



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Sol LeWitt

Funding for the digital preservation of this interview was provided by a grant from the Save America's Treasures Program of the National Park Service.

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Sol LeWitt
<b>Date:</b>	1974 July 15
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.lewitt74
<b>Creator:</b>	LeWitt, Sol, 1928-2007 (Interviewee) Cummings, Paul (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	75 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Sol LeWitt, 1974 July 15, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Sol LeWitt, 1974 July 15, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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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 others.

### Available Formats

Transcript available online.

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Sol LeWitt (1928-2007) was a sculptor and draftsman of Italy and New York.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Sol LeWitt conducted 1974 July 15, by Paul Cummings, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

LeWitt speaks of his studies at Syracuse University, the Tiffany Foundation award for his lithograph, odd jobs, his work for magazines and the graphics department of I. M. Pei's firm, travel in Europe, his army service, graphic design work, typography, and abstract expressionism.

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## Scope and Contents

He discusses his job at the Museum of Modern Art, influences upon his work, his interest in film and the photographs of Eadward Muybridge, and exhibitions at the Dwan, Daniels, and Kaymar Galleries. LeWitt comments on his change from metal to wood sculpture; conceptual, minimal and post-minimal art; series and systems; his wall drawings; torn paper and folded paper "drawings"; prints and etchings; music and books; and the exploitation of art and artists. He recalls Anthony Candido, Dan Flavin, Earl Kerkam, and others.

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## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hrs., 6 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:

- Abstract expressionism
- Graphic artists -- Interviews
- Minimal sculpture -- United States
- Sculptors -- Interviews
- Sculpture, Modern -- 20th century -- United States

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Candido, Anthony, 1924-
- Flavin, Dan, 1933-
- Kerkam, Earl, 1891-1965
- Museum of Modern Art (New York, N.Y.)
- Muybridge, Eadward, 1830-1904
- Syracuse University -- Students