



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Will Shuster

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

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Will Shuster
Identifier:	AAA.shuste64
Date:	1964 July 30
Creator:	Shuster, Will (Interviewee) Loomis, Sylvia Glidden (Interviewer) New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project
Extent:	31 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Will Shuster, 1964 July 30, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Will Shuster, 1964 July 30, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Conducted as part of the Archives of American Art's New Deal and the Arts project, which includes over 400 interviews of artists, administrators, historians, and others involved with the federal government's art programs and the activities of the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s and early 1940s.

Available Formats

Transcript available on line at <http://www.aaa.si.edu/collections/oralhistories/transcripts/shuste64.htm>

Restrictions

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Will Shuster (1893-1969) was a mural painter from Santa Fe, N.M.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Will Shuster conducted July 30, 1964, by Sylvia Loomis in Santa Fe, N.M., for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

Shuster tells of contracting tuberculosis as a soldier in WWI and moving to New Mexico to recuperate. He describes the artistic activity of Santa Fe and his involvement in the federal art projects, including painting scenes of Carlsbad Caverns. He recounts his role in developing and continuing the Santa Fe tradition of Zozobra, an effigy figure of gloom burned at the beginning of winter celebrations and once featured as an award-winning float in the Rose Bowl parade.

General

Originally recorded on 1 sound tape reel. Reformatted in 2010 as 1 digital wav file. Duration is 58 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Federal aid to the arts
- Mural painting and decoration -- New Mexico -- Santa Fe
- Muralists -- New Mexico -- Santa Fe -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- New Deal and the Arts Oral History Project