



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Willis "Bing" Davis

Funding for this interview was provided by the Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America. Funding for the digital preservation of this interview was provided by a grant from the Save America's Treasures Program of the National Park Service.

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Willis "Bing" Davis
<b>Date:</b>	2007 August 11
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.davisw07
<b>Creator:</b>	Davis, Willis Bing (Interviewee) Shea, Josephine, 1958- (Interviewer) Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
<b>Extent:</b>	64 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Willis "Bing" Davis, 2007 August 11, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</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 administrators.

### Restrictions

This interview is access restricted; written permission is required. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Willis "Bing" Davis (1937- ) is a metal artist and educator from Dayton, Ohio. Josephine Shea is a curator Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Willis "Bing" Davis conducted 2007 August 11, by Josephine Shea, for the Archives of American Art's Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America, at the artist's studio, in Dayton, Ohio.

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## General

Originally recorded 2 sound discs. Reformatted in 2010 as 3 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hr., 17 min.

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- African American artists
- African American educators
- Decorative arts

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America

### Occupations:

- Educators -- Ohio