

GEORGE W. AND MIMI BOLTON PAPERS

Mss. 4653

Inventory

Compiled by
Madeline Conrad

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2020

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SUMMARY

Size	2.25 linear feet, 4 volumes
Geographic Locations	Alexandria, Louisiana Baton Rouge, Louisiana Horicon, Wisconsin Milwaukee, Wisconsin Washington, D.C.
Inclusive Dates	circa 1915-1992
Bulk Dates	1927-1988
Languages	English
Summary	This collection contains the published and unpublished writings of George W. Bolton (1905-1995) and Mimi DuBois Bolton (1902-1988), including short stories, poetry, novels, an autobiography, and a play. Biographical information, personal correspondence, family photographs and portraits, scrapbooks pertaining to Mimi Bolton's early life in Wisconsin, and materials related to Mimi Bolton's career as an artist in Washington, D.C. are also included.
Access Restrictions	None.
Reproduction Note	May be reproduced.
Copyright	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Related Collections	None.
Citation	George W. and Mimi Bolton papers, Mss. 4653, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location(s)	4:27-28; G:21; OS:B

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

George Washington Bolton was born May 23, 1905 in Alexandria, Louisiana and died on July 23, 1995 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He graduated from Bolton High School and went on to receive degrees from both Tulane University and Harvard Business School. He married Mimi DuBois Hoffman on October 5, 1932. George Bolton worked for the U.S. News and World Report in Washington, D.C. as a chief financial writer for thirty years. Unpublished copies of George Bolton's short stories and novel are included in this collection.

Mimi DuBois Hoffman was born on December 12, 1902 and died on August 28, 1988 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She was adopted by German immigrants, Paul and Anna Hoffman, and was baptized in 1903 as Frieda Hoffman. Mimi Bolton spent her childhood in Horicon, Wisconsin. In 1922 she moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she worked as a secretary, journalist, and writer. She contributed to the *Milwaukee Leader*, the *Milwaukee Journal*, and the *Wisconsin Telephone News*. In her autobiography, Mimi Bolton mentioned being married to a man briefly in 1929, whom she refers to by the pseudonym "Arthur." She lived in New Orleans for the duration of her first marriage, then moved to New York, where she married George Bolton. George and Mimi Bolton relocated to Washington, D.C. in 1933, where Mimi pursued a career as a painter. They lived in Washington, D.C. until 1965, when they relocated to Montgomery County, Maryland. They moved again in 1973 to New Orleans, Louisiana. The Boltons moved to Baton Rouge before 1988 and lived there until their deaths in 1988 and 1995.

Mimi Bolton's autobiography, *So I Became an Artist*, was published posthumously in 1991. She published two novels during her lifetime: *Merry-Go-Round Family* (1954) and *Wilhelmina's Inheritance* (1984). She wrote poetry and short fiction and co-authored *Wilhelmina's Inheritance: the play* with George Bolton. However, painting remained her primary interest throughout life. Her art was displayed in U.S. government embassies around the world during the 1960s and was featured in art shows and exhibitions throughout her career. She received awards through organizations such as the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Society of Washington Artists, and the Chautauqua Art Association, among others. Upon her death, twenty-one of her paintings were willed to the Art Museum of Southeast Texas.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The George W. and Mimi Bolton papers are comprised of materials produced and collected by George W. and Mimi DuBois Bolton. The writings of George Bolton include drafts of six short stories, a novel, and a biography of Mimi Bolton. Also included are drafts of *Wilhelmina's Inheritance: the play*, which was a collaborative project by George and Mimi Bolton. Mimi Bolton's writings consist of an annotated volume and revised copy of *Merry-Go-Round Family*, a draft of *So I Became an Artist: an Autobiography*, drafts of *Wilhelmina's Inheritance: the novel*, and poetry. This collection also contains unbound scrapbooks and binders compiled by Mimi Bolton (sometimes referred to as Frieda or Fritzi Hoffman), newspaper and magazine clippings, notes, and graphic materials.

The Bolton and Hoffman families are featured prominently in the photographs and portraits in Series II. This series also includes the correspondence of George and Mimi Bolton between one another and with friends. Printed materials consist of telephone directories and literary catalogues, as well as materials related to art galleries and associations. Among these materials are invitations, announcements, art magazines, programs, and membership information. There are four volumes in this collection: a 1947 date book, an annotated copy of *Merry-Go-Round Family* by Mimi Bolton, a 1919 copy of the Horicon High School yearbook, and a 1927-1928 copy of the Harvard Business School Yearbook. Oversize materials include maps of the Horicon area and advertisements.

