7) signed "Anna Capri" that is from Ashbery to Harry Mathews and never sent [1962]; 8) Jan 6, 1998 #3 "Y N" postcard of Elizabeth Barrett Room, Roycroft Inn East Aurora NY to John Ashbery 49 West Court Street Hudson NY 12534.

Other: 1) a business card for Mary Martin and Bill Martin / 231 Rock Ridge Road / Millersville, MD 21108 "Antique postcards bought and sold" since 1964 (301) 647-7975 7); 2) postcard advertising the KATTERSKILL-KARDIAC POSTCARD CLUB; 3) Salon de Paris postcard partly cut out (an image which Ashbery later used for his collage "L'Auto Stop" [2015]); 4) Central New York Postcard Club; 5) receipt from 11-20-80 in Hudson 5) bookmark "Eastman's Wild Rose"; 6) Envelope with a 1990 Paris stamp commemorating 18 juin 1940 Appel a la resistance on back reads: "For John, flowers from Paris. Love, Loretta; 7) an envelope full of Ontario Steam-Boat Company tickets of various kinds, some stamped. The 1858 Independent Line Steamer Europa Capt. H.N. Throop, who was Ashbery's Pultneyville, NY ancestor [Horatio Throop's brother Washington built the house that Ashbery's grandfather Henry Lawrence inherited]; 8) piece of wrapping paper.

Many of these vintage postcards (both blank and used) are from locations that were important to Ashbery biographically. There are images from Rochester, Sodus, Pultneyville (the three locations where his family had homes and where he spent his childhood) and nearby locales such as Sodus Point, Sodus Bay and Newark (NY). There are also postcards from Deerfield (where Ashbery attended the last two years of high school at the Deerfield Academy); from Hudson (where Ashbery bought a home in 1978; Albany (where Ashbery's husband David Kermani grew up); NYC (where Ashbery rented apartments from 1949-55 and again from 1966-2017); and Los Angeles (where Ashbery liked to visit).

#### Second floor sitting room

b. 45 (Oversize)	Vest belonging to Henry Lawrence, Ashbery's maternal grandfather. This vest was worn by Henry Lawrence while he was an undergraduate at the University of Rochester. Ashbery took it out of his closet in summer 2009 to look at it and it remained on a hanger on the sitting room door until 2018.	
b. 46A	Paris tile This tile was displayed on the sitting room mantel piece under "woman's wall". According to David Kermani it was one of Ashbery's "favorite things in the house."	undated
b. 46B	Toothbrush holder This toothbrush holder is similar to one that Ashbery had as a child.	undated
b. 47	David Kermani bronze baby shoes	undated
b. 42 (Oversize)	Untitled Blaine, Nell, 1922-1996, artist Ink wash on paper, 17 x 22 1/2 inches. Signed and dated. Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	1953

Second floor sitting room (continued)

b. 48	<p>Untitled abstract Hélion, Jean, 1904-1987 , artist</p> <p>Mixed media on paper, 12 1/4 x 14 3/4 inches, signed. Framed, 20 3/4 x 23 1/4 inches.</p>	1937
b. 49	<p>Beige postcard box</p> <p>This box was in the upstairs sitting room of the Hudson house on a coffee table for at least the last five years of Ashbery's life. He had plans to use some of these postcards in collages, and he also liked to look through them. Most of these "Carte Postales" are from Europe: cities in France, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands etc. Mixed into these place postcards is one that has a building carefully cut out, as though it had been intended for a collage.</p>	undated
Second floor study		
b. 50 (Oversize)	<p>"Some Trees" needlepoint Martory, Pierre , artist</p> <p>This needle point was made for Ashbery by Martory. It was not made in 1956 when Ashbery won the Yale Younger Poets Prize for "Some Trees", but some time later when Martory took up needlepoint. It was on the armchair in Ashbery's study.</p>	undated
b. 51 (Oversize)	<p>"This is the Life!" textile</p> <p>This item was originally a scarf or a pillow cover. Ashbery purchased it at an antique shop in the early 1980s and placed it on the second armchair in the study as a kind of antimacassar. It was torn and water stained when purchased.</p>	undated
b. 52	<p>Parrot door knocker from Dartmouth Street house</p> <p>This doorknocker hung on the study door.</p>	undated
Collage materials		
Ashbery collected these materials for his collage work. They were kept at his collage-making stations in the house, including the second floor study.		
b. 53 (Oversize)	Board for Pollyanna, The Glad Game	undated
b. 53 (Oversize)	Chinese checkers board	undated
b. 53 (Oversize)	National American Baseball Playing Field board game	undated
b. 26	<p>James Merrill's mother's scissors</p> <p>These scissors were a gift to Ashbery from Peter Hooten. Ashbery used them for his collage work.</p>	undated
b. 26	<p>Joe Brainard collage materials 8 Folders</p> <p>Ashbery received these collage materials from Joe Brainard over several decades. They include cut outs, postcards, and photocopies of original correspondence that accompanied the post cards. The original correspondence is in the Ashbery archive at Houghton Library, Harvard University.</p>	circa 1970-1990

