



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

A Finding Aid to the Irving Sandler Papers and Interviews, 1944-2017, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National Collections Program and the Smithsonian Collections Advisory Committee.

7/19/2019

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Irving Sandler interviews and papers
Date:	1944-2017
Identifier:	AAA.sandirvi
Creator:	Sandler, Irving, 1925-
Extent:	2.8 Linear feet 1.63 Gigabytes
Language:	English .
Summary:	The interviews and papers of art critic, art historian, and educator Irving Sandler measure 2.8 linear feet and 1.63 GB and date from 1944-2017. Included are interviews and recorded lectures, some in digital format; photographs of artwork and artists; membership files, meeting minutes, and ephemera from the Club organization; printed material from individual artist and group exhibits; and teaching files.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The bulk of the collection was donated in 1981-1982 by Irving Sandler. Sandler donated an additional interview with Mira Lehr in 2008. Sandler's widow, Lucy Freeman Sandler, donated the 2017 interview of Charles Simonds in 2019.

Available Formats

Some of the sound recordings in this collection have been digitized for research access and are available in the Archives of American Art offices.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid was written by Christopher DeMairo in 2019. Born-digital materials were processed by Kirsi Ritosalmi-Kisner in 2020 with funding provided by Smithsonian Collection Care and Preservation Fund.

Preferred Citation

Irving Sandler interviews and papers, 1944-2017. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Archival audiovisual recordings must be digitized for research access. Researchers may access digitized audiovisual materials in the Archives' Washington, D.C. or New York, N.Y. Research Centers by appointment.

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Biographical / Historical

Irving Sandler (1925-2018) was an art critic, art historian, and educator in New York, NY. Sandler was the art critic for *Art News*, 1956-1962; for the *New York Post*, 1960-1965; and an instructor of art history at New York University, 1960-1971. During his career, he was director of the Tanager Gallery and the Club organization.

Scope and Contents

The interviews and papers of Irving Sandler measure 2.8 linear feet and 1.63 GB and date from 1944-2017. Included are interviews and recorded lectures, some in digital format; photographs of artwork and artists; membership files, meeting minutes, and ephemera from the Club organization; printed material from individual artist and group exhibits; and teaching files.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as 4 series.

- Series 1: Interviews, 1962-2017 (2.4 linear feet; Boxes 1-3, 1.63 GB; ER01-ER03)
 - Series 2: Photographs, 1955-1965 (2 folders; Box 4)
 - Series 3: Printed Material, 1944-1978 (7 folders; Box 4)
 - Series 4: Professional Activities, 1951-1969 (4 folders; Box 4)
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Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Club (New York, N.Y.)

Occupations:

Art historians -- New York (State) -- New York
Art teachers -- New York (State)

Container Listing

Series 1: Interviews, 1962-2017

2.4 Linear feet (Boxes 1-3)

1.63 Gigabytes (ER01-ER03)

Language: Multiple languages.

Scope and Content: Interviews with various artists conducted by Irving Sandler, his students, and other persons. Name

of interview is included in the folder title when known.

Box 1, Item 1	Stephen Antonakis, conducted by Martha Diamond, 1982 March 18 2 Sound tape reels
Box 1, Item 2	Ida Applebroog, conducted by Robin Cembalest, 1982 March 18 1 Sound cassette
Box 1, Item 2a	Elise Asher, conducted by Mary Hu and Robert Lazarus, 1982 March 21 1 Sound cassette
Box 1, Item 3	Alice Baber, conducted by Claudia H. Allen, circa 1982 2 Sound cassettes
Box 1, Item 4	Richard Barringer, conducted by Stuart Burlm, circa 1970-1980 1 Sound tape reel
Box 1, Item 5	Nell Blaine, 1969 April 5 1 Sound tape reel
Box 1, Item 6	Ilya Bolotowsky, conducted by Adelaide Freer (1967), Interview Transcript Digital Content: Interview with Ilya Bolotowsky Transcript
Folder ER01	Ilya Bolotowsky, conducted by Adelaide Freer (1967), Digital Audio Recording, 2014 0.767 Gigabytes (Two computer files)
Box 1, Item 7	Bouchard, conducted by Irving Sandler, undated 2 Sound tape reels
Box 1, Item 8	Earnest Briggs, conducted by Sister Mary Ann Petry, 1968 November 6 1 Sound tape reel
Box 1, Item 9	George Campbell, conducted by Mira Berensteily, undated 1 Sound cassette
Box 1, Item 10	Brad Davis, conducted by Ted Trussell Portor, 1982 April 27

