

Transcript of edited excerpts.
HARTMAN, PHILIP

"My name is Philip Hartman, I usually go by Phil... And I was born in Brooklyn, at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, which no longer exists.

I will always love the East Village. I love the physique of the East Village [in] the way a man or a woman would look at another man or woman and love their body. I love the East Village's body. I love the regularity of the cornices at the top of the tenements on the side streets. I love the scale of the East Village in general. I love the brick of the East Village. I love the trees of the East Village. I love the grid of the East Village. I love the history of the East Village. I love walking down the street knowing that Ed Sanders walked down that street, or that Allen Ginsburg sat under this tree. Or that Jack Kerouac was photographed in front of this fence.

Don't complain that the neighborhood's changing and give up on it. Create things that are going to make sure that it stays as true to its history as possible, whether it's you sitting here doing oral histories or keeping a softball league alive where one didn't exist before. We have the opportunity to create a legacy everyday. Folks who abandon that responsibility are making a mistake. That's our duty. Create a legacy every day."