



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Douglas Crimp

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Douglas Crimp
Identifier:	AAA.crimp09
Date:	2009 March 8
Extent:	125 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	Crimp, Douglas Burton, Johanna
Language:	English .

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 administrators.

Available Formats

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

Restrictions

This transcript is open for research. Access to the entire recording is restricted. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Douglas Crimp (1944-2019) was a professor and art critic in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Douglas Crimp conducted 2009 March 8, by Johanna Burton, for the Archives of American Art, at the Crimp's home, in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

Crimp speaks of his childhood in Couer d'Alene, Idaho; his education at Tulane University in New Orleans; his early experiences in New York while working with fashion designer Charles James, Diane Waldman at the Guggenheim, and Rosalind Krauss at October Magazine; the graduate program at City University in New York; his working relationship with Agnes Martin; the Pictures exhibition at Artists Space; his role in orchestrating the AIDS issue of October in 1987 and his subsequent break from October; his current memoirs; and his teaching positions at Sarah Lawrence and University of Rochester in New York. He comments on the cultural gay scene of New York and New Orleans and its influence on his own writings and perspective; his friendships with Helene Winer, Craig Owens, and Gregg Bordowitz; his impressions of the Pictures Generation exhibition at the Met; the role visual theory had played in his career; and the ideological climate of the art history community today. He concludes by explaining his current interest in film and dance, particularly concerning the work of Merce Cunningham and Yvonne Rainer.

General

Originally recorded as 10 digital sound files. Reformatted in 2010 as 7 digital wav files. Duration is 7 hr., 14 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Occupations:

Art critics -- New York (State) -- Rochester -- Interviews
Art historians -- New York (State) -- Rochester -- Interviews