



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Ted Halkin

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Ted Halkin
Date:	2015 July 29- August 17
Identifier:	AAA.halkin15
Creator:	Halkin, Theodore, 1924- (Interviewee) Silverman, Lanny (Interviewer)
Extent:	3 Items (sound files (3 hr., 36 min.); digital, wav) 114 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Ted Halkin, 2015 July 29- August 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.

Restrictions

This transcript is open for research. Access to the entire recording is restricted. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Interviewee Ted Halkin (1924-) is a multimedia artist working in Evanston, Illinois. Interviewer Lanny Silverman (1947-) is a curator at the Chicago Cultural Center in Chicago, Illinois.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Ted Halkin conducted 2015 July 29- August 17, by Lanny Silverman, for the Archives of American Art's Chicago Art and Artists: Oral History Project, at Halkin's home in Evanston, Illinois.

Scope and Contents

Halkin speaks of growing up during the Depression; his family members' emigration from Russia to Canada and Argentina, and eventually the U.S.; his childhood interests in art-making; serving in World War II, including at Iwo Jima; being dyslexic; attending the Art Institute of Chicago on the GI Bill; working at the Field Museum; Halkin's attitude towards cultural appropriation; early exhibitions, including in the Chicago show; painting on the Chicago Midway with George Cohen and Leon Golub; influences on his work, including Cubism, Romanesque cathedrals, and certain Renaissance art; teaching art history at the Art Institute; the impact of the internet on art and the art business; visiting the cave paintings of Lascaux; the use of the grotesque in his work; incorporating sculptural elements into his art; and the impact of the death of his wife on his painting style. Halkin also recalls Edith Altman, Leon Golub, Ray Yoshida, Cosmo Campoli, Franz Schulze, Jim Nutt, Whitney Halstead, Evelyn Statsinger, George Cohen, Phyllis Kind, and others.

General

Originally recorded as 3 sound files. Duration is 3 hr., 36 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Artists -- Illinois -- Chicago -- Interviews
Mixed media (Art)

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Chicago Art and Artists: Oral History Project
Chicago's Art-Related Archival Materials: A Terra Foundation Resource