Second floor study > Collage materials (continued)

Books and magazines used as collage materials

These (mostly inexpensive, mostly art) books — the kind on the sale table at the Strand in New York City or found at the Book Barn in Hillsdale, NY (Ashbery's two favorite used book stores) — served as material for collages or as provocations for collage ideas. In about half of these books the specific pages that Ashbery planned to use are marked. During the last decade of Ashbery's life, artist and local Hudson resident Timothy O'Connor assisted Ashbery by scanning, marking, cutting out, and pasting materials. Ashbery would explain to O'Connor what he wanted done and O'Connor would carry out those instructions, checking in and sometimes working beside Ashbery. The post-its and handwritten notes in each book are in O'Connor's hand, except in one case where the note is by David Kermani. These books and magazines offer a kind of short-cut: a very quick, clear view of the kinds of images Ashbery chose to put in his collages.

b. 54 (Oversize)	<i>Fabergé Eggs</i> : (Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1986) See, for example: p. 44-45 and John Ashbery's <i>Fabergé Breakfast</i> (2016).	1986
b. 54 (Oversize)	<i>The Cambridge Library of Ornamental Art: Japanese Ornament from the 17th to 19th century</i> (Gallery Books, 1991)	1991
b. 55 (Oversize)	<i>Italian Painting from Caravaggio to Modigliani</i> (Albert Skira, 1952) Pages marked:  1) p. 27 Caravaggio, Bacchus Ailing CA. 1590 [see Ashbery's collage "Still Life" (2016)  2) p. 39 Orazio Gentileschi Young Woman Playing the Lute CA. 1626  3) p. 69 Alessandro Magnasco Punchinello and His Son CA. 1720  3) p. 75 Giambattista Tiepolo Telemachus and Mentor CA. 1740	1952
b. 55 (Oversize)	<i>The Masters 10: Tiepolo</i> (Knowledge Publications, 1965) Not marked but see Plate V "Venus with a Mirror" (1725) and John Ashbery's "Tiepolo Macaron" (2015)	1965
b. 55 (Oversize)	Fabbri, Fratelli, ed. <i>Il Maestri del Colore: Vermeer</i> (A. & G. Marco, 1964) Pages not marked but see: VI-VII Veduta di Delft and Ashbery's poem "View of Delft" and XVII La merlettaia and Ashbery's collage.	1964
b. 56	Christiansen, Keith, ed. <i>Giambattista Tiepolo, 1696-1770</i> ( <i>The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 1996</i> ) Pages not marked.	1996
b. 56	Hornung, Clarence P. <i>Handbook of Early Advertising Art</i> (Dover Publications, 1956) Pages not marked.	1956
b. 56	Lands End Catalog addressed to Ashbery Page folded but nothing marked. For collages, see Ashbery's "Strawberry Stairs" (2015) and "Dark Decollation" (2015).	2016

