



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Judy Kensley McKie

Funding for this interview was provided by the Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America. 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 Judy Kensley McKie
<b>Date:</b>	2004 November 22
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.mckie04
<b>Creator:</b>	McKie, Judy Kensley, 1944- (Interviewee) Cooke, Edward S., 1954- (Interviewer) Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
<b>Extent:</b>	88 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Judy Kensley McKie, 2004 November 22, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Judy Kensley McKie, 2004 November 22, 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 administrators.

### Available Formats

Transcript available on line

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Judy Kensley McKie (1944- ) is a furniture maker from Cambridge, Massachusetts. Edward S. Cooke, Jr. is a professor from Newtonville, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Judy Kensley McKie conducted 2004 November 22, by Edward S. Cooke, Jr., for the Archives of American Art's Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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## Scope and Contents

McKie speaks of having artist parents; growing up in Lexington, Massachusetts; doing art projects as a child; studying painting at the Rhode Island School of Design; spending her senior year in Rome; teaching art at a private school; making wall hangings and other early projects with her husband Todd; her first furniture pieces; exhibiting her work at Design Research in Boston; joining New Hamburger Cabinetworks; working on commissioned projects; being a self-taught furniture maker; working in a cooperative shop; becoming interested in wood carving; using animal imagery in her work; being influenced by art from other cultures; students who worked in the shop; exhibiting in galleries such as Pritam & Eames; participating in various exhibitions; how her work has changed during her career; experimenting with colors and figure designs; becoming part of the woodworking community; having her work cast in bronze and carved in stone; making small-scale objects out of resin; working on public art projects; how the craft world has changed; preparing for exhibitions; her current studio space; and the future of furniture making. McKie also recalls Ted Dodd, Mary Gregory, James Krenov, Wendell Castle, Garry Knox Bennett, Alphonse Mattia, and others.

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## General

Originally recorded on 3 sound discs. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hrs., 1 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:

- Decorative arts
- Furniture making
- Women artists

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America

### Occupations:

- Educators
- Furniture designers -- Massachusetts -- Boston
- Woodworkers -- Massachusetts