

RRFA 01: Robert Rauschenberg papers

Interviews: Bound Compilation of Robert Rauschenberg Interviews, 1985-1987 /
Martin, Susan / Interview with Robert Rauschenberg / Art Against AIDS, undated

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RRAIDS, INT

RR INTERVIEW WITH SUSAN MARTIN
ART AGAINST AIDS

SM: We were thinking that we would love a quote in the press release from an artist and we thought there was no one better than to do this.

RR: I thought you already had something that you wanted to check.

SM: I do have a quote. It sort of lacks your usual sense of humor but let me see what you think, okay?

RR: Okay.

SM: Art Against Aids is more than just a benefit says _____. It represents a wave of concern in the art community for the threat which Aids poses to all of us. By staging what may be the single largest fundraising event for Aids to date, the art world is determined to set an example of compassion and hope for others to follow in responding to this critical social and medical emergency.

RR: Well, it's very hard to be humorous about Aids..

SM: It is hard to be humorous about it but I wasn't sure if it was too preachy or polemic...

RR: I could add just a little bit more to that. It's even more preachy. It's always been the avant garde international duty for the artist to be called upon as the first wave of liberal conscience.

SM: Actually, I could begin it that way.

RR: Why don't you. That's good.

SM: "It's always been the avant garde, ...the international avant garde's duty to be...It's always been the avant garde international duty for artists to be called upon for the first wave of liberal conscience." Why don't I just rework that a little bit so that it reads a little bit smoother. A little editing.

RR: You could add "world" to that somewhere. I would like it to get international. Because this happens to all of us...apartheid, save the whales, stop nuclear development, anti-

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war...

SM: You're absolutely right. International is very important and I will put that in. Do you want me to call you back?

RR: Just give it to Bradley and I'll get right back to you.

SM: You're terrific.