



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Arnold Blanch

Archives of American Art
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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	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Arnold Blanch
Date:	1963 June 13-August 3
Identifier:	AAA.blanch63
Creator:	Blanch, Arnold, 1896-1968 (Interviewee) Seckler, Dorothy Gees, 1910-1994 (Interviewer)
Extent:	37 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Audio: Oral history interview with Arnold Blanch, 1963 June 13-August 3, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This interview is part of the Archives' 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

Arnold Blanch (1896-1968) was a mural painter in Woodstock, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Arnold Blanch conducted by Dorothy Seckler (31 pages) on 1963 June 13 for the Archives of American Art, and a lecture by Blanch recorded by Seckler (6 pages), August 1, 1963.

Scope and Contents

In the interview, Blanch speaks of his childhood in Minnesota; his hostility toward formal education; his art education; moving to New York; the influence of Cezanne and Renoir on his work; the Woodstock art circle; travels in Paris; his association with New York galleries; his involvement with WPA projects; the American Artists Congress; the American art scene in the 1930s; his opinions of government aid to the arts; changes in his style; and his opinions on the contemporary art scene. He recalls Boardman Robinson, Juliana Force, George Bellows, Robert Henri, John Sloan, Kenneth Hayes Miller, Arshile Gorky, Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, David Siqueiros, and Raoul Hague. The lecture, "Art Tradition," was delivered by Blanch to the Woodstock Art Association, Woodstock, New York, August 1, 1963.

General

Originally recorded 5 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 5 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hr., 12 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art, American
Muralists -- New York -- Woodstock -- Interviews
Painters -- New York (State) -- Woodstock -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

American Artists' Congress
Bellows, George, 1882-1925
Force, Juliana, 1876-1948
Gorky, Arshile, 1904-1948
Hague, Raoul, 1905-1993
Henri, Robert, 1865-1929
Miller, Kenneth Hayes, 1876-1952
Orozco, José Clemente, 1883-1949
Rivera, Diego, 1886-1957
Robinson, Boardman, 1876-1952
Siqueiros, David Alfaro
Sloan, John, 1871-1951