



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with William McBride

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with William McBride
Identifier:	AAA.mcbrid88
Date:	1988 Oct. 30-31
Extent:	149 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	McBride, William, 1912-2000 Adams, Carol South Side Community Art Center African-American Artists in Chicago Oral History Project
Language:	English

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.

Biographical / Historical

William McBride (1912-2000) was a painter in Chicago, Ill.

Scope and Contents

An interview of William McBride conducted 1988 Oct. 30-31, by Carol Adams, for the Archives of American Art African-American artists in Chicago oral history project (1988-1989).

Scope and Contents

McBride speaks of his early interest in art, the importance of George Neal to the education of young Chicago artists, and the camaraderie among black artists in Chicago in the 1930s. He discusses working for the WPA Federal Art Project and saving WPA works from destruction. Carter reminisces about the formation of the South Side Community Art Center as a place where black artists could exhibit, the black Renaissance in Chicago in the 1930s, and post-WPA survival. He recalls working for Goldblatt's department store, the impact of the civil rights movement on black art, and the influence of African art.

General

Originally recorded on 2 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hrs., 10 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

African American art -- African influences
Painters -- Illinois -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

African-American Artists in Chicago Oral History Project
African-American Artists in Chicago Oral History Project
South Side Community Art Center