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Archives of American Art

Interview with Judithe Hernandez

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Interview with Judithe Hernandez
Date:	1998 Mar. 28
Identifier:	AAA.hernjudi
Creator:	Hernandez, Judithe Rangel, Jeffrey J. (Interviewer)
Extent:	2 Items (sound cassettes (145 min.); analog) 74 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Interview with Judithe Hernandez, 1998 Mar. 28, Transcript

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 2001 by Jeffrey Rangel. From 1996-2000, Jeffrey Rangel was contracted by the AAA to conduct oral histories of Latino and Latina artists who worked in Los Angeles and were part Chicano art groups such as Los Four and Asco. This interview was conducted by Rangel independently for his own research. The interview was transcribed with funding from the Smithsonian Latino Initiative funds.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Judithe Hernandez (1948-) is a painter and educator from Los Angeles, Calif. and Chicago, Ill. Hernández was a leading Latina artist in Los Angeles during the 1970s, an important decade in the development of the Chicano mural movement and Latino art in general. Hernández now teaches in Chicago, but during her time in Southern California she came to represent both Chicana and feminist viewpoints, and was an articulate spokesperson for those interests and the rights of individual artists to transcend political identity in their careers.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Chicana painter and educator Judithe Hernandez conducted in Chicago, Ill., 1998 Mar. 28, by Jeffrey Rangel.

Scope and Contents

Hernandez discusses her family background and encouragement to become professional; training at Otis Art Institute and admiration there for African-American teacher Charles White; the intellectual influence of Carlos Almaraz's father on her as well as him, artists in L.A. such as Magu and Patssi Valdez; working with Judy Baca on the Great Wall of Los Angeles project; description and characterization of members of Los Four and sexism in the work of some Chicano male artists; her disillusionment over the reception of Chicano art and her own work in particular, the fact that she was not included in the big Hispanic Art in the United States: Thirty Contemporary Painters and Sculptors exhibition and catalogue; becoming an educator; and the debate with Shifra Goldman.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Chicano art movement
- Chicano artists
- Latino and Latin American artists
- Mural painting and decoration
- Women artists
- Women educators
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Occupations:

- Educators -- California -- Los Angeles
- Educators -- Illinois -- Chicago
- Painters -- California -- Los Angeles
- Painters -- Illinois -- Chicago