



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Linda Nochlin

This interview is part of the Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project, funded by the A G Foundation.

Archives of American Art
750 9th Street, NW
Victor Building, Suite 2200
Washington, D.C. 20001
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Linda Nochlin
Identifier:	AAA.nochli10
Date:	2010 Jun. 9-30
Extent:	3 Items (Sound recording, master: 3 memory cards (3 hr., 51 min.); secure digital; 1.25 in.) 86 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	Nochlin, Linda McElhinney, James Lancel, 1952- Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project
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

The transcript and audio recording are open for research. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Linda Nochlin (1931-) is a professor of art history in New York, N.Y. James McElhinney (1952-) is an artist, writer and educator in New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Linda Nochlin conducted 2010 June 9-30, by James McElhinney, for the Archives of American Art's Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts project at Nochlin's home in New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

Nochlin speaks of her family background; growing up in Crown Heights, Brooklyn; her antireligious and intellectual home environment; her childhood as "Eden"; the influence of her uncle, Robert Heller; in high school "hanging out" in museums in New York City; her studies at Vassar, Columbia University, and the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University; her early interest in and writings about Gustave Courbet; teaching at Vassar; the "homosexual matriarchy" at Vassar; feminism; her identity as a New Yorker; Pierre-Auguste Renoir as a painter of men; teaching the first "women in art" class; her article "Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists"; pre-women's liberation artists; how she has evolved as a writer; her taste in music, movies, and television; her research on Jean François Millet's, "The Gleaners"; how the discipline of art history has changed; her emphasis on "thinking, looking, explaining, and talking" about art and "new ways of looking at old material"; her students; her preference for the essay form; her current interest in the present moment; how research has changed with the availability of online resources; and other topics. She recalls Meyer Schapiro, Erwin Panofsky, Wendell Jones, Karl Lehmann, Aby Warburg, and others.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

College teachers
Feminism and art
Research

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Columbia University -- Students
Courbet, Gustave, 1819-1877
Elizabeth Murray Oral History of Women in the Visual Arts Project
Jones, Wendell, 1899-1956
Lehmann, Karl, 1894-1960
Millet, Jean François, 1814-1875
New York University. Institute of Fine Arts -- Students
Panofsky, Erwin, 1892-1968
Renoir, Auguste, 1841-1919
Schapiro, Meyer, 1904-
Vassar College
Warburg, Aby, 1866-1929

Occupations:

Art historians -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews