



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Willem De Looper

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Willem De Looper
Date:	1992 January 26-February 29
Identifier:	AAA.deloop92
Creator:	De Looper, Willem (Interviewee) Forgey, Benjamin (Interviewer)
Extent:	134 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Willem De Looper, 1992 January 26-February 29, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Willem De Looper, 1992 January 26-February 29, 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 available on-line.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Willem De Looper (1932-2009) was a painter from Washington, D.C.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Willem De Looper conducted 1992 January 26 and February 29, by Benjamin Forgey, for the Archives of American Art. De Looper discusses growing up in the Hague, in Holland, during WWII; his family and educational background; moving to the United States in 1950; his U.S. Army service; his studies at American University and his teachers including Robert Gates, Ben Summerford, William Calfee, and Sarah Baker; his early experiments with abstraction; his first studio in Washington, D.C.; exhibiting at the Jefferson Place Gallery in the 1960s and later

at the B.R. Kornblatt Gallery; working at the Phillips Collection for twenty-five years; and materials, techniques, and influences in his painting. He recalls Tom Downing, the Institute of Contemporary Art (Washington, D.C.), John Gernand, Sam Gilliam, Michael Clark, Duncan and Marjorie Phillips, Harold Giese, William Woodward, Jim McLaughlin, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 4 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 8 digital wav files. Duration is 5 hr., 23 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art -- Philosophy
- Art criticism
- Art students -- Washington (D.C.) -- Interviews
- Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- Washington (D.C.)
- World War, 1939-1945

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- American University (Washington, D.C.). Fine Arts Dept.
- Phillips Collection

Occupations:

- Painters -- Washington (D.C.) -- Interviews