



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Phyllis Kind

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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>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Phyllis Kind
Date:	2007 March 28-May 11
Identifier:	AAA.kind07
Creator:	Kind, Phyllis, 1933-2018 (Interviewee) McElhinney, James Lancel, 1952-
Extent:	2 Items (sound files (1 hr., 39 min.) Audio; digital, wav) 23 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Phyllis Kind, 2007 March 28-May 11, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Phyllis Kind, 2007 March 28-May 11, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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

Phyllis Kind (1933-2018) was an art dealer in New York, New York. James McElhinney (1952-) is a painter and educator of New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Phyllis Kind, conducted 2007 March 28-May 11, by James McElhinney, for the Archives of American Art at Kind's home in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

Kind speaks of growing up in the Bronx and St. Petersburg, Florida; attending the Bronx High School for Science; attending the University of Pennsylvania and studying physical chemistry; attending the Mannes

School of Composition in New York; meeting and marrying art historian and critic Joshua Kind; moving to Chicago and attending the University of Chicago and studying literature; opening the Prographica Arte gallery on East Ontario and Michigan Avenue in Chicago with her husband; showing the work of outside art such as the Hairy Who, Jim Nutt, and Gladys Nilsson, Robert Brown, Ramírez and Wölfli; showing work of Leon Golub and Fiene. Kind talks starting the Phyllis Kind Gallery in New York City, and compares the arts scenes in Chicago and New York. She speaks about traveling to the Soviet Union in 1985 and putting artists together for the show "Direct from Moscow." She explains how art happens to the artist; they simply do not make the work, but something takes them to make the art. She describes the fickleness of the New York art scene, and the differences and similarities between art brut and folk art.

System Details

Recorded on Edirol R-09HR.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art dealers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings