



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Raymond J. Horowitz

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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/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Raymond J. Horowitz
<b>Date:</b>	2004 Oct. 20-Nov. 5
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.horowi04
<b>Creator:</b>	Horowitz, Raymond J. (Interviewee) Berman, Avis (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	3 Sound cassettes (Sound recording (4 hrs. 30 min.); analog) 56 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Raymond J. Horowitz, 2004 Oct. 20-Nov. 5, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Raymond J. Horowitz, 2004 Oct. 20-Nov. 5, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</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.

### Available Formats

Transcript available on line

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Interviewee Raymond Horowitz (1916-2005) was a collector from New York, N.Y. Avis Berman is an art historian from New York, N.Y.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Raymond Horowitz conducted 2004 Oct.20-Nov. 5, by Avis Berman, for the Archives of American Art, in New York, N.Y.

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## Scope and Contents

Horowitz speaks of his privileged childhood in New York; the effects of the Depression on his family's finances; attending Columbia University for Law and the anti-Semitism he faced there; his ingratiation into art appreciation through Meyer Shapiro; employment under then-New York City comptroller Joseph McGoldrick; the formation of his law practice; and his marriage to his wife, Margaret Goldenberg. Horowitz also mentions his involvement in left-wing political movements; how he managed relationships with different dealers; his experiences with misattributed artworks and forgeries, particularly his luck in avoiding them; the hobbies of himself and his wife; how he avoids relationships with the artists of his works; sharing information with other collectors; the economics of donating artworks and the subsequent tax breaks; the importance of credit in art purchasing; how he and Margaret conferred on purchases; their affinity for Chase; his habits on lending to exhibitions; the differences between the management of the Metropolitan Museum and the National Gallery; his summer homes in East Hampton and Provincetown; the problems with contemporary art scholarship; and the importance of dealers in affirming the interest in American art. Horowitz spends most of the interview reflecting upon others in the art world whom he has met. He recalls Ira Spanierman, Dan and Rita Fraad, Charles Merrill Mount, Victor Spark, Abraham Adler, Nicolai Cikovsky, Phillippe de Montebello, Theodore Stebbins, Jack Levine, Daniel Terra, Joseph Hirshhorn, Norman Hirschl, John Canaday, Doris and Harry Rubin, Paul Mellon, Bill Gerds, Paul Magriel, Bernard Meyers, and many others.

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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 -- Collectors and collecting -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews  
Art -- Economic aspects  
Depressions -- 1929

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Adler, A. M. (Abraham M), 1902-1985  
Canaday, John, 1907-1985  
Cikovsky, Nicolai, 1894-  
Columbia University -- Students  
Fraad, Daniel  
Fraad, Rita  
Gerds, William H.  
Hirshhorn, Joseph H.  
Levine, Jack, 1915-2010  
Magriel, Paul David, 1906-  
McGoldrick, Joseph D. (Joseph Daniel), 1901-  
Mellon, Paul  
Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.)  
Mount, Charles Merrill  
National Gallery of Art (U.S.)  
Spanierman, Ira  
Spark, Victor D. (Victor David), 1898-1991

Stebbins, Theodore E.  
Terra, Daniel J., 1911-1996

Occupations:

Art dealers

Lawyers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews