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Introduction

Emil Lüthy (1890-1966) was painter and one of the first members of the Swiss Psycho-Analytical Society. In his capacity as painter he was consulted by Rorschach in matters of art psychology, e.g. styles and talents of artists with regard to introversion / extratension.
General Information

Reference Code
Ref. Code: Rorsch
ISIL: CH-000956-2

Use
The use of the Rorschach Archives and Museum for scientific purposes is open to all, but notice is required in advance. Access to the fonds may be limited due to conservational requirements or for reasons of the protection of personal rights.

Address
Universität Bern
Institut für Medizingeschichte
Archiv und Sammlung Hermann Rorschach
Bühlstrasse 26
CH-3000 Bern 9 (Switzerland)

Contact

Links
The Hermann Rorschach Archives and Museum
http://biblio.unibe.ch/rorschach
HAN: Manuscripts and archives
http://aleph.unibas.ch/F?func=option-update-ing&file_name=find-b&p_con_ing=ENG&local_base=rorschach
## Hierarchy

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Inventory Fonds Emil Lüthy (05/04/2013)
Inventory

1 Fonds Emil Lüthy (Fonds)

2 cm. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch EL.

Content: The small fonds includes among other things correspondence with Rorschach and drawings relating to Rorschach's test.


Access: Only on inquiry.

Biogr.: Emil Lüthy was born on 13th March 1890 in Basle where he went to school. He was a cousin of Emil Oberholzer, with whom he had a fairly close relationship. According to his own statements he was afflicted from his early youth with health problems. He seemingly was interested both in medicine and art, but precise information on his career is scarce. In various obituaries he is stated to have gone, after school leaving examinations qualifying for university in 1911, to Munich where he allegedly studied for three years. It is, however, unclear what sort of studies they were. At any rate in the student directory of the University of Munich of that time one cannot find his name. After returning to Basle shortly before the outbreak of World War I he attended until 1915 painting classes conducted by Hermann Meyer (1878-1961). For further education in painting he is said to have been in Italy, Vienna and Paris.

In all likelihood influenced by Emil Oberholzer he became intrigued by psychoanalysis. From a letter from Oscar Pfister to Emil Oberholzer from 29th March 1920 we learn that Lüthy was in psychoanalysis with Oscar Pfister in 1919. He numbered among the first members of the Swiss Psycho-Analytical Society established in the same year, holding from 1920 onwards the position of treasurer. On the register of members he is listed as painter showing that he considered himself as such. Having been in psychoanalysis with Freud in 1923 he later was approached by Kurt Eissler, director of the Sigmund Freud Archives, for a recollection of his experience with Freud. As can be proven he studied medicine from 1924 to 1927 at the university in Zurich, where he lived with Emil and Mira Oberholzer. Thereafter he seems to have turned exclusively to painting. The emigration of Emil and Mira Oberholzer to USA in 1938 meant an important loss for Lüthy. The same is true with regard to his friend Frederic S. Weil, who also emigrated to USA, where he became a well known psychoanalyst.

In 1920 Rorschach asked Emil Lüthy for advice in connection with the differentiation of talents according to introversive and extratensive features. Seeking a better understanding of the role of certain colours in the context of his introversion-extratension scheme he turned again to him in 1922. Moreover Lüthy provided Rorschach with test records of persons of his acquaintance for evaluation.

Reprod.: Only with agreement of the Rorschach-Archives.


Creat.: Lüthy, Emil. 1890-1966.
2 1 : Letters to Emil Lüthy (File)

3 1/1 : Letters from Hermann Rorschach to Emil Lüthy (Sub-file)
   Ed.: 1922.
   Lang.: German.
   Aut.: Rorschach, Hermann. 1884-1922.

4 1/2 : Letters from Walter Morgenthaler to Emil Lüthy (Sub-file)
   Lang.: German.

5 1/3 : Letters from K. R. Eissler to Emil Lüthy (Sub-file)
   Lang.: German.
   Aut.: Sigmund Freud Archives (New York).

6 1/4 : Letters from Wolfgang Schwarz to Emil Lüthy (Sub-file)
   Lang.: English.
   Aut.: Schwarz, Wolfgang. Psychologe. 1926-.

7 1/5 : Various correspondence (Sub-file)
8  **2 : Drawings relating to Rorschach's test (File)**


*Ed.*: 1920.

*Note.*: In order to demonstrate the differentiation of talents according to their introvertive and extratensive features Rorschach used painters as an example (see Psychodiagnostik 1921, Tabelle XVIII, p. 100; Psychodiagnostics 1942, table XVIII, page 109). For this reason he approached Emil Lüthy for advice. The file contains 1 drawing by Rorschach and 2 drawings by Emil Lüthy.


*Aut.*: Rorschach, Hermann. 1884-1922.

9  **3 : Papers relating to the Swiss Psycho-Analytical Society (File)**


*Ed.*: 1919-1920.

*Note.*: Emil Lüthy had participated in the activities of the Swiss Psycho-Analytical Society since its foundation in 1919. In 1920 he was elected as treasurer of the Society.

10  **4 : Photos (File)**


11  **4/1 : Photo of Emil Lüthy (Item)**


*Ed.*: 1927.

12  **4/2 : Photo of Emil Oberholzer and Paul Dubi in Oberholzer's apartment in Zürich (Item)**


*Note.*: On the wall there is a painting by Josef Floch.

13  **4/3 : Photo of Emil Oberholzer and Mira Oberholzer-Gincburg in their apartment at Gloriastrasse 78 in Zürich (Item)**

1 photo. - Ref. Nr: Rorsch EL 4 : 3.

14  **4/4 : Photo of Sigmund Freud (Item)**


*Ed.*: 1914?.

*Note.*: Probably a copy of the photo made by Max Halberstadt in 1914.
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