



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Claes Oldenburg

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Claes Oldenburg
Identifier:	AAA.oldenb65
Date:	1965 Feb. 19
Creator:	Oldenburg, Claes, 1929- (Interviewee) Hooton, Bruce Duff, 1928- (Interviewer)
Extent:	16 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Claes Oldenburg, 1965 Feb. 19, Transcript

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.

Biographical / Historical

Claes Oldenburg (1929-) is a sculptor active in New York, N.Y.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Claes Oldenburg conducted 1965 Feb. 19, by Bruce Hooton, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Oldenburg speaks of recording his dreams; studying at the Art Institute of Chicago and Yale; his interest in writing and poetry; participating in and creating his own "Happenings;" working at the Cooper Union Museum Library; influences of Abstract Expressionism on his work; meaning behind his work and the procedure for creating it; his role as an artist "outside" many artist groups. Oldenburg also recalls Robert Indiana, Rudolph Weisenborn, Hedy Backlin, Gerd Muehsam, Jim Dine, Florine Stettheimer, Marc Ratliff, Tom Wesselmann, Allan Kaprow, Marcel Duchamp, Willem DeKooning, Franz Kline, Jackson Pollock, Leon Golub, Red Grooms, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 1 digital wav file. Duration is 57 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art, American
- Sculptors -- New York (State) -- New York -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings