



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Robert Pfannebecker

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.

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Robert Pfannebecker
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.pfanne91
<b>Date:</b>	1991 May 21
<b>Creator:</b>	Pfannebecker, Robert L. (Interviewee) Drutt, Helen Williams (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	222 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Robert Pfannebecker, 1991 May 21, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

Robert Pfannebecker (1933- ) is a crafts collector and attorney from Philadelphia, Pa.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Robert Pfannebecker conducted 1991 May 21, by Helen Drutt English, (formerly Helen Williams Drutt) for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Pfannebecker discusses his background; the development of his interest in crafts and collecting; his associations with students and teachers at the Cranbrook Academy of Art in the 1960s; later acquisitions as a result of his association with Dale Chihuly and his students at the Rhode Island School of Design, Wayne Higby and his students at Alfred University, and Eleanor Moty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; other artists he has worked with over the years including Patti Warashina, Fred Bauer, Helen Bitar, Warren Seelig, and Gary Knodel; and exhibitions of his collection.

## General

Originally recorded on 5 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 7 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hr., 25 min.

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## 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 -- Pennsylvania -- Interviews
- Art -- Collectors and collecting -- United States
- Handicraft -- Collectors and collecting -- United States
- Handicraft -- Exhibitions

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Bauer, Fred
- Chihuly, Dale, 1941-
- Higby, Wayne
- Warashina, Patti, 1940-

### Occupations:

- Ceramicists