



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Leroy Davis and Cecily Langdale

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Leroy Davis and Cecily Langdale
Date:	2007 June 26-August 7
Identifier:	AAA.davis07
Creator:	Davis, Leroy (Interviewee) Berman, Avis (Interviewer) Langdale, Cecily (Interviewee)
Extent:	119 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Leroy Davis and Cecily Langdale, 2007 June 26-August 7, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Leroy Davis and Cecily Langdale, 2007 June 26-August 7, 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.

Restrictions

The transcript and recording are open for research. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Leroy Davis (1922-) is an art dealer from New York, New York. Cecily Langdale is an art dealer from New York, New York and Avis Berman is a writer and art historian from New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Leroy Davis and Cecily Langdale conducted 2007 June 26-August 7, by Avis Berman, for the Archives of American Art, in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

Davis speaks of losing his parents at a young age; attending music school in Philadelphia; studying at Tyler School of Fine Arts and the Barnes Foundation; usage of the word "art" in terms of music and painting; being drafted into the Air Force during World War II; opening a gallery in New York City; working as a framer on the side; working on the White House Fine Arts Commission; selling English watercolors. Langdale speaks of focusing on history, literature, and art history in college; working on shows at Hirschl & Adler gallery; opening a gallery with Davis; writing a book on monotypes. Davis also recalls Aaron Shikler, Boris Bly, Arthur Penn, Violette de Mazia, Albert C. Barnes, Louis Bouché, Terry Ritter Davis, David Levine, Herman Gundersheimer, Arthur Penn, Minnie Cushing, Paul Mellon, Jackie Kennedy, Jock Whitney, and others. Langdale also recalls Robert Walker, Richard Cowdery, Meredith Long, Seymour Remenick, Dr. Thomas Conroy, and others.

System Details

Originally recorded on 1 cassette, 3 sound discs, and 3 data compact discs.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette, 3 sound discs, and 3 data compact discs. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hr., 50 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art dealers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
- Art dealers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
- Gallery owners -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
- Gallery owners -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Barnes Foundation -- Students
- Barnes, Albert C. (Albert Coombs), 1872-1951
- Bly, Boris
- Bouché, Louis, 1896-1969
- Davis, Terry Ritter
- De Mazia, Violette, 1899-
- Hirschl & Adler Galleries
- Levine, David, 1926-2009
- Penn, Arthur, 1922-
- Shikler, Aaron, 1922-

Tyler School of Art -- Students