



## Artists Documentation Program (ADP) Interview Video Index

**Artist:** Rachel Harrison  
**Date:** September 20, 2007  
**Location:** Harvard Art Museums/Fogg Museum  
**Interviewer:** Carol Mancusi-Ungaro  
**Video:** Sam Ellison / **Edit:** Laurie McDonald  
**Total Run Time:** 01:00:11

### Abstract:

Artist Rachel Harrison discusses her work with Artists Documentation Program Founding Director and Center for the Technical Study of Modern Art Founding Director, Carol Mancusi-Ungaro. The discussion focuses primarily on the materials and methods that Harrison used to create her assemblage work *I'm with Stupid*, 2007, and her wishes for its future conservation and exhibition.

### Controlled Access Headings (Library of Congress):

#### Corporate Name(s)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation  
Artists Documentation Program  
Harvard University. Art Museums  
Menil Collection (Houston, Tex.)  
Whitney Museum of American Art

#### Genre(s)

Interviews  
Oral histories

#### Personal Name(s)

Harrison, Rachel, 1966-  
Mancusi-Ungaro, Carol

#### Subject(s)

Art--Conservation and restoration  
Artists' materials  
Art--Technique  
Assemblage (Art)  
Sculpture

**Exhibitions/Works:**

Names of exhibitions and works referenced during this interview appear below in gray cells.

**Controlled Vocabulary:**

Except where indicated, all keywords employ Getty vocabularies (AAT/ULAN/TGN). Those marked with (\*) employ Library of Congress Authorities. Those marked with (\*\*) employ local terms.

Time	Contents	Subject Keywords
00:00:01	<b>Opening Credits</b>	
00:00:42	<b>Introduction</b> Carol Mancusi-Ungaro Rachel Harrison	
00:00:51	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:00:55	<b>Conservation Issues and Exhibition</b> Harrison assesses the current condition and installation of <i>I'm with Stupid</i> .	exhibiting hats headscarves instructions (document genre) papier mâché Parex® silicone visual inspection wigs
00:01:03	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (detail of eye in mask)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:02:02	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (detail of paint on paper skull)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:02:04	<b>(Exhibition Reference)</b> <b>"Still Life &amp; Kicking"</b> <b>Paula Cooper Gallery</b> <b>May 10-June 8, 2007</b>	exhibitions (events)
00:02:30	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (detail of headscarf, paint on paper skull)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)

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00:02:56	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of paper skull)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:04:42	<b>Exhibition</b> Harrison and Mancusi-Ungaro review a set of instructions that the Harvard Art Museums employed in their installation of <i>I'm with Stupid</i> .	hats installations (exhibitions) instructions (document genre) neckties wigs
00:05:01	<b>(Images)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of cans)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:05:20	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of base)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:05:59	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of necktie)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:06:29	<b>Conservation Issues and Exhibition</b> Harrison expresses her opinions regarding securing elements of <i>I'm with Stupid</i> for exhibition. She and Mancusi-Ungaro continue to review the installation instructions.	exhibiting installations (exhibitions) instructions (document genre) mannequins (costume equipment) preventing T-shirts
00:07:46	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of t-shirt and detached leg)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:08:40	<b>Exhibition</b> Harrison expresses her preferences regarding the installation of <i>I'm with Stupid</i> .	height installations (exhibitions) pedestals sculpture in the round viewers (observers)
00:11:19	<b>(Images)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of mask and mannequin)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:11:29	<b>Exhibition</b> Harrison continues to review the installation instructions for <i>I'm</i>	fading mannequins (costume)

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	<i>with Stupid</i> , explaining her choices regarding installation and exhibition of the work.	equipment) wigs
00:13:35	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of carrot and mannequin) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:13:47	<b>Conservation Issues</b> Harrison assesses the current condition of <i>I'm with Stupid</i> .	visual inspection
00:14:52	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of interior of base) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:15:37	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of sneaker and paints) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:15:42	<b>Technical Specifications</b> Harrison describes the materials and techniques that she used to create <i>I'm with Stupid</i> .	acrylic paint binder (material) fugitive (pigment attribute) intensity (color property) paint layers pigment
00:16:48	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of paints) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:17:41	<b>(Exhibition Reference)</b> "Rachel Harrison: If I Did It" Greene Naftali Gallery, New York February 23-March 31, 2007	exhibitions (events)
00:18:17	<b>(Image)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (detail of paint colors) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:19:48	<b>Process of Creation and Technical Specifications</b> Harrison describes the circumstances that led her to create <i>I'm with Stupid</i> . She continues to discuss the materials and techniques that she used to create the work.	assemblages (sculpture) neckties pedestals plywood
00:20:38	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison	assemblages (sculpture)

