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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Bill and Peggy Foote

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Bill and Peggy Foote
Date:	2014 February 16-17
Identifier:	AAA.foote14
Creator:	Foote, Bill, 1937- (Interviewee) Riedel, Mija, 1958- (Interviewer) Foote, Peggy, 1935- (Interviewee)
Extent:	5 Items (sound files (4 hrs., 38 min.); digital, wav) 131 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Bill and Peggy Foote, 2014 February 16-17, Transcript

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.

Biographical / Historical

Bill Foote (1937-) and his wife Peggy (1935-) are art collectors and retired art and antique dealers in San Francisco, California who collected Viola Frey's works of art. Mija Riedel (1958-) is an independent scholar in San Francisco, California.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Bill and Peggy Foote conducted 2014 February 16-17, by Mija Riedel, for the Archives of American Art's Viola Frey Oral History Project at Bill's office and home in San Francisco, California.

Scope and Contents

Dr. and Ms. Foote speak of their early days growing up and their introduction to art; their meeting in Stockton; the beginnings of the Lincoln Square Gallery; their introduction to Viola Frey; their increasing involvement

as art dealers in the Bay Area in the '60s and '70s; Peggy Foote's time at the California College of Arts and Crafts; their collection of Viola Frey's work and other artists' work; their interactions with Charles Fiske and Viola Frey; Frey's early years in Lodi; Frey's love of collecting jewelry and small ceramic figurines; and Frey's work in relation to gender issues. They also discuss Frey and Fiske's health issues; Frey's time at CCAC; Frey's relationship with Fiske; Frey's work as it related to Robert Arneson and Peter Voulkos and other Bay Area artists; Peggy Foote's gallery Conway Antiques in the 70's and 80's; Bill Foote's remembrances at Frey's memorial. Mr. and Ms. Foote also recall Shirley Hanson, Rena Bransten, Squeak Carnwath, Gary Knecht, Leslie Wenger, Nancy Hoffman, Richard McDonald, Maryanne Schulz, the Wiebe twins, Robert Arneson, Vernon Coykendall, Noni Eccles Treadwell, Sam Perry, Jackie Maybeck, Gloria Champion, Jack Laycox, and others.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- California -- San Francisco
Feminism and art

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Arneson, Robert, 1930-1992
Bransten, Rena, 1933-
California College of Arts and Crafts (San Francisco, Calif.)
Carnwath, Squeak, 1947-
Champion, Gloria
Coykendall, Vernon
Fiske, Charles
Foote, Bill, 1937-
Frey, Viola, 1933-2004
Hanson, Shirley
Hoffman, Nancy, 1944-
Knecht, Gary
Laycox, Jack
Maybeck, Jackie
McDonald, Richard
Perry, Sam, 1963-
Schulz, Maryanne
Treadwell, Noni Eccles
Viola Frey Oral History Project
Voulkos, Peter, 1924-2002
Wenger, Leslie

Occupations:

Antique dealers
Art dealers -- California -- San Francisco