



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Robert Beverly Hale

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Robert Beverly Hale
Identifier:	AAA.hale84
Date:	1984 Mar. 7
Extent:	23 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	Hale, Robert Beverly, 1901-1985 Brown, Robert F.
Language:	English

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 others.

Biographical / Historical

Robert Beverly Hale (1901-1985) was an administrator, instructor, and art historian from New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Robert Beverly Hale conducted 1984 Mar. 7, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Hale speaks of his childhood years living a bohemian life; personal and family friend Marcel Duchamp; his time as a student at the Columbia School of Architecture; being a biology student at Columbia University; studying painting in Paris at Fontainebleau; assisting Waldo Pierce as a secretary; the gold medal from the American Poetry Society; running the publicity department of the Arts Students League; connection to the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Art News magazine critic in 1930s; tenure in the American wing of the Met; friend Jackson Pollack and the art scene at East Hampton; discussion of drawing the planes of the human body; and writing a book on figure drawing. Hale also recalls Bertrand Russell, Julian Huxley, Henry Oliver Walker, Phil Wiley, George Bridgman, William McNulty, Stuart Klonis, Sam Lewis, Edward

Root, Walter Baker, Joseph Hirshhorn, Alan Priest, Albert Gardner, Henry Geldzahler, James Rorimer;
David Rockefeller, Alfred Barr, and Terrance Coyle.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 7 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art teachers -- Interviews
Arts administrators -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
Drawing -- Technique

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Art Students League (New York, N.Y.)
Barr, Alfred H., Jr., 1902-1981
Bridgman, George Brant, 1864-1943
Columbia University -- Students
Coyle, Terence
Duchamp, Marcel, 1887-1968
Geldzahler, Henry
Hirshhorn, Joseph H.
Huxley, Julian, 1887-1975
Klonis, Stewart, 1901-1989
McNulty, William Charles, 1884-1963
Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.)
Peirce, Waldo, 1884-1970
Pollock, Jackson, 1912-1956
Priest, Alan Reed
Rockefeller, David, 1915-
Root, Edward Wales, d. 1956
Rorimer, James J. (James Joseph), 1905-1966
Russell, Bertrand, 1872-1970