

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Topper Carew

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Carew, Topper, 1943-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew,
Dates:	November 14, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	11 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:01:56).
Abstract:	Film director Topper Carew (1943 -) served as producer for WGBH/Boston PBS before launching Techquity Research Group. He has been awarded over forty film and television awards for his work on many movies and shows. Carew was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 14, 2018, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_207
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Film director Topper Carew was born on July 16, 1943 in Boston, Massachusetts. Carew attended Howard University School of Architecture in Washington, D.C. and received his B.A. degree in architecture and his M.S. degree in environmental design from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Later, Carew obtained his Ph.D. degree in communications from the Union Graduate School and Institute for Policy Studies.

In 1966, Carew founded The New Thing Art and Architecture Center, in Washington, D.C., to teach inner city youth. In 1972, Carew transitioned into film and received the Community Fellowship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and, in 1973, went to work at *WGBH* in Boston where he produced *Say Brother, Tonite From Harvard Square* and several national *PBS* series including *Say Brother*, *National Edition*, and *Rebop I & II*. Carew received a broadcast fellowship from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and spent four years there. Carew and his late wife, producer Alyce S. Carew, co-founded the non-profit Rainbow Television Workshop, in 1974. Included in his filmography are credits for his work, as director for *Breakin' N' Enterin'* in 1983; storywriter and producer for the theatrical release of *D.C. Cab* in 1983; producer of *Be Somebody or Be Somebody's Fool* in 1984; producer of *And The Children Shall Lead* TV movie in 1985; executive producer of *Bustin' Loose* TV series in 1987; executive producer of *A Little Bit Strange* the TV movie in 1989; executive producer of *Homeroom* TV series in 1989; director and screenwriter for *Talkin Dirty After Dark* in 1991; executive producer of *Martin* from 1992 to 1997; director of *The Journey of Allen Strange* TV series in 1998; director of *The Jersey TV Series* in 2000; director of *The 100 Deeds of Eddie Mc Dowd* in 2001; director of *We Don't Die, We Multiply: The Robin Harris Story* in 2006.

In 2012, Carew was appointed as a research scholar at Life Long Kindergarten Lab at the MIT Media Lab; and, in 2016, he was promoted to principal investigator at the MIT Media Lab. He later launched the Techquity Research Group and was named faculty fellow at the Innovation Lab at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia in 2018.

His honors include the Boston Neighborhood Network's "National Media Hero Award"; the national "Hometown Video Award" for the best Public Access Television "On Air" promotional campaign; and a 2013 MIT Martin Luther King Leadership Award. He was the keynote speaker at Boston's 2015 King Breakfast and at Boston's 2016 Annual King Afternoon Celebration at Faneuil Hall.

Carew served on the advisory board for The Color of STEM. Carew has won more than forty film and television awards, and eight Gold Medals for graphic design. His awards also include three Action for Children's Television Awards, four NAACP Image Awards, a People's Choice Award, and a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award.

Topper Carew was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on November 14, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Topper Carew was conducted by Harriette Cole on November 14, 2018, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 11 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Film director Topper Carew (1943 -) served as producer for WGBH/Boston PBS before launching Techquity Research Group. He has been awarded over forty film and television awards for his work on many movies and shows.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Carew, Topper, 1943-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Carew, Topper, 1943- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Film Director

HistoryMakers® Category:

EntertainmentMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, November 14, 2018. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_001, TRT: 1:28:58 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_002, TRT: 2:29:30 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_003, TRT: 3:29:30 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_004, TRT: 4:29:15 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_005, TRT: 5:28:07 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_006, TRT: 6:29:08 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_007, TRT: 7:29:02 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_008, TRT: 8:27:45 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_009, TRT: 9:29:49 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_010, TRT: 10:29:21 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Topper Carew, Section A2018_207_001_011, TRT: 11:11:31 ?