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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Arturo Rodríguez

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Arturo Rodríguez
Date:	1997 November 14
Identifier:	AAA.rodri97
Creator:	Rodríguez, Arturo, 1956- (Interviewee) Martínez, Juan A. (Interviewer)
Extent:	63 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	Interview and transcript are in Spanish.
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Arturo Rodríguez, 1997 November 14, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Arturo Rodríguez, 1997 November 14, 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.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Arturo Rodríguez (1956-) is a painter from Miami, Fla. Rodríguez is a self-taught artist born in Cuba. His wife is the painter, Demi.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Arturo Rodríguez conducted 1997 November 14, by Juan A. Martínez, in Rodríguez's home/studio, Miami, Fla., for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Rodríguez speaks of his birthplace, Ranchuelo, Cuba, his early interest in drawing, his move to Madrid at 16, and his self-directed art education. He discusses the intertwined relationship of literature, poetry, and music. He comments on Spanish realists such as Antonio Lopez Quintanilla and American expressionists Willem de Kooning and others. He also recalls his exhibitions and art collectors, particularly Judith and William Ladner. He describes his paintings as a combination of expressionism, realism, surrealism, abstraction, and a pessimistic vision of the human condition.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassette. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 17 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art, Modern -- 20th century -- Florida -- Miami
- Artists -- Cuba -- Interviews
- Artists -- Florida -- Miami -- Interviews
- Cuban American art
- Cuban American artists
- Expatriate artists -- Florida -- Miami -- Interviews
- Hispanic American artists

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- De Kooning, Willem, 1904-1997