An Interview with

ADELLE TOMASH

OH 326

Charles Babbage Institute

Conducted by Arthur L. Norberg

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Abstract

Tomash discusses her early life in St. Paul, Minnesota, and her attendance at the University of Minnesota. She describes her marriage to Erwin Tomash and their early life together while he was in the U. S. Army during World War II. Much of the interview focuses on their life in California from 1953, during which Erwin served with several companies before starting Dataproducts Corporation. Adelle describes her role in helping him to build the company and raising their two daughters. She describes her activities outside the home, her worldwide travels, involvement in founding the Charles Babbage Institute, and her interest in and collecting of contemporary art.
Oral History:

Adelle Tomash

Tape 1, Side 1

Norberg: You have been telling me about your grandparents and mother coming to the United States. You mentioned that your mother had to go out to work. How old was your mother at the time?

Tomash: She must have been 12 or 13 years old at the time. She came with her father and three sisters. The rest of the family remained in Russia with her mother and did not come to the U. S. until after World War I.

Norberg: Who came?

Tomash: My grandmother and the rest of the family. My mother was one of eleven children, 10 girls and one boy. After the war, her mother and all the other children came. Eleven children all together. The four sisters that came with my grandfather lived with him until my grandmother came or until they got married. My mother had married and left home before my grandmother came to America.

Norberg: And you said she worked in a “sweatshop.”
Tomash: Yes, she worked in a “sweatshop.” My mother had a very hard early childhood. When she was 8 years old, her parents sent her away to apprentice with a tailor so that she would learn a trade. The family had always been poor in Russia and had no money when they came to the U. S. Since she knew how to sew, soon after she arrived in America she started to work in a clothing factory. She was about 14 years old.

The family lived on the West side of St. Paul [Minnesota] in what was then a kind of a Jewish ghetto. My mother always had a lot of drive and spunk. My parents were married in about 1917. My father was in the army. He came to America with a relative through the port of Galveston, Texas. He lived in Texas for a while, and then moved to Minnesota. He did not have any other family in St. Paul. He had one brother in Texas, who died very young. So I never got to know my father’s family.

As I said, my mother had nine sisters, and I had 20 or more cousins. There was always a lot of family life going on. My father was not an observant Jew. My mother was raised in an orthodox home but, as an adult was also not very observant. However, I was raised in a culturally Jewish home and felt that I was a member of the Jewish community. I always knew that I was Jewish. For the Jewish holidays, we always went to my grandparent’s house.

My father had what I believe was a war-related illness. At any rate, he received medical treatment at the local Veteran’s Hospital. He had emphysema, a very bad case, and
asthma. And then heart trouble developed. He was not able to work for a long time and turned very much into an invalid.

So my mother had to go out to work. She felt ashamed that she was working when everyone else was staying at home and taking care of their family. None of her married sisters were working. However, this never caused any problem at home. I never heard my parents arguing. Of course, my father was a mild mannered man; he was not an aggressive person.

Norberg: You said you have two siblings.

Tomash: Yes. I have an older sister, Bernice and had a younger brother, Gerald, who died three years ago. We three children were all different in personality.

Norberg: You mentioned to me that your mother was determined that the family not live in shabby circumstances.

Tomash: My mother was a very talented seamstress. She was a skilled craftsman, who worked until she was about 67. She worked with fashion designers, and made the first models. She would then give the designer feedback so that he could alter the design to make it more producible. I remember as a child, going to the best stores where I would point out clothes that I liked. She would then come home and make them for me from memory.
In other times, I think she would have done very well. She had genuine flare. After she moved to California, she made all our daughters clothes. She made them curtains and bedspreads. She could sew anything. She had a lot of self-assurance, though she was self-educated, she was not afraid to undertake new things.

So as I said, for most of my childhood my mother worked and my father was at home. When my sister Bernice graduated high school, she went to work and that made it somewhat easier financially. We always lived in middle-class neighborhoods, away from the West side [of St. Paul]. We lived on the hill.

Norberg: When you say west side of St. Paul, where do you mean?

Tomash: In those days, where you lived in Saint Paul was described as the East side, the West side, the Hill district, South St. Paul etc, I suppose the directions were in reference to the Mississippi river. The West side was the area across the Robert Street Bridge from downtown. I suppose it was really East of the river.

Norberg: It’s true it is the east side of the river, but it’s the flats.

