

# Speaking of art: four decades of art in conversation



## SPEAKING OF ART: FOUR DECADES OF ART IN CONVERSATION

[Wainwright, Jean](#) (2010) *Speaking of art: four decades of art in conversation*. Phaidon, London, pp. 176-261. ISBN 9780714845067

### Details

**Creators:** [Wainwright, Jean](#)

**Description/Abstract:** Speaking of Art contains eleven of my interviews with artists (comprising just over a quarter of the book). It is the first time these extensive research-based interviews been made public in written form, and they have all been re-edited and re-contextualised for the medium of print.

The research nature of the work is two-fold. In each case I have conducted specific research, both primary and secondary, into the individual artist and his or her work, so as to inform the conversation – as evidenced by the interview content. However, my work also testifies to a developing research methodology that employs the conversational interview to produce new primary material, foregrounding the artist's voice. This dimension of my process has made a significant contribution to the expanding focus on 'the voice' in art practice and discourse.

The interviews published in Speaking of Art represent a small sample of my ongoing projects: I have conducted over 900 interviews in total, for a variety of contexts. From 1996-2009 I was principal interviewer for Audio Arts, one of the world's largest and most wide-ranging sound archives devoted to art and artists. The entire, unedited archive of my recordings was acquired by Tate between 2004-2009. Tate's 2012 conference Off the Record, at which I gave the keynote address, marked the digitisation of the whole Audio Arts archive – soon to be available online in the form of a stand-alone website to include 150 of my interviews.

In 2009 I won an IVCA (International Visual Communications Association) award for my series of online TV interviews with artists for The Art Newspaper in collaboration with Spike TV. My interviews have also been published in a wide range of journals and books including the recently republished Talking of Art 1 (Ridinghouse/Art Monthly, 2009; 2nd edition 2013).

**Item Type:** Book

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**Schools:** [School of Fine Art & Photography](#)

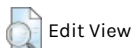
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The art of conversation like any art is a skill of elegance, nuance and creative execution. When it comes to the art of conversation we've all met people who seem to have the knack for it. They can talk to anybody about anything and they seem to do it with complete ease. And while it's true that there are those who are born with the gift of gab, luckily for the rest of us, conversation skills can be developed and mastered. Are they moving towards you to speak and you just keep on talking? Are they looking elsewhere (for an escape) while you are carrying on? In a good conversation each person needs to express themselves or it is no longer a conversation but a monologue. Speaking of Art: Four Dec has been added to your Cart. Add gift options. Buy used It presents edited transcripts of 43 artists from the archive [...] The excerpts from their conversations skew more toward the academic (Mr. Furlong has been an art professor most of his life) than toward the breezy tone of Paris Review interviews. But they never veer far from Mr. Furlong's guiding principle that he is talking with artists, not interviewing them.—Randy Kennedy (New York Times). About the Author. William Furlong is the founder of Audio Arts, a unique audio 'magazine' that is distributed and heard internationally. For over thirty years he has recorded interv Learning art may also increase patience and determination in children because it takes a long time and efforts to learn and understand this subject. Finally, it also promotes teamwork and problem-solving skills as the children learn to collaborate and compete with each other in order to do well in art classes. Besides, before a few decades ago, artists were reluctant to stay close to "power and establishment",

but these days, their artworks act as some kind of "mouthpiece" of the "establishment" most of the times. Finally, in the past, artworks mostly reflected our own culture and tradition but they are more "universal" in these days. Q. 4. Are older people in your country more interested in art than younger people? Why/ Why not? Art (singular, uncountable) usually means fine art, but can also refer to technique and creativity. Grammar Point. When we refer to a performing art in general, we can leave out the article before the noun. For example: "Are you interested in ballet/theatre/dance?" However, when we refer to a particular performance, we include the definite article. To blow someone away – to overwhelm a person; to excite a person very much. Work of art – a good result of one's efforts; a piece of artwork. On the edge of one's seat – to be very interested in something, usually something that is both extremely exciting and nerve-wracking. Mixed feelings - When you have mixed feelings about something, you react to it with conflicting emotions; you are happy and unhappy at the same time. Vocabulary.