



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Charles Burchfield

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Charles Burchfield
<b>Date:</b>	1959 August 19
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.burchf59
<b>Creator:</b>	Burchfield, Charles Ephraim, 1893-1967 (Interviewee) Morse, John D., 1906- (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	54 Pages (Transcript) 1 Item (sound file (4 min. 24 sec.) Audio excerpt; digital)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Charles Burchfield, 1959 August 19, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Charles Burchfield, 1959 August 19, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## 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.

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Charles Ephraim Burchfield (1893-1967) was a painter from Gardenville, New York.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Charles Burchfield conducted 1959 August 19, by John D. Morse, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Burchfield speaks of his studio on Clinton Street; his early training under Henry George Keller; copying the paintings of Charles Dana Gibson; working as a wallpaper designer for H.M. Birge and Co., in Buffalo, New York; his different styles; his watercolor technique; restoration and preservation of his watercolors; his

paintings, including Black Iron, Crabbed Old Age, End of the Day, The House of Mystery, The Song of the Katidids, Winter, and others; his writings; his reading tastes and interest in music; European abstract artists; critics; and teaching. Also included is a footnote by Morse describing his day with Burchfield.

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## General

Originally recorded on 2 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 3 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 41 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:

- Painters -- New York (State) -- Interviews
- Sculptors -- United States -- Interviews
- Watercolor painting, American

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Keller, Henry G., 1869-1949