

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Donald Bogle

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Bogle, Donald.
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle,
<b>Dates:</b>	May 7, 2014
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2014
<b>Physical Description:</b>	12 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:38:19).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Film historian and author Donald Bogle (1944 - ) was a leading film historian and author of seven books, including <i>Toms, Coons, Mulattoes, Mammies, and Bucks: An Interpretive History of Blacks in American Films</i> ; <i>Brown Sugar: Eighty Years of America's Black Female Superstars</i> ; <i>Blacks in American Film and Television: an Encyclopedia</i> ; <i>Dorothy Dandridge: A Biography</i> ; <i>Primetime Blues: African Americans on Network Television</i> ; <i>Bright Boulevards, Bold Dreams: The Story of Black Hollywood</i> ; and <i>Heat Wave: The Life and Career of Ethel Waters</i> . Bogle was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on May 7, 2014, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2014_117
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Film historian and author Donald Bogle was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. From a prominent family, Bogle was raised in the suburbs of Philadelphia. His father, John D. Bogle, was a longtime executive with the *Philadelphia Tribune*, and his mother, Roslyn Woods Bogle, was an area activist whose friends included well known African Americans like Alain Locke and Sterling Brown. In 1966, Bogle received his B.A. degree in literature from Lincoln University.

Upon graduation, Bogle pursued graduate studies at Indiana University and Columbia University. He also at this time served as a story editor for legendary director, Otto Preminger. From 1969 to 1973, he worked for *Ebony* magazine as a reporter and assistant editor. In 1973, Bogle published his first book, *Toms, Coons, Mulattoes, Mammies, and Bucks: An Interpretive History of Blacks in American Films* in 1973, which won the Theatre Library Association Award as the best film book of the year. Bogle then went on to complete several other literary works, including *Brown Sugar: Eighty Years of America's Black Female Superstars* (1980); *Blacks in American Film and Television: an Encyclopedia* (1988); *Dorothy Dandridge: A Biography* (1997); *Primetime Blues: African Americans on Network Television* (2001); *Bright Boulevards, Bold Dreams: The Story of Black Hollywood* (2005); and *Heat Wave: The Life and Career of Ethel Waters* (2011). Bogle adapted his book, *Brown Sugar: Eighty Years of America's Black Female Superstars*, into a four-part documentary series for Public Broadcasting Service. His work has also yielded an award-winning movie based upon Dorothy Dandridge's life, *Introducing Dorothy Dandridge*, starring Halle Berry. He has appeared as a commentator for numerous television documentaries and has been interviewed on several television programs, including *The Tavis Smiley Show*, *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *The Charlie Rose Show*, *Oprah*, *Nightline* and *Entertainment Tonight*. He has also written

articles that have appeared in *Film Comment*, *Spin*, *Essence*, *Elan*, *University Review*, and *Freedomways*. In addition, Bogle has taught at Rutgers University, Lincoln University, the University of Pennsylvania and the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. Donald Bogle was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on May 7, 2014.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Donald Bogle was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on May 7, 2014, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 12 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Film historian and author Donald Bogle (1944 - ) was a leading film historian and author of seven books, including *Toms, Coons, Mulattoes, Mammies, and Bucks: An Interpretive History of Blacks in American Films*; *Brown Sugar: Eighty Years of America's Black Female Superstars*; *Blacks in American Film and Television: an Encyclopedia*; *Dorothy Dandridge: A Biography*; *Primetime Blues: African Americans on Network Television*; *Bright Boulevards, Bold Dreams: The Story of Black Hollywood*; and *Heat Wave: The Life and Career of Ethel Waters*.

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

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

### Persons:

Bogle, Donald.

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Bogle, Donald.--Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## Occupations:

Film Historian

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

EntertainmentMakers

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## 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 Donald Bogle, May 7, 2014. 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).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_001, TRT: 1:33:30 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_002, TRT: 2:30:14 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_003, TRT: 3:29:40 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_004, TRT: 4:29:26 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_005, TRT: 5:32:34 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_006, TRT: 6:33:29 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_007, TRT: 7:30:20 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_008, TRT: 8:28:51 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_009, TRT: 9:27:51 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_010, TRT: 10:30:22 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_011, TRT: 11:28:45 ?  
Video Oral History Interview with Donald Bogle, Section A2014\_117\_001\_012, TRT: 12:03:17 ?