

Midterm Internship Reflection

At this point in the internship, I have mainly focused on research and getting familiar with the career and educational life of August and Irma Cook. I have not focused my research on anything specific yet because I am simply documenting any and all information I can find about August and Irma Cook on the internet and various clippings of newspapers I can find that were published during that time that include August Cook.

I have also been able to see the paintings that are going to be included in the show and have categorized them loosely around what exhibit labels I want to be near them. For example, paintings done by Irma Cook should be near a label that is about Irma, or her and August's relationship as an artistic couple. The basic categories I have chosen thus far to have included in the exhibit are; family/ home life, career/ education, Converse College/ involvement in Spartanburg community, and Irma Cook/ her relationship with August Cook.

I loosely organized the paintings in the collection list by category and gave some thought to how I should exhibit them in the show. For example, #2 on the collection list would go with the exhibit label that had to do with August Cook's career and education because it is August Cook's student demo for a studio art class. One thing that had been difficult thus far into the internship had been trying to figure out how to display Irma Cook's chairs with the paintings by her and August because they will require a different way of showcasing them. However, now that I have read more about exhibit labels, I see that this will be more of a museum of August and Irma's life, rather than a regular art exhibition. The chairs will actually fit in well because they will give the viewer the experience of seeing August and Irma as real people, rather than artists that they do not know.

Overall the experience thus far has been enjoyable with researching August and reading about curating and all the different types of exhibit labels that need to be utilized at various times. The beginning of this internship has been slow because the show is not supposed to go up until the beginning of the Fall semester, but I am excited to plan it, do my research, and eventually help set up the show!