Second floor study > Collage materials > Books and magazines used as collage materials (continued)

b. 56	<p><i>L'Opera Completa del Bronzino</i> (Rizzoli Editore, 1973)</p> <p>1973</p> <p>Marked: Tav. II La Deposizione di Christo</p> <p>Note also Tav. XXIII</p> <p>See Ashbery collages: "Salle d'Attente" (2016) and P.K. (2015) [and several others]</p>
b. 56	<p>McCorquodale, Charles. <i>Bronzino</i> (Harper &amp; Row, 1981)</p> <p>1981</p> <p>Marked: ("A Lady with a Dog" p. 98)</p> <p>See John Ashbery's "Royal Family II" (2014)</p> <p>See also cover of Bronzino (McCorquodale), see bottom right of Ashbery's "Mannerist Concerns" (2008)</p>
b. 57	<p>Gasser, Manuel, Angus Malcolm, trans. <i>Self-Portraits from the Fifteen Century to the Present Day</i> (Appleton-Centiury, 1961)</p> <p>1961</p> <p>Pages marked for:</p> <p>1) Parmigianino "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror" (1523) p. 60-61: see Ashbery's "Still Life" (2016) (above) and "The Mail in Norway" (2009)</p> <p>2) Caravaggio "David with the Head of Goliath" (1605) p. 68-69 See Ashbery's Dark Decollation (2015)</p> <p>3) Michael Sweerts "Self-Portrait" (1661) p. 96-97</p> <p>4) Luis Meléndez "Self-Portrait" (1746) p. 112-113</p> <p>5) Barthélemy Menn "Self-Portrait in a Straw Hat" (1872) p. 148-49</p> <p>6) Pablo Picasso "Self-Portrait" (1906) p. 268-69</p>
b. 57	<p>Upton, Bertha. Florence K. Upton, illustrator. <i>The Golliwogg's Desert Island</i> (Longmans, Green &amp; Co., 1906)</p> <p>1906</p>
b. 57	<p>Upton, Bertha. Florence K. Upton, illustrator. <i>The Golliwogg's Circus</i> (Longmans, Green &amp; Co., 1903)</p> <p>1903</p>
b. 57	<p>Upton, Bertha. Florence K. Upton, illustrator. <i>The Golliwogg's Polar Adventures</i> (Longmans, Green &amp; Co., 1903)</p> <p>1903</p> <p>Includes note saying these are part of Ashbery's collage materials written by David Kermani.</p>
b. 57	<p>Sotheby's catalog, "Old Master &amp; 19th Century European Art, New York 31 January 2009"</p> <p>2009</p> <p>Marked: p. 86-87</p>
b. 57	<p>Petersham, Maud and Miska. <i>The Story Book of Aircraft</i> (The John C. Winston Company, 1935)</p> <p>1935</p> <p>From Pittsford Elementary School Library.</p>
b. 57	<p>Olcott, Virginia, Constance Whittemore, illustrator. <i>Jean and Fanchon, Children of Fair France</i> (Silver Burdett and Company, 1931)</p> <p>1931</p>

Second floor study > Collage materials > Books and magazines used as collage materials (continued)

b. 58	<i>St. Nicholas: An Illustrated Magazine for Young Folks</i> , vol. XI, part II, May 1884 to October 1884 (The Century Co., 1884)	1884
b. 58	Johnson, Virginia. <i>Travels of an American Owl: A Satire</i> (Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger, 1871)	1871
b. 58	Clarke, J. Erskine, ed. <i>Chatterbox</i> (Estes and Lauriat, 1886)	1886
b. 58	<i>Practical Drawing: Arts and Crafts Course Part 2</i> (Practical Drawing Company, 1914)	1914
b. 58	Sotheby's catalog, "Photographic Images and Related Material, London, Friday 14th April 1989"	1989
b. 59	National Gallery catalog, "Giovanni Battista Moroni, 400th Anniversary Exhibition"	1978
b. 59	<i>National Geographic</i> , vol. 158, no. 2	1980 August
b. 59	<i>National Geographic</i> , vol. 192, no. 6	1997 December
b. 59	<i>Vanity Fair</i> , no. 631 Advertisement for Canali marked by front cover fold over.	2013 March
b. 60-61	Additional collage materials These collage materials include a Victorian board games book by Olivia Bristol, designs for Blackboard Drawing, Krazy Kat postcards, a signed postcard from Claire (Guillot) to Ashbery and Kermani, 2004, a signed postcard from Larry (Ashmead) to Ashbery, 1983, eight potential backdrops, marked magazine pages, a loot bag cut out, miniature cut outs, ripped magazine pages, a Lands End catalog, and postcards.	undated
Yellow room		
b. 62	Print of "A Shepherd Boy" by Franz von Lenbach Ashbery kept this print on the top shelf of the "yellow room" mantel. Ashbery kept a poster of the image from Schack Galeri, Munich (where the original is held), in the study closet. The image appears in Ashbery's collage "Promontory" (2010).  Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	undated
b. 63	Yellow vase This vase is a piece from Ashbery's end-of-day glass collection.	undated
b. 63	Black vase This vase is a piece from Ashbery's end-of-day glass collection. It was a gift to Ashbery from David Kermani.	undated
Master bedroom		
b. 64	Untitled painting of Canada Dunn, Anne, 1929- , artist On board, unframed, 9 3/8 x 7 1/2 inches.  Inscribed by Anne Dunn Moynihan, "To John from Anne, 24/10/65".	circa 1965



