



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Lillian Orlowsky

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Lillian Orlowsky
Date:	1996 Aug. 5-26
Identifier:	AAA.orlows96
Creator:	Orlowsky, Lillian, 1914-2004 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
Extent:	2 Items (sound cassettes (2 hr., 30 min.)) 52 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Lillian Orlowsky, 1996 Aug. 5-26, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Lillian Orlowsky, 1996 Aug. 5-26, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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.

Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

Restrictions

This transcript is open for research. Access to the entire audio recording is restricted. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Lillian Orlowsky (1914- 2004) was a painter in New York, N.Y. and Provincetown, Mass. Orlowsky was a WPA artist who studied under Hans Hofmann.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Lillian Orlowsky conducted 1996 Aug. 5 and 26, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art, in Orlowsky's home, in Provincetown, Mass.

Scope and Contents

Orlowsky talks about her childhood in Manhattan, N.Y., including her interest in modern dance, attending art classes at the Educational Alliance in the Lower East Side where she met classmate Louise Nevelson (1932-33); her studies at the American Artists School with Raphael and Moses Soyer and Anton Refregier; creating watercolors with William Freed; her work in the mural and easel divisions of the WPA; Hans Hofmann's classes and her classmates, including Lee Krasner (1937); her return to Provincetown, Mass., in 1944, with husband William Freed; and Forum 49 in Provincetown. Orlowsky also recalls David Alfaro Siqueiros' method of painting.

General

Originally recorded on 2 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 3 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hrs., 12 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Painting -- Technique

Types of Materials:

Interviews

Sound recordings

Names:

American Artists School (New York, N.Y.) -- Students
Educational Alliance Art School (New York, N.Y.) -- Students
Freed, William, 1904-
Hofmann, Hans, 1880-1966
Krasner, Lee, 1908-1984
Nevelson, Louise, 1899-1988
Refregier, Anton, 1905-
Siqueiros, David Alfaro
Soyer, Moses, 1899-1974
Soyer, Raphael, 1899-1987
United States. Works Progress Administration