



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

## Oral history interview with Marianne Strengell

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Marianne Strengell
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.streng82
<b>Date:</b>	1982 January 8-December 16
<b>Creator:</b>	Strengell, Marianne, 1909-1998 (Interviewee) Brown, Robert F. (Interviewer)
<b>Extent:</b>	86 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Oral history interview with Marianne Strengell, 1982 January 8-December 16, Transcript</a> <a href="#">Audio: Oral history interview with Marianne Strengell, 1982 January 8-December 16, Digital Sound Recording (Excerpt)</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These interviews are 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

Transcript available on-line at the Archives of American Art's website.

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## Biographical / Historical

Marianne Strengell (1909-1998) was a weaver, textile designer, and educator.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Marianne Strengell conducted 1982 January 8-1982 December 16, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Strengell speaks of colleagues and students at the Cranbrook Academy of Art, including Eliel and Loja Saarinen, Charles Eames, Florence Knoll, and Harry Bertoia. She also speaks of her training in hand weaving in Helsinki; her interest in texture and new materials; the rejection of vogue in Scandinavia in the 1930s for

folk art motifs; her close association with the Saarinen family at Cranbrook and in Finland; and her work with industry, 1940s-1970s.

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## General

Originally recorded on 4 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 7 digital wav files. Duration is 4 hr., 5 min.

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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:

- Decorative arts
- Educators -- Massachusetts -- Interviews
- Textile designers -- Massachusetts -- Interviews
- Textile fabrics
- Women artists
- Women educators
- Women textile designers

### Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

### Names:

- Bertoia, Harry
- Cranbrook Academy of Art
- Eames, Charles
- Knoll, Florence, 1917-
- Saarinen, Eliel, 1873-1950
- Saarinen, Loja

### Occupations:

- Weavers
- Weavers -- Massachusetts -- Interviews