



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Joan Mitchell

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/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Joan Mitchell
<b>Date:</b>	1965 May 21
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.mitche65
<b>Creator:</b>	Mitchell, Joan, 1926-1992 Seckler, Dorothy Gees, 1910-1994 (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	2 Sound tape reels (Sound recording, master (1 hr., 19 min.); analog) 29 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Joan Mitchell, 1965 May 21, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Joan Mitchell, 1965 May 21, 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 is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Joan Mitchell (1925-1992) was a painter. Birth date also cited, incorrectly, as 1926.

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## Scope and Contents

Interview of Joan Mitchell, conducted by Dorothy Seckler for the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, in New York, on May 21, 1965.

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## Scope and Contents

Mitchell speaks of her use of landscapes and color; the relationship between representation and abstraction in her work; her early exhibitions at the Stable Gallery and the New Gallery; her time in Paris; memories of The Club; how the New York art world has changed since the 1940s; comparisons of the gallery scenes of

Paris and New York; reception of her work; and her series Calvi. Mitchell also recalls Franz Kline, Willem de Kooning, and others.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Occupations:

- Painters -- New York (State) -- New York