



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Glen Kaufman

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

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# Table of Contents

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

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Glen Kaufman
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.kaufma08
<b>Date:</b>	2008 January 22-February 23
<b>Extent:</b>	12 Items (Sound recording: 12 sound files (5 hr., 29 min.)) 86 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Creator:</b>	Kaufman, Glen Shea, Josephine, 1958- Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
<b>Language:</b>	English

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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.

### Restrictions

For information on how to access this interview contact Reference Services.

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## Biographical / Historical

Glen Kaufman (1932- ) is a textile artist who lives and works in Athens, Georgia and Kyoto, Japan.  
Josephine Shea (1958- ) is curator of the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in Detroit, Michigan.

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## Scope and Contents

Oral history interview with Glen Kaufman conducted 2008 January 22 and February 23 by Josephine Shea, for the Archives of American Art's Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America at Kaufman's home in Athens, Georgia.

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## Scope and Contents

Kaufman speaks of his childhood in Chicago; earning his B.A. in education in Wisconsin and meeting his wife; joining the ROTC and moving to Ohio; attending Cranbrook Academy of Art; living and studying in Denmark; traveling through Western Europe; working at the Liebes Studio in New York; teaching at Cranbrook for about 40 years; working in Japan; using metal leaf and wax in his art; moving from large to miniature textiles; his glove exhibition; visiting India; gallery exhibitions in Japan; the difference between university-trained artists and artisans; the impact of travel and international influences on his work; the art community in Kyoto; using Japanese dancers in his exhibitions; incorporating traditional Korean and Japanese materials and techniques into his work. Kaufman also recalls Charlene Page, Bill Thompson, Maija Grotell, Marianne Strengell, Dorothy Liebes, Jack Lenor Larsen, Meda Parker Johnston, Earl McCutchen, Ed Lambert, Mildred Constantine, Louise Allrich, Ed Rossbach, Camille Cook, and others.

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## General

Originally recorded as 4 minidisks as 12 digital sound files. Duration is 5 hr., 29 min.

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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 -- Japan -- Kyoto  
Textile artists -- Georgia -- Athens  
Textile artists -- Japan -- Kyoto

Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

Names:

Allrich, Louise  
Constantine, Mildred  
Cook, Camille J.  
Cranbrook Academy of Art -- Faculty  
Cranbrook Academy of Art -- Students  
Grotell, Maija  
Johnston, Meda Parker  
Lambert, Ed  
Larsen, Jack Lenor  
Liebes, Dorothy  
McCutchen, Earl  
Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America  
Page, Charlene  
Reserve Officers Training Corps  
Rossbach, Ed  
Strengell, Marianne, 1909-1998

Thompson, Bill

Geographic Names:

Denmark -- description and travel  
Europe -- description and travel  
Illinois -- Chicago -- Description and Travel  
India -- description and travel  
Japan -- Description and Travel  
Ohio -- Description and Travel