



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Art

Jacques Seligmann & Co. records, General Correspondence: Ford, Edsel B., 1924-1940

Extracted on Apr-18-2024 10:07:18

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives of American Art as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives of American Art website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives of American Art or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives of American Art. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

May 15th, 1940

My dear Mr. Ford:

I spent about a week in Detroit and am sorry to have been deprived of the pleasure of seeing you again. I had hoped that we might meet accidentally somewhere as knowing how busy you are, I always feel very reluctant to take up any of your time at your office.

However, I was very anxious to see you to talk to you about a painting which we have at the moment on exhibition at the Detroit Institute of Arts and which perhaps has already been called to your attention, as it naturally has been attracting a great deal of comment. This painting which we have lent anonymously, is the "Irises" by Van Gogh which was considered in France the foremost example by the master.

It has been in the celebrated Pellerin, Mirbeau and Doucet Collections and is the first picture Van Gogh painted after he moved to St. Rémy in May 1889.

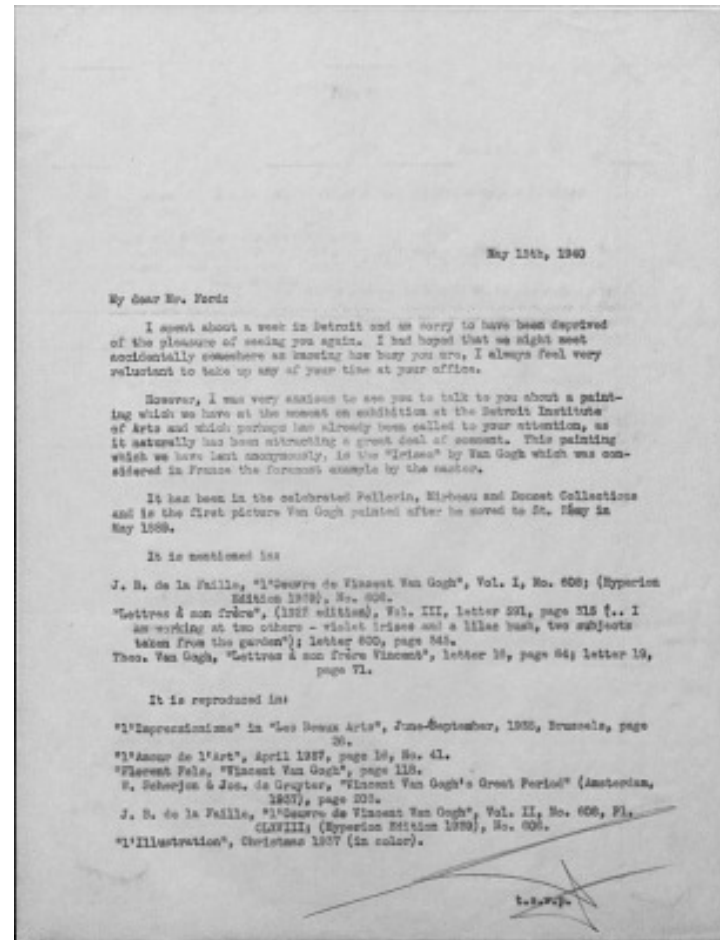
It is mentioned in:

J.B. de la Faille, "L'Oeuvre de Vincent Van Gogh", Vol. I, No. 608; (Hyperion Edition 1939), No. 606.
"Lettres à son frère", (1923 edition), Vol. III, letter 591, page 315 (..I am working at two others - violet irises and a lilac bush, two subjects taken from the garden"); letter 600, page 345.
Theo. Van Gogh, "Lettres à son frère Vincent", letter 16, page 64; letter 19, page 71.

It is reproduced in:

"L'Impressionisme" in "Les Beaux Arts", June-September, 1935, Brussels, page 26.
"l'Amour de l'Art", April 1937, page 16, No. 41.
Florent Fels, "Vincent Van Gogh", page 118.
W. Scherjon & Jos. de Gruyter, "Vincent Van Gogh's Great Period" (Amsterdam, 1937), page 203.
J.B. de la Faille, "L'Oeuvre de Vincent Van Gogh", Vol. II, No. 608, Pl. CLXVIII; (Hyperion Edition 1939), No. 606.
"l'Illustration", Christmas 1937 (in color).

RS
t.s.v.p.



Jacques Seligmann & Co. records, General Correspondence: Ford, Edsel B., 1924-1940
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-18-2024 10:07:18



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Art

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)