



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Peter Grippe

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Peter Grippe
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.grippe68
<b>Date:</b>	1968 Aug. 27
<b>Creator:</b>	Grippe, Peter, 1912- (Interviewee) Seckler, Dorothy Gees, 1910-1994 (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	2 Items (Sound recording: 2 sound files (1 hr., 51 min.); digital, wav file) 32 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Peter Grippe, 1968 Aug. 27, Transcript</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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 others.

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## Biographical / Historical

Peter Grippe (1912-2002) was a sculptor and printmaker from Newton, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Peter J. Grippe conducted 1968 August 27, by Dorothy Seckler, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Grippe speaks of abstract expressionist and surrealists artists; abstract expressionist style in the 1940s; his approach to sculpture; printmaking; collaboration between printmakers and poets in the 1950s; working with terra cotta; making pottery and selling it to make a living; teaching at Brandeis University; working with armatures; being invited to join "The Pictograph Movement;" exhibitions at the Willard Gallery; City of Desolation; the Bounty series; the "9th Street Art Exhibition;" and travelling to Europe on a Guggenheim Fellowship. Grippe recalls Theodoros Stamos, David Smith, Louise Bourgeois, André Masson, Seymour Lipton, Herbert Ferber, Arshile Gorky, Roberto Matta, Edward Alden Jewell, Barney Newman, Julio Gonzalez, Pablo Picasso, Leo Castelli, James Rosati, Matt Gorelli, Hans Hofmann, Ibram Lassaw, Robert

Motherwell, Alfred Barr, Richard Lippold, Sidney Gordin, Grace Borgenicht, Theo van Doesburg, Robert Mondrian, Auguste Rodin, Jean-Baptiste Carapeaux, William Stanley Hayter, Dylan Thomas, Frank O'Hara, Esteban Vicente, Louise Nevelson, and others.

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## General

Sound quality is poor.

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## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 51 min.

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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:

- Abstract expressionism
- Expressionism (Art)
- Pottery -- Technique
- Printmakers -- Massachusetts -- Newton -- Interviews
- Prints -- Technique
- Sculptors -- Massachusetts -- Newton -- Interviews
- Sculpture -- Technique
- Sculpture, Modern -- 20th century
- Surrealism

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Brandeis University -- Faculty
- Willard Gallery