Tomash: It’s the flats. It used to flood. That [section] of town was really not very nice. We always lived in the nicer Hill district; you had to go down the hill to get to downtown.
Norberg: This is now called Cathedral Hill. Was it called that then?

Tomash: I don’t know remember what it was called. I do remember that the streetcar went through a tunnel to get downtown. The Selby tunnel, I think, but we used to walk all the time—walk downtown - to save carfare.

Norberg: You mentioned Marshall and Western [avenues].

Tomash: Marshall and Western. I was born in a house on Marshall near Western. We rented, and moved quite a bit. I remember living on Hague; then we lived near the Jewish Community Center on Grotto. Then we moved to Laurel and Dale. From there I walked to Central High School.

Norberg: What were the two lower level schools?

Tomash: Webster Grade School, I think on Ashland, and John Marshall Junior High. There was a common playground with a skating rink in the winter between the two schools.

Norberg: What was the school like in those days?

Tomash: Which one? Central?

Norberg: Central.
Tomash: I have no idea how many children were in that school. It served a large area. When you went to Central, you quickly became aware of what social class you were in. I don’t remember noticing that in the lower schools. When you got to Central High, there were sororities and fraternities and you knew instinctively if you were eligible or not. You made your friends from the same social class as you. We (and my friends) had no extra spending money and could not participate. So we did not even try.

Norberg: What sort of studies did you do? Separate tracks for males and females?

Tomash: No. I don’t recall separate tracks. Of course, girls took Home Economics and boys took Shop. Maybe you are right…

Norberg: Tell me what you studied in high school.

Tomash: In the background was always this thought: you had to be able to get a job. So I took Typing and Shorthand, because then you could always get a job as a secretary. I took Home Economics. I seem to remember that all girls had to take Home Economics. Otherwise I would not have taken it. I took the College Preparatory option: English, French, Algebra and Geometry, History and Civics. I do not think we were being conditioned that boys go on to college and girls do not. I remember that when I was in elementary school, there were advanced placement classes, called Alpha Classes, and I
got into those classes. So I graduated high school very young; I was 16. I enrolled to the University of Minnesota and that is where I met Erwin.

Norberg: This would be about 1941 when you went to the University?

Tomash: Yes, 1941.

Norberg: What were you studying at the University?

Tomash: I was studying early childhood development. I remember one teacher—Dr. Faber, whom I liked a lot. I still see some written books by her. I met Erwin there.

Norberg: Let’s stay with you for a few minutes here, about what you were doing at the University.

Tomash: I was in the College of Science, Literature, and Arts. I took courses in Spanish, Psychology, and Art. I thought I would do child welfare work. I only attended for two years and then got married.

Norberg: What was tuition in those days? And did mother help you?

Tomash: No, my mother couldn’t help me. From the time I was 13 years old, I worked every summer. In our family circumstances at Christmas vacation time, you went to look for work – as did a lot of other young people. My sister applied early and she would
always get a job. Many of my cousins used to apply. I recall, when I was very young, one of my cousins got a job at another store when the Golden Rule, at that time the largest department store in St. Paul, phoned her to work for them. There was no way the family was going to let that job remain unfilled. So I worked at the Golden Rule under her name. I did gift wrapping. My cousin’s name was Ruth and I had to remember to respond as Ruth when someone would call my name or address me.

Norberg: Why couldn’t the cousin take the job?

Tomash: Because she already had one. She had started to work at another store. She was not going to tell the Golden Rule she could not come. So I went. I am sure many immigrant families must do things like that. You know, you do what you have to.

Norberg: So you stayed two years, and in those years, you met Erwin.

Tomash: Yes, I met Erwin my first year at the University. I did not know who he was. Despite the fact that the Jewish community in St. Paul was small, my parents didn’t know his family. As Erwin lived on the other side of town, we did not know them. He was already a junior when I met him.

To return to your question about tuition, I worked in the summer and after school to earn my tuition. I think tuition was about $32 a quarter, though I do not remember exactly.
Norberg: In terms of what you would have made during the summer to pay the tuition, as a comparison, what did jobs pay then?

Tomash: Student jobs were about 50 cents per hour or less. On Saturday, I worked for Bernice at the wholesale bakery where she worked. When I went to the University, I also worked after school at a retail bakery. I would get there about 4 and work until 6.

Norberg: Erwin graduated in 1943 and then the two of you got married.

