



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Will Barnet

Funding for the digital preservation of this interview was provided by a grant from the Save America's Treasures Program of the National Park Service.

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

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
General.....	2
General.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Will Barnet
<b>Date:</b>	1993 April 9
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.barnet93
<b>Creator:</b>	Barnet, Will, 1911-2012 (Interviewee) Polcari, Stephen (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Sound cassette (Sound recording; analog) 45 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Will Barnet, 1993 April 9, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Will Barnet, 1993 April 9, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This interview is 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 administrators. Funding for this interview was provided by the Horace N. Goldsmith Foundation.

### Available Formats

Transcript available on line

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Will Barnet (1911- ) is a painter and printmaker from New York, New York.

---

## Scope and Contents

An interview of Will Barnet conducted 1993 April 9, by Stephen Polcari, for the Archives of American Art, in Barnet's studio, at 15 Gramercy Park, New York. Barnet talks about his education at the Boston Museum School and the Art Students League; art education after the Abstract Expressionists; the development of his own work between the 1930's and the 1970's; his involvement with the Indian Space movement; and his work with the Florsheim and Elizabeth Foundations and the Creative Artists Network.

## General

Originally recorded 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 28 min.

---

## General

Sound quality is poor.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Painters -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews  
Printmakers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings