



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Nancy Holt

Funding for the digital preservation of this interview was provided by a grant from the Save America's Treasures Program of the National Park Service.

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Nancy Holt
<b>Date:</b>	1993 Aug. 3
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.holt93
<b>Creator:</b>	Holt, Nancy, 1938-2014 (Interviewee) Schwartz, Joyce Pomeroy (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Sound cassette (Sound recording: (1 hr., 35 min.); analog.) 33 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Nancy Holt, 1993 Aug. 3 Transcript</a>

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## 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. Funding for this interview was provided by the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation.

### Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

### Restrictions

This interview is open for research. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Nancy Holt (1938- ) is a sculptor, filmmaker, and installation artist from New York, N.Y. Married to sculptor Robert Smithson.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Nancy Holt conducted 1993 Aug. 3, by Joyce Pomeroy Schwartz, at the artist's studio in New York, NY, for the Archives of American Art.

## Scope and Contents

In the interview, Holt talks about her body of work, including pieces such as Catch Basin, Star Crossed, Sun Tunnels, and Ransacked; her creative process; the conceptual and physical ideas that influence her work; why she does public art; the functions or needs public art fulfills for its audience; the difficulties of being a public artist; and the future of public art and its patronage. Holt also recalls Richard Long, Jan Dibbets, and others.

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## General

Poor sound quality in some sections.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Art patronage
- Public art
- Women artists
- Women sculptors

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Occupations:

- Filmmakers -- New York (State) -- New York
- Sculptors -- New York (State) -- New York