



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Ruth Cobb

This interview received support from the Smithsonian  
American Women's History Initiative Pool.

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## Collection Overview

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Repository:</b>      | Archives of American Art  |
| <b>Title:</b>           | Oral history interview with Ruth Cobb   |
| <b>Date:</b>            | 1971 October 26   |
| <b>Identifier:</b>      | AAA.cobb71  |
| <b>Creator:</b>         | Cobb, Ruth, 1914-2008 (Interviewee)<br>Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)                               |
| <b>Extent:</b>          | 23 Pages (Transcript)   |
| <b>Language:</b>        | English .   |
| <b>Digital Content:</b> | <a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Ruth Cobb, 1971 October 26, Transcript</a> |

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## 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 others.

### Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

### Restrictions

This interview is open for research. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Ruth Cobb (1914-2008) was a painter from Newton Centre, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Ruth Cobb conducted 1971 October 26, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art. Cobb speaks of her childhood and the development of her interest in art; her education; going into advertising art; doing freelance work; her interest in watercolor; her husband, Lawrence Kupferman, and their mural work together; her work in acrylic; her philosophy of art; her influences; and the Boston art scene. She recalls Jack Levine.

## General

Originally recorded on 2 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 3 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:

- Art -- Philosophy
- Mural painting and decoration
- Painting, American
- Watercolor painting
- Women artists
- Women painters

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Kupferman, Lawrence Edward, 1909-1982
- Levine, Jack, 1915-2010

### Occupations:

- Muralists -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Painters -- Massachusetts -- Boston