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	<b><i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of plywood box that partially reads, "I'm with Stupid")</i></b> Harvard Art Museums	
00:21:06	(Images) Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of plywood box that partially reads, "I'm with Stupid")</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:21:29	(Images) Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of necktie)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:21:52	<b>Conservation Issues</b> Harrison expresses her preferences regarding the immediate conservation of various elements in <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , in particular the wheels on the sculpture's base.	Carnegie Museum of Art glue wheels (components)
00:24:26	(Work Reference) Rachel Harrison <i>Utopia, 2002</i> Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA	sculpture (visual work)
00:25:22	(Images) Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of wheels)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:25:29	(Work Reference) Jasper Johns <i>Voice, 1964-1967</i> The Menil Collection, Houston	paintings (visual works)
00:25:35	(Images) Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of wheels)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:26:46	<b>Conservation Issues</b> Harrison continues to express her opinions regarding the future conservation of various elements in <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , in particular the cans on the sculpture's base.	cans (containers) shipping
00:29:32	(Images) Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of cans)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)

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00:31:23	<b>(Images)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (details of holes in plywood)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:31:56	<b>Technical Specifications and Conservation Issues</b> Harrison describes the materials and techniques that she used in <i>I'm with Stupid</i> . Specifically, she discusses the types of cement and wood that she used. She also expresses her preferences regarding the work's future conservation.	acid cleaning paint paint layers Parex® portland cement screws
00:32:14	<b>(Images)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (details of cement)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:35:20	<b>(Images)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (details of cement on head)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:38:01	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (detail of unpainted cement)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:38:19	<b>Technical Specifications and Conservation Issues</b> Harrison discusses the found elements that she incorporated into <i>I'm with Stupid</i> . She explains their symbolic meaning and expresses her opinions regarding their future conservation.	cracking drying found objects mannequins (costume equipment) shoes (footwear) yellowing
00:39:35	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (detail of detached mannequin hand)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)
00:40:36	<b>Conservation Issues</b> Harrison describes the rubber and plastic masks that she used in <i>I'm with Stupid</i> . She and Mancusi-Ungaro discuss the masks' unique conservation needs and options for conserving them.	cracking disintegration drying feather (material) masks (costume) rubber (material) silicone
00:40:55	<b>(Image)</b> <b>Rachel Harrison</b> <b><i>I'm with Stupid</i>, 2007 (detail of face mask)</b> <b>Harvard Art Museums</b>	assemblages (sculpture)

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00:41:13	<b>(Work Reference)</b> Edward Kienholz <i>John Doe, 1959</i> The Menil Collection, Houston	assemblages (sculpture)
00:43:22	<b>(Image)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of feathers)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:44:32	<b>Conservation Issues</b> Harrison and Mancusi-Ungaro review Harrison's opinions regarding the future conservation of the found object elements in <i>I'm with Stupid</i> .	masks (costume) natural aging preservation (function) rubber (material)
00:47:02	<b>(Image)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of teeth on cat mask)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:47:07	<b>(Image)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of carrot)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:47:25	<b>Concept/Nature of Work and Conservation Issues</b> Harrison discusses the conceptual significance of various elements in <i>I'm with Stupid</i> and her opinions regarding their conservation.	cracking decorative elements disintegration drying preservation (function) synthetic
00:47:26	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (details of shoes)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:51:06	<b>(Image)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of grass)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:51:54	<b>Concept/Nature of Work and Conservation Issues</b> Harrison discusses the conceptual significance of various elements in <i>I'm with Stupid</i> and her opinions regarding their conservation.	beads (pierced objects) hats tassel velvet (fabric weave)
00:52:54	<b>(Image)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid, 2007 (detail of Mardi Gras beads set into cement)</i> Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)

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00:53:46	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of sticker on canned beans and canned food) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:55:19	<b>Concept/Nature of Work and Conservation Issues</b> Harrison discusses an area that she painted on <i>I'm with Stupid</i> . She also explains the origin of cracks in the cement on the work.	Heilmann, Mary
00:55:23	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of painting on box) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:56:48	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of cracks in cement) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:57:25	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (details of screws in wood) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:57:51	<b>(Images)</b> Rachel Harrison <i>I'm with Stupid</i> , 2007 (views of work in the round) Harvard Art Museums	assemblages (sculpture)
00:59:21	<b>Closing Credits</b>	