	1 Sound cassette
Box 1, Item 11	Sherman Drexler and Jack Kroll, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1962 November 12 1 Sound tape reel
Box 1, Item 12	Lois Dodd, 1982 April 28 2 Sound cassettes
Box 1, Item 13	John Ferren, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1963 February 4 1 Sound tape reel Notes: File also includes one audio cassette tape.
Box 1, Item 14	Perle Fine, conducted by Irving Sandler; Pierre Caille, 1963 April 8 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript for Perle Fine interview
Box 1, Item 15	John Fischer, circa 1970-1980 1 Sound cassette
Box 1, Item 16	Miles Forst, 1969 March 20 1 Sound tape reel
Box 1, Item 17	Michael Goldberg, conducted by Lynne Miller, 1969 April 23 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript
Box 1, Item 18	Leon Golub, conducted by Irving Sandler, undated 1 Sound tape reel
Box 1, Item 19	Adolph Gottlieb, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1962 October 10 1 Sound tape reel 1 Sound cassette
Box 1, Item 20	Stanley W. Hayter, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1962 December 10 1 Sound tape reel 1 Sound cassette Notes: Includes transcript
Box 2, Item 1	Carl Holty, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1967 September 5 2 Sound tape reels
Box 2, Item 2	Carl Holty and Harry Holtzman, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1962 March 26 1 Sound tape reel 1 Sound cassette
Box 2, Item 3	Alfred Jensen, conducted by Irving Sandler and Michael Torlen, 1975 May 15 1 Sound cassette
Box 2, Item 4	Wolf Kahn, conducted by Irving Sandler and his class, 1969

	3 Sound tape reels
Box 2, Item 5	Aristodimos Kaldis, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1968 November 21 1 Sound tape reel
Box 2, Item 6	Howard Kanovitz, conducted by Arthur Post, circa 1982 2 Sound cassettes
Box 2, Item 7	Ivan C. Karp, conducted by Sarah Bankson, 1982 April 22 1 Sound cassette
Box 2, Item 8	Lila Katzen, conducted by Deena Lahn, 1982 March 10 1 Sound cassette
Box 2, Item 9	Robert Kaupelis, conducted by Thomas Cort Rubin, 1982 2 Sound cassettes
Box 2, Item 10	Lyman Kipp, 1968 1 Sound tape reel
Folder ER02	Mira Lehr, conducted by Irving Sandler, Digital Audio Recording, 2007 December 6-7 0.032 Gigabytes (Two computer files)
Box 2, Item 12	Marcia Marcus, conducted by Jill Magen, 1982 April 17 2 Sound cassettes
Box 2, Item 13	George McNeil talk at New York University, 1968 November 26 1 Sound tape reel
Box 2, Item 14	Kyle Morris, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1969 April 24 3 Sound tape reels
Box 2, Item 15	Man Ray, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1963 April 1 2 Sound tape reels 1 Sound cassette Notes: Includes Transcript
Box 2, Item 16	Corinne Robins, conducted by Holly Hughes, 1982 March 16 1 Sound cassette
Box 2, Item 17	Salvatore Romano, conducted by Manuel J. Borja, undated 3 Sound cassettes
Box 2, Item 18	Edwin Ruda, conducted by William S. O'Brien, 1968 April 3 1 Sound tape reel
Box 2, Item 19	Maurice Sievan, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1963 January 14

1 Sound tape reel
Notes: Includes transcript

Folder ER03	Charles Simonds, conducted by Irving Sandler, Digital Audio Recording and Documents, July 31, 2017 0.836 Gigabytes (Nine computer files)
Box 2, Item 21	Joseph Solomon, conducted by Irving Sandler, undated 2 Sound tape reels
Box 2, Item 22	Jack Sonenberg, 1982 March 19 1 Sound cassette
Box 3, Item 1	Nancy Spero, conducted by Judith Rodenbeck, 1982 May 9 1 Sound cassette
Box 3, Item 2	Richard Stankiewicz, conducted by Irving Sandler, 1979 May 3 1 Sound cassette
Box 3, Item 3	Joe Stefanelli, conducted by Rhonda K. Garelick, 1982 April 1 Sound cassette
Box 3, Item 4	May Stevens, conducted by Mary Charlotte Domandi, 1982 March 19 1 Sound cassette
Box 3, Item 5	Tony Underhill, 1968 March 1 Sound tape reel Notes: Includes transcript
Box 3, Item 6	Estaban Vicente, conducted by Vicente Todoli, 1982 April 12 2 Sound cassettes
Box 3, Item 7	Idelle Weber, conducted by Christopher Kandel, 1982 March 8 3 Sound cassettes

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Series 2: Photographs, 1955-1965

2 Folders (Box 4)

Scope and Contents: Primarily composed of images of artwork. There is also a photograph of Robert Rauschenberg, circa 1955-1965.

Box 4, Folder 1 Photographs of works of art, 1955-1963

Box 4, Folder 2 Robert Rauschenberg, Photograph, circa 1955-1965

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Series 3: Printed Material, 1944-1978

7 Folders (Box 4)

Scope and Contents This series includes artist and group exhibition flyers, programs, and invitations.

Contents:

Box 4, Folder 3	John Chamberlain, 1974
Box 4, Folder 4	Adja Yunkers, 1957-1960
Box 4, Folder 5-8	Artists, 1950-1969, undated
Box 4, Folder 9	Groups, 1944-1978

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Series 4: Professional Activities, 1951-1969

4 Folders (Box 4)

Scope and Contents: Meeting minutes, membership files, and ephemera related to Sandler's involvement with the Club organization; teaching files; and the transcript of a panel discussion titled, "The Content of Abstract Art," which Sandler moderated.

Box 4, Folder 10 [The Club, meeting minutes and membership lists, 1952-1956](#)

Box 4, Folder 11 [The Club, papers, 1951-1961](#)

Box 4, Folder 12 Irving Sandler, Moderator, "The Content of Abstract Art", circa 1965

Box 4, Folder 13 Student Papers, 1968-1969

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