



Smithsonian  
*Archives of American Art*

Oral history interview with Nicholas Wilder

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## Collection Overview

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| <b>Repository:</b> | Archives of American Art                    |
| <b>Title:</b>      | Oral history interview with Nicholas Wilder |
| <b>Identifier:</b> | AAA.wilder88                                |
| <b>Date:</b>       | 1988 July 18                                |
| <b>Extent:</b>     | 104 Pages (Transcript)                      |
| <b>Creator:</b>    | Wilder, Nicholas<br>Bowman, Ruth, 1923-     |
| <b>Language:</b>   | English                                     |

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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 administrators.

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## Biographical / Historical

Nicholas Wilder (1937 or 1938-1989) was an art dealer and painter in Los Angeles, California and New York, N.Y.

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## Scope and Contents

An interview of Nicholas Wilder conducted 1988 July 18, by Ruth Bowman, for the Archives of American Art.

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## Scope and Contents

Wilder discusses his education; working for the Lanyon Art Gallery near San Francisco; opening the Nicholas Wilder Gallery in Los Angeles in 1965 and operating it until it closed in 1979; the Los Angeles art scene in the 60s and how it has changed; Charlie Cowles and the founding of ARTFORUM magazine; and artists his gallery handled including Bruce Nauman, Joe Goode and Tom Holland.

## General

Originally recorded on 2 sound cassettes. Reformatted in 2010 as 4 digital wav files. Duration is 2 hrs., 36 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:

Art -- Collectors and collecting -- California -- Los Angeles  
Art dealers -- California -- Los Angeles -- Interviews

### Types of Materials:

Interviews  
Sound recordings

### Names:

Artforum  
Lanyon Art Gallery  
Nicholas Wilder Gallery

### Functions:

Art galleries, Commercial -- California -- Los Angeles