



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Elaine de Kooning

Funding provided by the Mark Rothko Foundation. 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

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Elaine de Kooning
Date:	1981 August 27
Identifier:	AAA.dekoon81
Creator:	De Kooning, Elaine (Interviewee) Tuchman, Phyllis (Interviewer) Mark Rothko and His Times Oral History Project
Extent:	11 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Elaine de Kooning, 1981 August 27, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Elaine de Kooning, 1981 August 27, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This interview was conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's Mark Rothko and his Times oral history project, with funding provided by the Mark Rothko Foundation.

Acquisition Information

Others interviewed on the project (by various interviewers) include: Sonia Allen, Sally Avery, Ben-Zion, Ernest Briggs, Rhys Caparn, Herbert Ferber, Esther Gottlieb, Juliette Hays, Sidney Janis, Buffie Johnson, Jacob Kainen, Louis Kaufman, Jack Kufeld, Katharine Kuh, Stanley Kunitz, Joseph Liss, Dorothy Miller, Betty Parsons, Wallace Putnam, Rebecca Reis, Maurice Roth, Aaron Siskind, Joseph Solman, Hedda Sterne, Jack Tworkov, Esteban Vicente and Ed Weinstein. Each has been cataloged separately.

Available Formats

Transcript available online.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Elaine De Kooning (1918-1989) lived in New York and was a painter as well as the wife of painter Willem de Kooning.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Elaine de Kooning conducted 1981 August 27, by Phyllis Tuchman, for the Archives of American Art's Mark Rothko and His Times oral history project.

Scope and Contents

De Kooning describes Mark Rothko's involvement with Milton Avery, Adolph Gottlieb, and Barnett Newman, and the activities of the Subjects of the Artist school and The Club. She remembers Rothko's personality and habits.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 50 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Abstract expressionism
- Women artists
- Women authors
- Women educators
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Avery, Milton, 1885-1965
- Club (New York, N.Y.)
- Gottlieb, Adolph, 1903-1974
- Mark Rothko and His Times Oral History Project
- Newman, Barnett, 1905-1970
- Rothko, Mark, 1903-1970
- Subjects of the Artist (School : New York, N.Y.)

Occupations:

- Authors -- New York (State)
- Educators -- New York (State)
- Painters -- New York (State)