



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Alden Mason

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Alden Mason
Identifier:	AAA.mason84
Date:	1984 Jan. 13-Feb. 21
Creator:	Mason, Alden, 1919- (Interviewee) Harrington, LaMar, 1917-2005 (Interviewer)
Extent:	4 Sound cassettes (Sound recording) 94 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Alden Mason, 1984 Jan. 13-Feb. 21, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Alden Mason, 1984 Jan. 13-Feb. 21, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This interview is part of the Archives' Northwest Oral History Project, begun in 1982 to document the Northwest artistic community through interviews with painters, sculptors, craftsmen, educators, curators, and others, in Oregon, Washington and Montana.

Location of Originals

Transcript also available at the University of Washington, Manuscripts Collection, and at the Oregon Historical Society.

Available Formats

Transcript available on line.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Alden Mason (1919-2013) was a painter in Seattle, Wash.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Alden Mason conducted 1984 Jan. 13-1984 Feb. 21, by LaMar Harrington, for the Archives of American Art's Northwest Oral History Project, at the artist's home in Seattle, Wash.

Scope and Contents

Mason speaks of his family background; early interests; his educational background at the University of Washington; his friendship with Fred Anderson; the development of his interest in art; teaching at the University of Washington; his students; his participation in the Artists' Gallery (Seattle, Wash.); the Northwest arts community and some of the artists, dealers and galleries involved in it; his exhibitions; his methods and style; his mural in the Washington State Senate chambers; and his philosophy.

General

Originally recorded on 4 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 7 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hrs., 54 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art, American -- Northwestern States
- Art, Modern -- Northwestern States
- Artists -- Northwestern States -- Interviews
- Painters -- Washington (State) -- Seattle -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Anderson, Fred
- Tobey, Mark