



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Oral history interview with Perez Zagorin

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Oral history interview with Perez Zagorin
Identifier:	AAA.zagori07
Date:	2007 January 17-18
Creator:	Zagorin, Perez (Interviewee) MacCarthy, Laura (Interviewer)
Extent:	61 Pages (Transcript)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Digital Content: Oral history interview with Perez Zagorin, 2007 January 17-18, Transcript

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

Transcript available on the Archives of American Art website.

Biographical / Historical

Perez Zagorin (1920-2009) was a historian and professor from Charlottesville, Virginia. Zagorin is the husband of painter Honore Sharrer.

Scope and Contents

An interview of Perez Zagorin conducted 2007 January 17-18, by Laura Orgon MacCarthy, for the Archives of American Art, at Zagorin's home, in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Scope and Contents

This interview was produced in conjunction with the exhibition, "Anatomy of a Painting: Honore Sharrer's Tribute to the American Working People," which was on view at the Lawrence A. Fleischman Gallery of the Archives of American Art, March 8 through June 20, 2007. Zagorin speaks of his wife's upbringing and education; her early interest in art; her family, including her mother Madeleine Sharrer, a painter; Sharrer's reaction to abstract and nonobjective painting, and the movements' subsequent effects on American realism;

Sharrer's motivation to work; the couples' travels and various teaching positions taken on by Zagorin; Sharrer's interest in Netherlandish painting; her studio habits; her materials and techniques, especially while working on "Tribute to the American Working People;" Zagorin's experience as a history professor during the Cold War and its effects on his profession; art criticism in the years following World War II; and Sharrer's place in American art history. He recalls Lincoln Kirstein, Peter Blume, Reginald Poland, Jerry Farnsworth, Herbert Bliss, E. Coe Kerr, Alfred Frankenstein, John Ashbery, Ben Shahn, George Tooker, Wilbur Kitchener Jordan, and others.

General

Originally recorded on 3 sound discs. Reformatted in 2010 as 7 digital wav files. Duration is 3 hrs., 39 min.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Art criticism
- Painting
- Painting -- Technique
- Women artists
- Women painters

Types of Materials:

- Interviews
- Sound recordings

Names:

- Sharrer, Honoré, 1920-2009

Occupations:

- Painters -- Virginia