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Oral history interview with Michelle Holzapfel

Funding for this interview was provided by the Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America. 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.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Michelle Holzapfel
Date:	2008 January 26 and March 1
Identifier:	AAA.holzam08
Creator:	Holzapfel, Michelle, 1951- (Interviewee) Shea, Josephine, 1958- (Interviewer) Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
Extent:	4 Items (Sound recording: 4 sound files (3 hr., 10 min.); digital, wav) 42 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Michelle Holzapfel, 2008 January 26 and March 1, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Michelle Holzapfel, 2008 January 26 and March 1, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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.

Biographical / Historical

Michelle Hozapfel (1951-) is a self-taught woodworker in Marlboro, Vermont.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Michelle Holzapfel conducted 2008 January 26-March 1, by Josephine Shea, for the Archives of American Art's Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America, at Holzapfel's home and studio, Applewoods Studio and Gallery, in Marlboro, Vermont.

Scope and Contents

Holzapfel speaks of her childhood in Rhode Island; her large extended family and their French-Canadian heritage; working with her father in his machine shop; early art education and exposure from elementary school through high school; the influence of high school art teacher Audrey Blake; trips to Rhode Island

School of Design Museum and Boston Museum of Fine Arts; attending Marlboro College; meeting her husband, David, at Marlboro; traveling in Italy with friends and David; earning her B.A. from Norwich College; participating in craft shows; having two children in two years; teaching experiences at Worcester Center for Crafts and Wood Turning Center; the difference in relationships with galleries and museums; the woodturning field; and the struggles and success of women artists; and plans for the future. Holzapfel recalls Gilbert Taylor, Barry Friedman, Glenn Adamson, Nathan Ancell, Peter Joseph, Kenneth Trapp, Chris Tyler, Albert LeCoff, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 2 sound discs. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hr., 10 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Decorative arts
Self-taught artists
Women artists

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Adamson, Glenn
Ancell, Nathan
Blake, Audrey
Friedman, Barry
Holzapfel, David, 1950-
Joseph, Peter T. (Peter Thomas), 1950-1998
LeCoff, Albert B., 1950-
Marlboro College -- Students
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
Norwich University
Rhode Island School of Design. Museum of Art
Taylor, Gilbert
Trapp, Kenneth R.
Tyler, Chris
Wood Turning Center (Philadelphia, Pa.)
Worcester Center Crafts

Occupations:

Woodworkers -- Vermont

Places:

Italy -- description and travel
Rhode Island -- Description and Travel