Tomash: When Erwin graduated we became engaged. We were going to wait until he got out of the army to get married. He was only gone about 6 weeks when he called and asked if I would like to get married. He thought he would be stationed in the United States for a year, which he was. He was in radar training school most of that time. He entered the service as a junior officer. He trained at Fort Monmouth [New Jersey], and that’s where we got married.

Norberg: Was Erwin going to stay in New Jersey?

Tomash: No. We knew he would stay only a short while. We were married at the end of July. In September they sent him to Harvard for radar training for 3 months.

Norberg: Did you go?
Tomash: Oh yes! From Harvard he was assigned to MIT for 3 months, so we had 6 months in the Boston area. Fortunately, my mother recalled that she had a cousin who had immigrated to Boston. My mother tracked them down and phoned to tell them we were coming. They were very nice people, they helped us find a place to live, invited us to Friday night dinners etc. Their daughter’s husband is now 95 years old and still telephones us from time to time. Erwin and he got along very well. Erwin was about 22 and he was about 37 at the time.

Norberg: You say your mother called. She didn’t write.

Tomash: No, she phoned them. When she knew we were going to Boston, she let them know and they took us right in.

Norberg: It must have been difficult to find a place to live in Boston in those days.

Tomash: We first found a place in Back Bay on a railroad track. It had no bathroom and was filthy. We had to get out of there quickly. We moved to Cambridge and shared an apartment with the daughter of the owner of the building. We were allowed to sleep in one of the bedrooms and use the kitchen.

We enjoyed our stay in Boston. I went to work for the Red Cross. Because Erwin was a student at Harvard, we were able to get tickets for the symphony. I still like Boston.
whenever I visit there. We were there for 6 months, from September until March. Then the army moved us around quite a bit. We went to Claxton, Georgia. Then we went to an even smaller town called Ludowici. Then we had a nice period in Wilmington, North Carolina. We were there for a couple of months. From there, Erwin was shipped overseas and I went home. He was overseas 2 years.

I came back to St. Paul in 1944. Erwin returned in 1946. I enrolled for some additional courses at the University. By then my father was quite ill, and I spent quite a bit of time at home. My mother and sister were working. I spent the time with him, as he couldn’t be left alone. When he was better, I got a job at a local company - Snell Sash & Door. We lived on Portland and Pascal and this company was a few blocks away on Selby and Pascal. I did accounting work there. I was able to run home at lunch to check on my father everyday.

I worked at Snell Sash & Door until Erwin was discharged in June 1946. We moved in with my family. When Erwin returned, he was sick and had to be hospitalized. He had pleurisy. When he got better, he taught at the U of M Electrical Engineering Department for one quarter. He soon learned that teaching was not for him. He then found a job with the Federal Government and we moved to Washington, DC.

I had found on my return to St. Paul that many of my old friends and schoolmates had scattered as well. So, now, I did not mind leaving Minnesota and moving to Washington. But, I hated leaving my father and the close relationship we had developed. However,
this was an opportunity; Erwin was going to make about $2200 a year. My father asked what we were going to do with all that money.

Norberg: This would be about the beginning of 1947.

Tomash: Yes, that’s right. Erwin had saved some money in the army. He saved $1400 and through my sister’s work connections we were able to buy a new car. It was truly difficult to get a new car immediately after the war. We got a 1947 Mercury and we drove it to Washington.

That was in 1947. Erwin went to work for the Naval Ordnance Laboratory. He soon wasn’t too happy with that job either. I was beginning to wonder whether this would be a pattern. We had trouble finding a place to live in Washington. At first, we rented a room in an apartment from a single mother with two children. Then we were able to get a 3rd floor walkup in the southeast part of Washington. It was a really terrible apartment, but it was ours. We lived there, when Judy was born in 1948.

I think this was just about the time that Erwin changed jobs. He went to work for ERA [Engineering Research Associates, Inc.] in Virginia. From southeast Washington, we moved to Arlington, Virginia, to a garden apartment. We were really on our way. We had two bedrooms.

Norberg: The garden apartment was a rental.
Tomash: Yes. A second floor rental. I was a full-time mother. We enjoyed living in the Washington area. Every Sunday we used to go sightseeing, to Mount Vernon, and all the other famous places.

