



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Elisabeth Wildenhain

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.

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Oral history interview with Elisabeth Wildenhain
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.wilden95
<b>Date:</b>	1995 August 22
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Item (sound cassette (75 min.); analog.) 36 Pages (Transcript)
<b>Creator:</b>	Wildenhain, Elisabeth, 1919-2004 Brown, Robert F.
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## 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.

### Available Formats

Transcript is available on the Archives of American Art's website.

### Restrictions

This transcript is open for research. Access to the entire audio recording is restricted. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Elisabeth Wildenhain (1919-2004) is a fiber artist and teacher from Rochester, N.Y. Elizabeth Wildenhain is the third wife of ceramist Frans Wildenhain.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview with Elisabeth (Lili) Wildenhain conducted 1995 August 22, by Robert F. Brown, for the Archives of American Art, in Wildenhain's home, Pittsford, N.Y.

## Scope and Contents

Wildenhain talks about her childhood in a wealthy, cosmopolitan German-speaking family in Bohemia; her early interests and schooling; her work at the American Fine Arts and Monuments service; designing costumes and clothes in Kansas City following her first marriage; studying with Oskar Kokoschka; meeting Frans Wildenhain (who she subsequently married), travelling with him to Japan, and coming with him to Rochester, N.Y. where he taught at the School for American Craftsmen; and her problematic financial and health situation.

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## General

Originally recorded on 1 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 2 digital wav files. Duration is 1 hr., 3 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
- Fiber artists -- New York (State) -- Rochester -- Interviews
- Women artists

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Wildenhain, Frans, 1905-1980