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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Kenneth Callahan

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Kenneth Callahan
Date:	1982 October 27-December 19
Identifier:	AAA.callah82
Creator:	Callahan, Kenneth, 1905-1986 (Interviewee) Prince, Sue Ann (Interviewer)
Extent:	75 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Kenneth Callahan, 1982 October 27-December 19, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Kenneth Callahan, 1982 October 27-December 19, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This interview is part of the Archives' Northwest Oral History Project, begun in 1982 to document the Northwest artistic community through interviews with painters, sculptors, craftsmen, educators, curators, and others, in Oregon, Washington and Montana.

Location of Originals

Transcript also available at the University of Washington, Manuscripts Collection, and at the Oregon Historical Society.

Available Formats

Transcript available on line.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Kenneth Callahan (1905-1986) was a painter, muralist, writer, and curator from Long Beach, Washington.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Kenneth Callahan conducted 1982 October 27-1982 December 19, by Sue Ann Kendall, for the Archives of American Art's Northwest Oral History Project.

Scope and Contents

Callahan speaks of his childhood in Montana; his education; working as an illustrator; early shows of his work; mural commissions; the Northwest arts community, particularly Morris Graves, Guy Anderson and Mark Tobey; changes in his subject matter and interests; the increasing abstraction in his painting; the fire in his studio; his relationship with the Seattle Art Museum, where he worked as a curator for 20 years; collectors he has known; experimenting with other media; and contemporary art and its future.

General

Originally recorded on 7 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 11 digital wav files. Duration is 5 hr., 27 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art, American -- Northwestern States
- Art, Modern -- Northwestern States
- Artists -- Northwestern States -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Anderson, Guy, 1906-1998
- Graves, Morris, 1910-
- Group of Twelve (Seattle, Wash.)
- Seattle Art Museum
- Tobey, Mark

Occupations:

- Painters -- Washington (State) -- Interviews