

# Oral history interview with Virginia Cuthbert

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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/

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#### **Collection Overview**

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Virginia Cuthbert
Date:	1995 August 28
Identifier:	AAA.cuthber95
Creator:	Cuthbert, Virginia, 1908-2001 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
Extent:	1 Sound cassette ((90 min.); analog.) 40 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Virginia Cuthbert, 1995 August 28, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Virginia Cuthbert, 1995 August 28, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

#### 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.

## **Biographical / Historical**

Virginia Cuthbert (1908-2001) was a painter from Buffalo, New York and Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

#### **Scope and Contents**

An interview of Virginia Cuthbert conducted 1995 August 28, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art, in Cuthbert's home, Buffalo, New York.

## **Scope and Contents**

Virginia Cuthbert discusses her family background in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area; and her father's love of art and acquaintance with Homer Saint-Gaudens, Director of the Carnegie Museum of Art; her very early art education and, later, her study in Europe on a Syracuse University fellowship; her brief study with

Felice Carena in Florence and critiques of her work in London by Augustus John and Colin Gill; her study and friendship in New York with George Luks and the beginning of a long friendship with the composer, Virgil Thompson; graduate study in fine arts at the University of Pittsburgh; her engagement to the future museum director, Andrew Ritchie, its breaking-off, and her marriage to Philip Elliott; her further study at the Carnegie Institute with Alexander Kostellow; and a sketching trip to France and Spain.

#### General

Due to a stroke in 1994, Ms. Cuthbert's voice is not clearly audible.

#### General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav file. Duration is 1 hr., 26 min.

#### Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Women artists Women educators Women painters

Types of Materials:

Interviews Sound recordings

Names:

Elliott, Philip Clarkson, 1903-1985 John, Augustus, 1878-1961 Luks, George Benjamin, 1867-1933 Ritchie, Andrew Carnduff Saint-Gaudens, Homer, b. 1880

Occupations:

Educators -- New York (State) -- Buffalo Illustrators -- New York (State) -- Buffalo Painters -- New York (State) -- Buffalo