



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Herbert Ferber

Archives of American Art  
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<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Herbert Ferber
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.ferber62
<b>Date:</b>	1962
<b>Creator:</b>	Ferber, Herbert, 1906-1991 (Interviewee) Seckler, Dorothy Gees, 1910-1994 (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Sound tape reel (Sound recordings; 5 in.) 7 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Herbert Ferber, 1962, Transcript</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This interview is part of the Archives' 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.

### Available Formats

Transcript available on line at <http://www.aaa.si.edu/collections/oralhistories/transcripts/Ferber62.htm>

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Sculptor, painter; New York, N.Y.; d. 1991.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Herbert Ferber conducted by Dorothy Seckler in 1962 for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Ferber speaks on the subject of environmental sculpture; deciding how large to build a sculpture by imagining the spectator's experience viewing it; seeking a sense of permanence by building sculptures that are so

large; his desire to have his sculptures be light and airy and off the ground; how his sculptures come very close to architecture; and making a sculpture on the ground and having to work on it by crawling through and sitting on it, gave him a sense of the presence of the work of art. He recalls Gene Goossen and others.

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## General

Sound quality is poor.

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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:

- Art, American
- Painters -- New York (State) -- Interviews
- Sculptors -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
- Sculpture -- Technique

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Goossen, E. C.