



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Romare Bearden

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Romare Bearden
Date:	1968 June 29
Identifier:	AAA.bearde68
Creator:	Bearden, Romare, 1911-1988 (Interviewee) Ghent, Henri, 1926- (Interviewer)
Extent:	34 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Romare Bearden, 1968 June 29, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Romare Bearden, 1968 June 29, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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

Romare Bearden (1911-1988) was painter from New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Romare Bearden conducted 1968 June 29, by Henri Ghent, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Bearden speaks of his childhood in New York; the development of his artistic interests and ability; studying with George Grosz; his transition from cartoonist to painter; his first gallery show in Washington, D.C.; the influence of the Dutch masters; reactions to his work; his interest in gypsy culture; his travels; being a black artist; his work methods; and his future plans. He recalls the artist Carl Holty.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hr., 15 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

African American artists
Art, American

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Grosz, George, 1893-1959
Holty, Carl, 1900-1973

Occupations:

Cartoonists -- New York (State) -- New York
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York