



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Jay DeFeo

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Jay DeFeo
Identifier:	AAA.defeo75
Date:	1975 June 3-1976 January 23
Extent:	83 Pages (Transcript) 1 Item (sound file (10 min. 21 sec.) Audio excerpt; digital)
Creator:	DeFeo, Jay, 1929-1989 Karlstrom, Paul J.
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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.

Biographical / Historical

Jay DeFeo (1929-1989) was a painter and photographer from the San Francisco Bay area, California.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Jay DeFeo conducted 1975 June 3-1976 January 23, by Paul Karlstrom, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

The interviews took place at DeFeo's home, in Larkspur, California. DeFeo speaks of her family background; the influences of her teachers; her education at the University of California at Berkeley; her friendships with Sam Francis and Fred Martin; working in Italy; jewelry making; the San Francisco arts community in the 1950s; her exhibitions; and her painting, "The Rose". She recalls Bruce Conner, Sonia Gechtoff, and Walter Hopps.

General

Originally recorded on 3 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 6 digital wav file. Duration is 6 hr., 7 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Jewelry making
- Painters -- California -- Interviews
- Women artists

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Conner, Bruce, 1933-2008
- Francis, Sam, 1923-1994
- Gechtoff, Sonia, 1926-2018
- Hopps, Walter
- Martin, Fred, 1927-
- University of California, Berkeley -- Students