



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Peter Pollack

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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/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Peter Pollack
Identifier:	AAA.pollac64
Date:	circa 1964
Creator:	Pollack, Peter, 1909-1978 (Interviewee) Phillips, Harlan B. (Harlan Buddington), 1920- (Interviewer) New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
Extent:	1 Item (sound file (1 hr., 10 min.); digital, wav file) 24 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Peter Pollack, circa 1964, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Peter Pollack, circa 1964, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's New Deal and the Arts project, which includes over 400 interviews of artists, administrators, historians, and others involved with the federal government's art programs and the activities of the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s and early 1940s.

Available Formats

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

Biographical / Historical

Peter Pollack (1909-1978) was a photographer and writer.

Scope and Contents

Interview of Peter Pollack, conducted by Harlan Philips for the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, in 1964.

Scope and Contents

Pollack speaks of studying at the Art Institute of Chicago; starting a print gallery in Chicago; the political climate of the Chicago art world in the 1930s; running an art center for the WPA on the South Side of Chicago; and the African American art scene in Chicago. Pollack also recalls Edgar Britton, Julio de Diego, Holger Cahill, Eleanor Roosevelt, Charles Sebree, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 1 tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 1 digital wav file. Duration is 1 hr., 10 min.

General

Sound quality is poor throughout; the first 5 minutes of the interview are mostly inaudible.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Authors -- Interviews
- Federal aid to the arts
- Photographers -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project