



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Frank Lobdell Interview,
2002 October 30, in the Archives of American Art

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Frank Lobdell interview
Date:	2002 October 30
Identifier:	AAA.lobdfran
Creator:	Lobdell, Frank, 1921- (Interviewee) Burgard, Timothy Anglin (Interviewer)
Extent:	0.01 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Frank Lobdell interview dates from 2002 and measures 0.01 linear feet. The collection is comprised of a 27-page transcript of an interview with Lobdell conducted by Timothy Anglin Burgard at Lobdell's Pier 70 Studio, in San Francisco.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated 2009 by Timothy Anglin Burgard.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Stephanie Ashley in 2023 and the collection was digitized in 2023.

Preferred Citation

Frank Lobdell interview, 2002 October 30. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

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Biographical / Historical

California painter and educator Frank Lobdell (1921-1913) was a key figure among first-generation Bay Area Abstract Expressionist artists. Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco curator and Lobdell scholar Timothy Anglin Burgard, interviewed Lobdell in 2002.

Lobdell was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and raised in Minnesota where he attended the St. Paul School of Fine Arts. He served in the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II from 1942–46 and subsequently attended the California School of Fine Arts on the G.I. Bill where he studied with Clyfford Still. He continued his education in Paris from 1950-1951 before returning to California where he taught at the California School of Fine Arts (1957-1964) and Stanford University from 1966-1991.

Lobdell exhibited his work widely in the United States and Europe from the 1950s on. He received many awards and honors including the Medal for Distinguished Achievement in Painting from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters (1988) and election to the National Academy of Design in 1998.

Lobdell died in Palo Alto in 2013 at the age of 92.

Scope and Contents

The Frank Lobdell interview dates from 2002 and measures 0.01 linear feet. The collection is comprised of a 27-page transcript of an interview with Lobdell conducted by Timothy Anglin Burgard at Lobdell's Pier 70 Studio, in San Francisco. Burgard's interview was used in preparation for the exhibition *Frank Lobdell: The Art of Making and Meaning*, held at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor Museum in May 2003. A book of the same title was published by the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, Hudson Hills Press, in 2003.

In the interview Lobdell talks about his early interest in art, his artistic influences, his education, his experiences during World War II after being drafted into the army in 1942, and his career after the war, and shares his opinions on art and politics.

Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection, the interview is arranged as one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

World War, 1939-1945

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Occupations:

Educators -- California -- San Francisco

Museum curators -- California -- San Francisco

Painters -- California

Container Listing

Series 1: Frank Lobdell Interview, 2002 October 30

Folder 1

Interview Transcript, 2002 October 30

Notes:

In the interview Lobdell talks about his early interest in art, his artistic influences, his education, his experiences during World War II after being drafted into the army in 1942, and his career after the war, and shares his opinions on art and politics.

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