



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Jason Berger

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.

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Jason Berger
Identifier:	AAA.berger79
Date:	1979 January 12-1980 February 1
Extent:	2 Items (Sound recording: 2 sound files (2 hr., 5 min.); digital, wav file) 47 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	Berger, Jason, 1924-2010 Brown, Robert F.
Language:	English

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.

Biographical / Historical

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

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.

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 Swetzoff, Jack Levine, Leslie Fiedler, Clemens Benda, Ossip Zadkine, and others.

System Details

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

General

Originally recorded on 1 tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hr., 5 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Painters -- Massachusetts -- Boston -- Interviews
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-
Bengt, Ture, 1907-1973
Bloom, Hyman, 1913-
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

Geographic Names:

France -- description and travel