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Oral history interview with John Valadez

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with John Valadez
Date:	1996 November 25-1997 May 12
Identifier:	AAA.valade96
Creator:	Valadez, John, 1951- (Interviewee) Rangel, Jeffrey J. (Interviewer)
Extent:	159 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .

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 administrators.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

John Valadez (1951-) is a muralist and painter from Los Angeles, California.

Scope and Contents

An interview of John Valadez conducted 1996 November 25-1997 May 12, by Jeffrey Rangel, in Valadez's studio, Los Angeles, California, for the Archives of American Art.

Scope and Contents

John Valadez, muralist and painter, was born in Lincoln Heights, a suburb of Los Angeles. Growing up in Huntington Park, he assimilated into the multi-cultural community and throughout his school years did not have any strong ethnic ties. His strong, hard-working mother, instilled in her son values of truth and fair play, and kept him from getting involved in gangs. After graduating from Hunting Park High School and attending East Los Angeles College, where his artistic talents were encouraged by his instructors, he became a part of the developing Chicano Art community. He went on to California State University, Long Beach, continuing his art studies there. During the summers, he directed the summer mural program at the Long Beach Community

Center, where he executed his first murals (which have since been painted over). Valadez is a photo-realist, who gets his imagery or "Image Bank" from Mexican tabloids. He is one of the leading Chicano painters.

General

Originally recorded on 7 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 14 digital wav files. Duration is 6 hr., 58 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Chicano art movement
- Chicano artists
- Latino and Latin American artists
- Painters -- California -- Los Angeles -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings