



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Raymond Jonson

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Raymond Jonson
<b>Date:</b>	1980 Aug. 9
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.jonson80
<b>Creator:</b>	Jonson, Raymond, 1891-1982 (Interviewee) Platt, Susan Noyes, 1945- (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	2 Sound cassettes (Sound recording) 50 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Raymond Jonson, 1980 Aug. 9, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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 others.

### Available Formats

Transcript: 35mm microfilm reel 3752 available through interlibrary loan.

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## Biographical / Historical

Raymond Jonson (1891-1982) was a painter from Albuquerque, N.M. During the Depression he painted murals for several New Deal art programs. He taught at the University of New Mexico where the Jonson Gallery was erected in his honor. It houses the most complete permanent collection of Jonson's work.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Raymond Jonson conducted 1980 Aug. 9, by Susan Platt, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Jonson speaks of his early work in theater design; the art scene in the 1920s; the inspiration of the Southwestern landscape; the importance of lighting in his work; the transition in his work from figurative to abstract; spirituality in his work; Santa Fe as an artistic community; arts critics; arts publications; and the social realist painters.

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Art, American
- Gallery directors -- New Mexico -- Albuquerque -- Interviews
- Painters -- New Mexico -- Albuquerque -- Interviews
- Painting, Abstract -- New Mexico

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings