

# **Auguste Rodin Letter**

**Finding aid prepared by Clare Kuntz**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art

2017

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art
<b>Creator</b>	Rodin, Auguste, 1840-1917
<b>Title</b>	Auguste Rodin Letter
<b>Date</b>	1911.
<b>Extent</b>	0.02 Linear feet (1 folder)
<b>Language</b>	French
<b>Abstract</b>	The Auguste Rodin Letter is part of a series of correspondence between Rodin and Georges Treu, who was the curator of sculpture at the Albertinum in Dresden, Germany.

### Preferred Citation

Auguste Rodin Letter, Archives and Manuscripts Collections, The Baltimore Museum of Art

## Biographical Information

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Rodin, a French sculptor, is one of the most influential artists in modern sculpture. The Baltimore Museum of Art holds almost fifty of his works, including sculptures and drawings. Rodin first began his work on "La Defense," or as it is popularly known "The Call to Arms," in 1879 for a competition to create a public monument commemorating the courage of the residents of Paris in the defence of their city in 1870. Rodin did not win the contest in 1879, however, in 1912 Rodin donated an enlargement of "Le Defense" to the national movement in favor of military aeronautics because of his interest in the development of flight.

Georges Treu was a classical archeologist and the curator of sculpture at the Albertinum in Dresden, Germany during late 19th and early 20th century. The Albertinum focuses on art from the Romantic period to the present, and has two separate museums within it, the Galerie Neue Meiser, which holds the museum's paintings, and the Skulpturensammlung, which holds sculptures. Treu was instrumental in making the sculpture collection as diverse as it is today and it was he who acquired numerous Rodin sculptures for the museum's collection, although La Defense is not among them. It is probably through his acquisition of Rodin's work for the Albertinum that he had a relationship with the artist.

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## Scope and Contents

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The Auguste Rodin Letter is part of a series of correspondence between Rodin and Georges Treu, who was the director of the sculpture museum at the Albertinum in Dresden, Germany. The letter is a response to Treu's inquiry, on a Mr. Arnold's behalf, about when the sculpture "La Defense" would be ready to cast. Rodin writes that the casting of the sculpture is done, but that the sculpture is currently receiving its patina.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

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### **Provenance**

The letter was found in the Baltimore Museum of Art Library's vertical file for Rodin in 2016. Its earlier provenance is unknown.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Clare Kuntz in 2017.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Albertinum. (Dresden, Germany)

### **Genre(s)**

- Correspondence

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Treu, Georges, 1843-1921

### **Subject(s)**

- Sculpture