



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Jennifer Bartlett

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Jennifer Bartlett
Identifier:	AAA.bartle87
Date:	1987 June-September
Extent:	4 Cassettes (Sound recording: (5 hrs. 20 min.); analog.) 168 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	Bartlett, Jennifer, 1941- Berman, Avis
Language:	English

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.

Biographical / Historical

Jennifer Bartlett (1941-) was a painter, writer, and art instructor in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Jennifer Bartlett conducted 1987 June-September, by Avis Berman, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Bartlett discusses her family background and the dynamics within the family; her childhood interest in art; growing up in suburban Long Beach, California; attending Mills College and Yale School of Fine Arts; and her teachers and co-students there. She remembers in particular Elizabeth Murray, Jack Tworikov, and Richard Serra. She speaks about themes and intentions in her work, especially "Rhapsody" and various commissions including works created for ISI, Saatchi, Volvo, and Battery Park. Bartlett speaks about her writings "Cleopatra" and "History of the Universe" and their relationship to her painting. She concludes the interview with philosophical musings about art and taste.

General

Originally recorded on 4 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 8 digital wav files. Duration is 5 hr., 15 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Artists -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
Women painters -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Mills College -- Students
Murray, Elizabeth, 1940-
Serra, Richard, 1939-
Tworkov, Jack
Yale University. School of Fine Arts -- Students