



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## A Finding Aid to the H. Peter Stern Audio Visual Material Documenting Storm King Art Center, 1997-2005, in the Archives of American Art

Christopher DeMairo

The processing of this collection received Federal support from the Smithsonian  
Collections Care and Preservation Fund, administered by the National  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	H. Peter Stern audio visual material documenting Storm King Art Center
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.sterh
<b>Date:</b>	1997-2005
<b>Creator:</b>	Stern, H. Peter (Creator)
<b>Extent:</b>	0.4 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The H. Peter Stern audio visual material documenting Storm King Art Center measures 0.4 linear feet and dates from 1997-2005. The collection contains 3 VHS tapes, 1 DVD, 1 CD, and an interview on three cassette tapes with Stern documenting the history of the Storm King Art Center as well as H. Peter Stern's relationship with the facility.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 2010 by H. Peter Stern.

### Processing Information

The collection was processed and a finding aid prepared by Christopher DeMairo in 2021.

### Preferred Citation

H. Peter Stern audio visual material documenting Storm King Art Center, 1997-2005. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

H. Peter Stern (1928-2018) was chairman, president and co-founder of Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, New York. Stern was born in Germany and moved to the United States in 1940. He received his B.A. from Harvard University, an M.A. from Columbia University's School of International Relations, and his law degree from Yale University in 1954. Four years after receiving his law degree, Stern was approached by his father-in-law, Ralph "Ted" Ogden, and asked to serve as President and Chairman of the Board of his newly created Storm King Art Center. Stern was with Storm King for the remainder of his career, and with the help of several other individuals built an institution of worldwide noteriety.

Storm King Art Center is an outdoor exhibition space with a meticulously cared for landscape that consists of hills, trees, meadows, valleys, sculptures and earthworks. The landscape architect who planned out the initial 200 acres was William A. Rutherford, and it include works by Isamu Noguchi, Alexander Calder, Louise Nevelson, Alice Aycock, Roy Lichtenstein, and many more.

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## Scope and Contents

The H. Peter Stern audio visual material documenting Storm King Art Center measures 0.4 linear feet and dates from 1997-2005. The collection contains 3 VHS videotapes of "Peter Stern Remembers: A Personal History of the Storm King Art Center," consisting of 2 tapes filmed in 1997 and 1998 and an update filmed in 2001. An audio CD and companion booklet with the transcript of a lecture delivered by Stern, July 1, 2003, titled, "The Creation of the Storm King Art Center: A Personal History." One DVD, "Sculptors at Storm King: 7 Modern Masters Reveal Their Creative Adventures," featuring artists Kenneth Snelson, David Smith, Mark di Suvero, Alexander Calder, Richard Serra, Louise Nevelson, and Isamu Noguchi. And three cassette recordings of an interview with Stern conducted in 2005 by his wife, Helen Drutt English.

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## Arrangement

Due to the small size of this collection, the material is arranged as 1 series.

- Series 1: Audio Visual Material, 1997-2005 (Box 1; 5 folders)
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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:

Outdoor Sculpture  
Sculpture -- United States

### Types of Materials:

Sound recordings  
Video recordings

### Names:

Calder, Alexander, 1898-1976  
Di Suvero, Mark, 1933-  
Drutt, Helen Williams  
Nevelson, Louise, 1899-1988

Noguchi, Isamu, 1904-1988  
Serra, Richard, 1938-  
Smith, David, 1906-1965  
Snelson, Kenneth, 1927-2016  
Storm King Art Center

Occupations:

Arts administrators -- New York (State)

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Audio Visual Material, 1997-2005

#### 0.4 Linear feet (Box 1)

Scope and Contents: Included are 3 VHS videotapes of "Peter Stern Remembers: A Personal History of the Storm King Art Center," consisting of 2 tapes filmed in 1997 and 1998 and an update filmed in 2001. An audio CD and companion booklet with the transcript of a lecture delivered by Stern in 2003. One DVD that features artists Kenneth Snelson, David Smith, Mark di Suvero, Alexander Calder, Richard Serra, Louise Nevelson, and Isamu Noguchi. Also included are three cassette tapes of an interview with Stern conducted in 2005 by his wife, Helen Drutt English.

Box 1, Folder 1 Peter Stern Remembers: A Personal History of the Storm King Art Center, 1997-1998  
2 Videocassettes (VHS)

Box 1, Folder 2 Sculptors at Storm King: 7 Modern Sculptors Reveal their Creative Adventures (1992), 2000  
1 Videodiscs (DVD)

Box 1, Folder 3 Peter Stern Remembers: A Personal History of the Storm King Art Center (Update 1998-2001), 2001  
1 Videocassettes (VHS)

Box 1, Folder 4 "The Creation of the Storm King Art Center: A Personal History," Transcript of Lecture at the Chautauqua Institution, 2003  
1 Electronic discs (CD)

Box 1, Folder 5 Interview with Peter Stern, Conducted by Helen Drutt English, December 27-31, 2005  
3 Sound cassettes

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