



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Susan Benay

Funding for the transcription provided by the Pasadena Art Alliance. 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.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Susan Benay
Date:	2000 November 30
Identifier:	AAA.benay00
Creator:	Benay, Susan, 1949- (Interviewee) Karlstrom, Paul J. (Interviewer)
Extent:	23 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Susan Benay, 2000 November 30, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Susan Benay, 2000 November 30, 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 available on line.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Susan Benay (1949-) was an artists' model from San Marcos, California. Susan Benay (néé Brown) grew up in Pasadena where she took art classes at various schools and studied music with Ravi Shankar at Villa Cabrini.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Susan Benay conducted 2000 November 30, by Paul Karlstrom, for the Archives of American Art, in Karlstrom's office, San Marino, California.

Scope and Contents

This interview focuses on Benay's brief career as a model in her late teens and early twenties, during which time she posed for most of the leading artists in the Los Angeles area. Benay recollects posing for prominent artists, including Richard Diebenkorn, Charles White, John Altoon, Sam Clayberger, Jirayr Zorthian, and physicist/artist Richard Feynman.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 3 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Occupations:

- Artists' models -- California