In 1950, my father became very ill again. Barbara was born in June of that year. When I phoned and found my dad not at home, I knew something was wrong. When Barbara was a few weeks old, he died. We all went to St. Paul for the funeral in August 1950.

After the funeral, I remained in St. Paul with the children as Erwin had decided to transfer to ERA in St. Paul. Erwin went back to Washington to move us. When Erwin came back, we bought a house in Highland Park. We were able to get a GI Loan. We borrowed the down payment from my mother who had received a little insurance money. It was a two-bedroom rambler with 930 square feet.

We spent the winters of 1951, ’52, ’53 in St. Paul. Three of the worst winters in history. I was miserable - cooped up in the house with the kids. We met Bill and Millie Drake about this time – they lived around the corner. Bill and Erwin carpooled to work.

Tape 1, Side 2

Norberg: So you lived there until 1954.
Tomash: No, we left in ’53. In February of ’53, I came with Erwin to Los Angeles to a computer industry meeting. My mother and Millie Drake took care of the kids. Millie had the kids during the day when my mother was working. Millie and I became and remained very dear friends.

Norberg: Did you people think you were going to stay out here?

Tomash: No, but we sure liked it during our visit in February. We thought it was really gorgeous. By that time, I think, Erwin was doing sales work on 1103s. After we returned to Minnesota, I think he was asked to come out to Remington Rand [Los Angeles] to do his sales work. At any rate, they transferred us here in the fall of 1953.

We came in early September of 1953 and rented the lower half of a duplex house. A year later we bought our first house. By that time, Erwin’s parents had moved out here. They were an older couple. My mother-in-law was a very, lovely, generous woman. Then my mother decided LA looked pretty good to her, so she moved out a few years later. All the family eventually moved out here.

In Los Angeles, Erwin now worked for Remington Rand. And I was beginning to understand what a big company was like.

Norberg: What do you mean by that, Adelle?
Tomash: When we were with ERA, it was a little company. We knew all the employees, especially the engineers. They all seemed like Erwin, with the same kind of interests—though I could see that he had a great many more interests than they did. But at ERA we all seemed to have something in common.

When we came out to Los Angeles, to Remington Rand, we found no engineers but many, many salesmen. They were selling typewriters, punched card machines and other office products - and even shavers. They were mainly extroverts - energetic, supercharged salespeople. We had never before associated with people like that.

Remington Rand was a large company with headquarters elsewhere. While the branch out here was large and important, decisions on non-routine matters had to come from the east. This was my initiation to the corporate culture. I learned how to be nice to certain people, listen to what they said, and began to be able to judge them.

I was a quick study and I know that I became a pretty good judge of people. It was a great learning experience for me, but not one I particularly enjoyed. I felt that I didn’t fit in, as I didn’t play bridge, golf, tennis, or drink much.

That period didn’t last too long. Things seem to change in our family all the time. In 1956, Remington Rand offered to promote Erwin to headquarters in New York to be head of some department. I knew I did not want to move to New York, but I was, of course, perfectly willing to do so. I faced a number of family questions such as: Were we going
to leave his elderly parents here? Erwin went to New York for 6 weeks for a trial period and decided the situation was not to his liking. In the end, we did not move.

Instead, Erwin left Remington Rand to join Telemeter Magnetics in 1957. Telemeter was a really small company and I found myself back in the ERA atmosphere (only smaller). I think he went in as sales manager, but he soon got to be president. I remember the children and I used to visit Telemeter to see how they made ferrite cores; it was close to our home in Baldwin Hills.

The Telemeter employees were a nice group of people, however I soon found myself in the role of the boss’ wife. This started a long series of the dinners, football games, buffets and parties. It wasn’t something I was always crazy about, but I did enjoy a lot of it and I met people I really liked.

Under Erwin’s leadership, Telemeter Magnetics became a successful growing company and about 1959 it went public. In 1961, Ampex bought Telemeter and Erwin was made head of all Ampex computer products. By that time we were living in the Riviera section of Pacific Palisades. This was, and is, one of the nicest residential areas of Los Angeles. We had moved into a large, lovely house on a large lot. It was a house I was not comfortable in from the day I moved into it.

Norberg: Why not?
Tomash: It was a truly a California rambler. It was a house that ran the whole length of the large lot. It had an Olympic sized pool in the front yard and a stunning garden. I wasn’t ready for it. For me, the house was totally impractical. You had to go through 5 or 6 rooms to get from the kitchen to the bedrooms, or vice versa. It was more than I could take care of and I refused to have help.

