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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Antonio Homem

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Antonio Homem
Date:	2016 March 14-23
Identifier:	AAA.homem16
Creator:	Homem, Antonio (Interviewee) McElhinney, James Lancel, 1952- (Interviewer)
Extent:	4 Items (Sound recording: 4 sound files (4 hr.,10 min.); digital, wav) 80 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Antonio Homem, 2016 March 14-23, 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.

Biographical / Historical

Antonio Homem is the director and owner of the Sonnabend Gallery in New York, New York. James McElhinney (1952-) is a painter and educator of New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Antonio Homem, conducted 2016 March 14 and 23, by James McElhinney, for the Archives of American Art at the Sonnabend Gallery in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

Homem speaks of his early memories of art and his childhood in Portugal; going to museums in Paris and Spain; studying engineering at the ETH in Zurich, Switzerland; working in a gallery in Zurich; reading Proust; discussion of reading, understanding, and misunderstanding art and literature; meeting Ileana and Michael Sonnabend in 1965; subsequently working at the Sonnabend gallery from 1968; job responsibilities;

opening galleries in New York in 1970 and 1971; Showing new artists, like Bruce Nauman, Vito Acconci, John Baldessari; Willoughby Sharpe, Shunk and Kender and the Pier 18 Project; the differences between collectors and gallery visitors of New York and Paris; the influence of the creation of the Centre Pompidou; his thoughts on the evolution of artistic taste; Duchamp; Pop art; Arte Povera; and evolution of art market from the 1970s to the present. Homem also recalls Ileana Sonnabend in detail, Robert Rauschenburg, Andy Warhol, Jean-Luc Godard, Michel Guy, Marcel and Giselle Boulois, Dr. Peter Ludwig, Count Panza, and others.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Conceptual art
- Pop art

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Acconci, Vito, 1940-
- Baldessari, John, 1931-
- Centre Georges Pompidou
- Duchamp, Marcel, 1887-1968
- Godard, Jean-Luc, 1930-
- Guy, Michel
- Ileana Sonnabend (Gallery)
- Ludwig, Peter, 1925-
- Nauman, Bruce, 1941-
- Panza, Giuseppe
- Rauschenberg, Robert, 1925-2008
- Sharp, Willoughby, 1936-2008
- Sonnabend, Ileana
- Sonnabend, Michael
- Warhol, Andy, 1928-1987

Occupations:

- Art dealers -- New York (State) -- New York
- Gallery directors -- New York (State) -- New York

Places:

- Paris (France) -- description and travel
- Spain -- description and travel
- Zurich (Switzerland)