



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Ruth Armer

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Ruth Armer
<b>Date:</b>	1974 August 14
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.armer74
<b>Creator:</b>	Armer, Ruth, 1896-1977 (Interviewee) Karlstrom, Paul J. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	39 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Ruth Armer, 1974 August 14, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## 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.

### Available Formats

Transcript: 35mm microfilm reel 3196 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

Transcript: Patrons must use microfilm copy.

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## Biographical / Historical

Ruth Armer (1896-1977) was a painter and art collector from San Francisco, California.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Ruth Armer conducted 1974 August 14, by Paul J. Karlstrom, for the Archives of American Art. Armer speaks of her early interest in art; her education; moving to New York City in 1918; studying at the Art Students League under John Sloan, Robert Henri and George Bellows and the influences of Leo Stein and Max Weber. She discusses her early work in portrait painting; returning to San Francisco and working as a commercial artist; problems facing women artists in the 1930s; becoming a teacher; and her opinions of San Francisco art.

## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 39 min.

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## 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
- Women artists
- Women painters

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Art Students League (New York, N.Y.)
- Bellows, George, 1882-1925
- Henri, Robert, 1865-1929
- Sloan, John, 1871-1951
- Stein, Leo, 1872-1947
- Weber, Max, 1881-1961

### Occupations:

- Collectors
- Painters -- California -- San Francisco