



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Joy Episalla

Funded by the Keith Haring Foundation.

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Joy Episalla
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.episal16
<b>Date:</b>	2016 February 23 and March 17
<b>Extent:</b>	16 Items (sound files (5 hrs., 16 min.); digital, wav) 118 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Creator:</b>	Episalla, Joy Carr, C.
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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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.

### Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Interviewee Joy Episalla is a multi-disciplinary artist in New York, New York. Interviewer Cynthia Carr (1950- ) is a writer in New York, New York.

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## Scope and Contents

Oral history interview with Joy Episalla, conducted 2016 February 23 and March 17, by Cynthia Carr, for the Archives of American Art's Visual Arts and the AIDS Epidemic: An Oral History Project, at Episalla's home and studio in New York, New York.

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## Scope and Contents

Interview with Joy Episalla, conducted by Cynthia Carr for the Archives of American Art, at Episalla's home in New York, New York on February 23, March 7 and 17, 2016. Episalla speaks of her childhood

in Yonkers, New York; early experiences with art-making, photography and theatrical production; earning a BFA from California College of the Arts; moving to the East Village in 1979 and Hoboken in 1982; her AIDS activism in the 1990s with ACT UP, The Marys, and fierce pussy; caring for and losing friends to HIV/AIDS; retrospective histories and exhibitions of her activist work; and her artwork in the 2000s; Episalla also recalls Carrie Yamaoka, Charles Gill, Beverly D'Andrea, Robert Bordo, Mark Morris, Vanessa Jackson, David Wojnarowicz, Tom Rauffenbart, Barbara Hughes, Stephen Machon, BC Craig, Tim Hamilton, Michael Cunningham, Maxine Wolf, Sarah Schulman, Jim Hubbard, Frank Moore, and others.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

AIDS (Disease) and the arts  
Women artists -- New York (State) -- New York

Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

Names:

Visual Arts and the AIDS Epidemic: An Oral History Project