



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Jason Berger

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# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
General.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Jason Berger
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.berger79
<b>Date:</b>	1979 January 12-1980 February 1
<b>Creator:</b>	Berger, Jason, 1924-2010 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	2 Items (Sound recording: 2 sound files (2 hr., 5 min.); digital, wav file) 47 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Jason Berger, 1979 January 12-1980 February 1, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Jason Berger, 1979 January 12-1980 February 1, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Jason Berger (1924-2010) is a painter and printmaker from Brookline, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

Interview of Jason Berger, conducted 1979 January 12 and 1980 February 1, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, in Brookline, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

Berger speaks of growing up in Massachusetts; serving in the Army during World War II; studying and teaching at the Museum School in Boston; marrying his wife, Marilyn Powers; studying sculpture in France; exhibiting at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston and other galleries; the art collective Direct Vision; being fired from the Museum School; and teaching at SUNY Buffalo and the Art Institute of Boston. Berger also recalls Karl Zerbe, Ture Bengtz, Hyman Bloom, Hyman Swetsoff, Jack Levine, Leslie Fiedler, Clemens Benda, Ossip Zadkine, and others.

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## System Details

Originally recorded on 1 tape reel (5 in.).

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## General

Originally recorded on 1 tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hr., 5 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
- Printmakers -- Massachusetts -- Boston -- Interviews
- Sculpture -- Study and teaching
- World War, 1939-1945

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Art Institute of Boston (Boston, Mass.) -- Faculty
- Benda, Clemens E. (Clemens Ernst), 1898-1973
- Bengt, Ture, 1907-1973
- Bloom, Hyman, 1913-1973
- Fiedler, Leslie A.
- Institute of Contemporary Art (Boston, Mass.)
- Levine, Jack, 1915-2010
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. School
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. School -- Faculty
- Powers, Marilyn, 1925-1976
- State University of New York at Buffalo -- Faculty
- Swetoff, Hyman Wulf, 1920-1968
- United States. Army
- Zadkine, Ossip
- Zerbe, Karl, 1903-1972

### Occupations:

- Painters -- Massachusetts -- Boston -- Interviews

### Places:

- France -- description and travel