



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview Jennifer Bartlett

This interview is part of the Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project, funded by the A G Foundation.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Jennifer Bartlett
Date:	2011 June 3-4
Identifier:	AAA.bartle11
Creator:	Bartlett, Jennifer, 1941- (Interviewee) McElhinney, James Lancel, 1952- (Interviewer) Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project
Extent:	124 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview Jennifer Bartlett, 2011 June 3-4, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview Jennifer Bartlett, 2011 June 3-4, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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.

Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

Restrictions

This transcript is open for research. Access to the entire recording is restricted. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Jennifer Bartlett (1941-) is a painter in Brooklyn, New York. James McElhinney (1952-) is a visual artist and writer in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Jennifer Bartlett conducted 2011 June 3 and 4, by James McElhinney, for the Archives of American Art's Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts project, at Bartlett's home and studio, in Brooklyn, New York.

Scope and Contents

Jennifer Bartlett speaks of her childhood in Long Beach, CA; her early interest in French New Wave films and Arshile Gorky; attending Mills College in Oakland, CA; her experience and training at Yale University's Art School; friendships, acquaintances, and professors in the Yale Art department; the art community in the neighborhood of SoHo in the late 60's; her techniques involving grid, scale, and repetition; the physical arrangement of her studios along with her working process; inspiration of classical Italian art as well as impressionists Vincent van Gogh, Paul Cézanne, and Georges Seurat; the issue of gender discrimination both within and outside of the art world; her own landscaping and gardening project and the influence of the natural world on her work; insight into two of her large scale works, Rhapsody [1975-76] and Recitative [2009-10]. Bartlett also recalls Chuck Close, Richard Serra, Volker Schlöndorff, John Cage, Brice Marden, and Elizabeth Murray.

General

Originally recorded as 8 sound files. Duration is 4 hr., 55 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Women artists
- Women authors
- Women educators
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project

Occupations:

- Authors -- New York (State) -- New York
- Educators -- New York (State) -- New York
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York