



Smithsonian
Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Robert Venturi

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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 Robert Venturi
Identifier:	AAA.ventur91
Date:	1991 June 1-July 20
Extent:	156 Pages (Transcript)
Creator:	Venturi, Robert Reed, Peter
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.

Restrictions

Patrons must use transcript.

Biographical / Historical

Robert Venturi (1925-) is an architect from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Robert Venturi conducted 1991 June 1-1991 July 20, by Peter Reed, for the Archives of American Art Philadelphia Project.

Scope and Contents

Venturi discusses his childhood, education and early career; travelling to Rome; his relationships with Louis Kahn and Vincent Scully; writing "Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture"; teaching at Yale University; his partnership with Denise Scott Brown; projects such as the Sainsbury Wing of the National Gallery in London, the house he built for his mother, the Guild House and the Seattle Art Museum; and architect/client, architect/contractor relationships in contemporary practice.

General

Originally recorded on 3 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 5 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hr., 50 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Architects -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia -- Interviews
Architecture, Modern -- 20th century

Types of Materials:

Interviews
Sound recordings

Names:

Kahn, Louis I., 1901-1974
Scott Brown, Denise, 1931-
Scully, Vincent Joseph, 1920-

Functions:

Architectural firms -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia