



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Paul Burlin

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.

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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 Paul Burlin
Identifier:	AAA.burlin62
Date:	1962
Creator:	Burlin, Paul, 1886-1969 (Interviewee) Seckler, Dorothy Gees, 1910-1994 (Interviewer)
Extent:	5 Items (Sound recording: 5 sound files (2 hr., 39 min.); digital, wav) 65 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Paul Burlin, 1962, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Paul Burlin, 1962, 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 is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

Biographical / Historical

Paul Burlin (1886-1969) was a painter in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

Interview of Paul Burlin, conducted on December 5-6, 1962, by Dorothy Gees Seckler, for the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Scope and Contents

Burlin speaks of his childhood education in England; working for the magazine Delineator; his education at the National Academy of Design; his travels in the American Southwest; his early exhibitions in New York; his first wife's writings on folk music; visiting Europe before the first World War; discovering Cubism and Fauvism; working on the WPA under the Whitney Museum; joining and then leaving the American Artists'

Congress in protest; his thoughts on overtly political art; exhibiting at the Downtown Gallery; his image-making process; and his critique of Pop art. Burlin also recalls James Huneker, Franz Boas, Albert Gleizes, Henri Matisse, Edith Halpert, Georgia O'Keeffe, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 5 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 5 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hr., 39 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art -- Political aspects
- Art, American
- Cubism
- Fauvism
- Painters -- New York (State) -- Interviews
- Pop art

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- American Artists' Congress
- Boas, Franz, 1858-1942
- Downtown Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
- Gleizes, Albert, 1881-1953
- Halpert, Edith Gregor, 1900-1970
- Huneker, James, 1857-1921
- Matisse, Henri, 1869-1954
- National Academy of Design (U.S.) -- Students
- O'Keeffe, Georgia , 1887-1986
- United States. Works Progress Administration
- Whitney Museum of American Art

Places:

- Europe -- description and travel
- Southwestern States -- Description and Travel