Arleen Pancza-Graham

**Sandler, Irving (1925- ) Word Count: 215**

Irving Harry Sandler, an American art historian, critic and administrator, was born in New York City and brought up and educated in Philadelphia. He received his M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1950 and completed his Ph.D. at New York University in 1976. In the intervening years, Sandler managed the co-operative Tanager Gallery, served as director of The Club (1957-1962), wrote criticism for *ARTnews* (1956-1962), taught at the State University of New York at Purchase faculty (1972-97), where he curated a number of exhibitions and conducted oral history interviews with contemporary artists. He co-founded *Artists Space*, a non-profit exhibition gallery, in 1972 where the Irving Sandler Artists File registry is still housed. Sandler is particularly associated with Abstract Expressionism and knew most of its artists personally. In his writing he often employs a factual rather than a theoretical approach. His widely referenced and somewhat controversial, *Triumph of American Painting: A History of American Expressionism* (1970), is a standard survey of the movement. He also authored several monographs, including *Judy Pfaff* and *Alex Katz: A Retrospective*.

**References and Further Reading:**

Irving Sandler Artists File: <http://local-artists.org/>

Sandler, Irving (1970) *The Triumph of American Painting: A History of Abstract Expressionism*, New York: Harper and Row.

Sandler, Irving (1978) *The New York School: The Painters and Sculptors of the Fifties*, New York: Harper and Row.