



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Millard Sheets

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Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Administrative Information | 1 |
| General..... | 2 |
| Scope and Contents..... | 1 |
| Scope and Contents..... | 2 |
| Biographical / Historical..... | 1 |
| Names and Subjects | 2 |
| Container Listing | |

Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Archives of American Art |
| Title: | Oral history interview with Millard Sheets |
| Identifier: | AAA.sheets86 |
| Date: | 1986 October-1988 July |
| Creator: | Sheets, Millard, 1907-1989 (Interviewee) Karlstrom, Paul J. (Interviewer) |
| Extent: | 167 Pages (Transcript) |
| Language: | English . |
| Digital Content: | Digital Content: Oral history interview with Millard Sheets, 1986 October-1988 July, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Millard Sheets, 1986 October-1988 July, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt) |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

These interviews are part of the Archives' 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.

Available Formats

Transcript available on line.

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Millard Sheets (1907-1989) was a painter, educator, designer, and mural painter from California.

Scope and Contents

An interview with Millard Sheets conducted 1986 October-1988 July, by Paul Karlstrom, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Sheets speaks of his childhood and early education; attending Chouinard Art Institute and being influenced by instructor F. Tolles Chamberlin; teaching at Scripps College Foundation of Art from 1931 to 1955; the beginnings of the California Watercolor Society; his painting career; his thoughts on Southern California Modernism; the growth and development of California art; artists including Lorser Feitelson and Rico Lebrun; designing forty buildings for Howard Ahmanson from the 1950s through the 1970s; his relationships with art critics; his involvement with architecture and design; and his philosophy as an art teacher. He recalls Theodore Modra and Dalzell Hatfield.

General

Originally recorded on 8 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 16 digital wav files. Duration is 8 hr., 13 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art -- Study and teaching -- California
- Art, Modern -- 20th century -- United States
- Designers -- California -- Interviews
- Educators -- California -- Interviews
- Muralists -- California -- Interviews
- Painters -- California -- Interviews
- Painting, Modern -- 20th century -- California
- Watercolorists -- California -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Chamberlin, F. Tolles (Frank Tolles), 1873-1961
- Chouinard Art Institute (Los Angeles, Calif.)
- Feitelson, Lorser, 1898-1978
- Hatfield, Dalzell, 1893-1963
- Lebrun, Rico, 1900-1964
- Modra, Theodore B., 1873-1930