Erwin’s job required a lot of traveling. He was a very good father to the girls, but most of the parenting was left to me. But, to this day he is very close to the girls and they are very close to him.

Then Erwin had an offer to move to northern California to the number two position at Ampex. I would have moved, of course, but I didn’t like the idea of disrupting the kids. Fortunately, something else intervened. Erwin decided to start his own company. I backed him 100%. We needed money to start Dataproducts so we decided to sell the house. I was certainly willing. We rented a house nearby for a year or two. Once Dataproducts seemed stable, we decided to buy again. We bought this house and have lived here since 1965.

Norberg: Let’s go back to the beginning of Dataproducts. What your involvement, if any, with Erwin in making this decision?

Tomash: The decision was difficult for the two of us. Were we willing to turn down a really high paying job with Ampex, which might go on to something even bigger? Or
should we start our own company? Ampex was an attractive company; its culture was not like Remington Rand at all.

So it came down to a choice between a high salary plus room for advancement and taking a chance by starting a company. And also a lot more work probably. So we decided we would like to try the riskier option. If we lost our money, we lost our money. We could always start again.

I never gave Erwin any problem about putting our money into a new company. I encouraged him to do it. The plans for Dataproducts kept getting bigger and bigger. He had also started to think about financing Informatics; you know Erwin seemed to add one thing after another.

Chet Lappen, who had been the lawyer for Telemeter helped Erwin start Dataproducts.

Norberg: You and the Lappen’s had become good family friends by that time, too.

Tomash: Yes we are. Jon [Mrs. Chester Lappen] and I are good friends. We go to the symphony together. They have a daughter Barbara’s age, and she and Barbara are also very good friends.

Norberg: So, in 1962, when Dataproducts was being formed, Judy would have been 14 and Barbara would have been 12.
Tomash: Yes.

Norberg: I am just trying to get a fix on the ages. I wanted to ask you if you had any other involvement in the founding of Dataproducts besides being Erwin’s confidant.

Tomash: I had no direct involvement with the company. It was definitely going to be a public company from the start. There was never any talk of my working inside the company.

Norberg: But you were trying to remember who was in at the start of Dataproducts and came out of Telemeter.

Tomash: Many of the early employees came from Telemeter. Graham Tyson, Cliff Helms, Irv Wieselman, Ray Stuart-Williams and several others - Jack Ogg, Bob Harlan, and Howard Rose. They all had good jobs, so Erwin had to convince them to join up.

The business was formed in our house; the meetings went on night and day. The money to start the company was supposed to come from Lehman Brothers in New York. But, after the company was set up, Lehman Brothers backed out due to market conditions. That was a very tough time for Erwin, who had to scramble to raise money on much more stringent terms. He finally managed to raise about $1,000,000. Then they rented space in Culver City, and then they moved to the Valley. Then it went public and was very successful.
Norberg: How was your life developing?

Tomash: The girls were entering their teens and I was busy supervising them. Sometimes, I would also help out my sister, Bernice who was working as office manager of a shoe factory at the time. I would only work for a few months at a time if it did not interfere with the needs of the kids.

I never had any problem as far as money goes with Erwin. I ran the family finances. He had no idea where the money went and never asked about it. We were fortunate that neither of us ever thought about having a lot of money. I think that was really good. I never felt the need to have money of my own. When it came time, we supported his parents. When my mother needed help, there was never any question she would be taken care of.

[Interlude]

Tape 2, Side 1

Norberg: I want to cover three more topics. First and most important is the founding of the Charles Babbage Foundation and the Charles Babbage Institute. I know you played a role in them, because we can trace that in the records of the two organizations.
Tomash: We also started the publishing company at the same time. In the early 1970s, Erwin was already talking about retiring. He started to cut back and began to talk about starting a computer history institute. We talked a lot about it; how much money it would take. It always seemed to me that it would be a difficult thing to fund because it wasn’t health related. It’s hard to get money for things like the Institute. There are a limited number of people who give money for this.

Erwin is always optimistic and felt it was doable. He felt it was a very important thing to do, because everyone was getting older and one would be able to get the facts before they were too distorted. So we went to talk to Paul Armer, whom we had both known for a long time, and he agreed to work on the Institute. He worked from Palo Alto and I kept the books here [Los Angeles]. Then we got the graduate fellowship going. I think that was a couple of years later, perhaps. I remember Bill Aspray was the first one. I used to send him the money monthly. I kept track of all that stuff. I think we started CBI with $150,000 of our own money – to us it was quite a bit of money. We met you in ’74. Am I right?