LIST OF SERIES

Series I. Writings, 1954, 1983-1991, undated

Series II. Bolton family papers, circa 1915-1992, undated

Series III. Printed materials, 1933-1991, undated

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**Series I. Writings, 1954, 1983-1991, undated**

Consists of the writings of George and Mimi Bolton. George Bolton's writings include the short stories "Coquette," "The Ordeal of Julius Truppner," "A Favor to Ask," "The Hunting Trip," "A Locket for Lucy," and "Mr. Kelsey's Garden." Also included are drafts of his biography of Mimi Bolton, "Blithe Spirit," and his novel, *Gather Ye Rose-Buds*. A draft of *Wilhelmina's Inheritance: a play* by George and Mimi Bolton, as well as both revised and unrevised copies of *Wilhelmina's Inheritance: a novel* by Mimi Bolton are sorted into folders, along with Mimi Bolton's autobiography, *So I Became an Artist*, and a revised copy of her novel, *Merry-Go-Round Family*. Folders (24-29) in box 1 contain materials that were removed from a binder of writings, most of these samples were rough drafts of *Wilhelmina's Inheritance*. This series also contains an annotated volume of *Merry-Go-Round Family*.

Series II. Bolton family papers, circa 1915-1992, undated

Comprised of the personal scrapbooks of Mimi Bolton, the correspondence of Mimi and George Bolton, notes, and photographs. There are two unbound scrapbooks in this series and one unbound binder. The unbound binder contains clippings related to Horicon, Wisconsin and other wildlife and preservation materials. The first of the two scrapbooks is a personal scrapbook labeled with the names "Mimi DuBois" and "Fritzi Hoffman." Mimi Bolton published most of her writing under this pen name when she wrote for the *Wisconsin Telephone News*. The personal scrapbook contains clippings, some of which were written by Mimi Bolton. The second scrapbook contains clippings from the *Wisconsin Telephone News*, a newspaper to which Mimi Bolton contributed, as well as materials related to the Wisconsin Telephone Company, where Mimi Bolton was employed from 1927 to 1929 as an advertisement writer. Graphic materials include clippings compiled by Mimi Bolton, two sketches, and a cartoon. Two Lithuanian language notebooks and the 1922 issue of Bolton High School publication, "Cumtux," are sorted into folders. This series also includes family photographs and portraits of the Bolton and Hoffman families, photographs of Mimi and George Bolton, photographs of an unspecified flood in Pineville and Alexandria, a portrait by Mimi Bolton titled "Rachel," and photographs from George's time at Harvard. There are three volumes in this series: a date book from 1947, a Harvard Business School yearbook from 1927-1928, and a 1919 copy of the Horicon High School yearbook, "The Bugler." Oversize materials include maps of Horicon, Wisconsin and an advertisement for *American Water and Game Birds* by Austin L. Rand from the Horicon binder, advertisements removed from the Wisconsin Telephone News scrapbook, and an unlabeled drawing.

Series III. Printed materials, 1933-1991, undated

This series consists of printed materials related primarily to art shows in the Washington, D.C. area. Materials include invitations and announcements, art magazines and directories, artists' programs, bulletins, handbooks, exhibition programs, calendars of events, and membership information. The Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Chautauqua Art Association, the Society of Washington Artists, and the National Association of Women Artists are among the organizations represented in this collection. In addition to these materials, this series contains telephone books from Alexandria, Louisiana (1955) and Horicon, Wisconsin (1961), as well as several literary items.

INDEX TERMS

Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found in the series indicated, as represented by their numbers.

Autobiographies (literary works)	I-II
Bolton, George.	I-III
Bolton, Mimi.	I-III
Chautauqua Art Association.	III
Clippings (information artifacts)	II
Corcoran Gallery of Art.	III
Grey literature.	I
Milwaukee (Wis.)--Periodicals.	II
National Association of Women Artists (U.S.)	III
Personal correspondence.	II
Photographic prints.	II
Portraits.	II
Scrapbooks.	II
Society of Washington Artists (Washington, D.C.)	III
Women painters.	I-III
Writings (documents)	I

