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Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Franz Schulze

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Franz Schulze
Date:	2015 October 19-21
Identifier:	AAA.schulz15
Creator:	Schulze, Franz, 1927-2019 (Interviewee) Silverman, Lanny (Interviewer)
Extent:	4 Items (sound files (3 hrs., 7 min.); digital, wav) 103 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Franz Schulze, 2015 October 19-21, Transcript

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.

Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

Restrictions

The transcript and recording are open for research. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Franz Schulze (1927-2019) was an art historian, art critic, and educator in Lake Forest, Illinois. Lanny Silverman (1947-) is a curator at the Chicago Cultural Center in Chicago, Illinois.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Franz Schulze conducted 2015 October 19-21, by Lanny Silverman, for the Archives of American Art's Chicago Art and Artists: Oral History Project, at Schulze's home in Lake Forest, Illinois.

Scope and Contents

Schulze speaks of his early life near Pittsburgh, PA; studying at the University of Chicago and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; working for Raymond Loewy after World War II; teaching at Purdue University and Lake Forest College; the artists he admires, including Lucien Freud, Masaccio, John Singleton Copley, Rembrandt, Georges Braque, and Max Beckmann; moving from primarily painting to writing and teaching; writing arts criticism in Chicago versus in New York; developing the terms Monster Roster and Chicago Imagists; writing a biography of Mies van der Rohe; the development of the artists' groups The Hairy Who and Momentum; the lack of interest in Abstract Expressionism in Chicago; Chicago arts publications, including The New Art Examiner; how he got interested in writing about architecture; his opinions on newer Chicago artists; the development of Art Brut; his interest in portraiture; and his love of music, especially Bach; Schulze also recalls Mies van der Rohe, Raymond Loewy, Leon Golub, Seymour Rosofsky, Alan Frumkin, John Canaday, Paul Carroll; Peter Selz; Kathleen Blackshear; Katherine Kuh; Vera Klement, Martin Hurtig, Larry Solomon, Alan Artner, Nancy Spero, Blair Kamin, Dennis Adrian, H.C. Westermann, Jim Nutt, Evelyn Statsinger, Studs Terkel, Don Baum, Phyllis Kind, and others.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Art, American -- Illinois -- Chicago

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Chicago Art and Artists: Oral History Project
Chicago's Art-Related Archival Materials: A Terra Foundation Resource

Occupations:

Art historians -- Illinois -- Interviews