



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Leonard Bocour

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Leonard Bocour
Date:	1978 June 8
Identifier:	AAA.bocour78
Creator:	Bocour, Leonard, 1910-1993 (Interviewee) Cummings, Paul (Interviewer)
Extent:	60 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Leonard Bocour, 1978 June 8, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Leonard Bocour, 1978 June 8, 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.

Available Formats

Transcript available on-line.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Leonard Bocour (1910-1993) was an art collector and paint manufacturer of New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Leonard Bocour conducted 1978 June 8, by Paul Cummings, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Bocour speaks of his early interest in art; early influences on him, especially Emil Ganso; studying at the Art Students League; his beginning in the paint business; artists he became acquainted with including Leon

Kroll, Eugene Speicher, Milton Avery, Willem de Kooning, and Mark Rothko; the growth of his business, Bocour Artist Colors; technical changes in his product; the early use of acrylic paint; and his philosophies of collecting art work.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hr., 4 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- New York (State) -- Interviews
Paint
Paint industry and trade -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Avery, Milton, 1885-1965
Bocour Artist Colors (Firm)
De Kooning, Willem, 1904-1997
Ganso, Emil, 1895-1941
Kroll, Leon, 1884-1974
Rothko, Mark, 1903-1970
Speicher, Eugene Edward, 1883-1962