

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Barbara Solomon

Date 18 February 2025

Medium born digital audio file

Description (a) Audio file of interview with Barbara Solomon. She was

interviewed by Silas Segar on 18 February 2025 in West Hartford, Connecticut.

(b) Photograph of Barbara Solomon taken at her interview. (c) Photograph of

Barbara Solomon taken at her interview. (d) Photograph of "Time, Space and

Energy" artwork by Barbara Solomon taken at her interview. Barbara Solomon

was interviewed as part of the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History's

Community History Project discussing moments of change in her life. Barbara is

a person that is not fond of change, but also acknowledges change in all its

forms, big and small. She has always been an artist, training under various

artists throughout her life. Originally she studied Fine Arts, getting an MFA in

Painting and Sculpture to follow in the footsteps of her high school art teacher.

Though many of the painters she studied under have since passed away, she still

has their artwork and has shared it with her family. Barbara's decision to switch

from painting to printmaking was a simple one; it was because "all the people

in the printmaking class were having more fun" and that was really all it took.

She notes that many of her former students became her friends, emphasizing

the sense of community that printmaking provides compared to the more

solitary experience of painting or sculpting. Prior to teaching at CT State

Manchester, Barbara was a general art teacher at Glastonbury Public Schools,

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mostly in elementary school for 40 years. Bob Manning, the former director of the art department, hired her to fill in for a previous professor at CT State Manchester and she taught a printmaking class the same day as her interview. Teaching was not the end of Barbara's learning journey. She continued to take studio lessons, learning new techniques to share with her students. She is willing to accept suggestions from students for improvements to her teaching style. Barbara's most important takeaway from her experiences is connecting with her students and having a community. Working in a community college means having students with a broad age range, all of whom teach and help one another. Due to her long history of teaching, Barbara has created personal connections with the students she previously taught and their younger family members.

Dimensions Duration: 51 Minutes, 32 Seconds