



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Norma G.  
Berger relating to Marsden Hartley

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Norma G. Berger relating to Marsden Hartley
<b>Date:</b>	1973 June 28
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.berger73
<b>Creator:</b>	Berger, Norma G. (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	24 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Norma G. Berger relating to Marsden Hartley, 1973 June 28, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Norma G. Berger relating to Marsden Hartley, 1973 June 28, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## 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 others.

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Norma G. Berger is the niece of the painter Marsden Hartley.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Norma Berger conducted 1973 June 28, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Ms. Berger speaks of her uncle, Marsden Hartley, and their close relationship. She recalls their time together from when she was a little girl up until Mr. Hartley's death. She tells of his fear of death and their arrangement for his cremation and scattering of ashes. Ms. Berger tells about his work as an artist, his friendship with Karl von Freyburg, and also her uncle's work as a writer. She also relates the difficulties with family members and

particularly her cousin Ted after Mr. Hartley died and trying to make sure his art work was dealt with fairly. Ms. Berger did manage to save her uncle's correspondence and manuscripts.

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## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 18 min.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Painting, Modern -- 20th century

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Sound recordings

Names:

Hartley, Marsden, 1877-1943