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
Series I. Writings, 1954, 1983-1991, undated			
4:27	1	1	<i>Merry-Go-Round Family</i> by Mimi Bolton (Revised edition) (1991)
		2	“The Coquette” by George W. Bolton (undated)
		3	“The Ordeal of Julius Truppner” by George W. Bolton (undated)
		4-5	“A Favor to Ask” by George W. Bolton (undated)
		6	“The Hunting Trip” by George W. Bolton (undated)
		7	“A Locket for Lucy” by George W. Bolton (undated)
		8	“Mr. Kelsey’s Garden” by George W. Bolton (undated)
		9-11	<i>Gather Ye Rose-Buds</i> by George W. Bolton (undated)
		12-13	<i>Wilhelmina’s Inheritance</i> by Mimi Bolton (early version) (undated)
		14-15	<i>Wilhelmina’s Inheritance: a novel</i> by Mimi and George Bolton (undated)
		16-17	“Wilhelmina’s Inheritance: a play” by Mimi and George Bolton (1983)
		18-19	“Wilhelmina’s Inheritance: a play” by Mimi and George Bolton (unrevised version) (1983)
		20-21	<i>So I Became an Artist: an autobiography</i> by Mimi Bolton (rough draft) (undated)
		22	“Mimi DuBois Bolton: Blithe Spirit” (undated)
		23	Writings (undated)
		24-29	Writings binder materials (undated)
G:21	--	Vol. 1	<i>Merry-Go-Round Family</i> by Mimi Bolton (annotated) (1954)
Series II. Bolton family papers, circa 1915-1992, undated			
4:27	1	30	Horicon binder loose materials (undated)
		31-35	Horicon binder (undated)
		36-37	Fritzi Hoffman personal scrapbook (undated)
		38-46	Wisconsin Telephone News scrapbook (undated)
		47	Graphic materials (undated)
		48	Notes (undated)
		49	Mimi Bolton biographical notes (undated)
		50-51	Clippings (1927-1982)
		52-53	Lithuanian language notes (undated)
		54-55	Correspondence (1921-1992, undated)
		56	Bolton High School publication, “Cumtux” (1922)
4:28	3	1-2	Bolton family photographs (circa 1915, 1925, undated)
		3-6	Bolton family portraits (circa 1927, undated)

<u>Stack</u>				
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>	
4:28	3	7	Hoffman family portraits (undated)	
		4	1-2 Hoffman family portraits (undated)	
	4	3-5	Portraits (1944, undated)	
		6	Color portraits of Mimi Bolton (undated)	
		7	Portrait (fragile) (undated)	
		8-9	Family photographs (1931, undated)	
		10	Photographs from album (undated)	
		11	Color photographs of George and Mimi Bolton (1949, undated)	
		12-13	Photographs of a flood in Pineville and Alexandria (undated)	
		14	Photographs of Harvard, George Bolton travels (circa 1927)	
		15	Birthday card (undated)	
		16	"Rachel" portrait by Mimi Bolton (1945)	
	5	1	Bolton family portraits (circa 1915, 1925, undated)	
		2-4	Portraits (undated)	
	G:21	--	Vol. 2	Harvard Business School yearbook (1927-1928)
		--	Vol. 3	Horicon High School yearbook (1919)
--		Vol. 4	Date book (1947)	
OS:B	--	1	Oversize materials (circa 1932, undated)	
Series III. Printed materials, 1933-1991, undated				
4:28	2	1	Invitations and calendars of events (1940-1941, 1949-1965)	
		2-3	Art magazines and directories (1955-1966, 1972, undated)	
		4-5	Art shows and exhibitions (1940, 1952-1967, 1977)	
		6	Artists' programs (1962-1966, 1971-1974, undated)	
		7	Tyler, Texas Juried Arts programs (1962-1963, 1966)	
		8	Society of Washington Artists exhibitions (1941-1949, 1954, 1964)	
		9	Corcoran Gallery of Art handbooks (1933, 1939)	
		10-12	Corcoran Gallery of Art biennial exhibition programs (1937-1961)	
		13	Corcoran Gallery of Art area exhibition programs (1947-1952, 1957-1959)	
		14	Mimi Bolton printed materials (1945, 1974, 1982, undated)	
		15	Chautauqua Art Association Jury Show programs (1961-1964)	
		16-17	National Association of Women Artists exhibition programs (1953-1958)	
		18	Telephone directories (1955-1961)	

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circa 1915-1992

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LSU LIBRARIES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Stack

Location

4:28

Box

2

Folder

19

Contents (with dates)

Literary materials (1954, 1991, undated)