Tomash: ’76 in New Mexico.

Norberg: Erwin came to see me and a number of other people on the Berkeley campus earlier in ’76, and then we met in New Mexico.
Tomash: Was it Wilkes who gave a talk?

Norberg: Wilkes, and Erwin, and a number of others.

Tomash: We started the publishing and Erwin started to collect books about that same time. We hired Adelle Clark to work on Erwin’s library, because she was a librarian. Then she said she would like to do the editing. She worked here every day. She worked in the back bedroom until we made a little office for her. I did the bookkeeping for Tomash Publishers; I did the wrapping and order fulfilling. That got to be a little much and it created a mess in the house. Before things got completely out of hand, Erwin got the idea of co-publishing and decided to go with MIT Press. We started to do a series of physics books, with AIP Press, too.

I have always been very interested in the activities of the Charles Babbage Institute. I am very hopeful for it; especially now with some younger people on the Board. I have seen this happen to other non-profit boards on which I served. I was on the Nursing School board of [UCLA] and I was Director and Treasurer of the Center for Childhood. It is important for Boards to renew themselves and to welcome new people with new ideas.

Norberg: Is that still running?
Tomash: Yes. From the last letter I got, I think they have a new, very good, executive
director and new Board members. They are branching out and doing a lot of co-
sponsoring with other organizations.

Norberg: How long did you serve on the board of the School of Nursing?

Tomash: About 3 years. Then the Dean who recruited me left. The new Dean had
different ideas and different requirements. I resigned.

Norberg: Were you on other boards besides those two and CBF?

Tomash: No. Only those two and CBF. I am a good Board member in that I will work
for an organization and participate in its activities.

Norberg: Did you play any other role in the community besides those things? Any other
groups you were affiliated with over time?

Tomash: I was active as a volunteer in the 1950s at a Jewish Children’s Home called
Mar Vista. A home and school for disturbed children. I used to drive kids to their
appointments; doctor, dentist etc. I found that very involving, because usually the kids
talked to you openly. They seemed to feel they could tell you anything because they
wouldn’t see you again. It was originally a Jewish orphanage, and now it is a home for
troubled children
My daughter, Judy, told me the other day that the reason she is interested in doing selfless work is that she remembers I used to take her door-to-door on March of Dimes and American Red Cross collections. The girls were raised in an environment where charity and sharing your money is important.

Norberg: One last subject: your art. You have become very interested in art over the years. How did that all come about?

Tomash: I have always loved art. I remember my art history studies at Minnesota, and visits to the small art gallery at the University. I was always interested in art, and I have always visited art museums. When we were kids in school, we used to make booklets with pictures from the Metropolitan [Museum of Art]. Do you remember those?

Norberg: Yes, I had those.

Tomash: In my school days, the teachers tried to interest you in art in that way. They used to give art classes in those days; I understand they don’t do that anymore. I really like contemporary art. I started to collect abstract paintings, but find that now that I am interested in more figurative things. When I buy art, I buy mostly western artists - California and Washington (State of). I really like looking at Japanese prints, but I never think about buying them. There is something static about them. It is all a matter of taste, what appeals to you. I must say that none of my friends are interested in abstract art.
I started to visit emerging artists with a woman who is an art historian, and you get a feel for what is being done at the moment. Perhaps, much of it shouldn’t emerge, but some of it should. From these visits, I got a better understanding of what I really liked. I am confident enough in my taste that if I see something I like I buy it. [Several examples in the house were pointed out to illustrate buying over the years.] Several pieces of ours have been borrowed by museums for showing in exhibits. So I feel my judgement has been vindicated even though I cannot explain the process I go through.

Norberg: How long has this been going on? A decade; two decades?

Tomash: Beginning in the late ‘60s. I still love looking at art, but I do not have the same urge to buy. There are pieces hanging here; there are some in our condo in San Francisco; and I have one piece in my sister’s place.

Norberg: Did you buy a lot when you were traveling outside the United States?

Tomash: I have bought some in the past. A few small sculptures. Some paintings. And some items in the Far East.

Norberg: Thank you very much.