



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Chaim Gross

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Chaim Gross
Date:	1981 May 26- 27
Identifier:	AAA.gross81
Creator:	Gross, Chaim, 1904-1991 (Interviewee) Brown, Milton W. (Milton Wolf), 1911-1998 (Interviewer)
Extent:	2 Sound cassettes (Sounding recording) 49 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Audio: Oral history interview with Chaim Gross, 1981 May 26- 27, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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.

Available Formats

Transcript: 35mm microfilm reel 3197 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Biographical / Historical

Chaim Gross (1904-1991) was a sculptor from New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Chaim Gross conducted 1981 May 26-27, by Milton Wolf Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Gross speaks of his early background and youth in Austria; his family's experiences when the Russian Army invaded Austria in 1914; his experiences in a refugee camp; escaping to Vienna and to Budapest; being imprisoned in Budapest and sent back to Austria; immigrating to the United States in 1921; his education at the Educational Alliance and the Beaux Arts Institute; teaching himself wood carving; selling his first works;

coming to work for the WPA and later for the Treasury Department's Section of Fine Arts; meeting and marrying his wife Renée; influences, and sculptors whose work he admires; Judaic themes in his work; his art collection; and the changes in American culture during Franklin Roosevelt's presidency.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Sculptors -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Gross, Renée
Soyer, Moses, 1899-1974
Soyer, Raphael, 1899-1987