



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Robert Sperry

Funding for the digital preservation of this interview was provided by a grant from the Save America's Treasures Program of the National Park Service.

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	1
Scope and Contents	1
Names and Subjects	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Robert Sperry
Date:	1983 August 11
Identifier:	AAA.sperry83
Creator:	Sperry, Robert, 1927-1998 (Interviewee) Harrington, LaMar, 1917-2005 (Interviewer)
Extent:	75 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Robert Sperry, 1983 August 11, Transcript Audio: Oral history interview with Robert Sperry, 1983 August 11, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This interview is part of the Archives' Northwest Oral History Project, begun in 1982 to document the Northwest artistic community through interviews with painters, sculptors, craftsmen, educators, curators, and others, in Oregon, Washington and Montana.

Location of Originals

Transcript also available at the University of Washington, Manuscripts Collection, and at the Oregon Historical Society.

Available Formats

Transcript: 35mm microfilm reel 3594 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Biographical / Historical

Robert Sperry (1927-1998) was a ceramist from Seattle, Washington.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Robert Sperry conducted 1983 August 11, by LaMar Harrington, for the Archives of American Art's Northwest Oral History Project.

Scope and Contents

Sperry speaks of his family background; his army service; his education; his early career in ceramics; the Oriental influence in his work; folk art; his contemporaries in ceramics; and his current plans. He recalls Peter Voulkos.

General

Originally recorded on 3 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 6 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hr., 4 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art, American -- Northwestern States
- Ceramicists -- Washington (State) -- Seattle -- Interviews
- Ceramics
- Decorative arts
- Folk art

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Voulkos, Peter, 1924-2002