

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Jean Carne

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Carne, Jean
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Jean Carne,
Dates:	May 7, 2003
Bulk Dates:	2003
Physical Description:	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:04:31).
Abstract:	Singer Jean Carne (1947 -) started her career with Earth, Wind & Fire, and has performed with wide variety of other famous musicians. She also pursued a successful solo career, singing many chart-topping hits. Carne was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on May 7, 2003, in Atlanta, Georgia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2003_101
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Born Sarah Jean Parker in Columbus, Georgia, on March 15, 1947, Jean Carne's remarkable voice was first heard in the 1970s. While attending Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta, Carne learned to speak Russian fluently. After graduating in 1965, Carne attended Morris Brown College and was planning on attending Juilliard School of Music when she met and married Doug Carne.

Carne's first exposure to the public was as a teenager in Atlanta, singing Misty on a morning radio show. After meeting her husband, Carne joined his jazz fusion band as a vocalist, and they went on to record three albums. This work attracted the attention of the group Earth, Wind & Fire, which Carne joined as a back-up vocalist on its first two albums. After leaving Earth, Wind & Fire, Carne toured with Duke Ellington, and then went on to join Buddah Records. In 1975, Carne hit the top-ten charts with Norman Connors on the single Valentine Love. Throughout the rest of the 1970s, Carne continued to record and tour, releasing such popular singles as Was That All It Was, Free Love, and Don't Let It Go To Your Head, through Philadelphia International Records, and in 1982, she signed with industry giant Motown Records. In 1986, Carne joined Omni Records, which produced her first number-one hit, Closer Than Close. Carne continued to record throughout the 1990s, including the release of a greatest hits album; she also continued to tour frequently.

In addition to her successful singing career, Carne raised three children.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Jean Carne was conducted by Larry Crowe on May 7, 2003, in Atlanta, Georgia, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Singer Jean Carne (1947 -) started her career with Earth, Wind & Fire, and has performed with wide variety of other famous musicians. She also pursued a successful

solo career, singing many chart-topping hits.

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:

Carne, Jean

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Carne, Jean--Interviews

African American women singers--Interviews

African American jazz musicians--Interviews

African American families

African Americans--Genealogy

African Americans--Georgia--Social life and customs

Atlanta (Ga.)--Social life and customs

Childhood

Music--Instruction and study

Russian language

Cold War

Russia

School music

Morris Brown College

Courtship

James, Etta, 1938-

African Americans--Marriage

Silver, Horace

Gamble, Kenny

Huff, Leon

Washington, Grover

Ellington, Duke, 1899-1974

Earth, Wind & Fire (Musical group)

Horne, Lena

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Singer

HistoryMakers® Category:

MusicMakers

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 Jean Carne, May 7, 2003. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 6/7/2022 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 Jean Carne, Section A2003_101_001_001, TRT: 0:30:35
2003/05/07

Vocalist, arranger, and producer Jean Carne describes her family background and her parents' personalities. Carne describes her childhood in Atlanta, Georgia, recalling family musical activities, favorite recreations, and the schools she attended. Carne talks about her high level of musical participation in church, school, and at home throughout her childhood.

African American women singers--Interviews.

African American jazz musicians--Interviews.

African American families.

African Americans--Genealogy.

African Americans--Georgia--Social life and customs.

Atlanta (Ga.)--Social life and customs.

Children.

Music--Instruction and study.

Russian language.

Cold War.

Russia.

School music.

Morris Brown College.

Courtship.

James, Etta, 1938-.

African Americans--Marriage.

Silver, Horace.

Gamble, Kenny.

Huff, Leon.

Washington, Grover.

Ellington, Duke, 1899-1974.

Earth, Wind & Fire (Musical group).

Horne, Lena.

Video Oral History Interview with Jean Carne, Section A2003_101_001_002, TRT: 0:29:00
2003/05/07

Jean Carne discusses her interest in the Russian language and explains how Cold War politics prevented her from journeying to Russia. Carne continues to chart her musical development throughout her youth, describing her musical training on many different instruments and her participation in bands and choir while in high school. Carne describes her experience at Morris Brown College, where she majored in music. Carne then talks about meeting her husband, Doug Carn, and explains her decision to become a recording artist, forgoing a chance to study at The Juilliard School.

Video Oral History Interview with Jean Carne, Section A2003_101_001_003, TRT: 0:28:15
2003/05/07

Jean Carne discusses her musical career, going through her musical partnership with then-husband Doug Carn and her collaborations with many other recording artists, including Horace Silver. Carne talks about her experiences with different record labels, giving high praise to Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff's Philly International Records. Carne also discusses her popularity and her hit single, Closer Than Close, a collaboration with Grover Washington, Jr.

Video Oral History Interview with Jean Carne, Section A2003_101_001_004, TRT: 0:31:15
2003/05/07

Jean Carne recalls some of her most memorable musical performances, including a performance with Duke Ellington, and discusses her collaboration with Earth, Wind & Fire. Carne discusses the future of music and names some her favorite artists, as well as talking about her future projects and intentions to pay tribute to musical influences such as Lena Horne and Etta James. She also considers her legacy and how she would like to be remembered.

Video Oral History Interview with Jean Carne, Section A2003_101_001_005, TRT: 0:05:26
2003/05/07

Jean Carne narrates her photographs.