



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Kenneth L. Showell

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Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Kenneth L. Showell
<b>Date:</b>	1972 August 17
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.showel72
<b>Creator:</b>	Showell, Kenneth L., 1939-1997 (Interviewee) Cummings, Paul (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	96 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Kenneth L. Showell, 1972 August 17, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## 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 others.

### Restrictions

Use requires an appointment.

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## Biographical / Historical

Kenneth L. Showell (1939-1997) was a painter from New York, N.Y.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Kenneth L. Showell conducted 1972 August 17, by Paul Cummings, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Showell speaks of his family background and education in the Midwest; attending Kansas City Art Institute, and his education there; graduate studies at Indiana University; changes in techniques; the influence of abstract expressionism; teaching at Indiana University; moving to New York; the development of his grid and folded canvas paintings; his drawings and prints; color; illusion in painting.

## General

Originally recorded on 2 sound tape reels. Reformatted in 2010 as 3 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hr.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Abstract expressionism
- Art, American
- Painters -- New York (State) -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings