## NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART ONLINE EDITIONS Alfred Stieglitz Key Set



Alfred Stieglitz American, 1864 - 1946

# Konrad Cramer

1914

platinum print

image:  $24.6 \times 19.8 \text{ cm}$  (9 11/16 x 7 13/16 in.) sheet:  $25.3 \times 20.2 \text{ cm}$  (9 15/16 x 7 15/16 in.) Alfred Stieglitz Collection 1949.3.342

Stieglitz Estate Number 51C Key Set Number 390

## **KEY SET ENTRY**

### Related Key Set Photographs



Alfred Stieglitz Paul Haviland 1914 platinum print Key Set Number 389



Alfred Stieglitz Andrew Dasburg 1914 platinum print Key Set Number 391

## Remarks

Born in Würzburg, Germany, in 1888, Konrad Cramer immigrated to the United States in 1911. He studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Karlsruhe and

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spent time in Munich where he met several of the artists associated with *Der Blaue Reiter*. Cramer moved to Woodstock, New York, and most likely met Stieglitz shortly thereafter. In the 1930s he abandoned painting and devoted himself to photography.

In "Stupendous Stieglitz," *PSA Journal* 13 (November 1947), 721, Cramer described having his portrait made by Stieglitz. "His equipment was extremely simple, almost primitive. He used an 8 × 10 view camera, its sagging bellows held up by pieces of string and adhesive tape. The lens was a Steinheil, no shutter. The portraits were made in the smaller of the two rooms at '291' beneath a small skylight. He used Hammer plates with about 3 second exposures. During the exposure, Stieglitz manipulated a large white reflector to balance the overhead light. He made about nine such exposures and we then retired to the wash room which doubled as a darkroom. The plates were developed singly in a tray. From the two best negatives he made four platinum contact prints, exposing the frame on the fire escape. He would tend his prints with more care than a cook does her biscuits. The finished print finally received a coat of wax for added gloss and protection."

For more information about the painting in the background of this photograph, see Key Set number 389.

Stieglitz Collections

A corresponding print was given to the following institution(s) by Alfred Stieglitz during his lifetime, or was received or acquired from the estate:

George Eastman Museum, Rochester, 74:0052:0058 (inscribed: "291" / 1914 / Mr. Conrad [sic] Cramer / Woodstock N.Y. / Paid 4.25 / value \$1000 Insured / +8 [or A] 1/2 2363 Bass wood / Bx 35 / R.  $14 \times 18$  1/2)

Lifetime Exhibitions

A print from the same negative—perhaps a photograph from the Gallery's collection—appeared in the following exhibition(s) during Alfred Stieglitz's lifetime:

1921, New York (no. 32, as Konrad Cramer, 1914)

## INSCRIPTION

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| by Alfred Stieglitz, on mount, | , upper left verso, in | graphite: Exhibition | 1921 Conrad |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Kramer 1913                    |                        |                      |             |

by Georgia O'Keeffe, on mount, lower left verso, in graphite: 51 C

## **PROVENANCE**

Georgia O'Keeffe; gift to NGA, 1949.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- 1947 Cramer, Konrad. "Stupendous Stieglitz." PSA Journal 13 (November 1947): 721.
- 2002 Greenough, Sarah. Alfred Stieglitz: The Key Set: The Alfred Stieglitz Collection of Photographs. Washington, 2002: vol. 1, cat. 390.

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