



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with José Bedia

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with José Bedia
Identifier:	AAA.bedia98
Date:	1998 February 13
Extent:	159 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	Bedia, José, 1959- Martínez, Juan A.
Language:	Interview is in Spanish.

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 provided by the Smithsonian Institution's Latino Pool Fund.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

José Bedia (1959-) is a Cuban born painter from Miami, Florida.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Cuban born painter José Bedia conducted 1998 February 13, by Juan A. Martínez, in Bedia's studio/home, Miami, Florida, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Bedia discusses his early inclination toward drawing and interest in cartooning; receiving rigorous academic training at San Alejandro Art Academy in Havana and being introduced also to non-western art; attending graduate school at the Instituto Superior del Arte, 1976-1981; participating upon graduation in the Volumen I exhibition which was a turning point for Cuban artists; travel outside of Cuba to Budapest

via Berlin, to New York, to an Indian reservation in the Southwest where he became acquainted with North American native art and artists, and to Angola with the Cuban military, where he came into contact with African roots of Cuban culture; moving to Mexico City and then to Miami; his art and inspirations; religion; his collection of African and American Indian art; and exhibitions in which he has participated.

General

Originally recorded on 2 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 3 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:

Art, Modern -- 20th century -- Florida -- Miami
Artists -- Florida -- Miami -- Interviews
Expatriate artists -- Florida -- Miami -- Interviews
Latino and Latin American artists

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Occupations:

Artists -- Cuba