



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Ernest Briggs

Funding for this interview provided by the Mark Rothko Foundation. 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.

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Ernest Briggs
<b>Date:</b>	1982 July 12-October 21
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.briggs82
<b>Creator:</b>	Briggs, Ernest, 1923- (Interviewee) Shikler, Barbara (Interviewer) Mark Rothko and His Times Oral History Project
<b>Extent:</b>	41 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Ernest Briggs, 1982 July 12-October 21, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Ernest Briggs, 1982 July 12-October 21, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This interview was conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's Mark Rothko and his Times oral history project, with funding provided by the Mark Rothko Foundation.

### Acquisition Information

Others interviewed on the project (by various interviewers) include: Sonia Allen, Sally Avery, Ben-Zion, Bernard Braddon, Rhys Caparn, Elaine de Kooning, Herbert Ferber, Esther Gottlieb, Juliette Hays, Sidney Janis, Buffie Johnson, Jacob Kainen, Louis Kaufman, Jack Kufeld, Katharine Kuh, Stanley Kunitz, Joseph Liss, Dorothy Miller, Betty Parsons, Wallace Putnam, Rebecca Reis, Maurice Roth, Sidney Schectman, Aaron Siskind, Joseph Solman, Hedda Sterne, Jack Tworokov, Esteban Vicente and Ed Weinstein. Each has been cataloged separately.

### Available Formats

Transcript available on line.

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Ernest Briggs (1923-1984) was a painter from New York, New York.

## Scope and Contents

An interview of Ernest Briggs conducted 1982 July 12-1982 October 21, by Barbara Shikler, for the Archives of American Art's Mark Rothko and His Times oral history project.

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## Scope and Contents

Briggs discusses his contact with Mark Rothko, Clyfford Still, and David Park at the California School of Fine Arts. He speaks of the relationship between Rothko and Still, and the activities of The Club. Briggs discusses his own work and career as well.

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## General

Originally recorded on 3 sound tape cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 5 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hr., 10 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:

Abstract expressionism  
Painters -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Club (New York, N.Y.)  
Mark Rothko and His Times Oral History Project  
Park, David, 1911-1960  
Rothko, Mark, 1903-1970  
Still, Clyfford, 1904-1980  
University of California, San Francisco. School of Fine Arts