
Finding Aid for the Exhibition Oral History Interviews, 2011-2012

Alexis Adkins

Descriptive Summary

Title: Pacific Standard Time: Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940-1990 exhibition oral history interviews

Date (inclusive): 2011-2012

Number: IA40025

Creator/Collector: Getty Research Institute

Physical Description: 605.34 Gigabytes(original files: MOV and DOC; use copies: MP4 and PDF/A)

Repository:

The Getty Research Institute

Institutional Records and Archives

1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100

Los Angeles 90049-1688

reference@getty.edu

URL: http://www.getty.edu/research/special_collections/institutional_archives/

Abstract: The resource comprises eight unedited videorecordings (with corresponding transcripts) of oral history interviews conducted with prominent Los Angeles architects from 2011 to 2012 as part of the Getty Research Institute's exhibition Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940-1990. The exhibition examined the development of Los Angeles during the postwar years; the interviewees discuss this and related topics.

Language: Collection material is in English

Administrative History and Project Background

The Getty Research Institute (GRI) is an operating program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, a not-for-profit educational, cultural and philanthropic organization dedicated to the visual arts. Originally established in 1983 as the Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities (GCHAH), the objective of the GCHAH was to foster advanced research in art, its history, diversity, and meaning in culture by engaging scholars from various disciplines in the humanities. In 1996, in order to avoid confusion with the soon-to-open Getty Center campus in Brentwood, the GCHAH was renamed the Getty Research Institute for the History of Art and the Humanities and in 2000, the program's name was shortened to the Getty Research Institute (GRI).

The GRI's mission is to further knowledge and advance understanding of the visual arts and their various histories through advanced research and scholarship, and through its activities and resources, provide a unique environment for research, critical inquiry, and scholarly exchange. The GRI's Research Library, consisting of over one million books, periodicals, study photographs, auction catalogs and special collections of rare and unique materials, as well as online resources and databases, serve an international community of scholars and the interested public. The GRI also provides intellectual leadership through its research projects, exhibitions, and publication programs and provides service to a wide range of scholars worldwide through residencies, fellowships, hosted lectures and symposia, and its innovative digital reference tools. Through all of its programs and activities, the GRI endeavors to provide resources, expertise, and a collaborative environment for art-historical research and publication.

Through the GRI's multidisciplinary programming, first from the department of Contemporary Programs and Research and later, its successor, the Department of Architecture and Contemporary Art (DACA), the GRI worked to advance art history scholarship of contemporary art, including sound art, audiovisual documentation of personal art, experimental music, and dance as well as a focus on the birth of video as an artistic medium around the world.

The *Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980* project is rooted in a Getty Research Institute DACA initiative called *Modern Art in Los Angeles* that began in 2002 with the goal to recover the historical record of art in Southern California. Around 2009, the J. Paul Getty Trust recognized the potential of the Modern Art in Los Angeles initiative to expand beyond the Getty Research Institute, and in 2011, created an initiative branded and trademarked as *Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980*.

Fueled by a series of Getty grants, the *Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980* initiative grew into a regional collaboration between more than 60 cultural institutions, culminating in a series of exhibitions and events from October 2011 to April 2012 across Southern California. In addition, over 40 publications documenting Los Angeles' impact on art history during the postwar years were created and dozens of traveling and related exhibitions were held all over the world, resulting in unprecedented international press attention focused on the history of art in Los Angeles.

To maintain the collaborative spirit and momentum of *Pacific Standard Time*, the Getty launched a smaller initiative in 2013, *Pacific Standard Time Presents: Modern Architecture in L.A.*, a wide-ranging look at the region's modern architectural heritage and the significant contributions of L.A. architects to national and global developments in architecture. The series

of nine Getty-funded exhibitions and related programs took place April to July 2013 in conjunction with the Getty exhibition *Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940-1990*, which was co-organized by the J. Paul Getty Museum and the GRI and curated by Wim de Wit, Christopher James Alexander, and Rani Singh of the DACA at the GRI. Rani Singh interviewed prominent architects as part of the exhibition research, and excerpts from the interviews were featured in the exhibition. Following its presentation at the Getty, *Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940-1990* was on view at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. from October 20, 2013 through March 10, 2014.

Access Restrictions

The records described in accession 2013.IA.39 are available for use by qualified researchers. The original files are restricted for preservation purposes. Access copies are available online at <http://hdl.handle.net/10020/ia40025>.

The following types of records are permanently closed: records containing personal information, records that compromise security or operations, legal communications, legal work product, and records related to donors. The J. Paul Getty Trust reserves the right to restrict access to any records held by the Institutional Archives.

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Preferred Citation

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<http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifaia40025>

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The files in accession 2013.IA.39 were transferred to the Getty Institutional Archives in 2013 via a portable hard drive by the Getty Research Institute Department of Architecture and Contemporary Art.

Processing Information

Digital files were managed by Alexis Adkins and renamed to conform to local protocol when necessary. She described, arranged, and transformed copies of the digital files for access, and created the digital objects and the associated MARC and EAD metadata.

The megabytes listed in the extent field of the resource represent the digital volume saved to the Archives Server for this resource, including the originals (as received by the archives) and use copies that have been created for dissemination.

Related Materials

The following materials are offered as possible sources of further information on the people, programs, and subjects covered by the records. The listing is not exhaustive.

[Getty Research Institute Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. recordings, 2008-2012](#) The Getty Research Institute. IA40011.

[Getty Research Institute Modern Art in Los Angeles recordings, 2003-2007](#) The Getty Research Institute. IA40018.

[Getty Research Institute Public Event recordings, 2001-2016](#) The Getty Research Institute. IA40002.

[Getty Research Institute California Video exhibition project files and oral history recordings, 2006-2008](#) The Getty Research Institute. IA60004.

Pacific Standard Time: Los Angeles Art, 1945-1980. Edited by Rebecca Peabody, Andrew Perchuk, Glenn Phillips, and Rani Singh. Los Angeles: Getty Research Institute and the J. Paul Getty Museum, 2011.

California Video: Artists and Histories. Edited by Glenn Phillips. Los Angeles: Getty Research Institute and the J. Paul Getty Museum, 2008.

Scope and Content of Collection

The records comprise eight unedited oral history interviews conducted in 2011-2012 as part of the Getty Research Institute's exhibition *Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940-1990*. The exhibition examined the development of the city of Los Angeles during the postwar years; the interviewees discuss this and related topics.

The records include raw footage of an interview with Frank Gehry. This interview was conducted for the *Pacific Standard Time: Crosscurrents in L.A.* exhibition and excerpts were also used in the *Overdrive* exhibition.

The videorecordings and corresponding transcripts are open to researchers and are available online at <http://hdl.handle.net/10020/ia40025>.

Arrangement

Files are arranged alphabetically by the surname of the interviewee.

Subjects - Names

McIlwee, John

Frank, Ron
Newlove, Victor
Brower, Martin
Gehry, Frank O.
Bradshaw, Richard
Martin, David C.
Myers, Barton

Subjects - Topics

Architects -- California -- Interviews
Urban development -- California -- Los Angeles -- 20th century
Architecture -- California -- Los Angeles -- 20th century

Contributors

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Pacific Standard Time (Project)
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Richard Bradshaw, May 22, 2012
Martin Brower, August 21, 2012
Ron Frank, June 12, 2012
Frank Gehry, December 8, 2011
David Martin, May 18, 2012
John McIlwee, November 14, 2012
Barton Myers, May 10, 2012
Victor Newlove, May 8, 2012