



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Arnold Newman

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.....	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Arnold Newman
Date:	1971 July 17-Aug. 23
Identifier:	AAA.newman71
Creator:	Newman, Arnold, 1918-2006 (Interviewee) Cummings, Paul (Interviewer)
Extent:	144 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .

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 others.

Conditions Governing Use

Authorization to publish, quote or reproduce must be obtained from Arnold Newman.

Biographical / Historical

Arnold Newman (1918-2006) was a photographer by New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Arnold Newman conducted 1971 July 17-Aug. 23, by Paul Cummings, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Newman speaks of his early life in New York, Atlantic City, and Miami; learning the basics of photography as an apprentice to Litt Brothers; his West Palm Beach studio and his exhibition at A.D. Gallery in New York. He recalls being discovered by the Museum of Modern Art and Stieglitz and his first portraits of artists. Newman comments on influences on his work; his techniques and equipment and his difficulties with color photography. He discusses commissions; judging photographic talent; LIFE, "Holiday," and "Harper's" assignments and commercial photography. Newman relates anecdotes about some of the artists he photographed and talks about the formation of his own primitive art collection. He reminisces about Ben Rose, Chaim Gross, Jacob Epstein, Ben Shahn, and Alexey Brodovitch.

General

Originally recorded on 2 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hrs., 47 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Photographers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Brodovitch, Alexey, 1898-1971
Epstein, Jacob, Sir, 1880-1959
Gross, Chaim, 1904-1991
Rose, Ben, 1916-1980
Shahn, Ben, 1898-1969