



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Tom Jancar

Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

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| <b>Repository:</b>      | Archives of American Art  |
| <b>Title:</b>           | Oral history interview with Tom Jancar  |
| <b>Date:</b>            | 2017 June 23  |
| <b>Identifier:</b>      | AAA.jancar17  |
| <b>Creator:</b>         | Jancar, Tom, 1950 (Interviewee)<br>Drohojowska-Philp, Hunter (Interviewer)  |
| <b>Extent:</b>          | 5 Items (sound files (2 hr., 30 min.) Audio; digital, wav)<br>58 Pages (Transcript)   |
| <b>Language:</b>        | English .   |
| <b>Digital Content:</b> | <a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Tom Jancar, 2017 June 23, Transcript</a><br><a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Tom Jancar, 2017 June 23, 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.

### Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the Jancar Gallery records.

### Available Formats

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

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## Biographical / Historical

Tom Jancar (1950- ) a contemporary art dealer who owns Jancar Gallery in Los Angeles, California. Hunter Drohojowska-Philp is a writer in Los Angeles, California.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview with Tom Jancar conducted June 23 2017, by Hunter Drohojowska-Philp, for the Archives of American Art, at Pomona College, Art Department, Claremont, California.

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## Scope and Contents

Mr. Jancar discusses his family's origins in the Pasadena, California area; his mother's interest in painting and his early exposure to art in their home; the impact of music on his early art understanding; his first classes in art history at Orange Coast College and subsequent art degrees from UC Irvine; his interest in collecting Pictorialist photography in the Los Angeles area; his first exposures to Conceptual art at UC Irvine; his time as a teaching assistant for Bas Jan Ader at UCI; the impact of visits as a student to galleries in the L.A. area, especially the Claire Copley Gallery. Mr. Jancar also describes his work as an art preparator at the Bowers Museum; his time performing construction work with Tom Jimmerson for galleries in the L.A. area; his friendship with Richard Kuhlenschmidt and the opening of the Jancar/Kuhlenschmidt Gallery in the Los Altos Apartments building in 1980; Mr. Jancar's decision to leave the gallery business in 1982 and to devote his time to working in corporate architecture; his return to the gallery world in 2006 and the opening of the Thomas Jancar Gallery; his focus on women artists and emphasis on showing the work of emerging artists alongside more established artists; his decision to leave the gallery world once again in 2015, and the closing of his gallery. Mr. Jancar also recalls Hal Glicksman, Tom Jimmerson, Craig Kauffman, Tom Garver, Phil Tippett, Tony DeLap, Ilene Segalove, Hiromu Kira, Guy de Cointet, as well as Kim Hubbard, David Amico, Phil Leider, Larry Gagosian, Louise Lawler, Jean Milant, Micol Hebron, Richard Prince, Annie Sprinkle, and David Askevold, among others.

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## System Details

Recorded on Roland R-05 AZ4430.

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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 dealers -- California -- Los Angeles -- Interviews  
Gallery owners -- California -- Los Angeles -- Interviews  
Women artists

Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

Names:

Ader, Bas Jan, 1942-1975  
Amico, David, 1951-  
Askevold, David  
Bowers Museum  
Claire Copley Gallery  
Cointet, Guy de, 1934-1983  
DeLap, Tony, 1927-2019  
Gagosian, Larry  
Garver, Thomas H.  
Glicksman, Hal  
Hebron, Micol  
Hubbard, Kim

Jancar Gallery  
Jancar/Kuhlenschmidt Gallery  
Jimmerson, Tom  
Kauffman, Craig, 1932-2010  
Kira, Hiromu, 1898-1991  
Kuhlenschmidt, Richard  
Lawler, Louise  
Leider, Philip, 1929-  
Milant, Jean, 1943-  
Orange Coast College -- Students  
Prince, Richard, 1949-  
Segalove, Ilene, 1950-  
Sprinkle, Annie, 1954-  
Tippett, Phil  
University of California, Irvine -- Students