



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.

The digital preservation of this interview received Federal support from the Latino Initiatives Pool, administered by the Smithsonian Latino Center.

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Collection Overview

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

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:

Gay artists -- Texas -- Interviews
Latino and Latin American 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