



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Monty Lewis

Archives of American Art
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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
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Monty Lewis
Date:	1964 June 25
Identifier:	AAA.lewis64
Creator:	Lewis, Monty, 1907-1997 (Interviewee) McGlynn, Betty Hoag (Interviewer) New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
Extent:	1 Sound tape reel (Sound recordings; 5 in.) 15 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Monty Lewis, 1964 June 25, Transcript

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's New Deal and the Arts project, which includes over 400 interviews of artists, administrators, historians, and others involved with the federal government's art programs and the activities of the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s and early 1940s.

Available Formats

Transcript available on line at <http://www.aaa.si.edu/collections/oralhistories/transcripts/lewis64.htm>

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Monty Lewis (1907-1997) was a painter, designer, muralist in New York and California.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Monty Lewis conducted 1964 June 25, by Betty Hoag, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Interview conducted at Coronado School of Fine Arts in San Diego, Calif. Lewis discusses his art training at the Art Students' League in N.Y., his study of mural and easel painting in Europe, and his freelance mural work before his involvement with the Public Works of Art Project. He describes the developing presence of mural art in New York with Diego Rivera's mural at Rockefeller Center and the 1939 New York World's Fair. Lewis tells of the Artists, Painters, and Sculptors Collaborators, a collaborative group interested in developing community art projects, and discusses the use of murals in the 1939 New York World's Fair and the different techniques used for those and other public projects.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 1 digital wav files. Duration is 49 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Federal aid to the arts
- Muralists -- California -- San Diego -- Interviews
- Painters -- California -- San Diego -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Coronado School of Fine Arts
- New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
- New York World's Fair (1939-1940 : New York, N.Y.)