

**Broadway 1602 interview at Independent Art Fair, 528 West 22nd Street  
Blackjack game with strangers using and winning Warhol money, Friday, 03/08/13, late  
afternoon.**

AM:

Hi there, sorry about that, what was that?

Voice (noted as V or Voice):

What are you recording for?

AM:

NYC Arts Radio

Yeah, so I'm in.

V:

OK

So, we are doing one dollar maximum bets.

AM:

OK, so,

V:

It's the original money.

AM:

It's the original money.

And this is the Andy Warhol ones.

V:

Yes.

AM:

So what are we playing?

V:

We are playing blackjack, I'm sorry.

AM:

Alright, I'm in.

It's not even my money, I don't care.

OK.

V:

You get to keep what you win.

AM:

Fantastic.

V:

Man, if the last gambling hall I went to had the same rules, we'd be set.

I hold.

AM:  
Hold.

V:  
Twenty!  
nineteen...

AM:  
Nineteen

V:  
Here you go and nineteen...so you win too.

I'm making a fictitious killing here.

AM:  
I'll take another one, thank you.  
This is better than Vegas.

V:  
People are nicer than in Vegas [jokes]

AM:  
Yes they are, art people are nicer than Vegas people. [jokes]

V:  
I heard that's what happened to the last guy who misbehaved.

Hit me.

AM:  
Hit me please.

Bust

V:  
Bust, ahhh.

AM:  
There's a lot of busts.

V:  
A lot of busting going on, a bad round.

And, thank you sir.

AM:

Oh yeah, I need to give you one.

V:

Thank you.

Here you go Lauren.

She's just learning, this is her first time.

Lauren:

This is my first time and I'm cleaning up.

AM:

At blackjack.

Lauren:

Yes.

AM:

This is my first time with fake money playing blackjack.

Do you two work for the gallery?

Lauren:

I do.

AM:

You do, would you mind describing what we are doing here?

Lauren:

Absolutely. So, the gallery is Broadway 1602, the project is called Art Cash. So basically it was a project put on in 1971 as an effort to raise money for a project called Art in Television. And it was by a collective, an organization named EAT, which is Experiments in Art and Technology. And basically they had a gambling night where they had all this cash and people would buy in for the money, play roulette I think it was and it would go to benefit this other project.

AM:

Sounds like a great project.

Lauren:

So the money was designed by Andy Warhol, Robert Whitman, Tom Gormley, Red Grooms, Robert Rauschenberg, and Murray Saltz.

Voice:

Six designs by six artists who were associated with EAT, with that organization.

AM:

OK, thank you very much, so let's play Blackjack.

Voice:

Let's do it.

AM:  
And this is the original money?

Voice:  
yup

AM:  
So some are black on the other side of...

Voice:  
That's the Andy Warhol bill.  
There's actually a quote on the wall that he said, "I didn't want to sign my name but they made me, I made mine very easy to copy because everyone should have money."

AM:  
So the other side of his is black.

Voice:  
exactly

AM:  
ok  
They're great.

Voice:  
The night is young.

AM:  
How long have you been sitting here?

Voice:  
For about ten minutes.

AM:  
You're raking it in, look at you!

Voice:  
I'm like six up.

AM:  
Yeah, I don't even know how many I started with.  
I might have started with more than you.

*Voices: banking, etc.*

AM:  
The gallerist is the bank.

Voice:  
What's that?

AM:

The gallerist is the bank.

Voice:

I'm the dealer on another level here.

AM:

Yes.

Voice:

I'm also the gallerist here, I'm a triple dealer here.

*inaudible...*

AM:

Hit me please.

Voice:

OK

18 / 19 ...

*And I'll take yours miss.*

AM:

Ohooohh, bust.

Voice:

*There has to be a cigar store somewhere around here.*

*Is there a real casino in NY we can go after this?*

*I know people.*

*Is there a bus to Foxwoods?*

*(noise...)*

*Is it possible to ask for more than three cards*

*Yeah, absolutely.*

*May I have another one?*

*I'm good.*

*I'm out.*

20/21

*ooohh. Is that the second time tonight?*

*Yeah.*

*wow*

AM:

It looks like you need some money though.

