



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Raymond E. Lewis

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Raymond E. Lewis
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.lewis81
<b>Date:</b>	1981 Dec. 7-1982 Jan. 7
<b>Creator:</b>	Lewis, R. E. (Interviewee) Karlstrom, Paul J. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	63 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Raymond E. Lewis, 1981 Dec. 7-1982 Jan. 7, 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 3417 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

Use requires appointment

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## Biographical / Historical

Raymond Lewis is an art dealer from San Rafael, Calif.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Raymond E. Lewis conducted 1981 Dec. 7-1982 Jan. 7, by Paul J. Karlstrom, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Lewis speaks of his childhood in New York, moving to California, his early plans to become a veterinarian, his education in art history at Berkeley, and teaching art in high schools. He discusses his move to Boston and

work at Childs Gallery; his 1952 return to California, where he started his own print gallery; collectors who became clients of the print shop; lack of coverage of the graphic arts in art history education; the differences between "old masters" galleries and contemporary art galleries; and the importance of hands-on experience with prints.

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## General

Originally recorded on 5 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 9 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hrs., 41 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:

Prints -- Collectors and collecting -- California

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Childs Gallery  
R. E. Lewis, Inc.

### Occupations:

Art dealers -- California