



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Charles Rand Penney

Funding for the digital preservation of this interview was provided by a grant from the Save America's Treasures Program of the National Park Service.

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

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Charles Rand Penney
<b>Date:</b>	1981 Aug. 14-16
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.penneyc81
<b>Creator:</b>	Penney, Charles Rand (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	73 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Charles Rand Penney, 1981 Aug. 14-16, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Charles Rand Penney, 1981 Aug. 14-16, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

---

## 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.

### Available Formats

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

### Restrictions

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

---

## Biographical / Historical

Charles R. Penney (1923-2010) was an art collector from Lockport, N.Y.

---

## Scope and Contents

An interview of Charles Rand Penney conducted 1981 Aug. 14-16, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

## Scope and Contents

Penney speaks of his childhood in Buffalo, N.Y.; his education at Yale; his early interest in prints, especially Emil Ganso's work; his acquaintance with and patronage of Charles Burchfield; the expansion of his collection during the 1960s; the establishment of an educational foundation; and his patronage of artists in western New York.

---

## General

Originally recorded on 1 tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hrs., 17 min.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- New York (State) -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Burchfield, Charles Ephraim, 1893-1967  
Ganso, Emil, 1895-1941