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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Ted Muehling

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Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Ted Muehling
Date:	2007 November 17-18
Identifier:	AAA.muehli07
Creator:	Muehling, Ted (Interviewee) Milosch, Jane (Interviewer) Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
Extent:	109 Pages (Transcript) 5 Items (Sound recording: 5 sound files (4 hr., 38 min.); digital, wav)
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 administrators.

Restrictions

ACCESS RESTRICTED: Use requires written permission.

Biographical / Historical

Ted Muehling (1953-) is a designer of jewelry and decorative objects in New York, New York. Jane Milosch (1964-) is a curator from Silver Spring, Maryland.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Ted Muehling conducted 2007 November 17-18, by Jane Milosch, for the Archives of American Art's Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America, at Muehling's studio, in New York, New York.

Scope and Contents

Muehling speaks of visiting New York City as a child; attending Pratt for industrial design; working with molds; working in Germany; winning the Coty fashion award for his jewelry; learning to blow glass; working at Corning; visiting museums as a child and projects in his father's basement workshop; drawing inspiration out of his materials; the rich art history of Europe; working with plastic and wood; working with assistants;

the impact of travel on his work; various gallery exhibitions; working with well-known designers; creating functional and inspiring pieces; the American craft market; drawing inspiration from dreams; the humor in his art; the strengths and limitations of various mediums. Muehling also recalls Gerry Gulotta, Eva Zeisel, Ingrid Harding, Kiki Smith, Deborah Czeresko, Gabriella Kiss, Gerda Buxbaum, Jade Hobson, Ingo Mauer, Vija Celmins, Louis Sullivan, Konstantin Grcic, Robert Lee Morris, Helen Drutt, and others.

General

Originally recorded as 5 digital sound files. Duration is 4 hr., 38 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Industrial design
- Jewelers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews
- Jewelry making

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Buxbaum, Gerda, 1949-
- Celmins, Vija, 1938-
- Czeresko, Deborah
- Drutt, Helen Williams
- Grcic, Konstantin, 1965-
- Gulotta, Gerry
- Harding, Ingrid
- Hobson, Jade
- Kiss, Gabriella
- Mauer, Ingo
- Morris, Robert Lee, 1947-
- Nanette L. Laitman Documentation Project for Craft and Decorative Arts in America
- Pratt Institute -- Students
- Smith, Kiki, 1954-
- Sullivan, Louis H., 1856-1924
- Zeisel, Eva, 1906-2011

Places:

- New York (N.Y.) -- Description and Travel