



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Graciela Sanchez

This interview is part of the series "Recuerdos Orales: Interviews of the Latino Art Community in Texas," supported by Federal funds for Latino programming, administered by the Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives.

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Graciela Sanchez
Date:	2004 June 25-July 2
Identifier:	AAA.sanche04
Creator:	Sanchez, Graciela I. (Interviewee) Cordova, Cary (Interviewer) Recuerdos Orales: Interviews of the Latino Art Community in Texas
Extent:	91 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Graciela Sanchez, 2004 June 25-July 2, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Graciela Sanchez, 2004 June 25-July 2, 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

Graciela Sanchez (1960-) is an arts activist and the executive director of the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center in San Antonio, Tex. Cary Cordova (1970-) is an art historian from Austin, Tex.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Graciela Sanchez conducted 2004 June 25-July 2, by Cary Cordova, for the Archives of American Art, in San Antonio, Tex.

Scope and Contents

Sánchez speaks of her family background, her family's move to Chicago, return to San Antonio, and cultural traditions; San Antonio's Chili Queens; activism in the community; high school, attending Yale University;

MEChA; Gloria Anzaldúa and This Bridge Called My Back; working for the Southwest Voter Registration Project; MALDEF, Mexican American Legal Defense; the foundation of Esperanza Peace and Justice Center with Susan Guerra and others; going to Cuba to study film; the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center; the values of being "buena gente," "good people"; Ellas, a Latina lesbian organization; working with Amy Kastely, lawyer; Mujer Artes; her film "No Porque lo Diga Fidel Castro"; working for AIDS prevention/education; the newsletter "The Interchange" which became "La Voz de Esperanza"; Stonehaven Ranch, a retreat location; the film screenings "Other America"; the complete de-funding of Esperanza in 1997 and the four year litigation with the city of San Antonio; trying to save the building La Gloria and other endeavors taken on by the Esperanza; the Cuentos Project and recent events sponsored by the Esperanza. Sánchez also recalls Audre Lorde, Luz Calvo, Eduardo Diaz, Liliana Wilson Grez, Cherríe Moraga, Cynthia Perez, Genevieve Vaughn, Franco Mondini-Ruiz, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 5 sound discs. Duration is 5 hr., 30 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Artists (LGBTQ)
- Latino and Latin American artists
- Lesbian artists
- Mexican American artists
- Women artists

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Anzaldúa, Gloria
- Calvo, Luz María
- Diaz, Eduardo
- Esperanza Peace & Justice Center
- Guerra, Susan
- Kasterly, Amy
- Lorde, Audre.
- Mondini-Ruiz, Franco, 1961-
- Moraga, Cherríe
- Perez, Cynthia
- Recuerdos Orales: Interviews of the Latino Art Community in Texas
- Vaughn, Genevieve
- Wilson, Liliana, 1953-

Occupations:

- Arts administrators -- Texas -- San Antonio -- Interviews