



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Alvin S. Romansky

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Alvin S. Romansky
Identifier:	AAA.romans79
Date:	1979 September 17
Creator:	Romansky, Alvin S., 1907-1994 (Interviewee) Levy, Sandra Curtis (Interviewer)
Extent:	234 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Audio: Oral history interview with Alvin S. Romansky, 1979 September 17, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

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.

Acquisition Information

Microfilmed as part of the Archives of American Art's Texas project.

Available Formats

Transcript: 35mm microfilm reel 3752 available for use through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

Patrons must use transcript.

Biographical / Historical

Alvin S. Romansky (1907-1994) was a painter, ceramist, and collector of Houston, Tex.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Alvin S. Romansky conducted 1979 September 17, by Sandra Curtis Levy, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Romansky speaks of his history as a painter, ceramist, and collector; the art scene in Houston as he knew it; his political and law activities; artists and collectors who were his friends and associates; the Contemporary Arts Association; his European experiences; his personal philosophies; and the future of museums. He recalls the Blaffer family, Alexander Calder, Nina Cullinan, and John and Dominique de Menil; William Hayter and Buck Schiwetz.

General

Originally recorded on 6 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 11 digital wav files. Duration is 6 hr., 43 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art, American -- Texas -- Houston
- Ceramicists -- Texas -- Houston -- Interviews
- Collectors -- Texas -- Houston -- Interviews
- Decorative arts
- Painters -- Texas -- Houston -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Blaffer family
- Calder, Alexander, 1898-1976
- Contemporary Arts Association (Houston, Tex.)
- Cullinan, Nina J., 1896 or 9-1983
- Hayter, Stanley William, 1901-1988
- Menil, Dominique de
- Menil, John de
- Schiwetz, Edward Muegge, 1898-