



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Hananiah Harari

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Hananiah Harari
Identifier:	AAA.harari92
Date:	1992 Sept. 24-Oct. 15
Creator:	Harari, Hananiah, 1912-2000 (Interviewee) Stavitsky, Gail, 1954- (Interviewer)
Extent:	2 Sound cassettes (Sound recordings (3 hours)) 76 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Hananiah Harari, 1992 Sept. 24-Oct. 15, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Hananiah Harari, 1992 Sept. 24-Oct. 15, 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 administrators. Funding for this interview was provided by the Horace Goldsmith Foundation.

Available Formats

Transcript available on line

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Hananiah Harari (1912-2000) was a painter, cartoonist, muralist, commercial artist, and educator from New York. Born in Rochester, NY. Taught at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan from 1974-1990 and at the Art Students League from 1984-1999. Died July 19, 2000.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Hananiah Harari conducted 1992 Sept. 24-Oct. 15, by Gail Stavitsky, for the Archives of American Art. Harari discusses his work as he shows examples to the interviewer; mural sketches he completed for the WPA (1936-1941); his background; the N.Y. art scene in the 1930s; his political

cartoons; writing a monthly column in the magazine THE NEW MASSES entitled "On Safari with Harari"; his commercial artwork; being blacklisted as a commercial artist during the McCarthy Era; how his views on Communism have changed; his early training; studying in Paris and traveling around Europe for several years in the early 1930s; his teaching career at The School of Visual Arts, N.Y. (1974-1991) and at the Art Students League. He recalls Stuart Davis and Herzl Emanuel.

General

Sound quality is poor in parts of the interview.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Commercial art
- Mural painting and decoration -- 20th century -- United States
- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
- Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- New York (State) -- New York
- Political cartoons

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Davis, Stuart, 1892-1964
- Emanuel, Herzl, ca. 1915-

Occupations:

- Commercial artists -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews