



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Rhys Caparn

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Rhys Caparn
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.caparn83
<b>Date:</b>	1983 November 23
<b>Extent:</b>	46 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Creator:</b>	Caparn, Rhys, 1909-1997 Wolf, Tom Mark Rothko and His Times Oral History Project
<b>Language:</b>	English

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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, Ernest Briggs, 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Rhys Caparn (1909-1997) was a sculptor from Connecticut.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Rhys Caparn conducted 1983 November 23, by Tom Wolf, for the Archives of American Art's Mark Rothko and His Times oral history project.

## Scope and Contents

Caparn describes her youth in New York and art study in France. She recalls her teacher Alexander Archipenko and the activities of the American Abstract Artists and the Federation of Modern Painters and Sculptors (of which she was president for a term). Caparn talks a lot about her own work. She does not recall much about Mark Rothko, who was only a distant acquaintance.

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## General

Originally recorded on 2 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 29 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
- Sculptors -- Connecticut -- Interviews
- Women artists

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- American Abstract Artists
- Archipenko, Alexander, 1887-1964
- Federation of Modern Painters and Sculptors
- Mark Rothko and His Times Oral History Project
- Rothko, Mark, 1903-1970