



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Robert S. Neuman

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Robert S. Neuman
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.neuman91
<b>Date:</b>	1991 May 1-June 19
<b>Creator:</b>	Neuman, Robert S. (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	106 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Robert S. Neuman, 1991 May 1-June 19, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Robert S. Neuman, 1991 May 1-June 19, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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 online.

### Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Robert S. Neuman (1926- ) is an abstract painter and art instructor from San Francisco, Germany, Spain, and Boston.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Robert S. Neuman conducted 1991 May 1-1991 June 19, by Robert Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Neuman discusses his childhood in Idaho; art training in Idaho and San Francisco; California artists Clyfford Still, Richard Diebenkorn, Hassel Smith, and Nathan Oliveira; WWII service; the School of the Pacific vs. Euro-centric New York; studying in Germany on a Fulbright scholarship; the influence of work by Willi Baumeister and Wolfgang Wols; moving to Boston and the art community there in the 1950s and 1960s; studying in Barcelona on a Guggenheim fellowship; the evolution of his painting in overlapping phases; and his preference for being outside the mainstream art world.

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## General

Originally recorded on 5 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 9 digital wav files. Duration is 6 hrs., 41 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:

- Painters -- Massachusetts -- Interviews
- Painting, Abstract -- Massachusetts
- Painting, Modern -- 20th century

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Occupations:

- Art teachers -- Massachusetts -- Interviews