



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Morris Broderson

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Table of Contents

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

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Morris Broderson
Identifier:	AAA.broder98
Date:	1998 March 11 and 13
Creator:	Broderson, Morris, 1928-2011 (Interviewee) Karlstrom, Paul J. (Interviewer)
Extent:	66 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Morris Broderson, 1998 March 11 and 13, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Morris Broderson, 1998 March 11 and 13, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This interview is 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 administrators.

Available Formats

Transcript available on line

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Morris Gaylord Broderson (1928-2011) was a painter from Los Angeles, California.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Morris Broderson conducted 1998 March 11 and 13, by Paul J. Karlstrom, for the Archives of American Art, at Broderson's home, in Los Angeles, California.

Scope and Contents

Broderson discusses his childhood and family background and the way in which he saw the world as a congenitally hearing impaired person; his first meeting with Joan Ankrum, who was married at the time to Broderson's uncle, Morris Ankrum; Ankrum's special interest in him, recognizing a talent for drawing, encouraging his learning to speak, and arranging art lessons at an early age; his recognition of Ankrum's marital unhappiness and encouragement for her to leave her husband; his art education through private lessons with Francis De Erdely; enrollment at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles; his perspective on events in his relationship with Ankrum that led her to abandon her career as an actress and become an art dealer in order to show Broderson's work; exhibitions at the Ankrum Gallery; his favorite themes and subjects in his work and why he used them; his homosexuality and its possible reflection in his art; credit to Ankrum for her key role in his development as an artist; the role of his deafness in his interaction with the world and to a lesser extent, his artistic expression, but rejecting the idea that it was a determining factor; and his current series of paintings and hopes for the future.

General

Originally recorded on 3 sound tape cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 5 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hr., 8 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art -- Study and teaching -- California
- Artists (LGBTQ)
- Deaf artists
- Deafness
- Gay artists
- Hearing impaired

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Ankrum Gallery
- Ankrum, Joan
- Ankrum, Morris, d. 1964
- De Erdely, Francis, 1904-1959