



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Harrison McIntosh

Funding for this interview provided by the Pacific Art Foundation. 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.

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
General.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Harrison McIntosh
<b>Date:</b>	1999 Feb. 24-Mar. 4
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.mcinto99
<b>Creator:</b>	McIntosh, Harrison (Interviewee) McNaughton, Mary (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	143 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Harrison McIntosh, 1999 Feb. 24-Mar. 4, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Harrison McIntosh, 1999 Feb. 24-Mar. 4, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

---

## 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 administrators.

### Available Formats

Transcript available on line

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Harrison McIntosh (1914- ) is a ceramist from Los Angeles, Calif.

---

## Scope and Contents

An interview of Harrison McIntosh conducted 1999 Feb. 24-Mar. 4, by Mary McNaughton, in four sessions, for the Archives of American Art, at the artist's home/studio in Claremont, Calif., One of California's best-known ceramists, McIntosh has enjoyed a long career that has brought him recognition as a master craftman. In this interview, he looked back on four decades of artistic production characterized by disciplined work, elegant forms, and geometric decoration.

---

## Scope and Contents

Beginning with his childhood in Vallejo, Calif., McIntosh discussed the formative influences on his development as an artist, including the work of his first teacher Arthur Haddock and watercolor painter Barse Miller. He recalled his move to Los Angeles in 1937; the Foundation of Western Art, Stendahl Gallery, and Dalzell Hatfield Gallery; the impact of seeing Japanese ceramics at the World's Fair in San Francisco; his studies with ceramist Glen Lukens; his work in the porcelain studio of Albert King in L.A. and with Ric Petterson at Scripps College, with whom he shared an interest in Swedish, Japanese, and Southwestern ceramics; meeting Marguerite Wildenhain in 1953 at a summer pottery workshop at Pond Farm, Guerneville, Calif.; encounters with Bernard Leach, Shoji Hamada, Peter Voulkos, and artists at Scripps, including Jean and Arthur Ames, Paul Darrow, Phil Dike, Roger Kuntz, Douglas McClelland, Millard Sheets, and Jack Zajac.

---

## Scope and Contents

McIntosh also describes his longtime artistic association with his wife Marguerite McIntosh and his studio mate Rupert Deese; and his techniques for making, glazing, and firing his work.

---

## General

Originally recorded on 6 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 12 digital wav files. Duration is 6 hrs., 10 min.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Ceramics

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Sound recordings

Names:

Scripps College

Occupations:

Ceramicists -- California -- Los Angeles