Master bedroom (continued)

f. 65 (Broadside)	Antique French paper puppet theater backdrop	undated
f. 66 (Broadside)	<p>Reproduction of antique French paper puppet theater backdrop</p> <p>According to David Kermani, soon before his death in 2017, Ashbery selected this puppet theater backdrop as the background for his next collage. On August 31st an assistant hung it from a shelf of the bookcase facing his bed so he could study it. Ashbery passed on September 3rd, before beginning work on the collage.</p> <p>Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.</p>	undated
b. 42 (Oversize)	<p>Grand Theatre poster</p> <p>Ashbery purchased this poster in Paris in the late 1960s. It was originally a puppet theater background.</p> <p>Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.</p>	undated
b. 62	<p>Color chart poster</p> <p>Ashbery purchased this poster at the same shop in Paris as the Grand Theatre poster.</p> <p>Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.</p>	undated
b. 62	<p>Untitled (basket with cherries)</p> <p>Freilicher, Jane, 1924-2014 , artist</p> <p>Pastel on paper, 12 x 9 inches.</p> <p>Freilicher painted this pastel of Royal Anne cherries as a present for Ashbery.</p> <p>Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.</p>	1976
b. 67	<p>Powder jar</p> <p>This powder jar belonged to Helen Ashbery (John Ashbery's mother), and he particularly liked the sound it made when she put the lid on it. She kept face powder in it but he used it for odds and ends: a necklace, buttons, a fortune, a pair of scissors.</p>	undated
b. 62	<p>Untitled painting of Pultneyville house</p> <p>Bornath, Philip , artist</p> <p>Signed, 10 1/4 x 8 1/4 inches (framed).</p> <p>This painting depicts the small house built by Washington Throop and owned by John Ashbery's grandparents, Addie and Henry Lawrence, in Pultneyville, New York.</p> <p>Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.</p>	1985
Bathroom		
b. 62	<p>[Maxfield Parrish?] print</p> <p>This print was a gift to Ashbery from Bill Berkson. Ashbery believed it to be by Maxfield Parrish. It is inscribed to Ashbery, "Happy Birthday John! 7.28.67."</p> <p>Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.</p>	circa 1967
Back staircase		

Back staircase (continued)

b. 68 (Oversize)	Maxfield Parrish print This print hung in the back stairwell. The image was Ashbery's screensaver. Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	undated
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b. 62	Dime-store painting of boy peeing This painting was a gift from David Kermani to Ashbery. Unframed by Beinecke Library staff, November 2021.	undated
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b. 69 (Oversize)	Framed poster of separate sheets of a 'Tom Thumb's Alphabet' by Edward Dalziel from an 1867 publication, <i>The Child's Coloured Gift Book</i>	undated
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Basement

b. 68 (Oversize)	Two Japanese shopping bags These bags were saved by Ashbery for their humorous/obscure text.	undated
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## **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**

Poets, American -- 20th Century  
Poets, American -- 21st century

### **Occupations**

Poets -- United States -- 20th Century  
Poets -- United States -- 21st century

### **Genres / Formats**

Ceramics (object genre)  
Collages (visual works)  
Glassware  
Paintings (visual works)

### **Names**

Ashbery, John, 1927-2017  
Brainard, Joe, 1942-1994  
Kermani, David K.  
Winkfield, Trevor, 1944-