*Voice:*

*We already pooled our money. We each had six dollars so we pooled our money for a Rauschenberg which is 12 dollars*

*and we'll time share it.*

*We're going to time share it.*

*AM:*

*This is great.*

*Voice:*

*unless I wind this round.....*

*AM:*

*So I can upgrade my money from a Warhol to a Rauschenberg, is that what's going on?*

*Voice:*

*There is a \$12 Rauschenberg. \$12 dollar bill.*

*Well whose is the \$24 bill? And then the \$50?*

*Tom Gormley. Tom Gormley is 24, Red Grooms is 51.*

*Oh I already own a Red Grooms poster so...*

*That's a Todd Whitman it's also really beautiful.*

*I would go for a Whitman - and you only need \$3 for that?*

*(good card sound as there is talking...)*

*So I have some here.*

*I have seven.*

*Hit me.*

*Everyone wins, back in the game.*

*AM:*

*Thank you.*

*Voice:*

*She just felt bad for us I think.*

*I'm going for a Robert Whitman*

*ok*

AM:

So money trading is happening, what are you going for?

Voice:

*A Robert Whitman.*

AM:

And a Robert Whitman is the

Voice: 3

AM:

A \$3 ok.

Voice:

*They have a shared Rauschenberg and a ...*

AM:

One more round

Voice:

*4, 5, 6, 7,....*

*So you're good - you have already a Rauschenberg, a Warhol and a Whitman in your bank.*

*If I had a nickel for every time I heard that!*

*If I had, if I had a Rauschenberg a Whitman and a Warhol every time.*

AM:

I'll stay

Voice:

*Hit me....hit me...hit me*

AM:

A trick to Blackjack, usually more than three is not a good idea.

Voice:

*My friend has this crazy story of his therapist coming to a party and getting smashed and then saying, pretend I'm your mother - hit me!*

*I'm out.*

*He got four cards.*

*He's a seasoned player then.*

*Yes maybe.*

AM:

He's the one who asked for the bus to Atlantic City, previously. OK.

Voice:

*Now you got a Warhol.*

*You'll share a Rauschenberg. She did really well.*

*Yes, for collectors.*

AM:

I think I need to do another round, look I already anted up.

And you're just pulling money out of your pocket at this point.

Voice:

*I know I mean, let's be honest.*

AM:

House player.

Voice:

*Are you part of the Gallery too?*

*No, I'm a painter.*

*You're a painter.*

*So, this is the only way I can afford a Warhol.*

AM:

You're a painter.

This is Adam, and he's in the same situation as you are.

Do you have any work here?

Adam:

No I don't.

AM:

OK. So you're an interloper like we are.

Adam:

Yes. Exactly, I'm a participant.

OK

We didn't have to break in.

Here's your shared Rauschenberg and your Whitman.



WOW

That's not bad, nice.

AM:

Do you want to describe your new, your new bills?

Yes, describe your new bills please.

Adam:

*These were 12 eggs that he numbered on this piece of cloth. That was his idea.*

Voice:

*With his amazing signature.*

Voice:

*And then the other side looks like its god eggs plus cards*

*There was a great article in the NYTimes in '71 where the artists all comment on their design. I'll give you that article.*

*Put it in the appendix*

Voice:

*How cool is that?*

Voice:

*See there's a dozen eggs that's why its a \$12*

AM:

He was a genius.

Voice:

*Yes, what is this other imagery, it looks like a fresco somewhere.*

Voice:

*And the three has three people walking. And then the stem of what looks like a tulip I think. Three pieces of a plant. A stem and two leaves.*

Voice:

*And the Warhol is....*

Voice:

*You seem to be loaded, what are you buying?*

Voice:

*I'm holding out.*

Voice:

*You're going for the 51 right.*

Voice  
Yeah!

Voice:  
*I'm going to get the complete set.*

*1,2,3,...*

*Alright guys let's focus.*

AM:  
OK, now we are playing,

Voice:  
*Back in the game*

AM:  
Back to the game.

Voice:  
*Are you guys out?*

*I'm out*

*You're out?*

*Can I cash in?*

Lauren:  
Here - just to keep playing if you want to keep playing.

There you go - there's a bet.

Voice:  
*I need more money.*

AM:  
The money just appears from your lap, I love it.

Voice:  
*You're enabling us, totally.*

Voice:  
*A hook and you're in.*

*You are the life of the party.*

*Hit me.*

*Hit me.*

*I'm here taking risks.*

*18?*

AM:

Oh

*Voice:*

*Blackjack!*

*I'm out.*

Awe.

AM:

Well done

*Voice:*

*I get double*

Yes!

*Sorry ma'am*

AM:

I think I'm out with two.

**END**