



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Larry Aldrich

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-7950  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Biographical / Historical .....	1
Scope and Contents .....	1
Names and Subjects .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Larry Aldrich
<b>Date:</b>	1972 April 25-June 10
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.aldric72
<b>Creator:</b>	Aldrich, Larry (Interviewee) Cummings, Paul (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	9 Sound tape reels (Sound recording; 5 in.) 385 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Larry Aldrich, 1972 April 25-June 10, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Larry Aldrich, 1972 April 25-June 10, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are part of the Archives of American Art Oral History Program, started in 1958 to document the history of the visual arts in the United States, primarily through interviews with artists, historians, dealers, critics and others.

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Larry Aldrich (1906-2001) was an art collector from New York, New York.

---

## Scope and Contents

Interview of Larry Aldrich conducted 1972 April 25-June 10, by Paul Cummings, for the Archives of American Art. Aldrich speaks of his acquisitions and his program for selling art at Christmas and praises William S. Lieberman as "the curator of collectors". He discusses funds given to museums by the Larry Aldrich Foundation; visits to artists' studios; exhibiting a portion of his collection for the first time at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, Virginia, exhibitions at the Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art; Robert Indiana's "Love Series"; and modern movements including "Lyrical Abstraction" and "Cool Art." He recalls Stephen Antonakos, Richard Brown Baker, Alfred H. Barr,

Jr., Leo Castelli, Grace Hartigan, Budd Hopkins, Jasper Johns, John Myers, Dorothy Miller, Robert Rauschenberg, Frank Stella, Robert Smithson, and others.

---

## General

Originally recorded on 9 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 18 digital wav files. Duration is 17 hrs., 11 minutes.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Antonakos, Stephen, 1926-2013  
Baker, Richard Brown  
Barr, Alfred H., Jr., 1902-1981  
Castelli, Leo  
Hartigan, Grace  
Hopkins, Budd, 1931-2011  
Indiana, Robert, 1928-2018  
Johns, Jasper, 1930-  
Lieberman, William Slattery, 1924-  
Miller, Dorothy Canning, 1904-2003  
Myers, John Bernard  
Rauschenberg, Robert, 1925-2008  
Smithson, Robert  
Stella, Frank  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts