



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interviews with Sam Green

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interviews with Sam Green
Identifier:	AAA.greesam
Date:	2007-2009, undated
Extent:	0.2 Linear feet 17 Items (Sound recordings: 17 mini cassettes; analog)
Creator:	Green, Samuel Adams Tippett, Jane Marguerite
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 2010 by Jane Tippett.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Sam Green (1940-2011) was an art dealer who was an early champion of Pop art. Jane Tippett is a biographer writing a book on Green.

Scope and Contents

Two interviews of Sam Green conducted by Jane Tippett and an unknown male, possibly Hugo Vickers.

Scope and Contents

Green speaks of his childhood in Mass., his family's early New England and New York antecedents, and his education at the Rhode Island School of Design. He reminisces about his early employment at the Green Gallery, which led to his introduction to Burton and Emily Tremain and his first encounter with Andy Warhol. He further discusses being appointed director of the Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia in 1965, where he staged Warhol's first retrospective, and his later appointment as a

cultural advisor to New York City by Mayor John V. Lindsay. Green discusses organizing "Sculpture and Environment" exhibition, sponsored by the city, specifically the display of Barnett Newman's, "Broken Obelisk," (1963). Green discusses the installation of a large Eastern Island Moai Head, which he displayed in hopes of raising awareness to the planned conversion of Easter Island into a jet-refueling station. He discusses his real estate investments, specifically his home in Cartagena, Columbia, and an Upper East Side apartment. The remainder of the interview details Green's notable social relations with celebrity figures including Peter Allen and Liza Minnelli, Barbara Baekeland, Brigid Berlin, Cecil Beaton, Candy Darling, Cyrinda Foxe, Greta Garbo, and the Lennon-Ono family. He elaborates specifically on his relationship with Garbo, and his first encounter with Garbo at Cecile de Rothschild's home in the south of France. He also summarizes his work establishing the Landmarks Foundations, designed to preserve "sacred sites" on a global scale.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Names:

Allen, Peter
Baekeland, Barbara Daly, 1922-1972
Beaton, Cecil Walter Hardy, Sir, 1904-
Berlin, Brigid
Darling, Candy, 1944-1974
Garbo, Greta, 1905-1990
Minnelli, Liza
Newman, Barnett, 1905-1970
Rhode Island School of Design -- Students
Richard Green Gallery (New York, N.Y.)
Tremaine, Burton
Tremaine, Emily Hall, 1908-1987
University of Pennsylvania. Institute of Contemporary Art
Warhol, Andy, 1928-1987

Geographic Names:

Easter Island -- statues