Overview of the Collection

Repository: The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616  
info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Adderley, Nat, 1955-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Nat Adderley, Jr.,

Dates: January 19, 2017

Bulk Dates: 2017

Physical Description: 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:16:15).

Abstract: Music arranger and pianist Nat Adderley, Jr. (1955 - ) was the music director and musical arranger for Luther Vandross from 1981 to 2003. Adderley was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on January 19, 2017, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

Identification: A2017_005

Language: The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Music arranger and pianist Nat Adderley, Jr. was born on May 23, 1955 to Nat Adderley, Sr. and Ann James in Quincy, Florida. Adderley attended the Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts in Manhattan, New York. In high school, he performed and wrote music for his father’s group, the Cannonball Adderley Quintet. Adderley also worked as a keyboardist for R&B singer Valerie Simpson. Adderley earned his B.A. degree in African American studies from Yale University in 1977.


In addition to his work with Vandross, Adderley has worked with several other musicians. He arranged the songs for Aretha Franklin’s 1983 album, *Jump To It*, the string section for Doc Powell’s Grammy nominated song “What’s Going On” and Natalie Cole’s song “When I Fall in Love.” Recordings of Adderley playing piano were used by playwright August Wilson for his play *The Piano Lesson* in 1990. Adderley later formed the Nat Adderley, Jr. Trio.
Nat Adderley, Jr. was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on January 19, 2017.

### Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Nat Adderley, Jr. was conducted by Harriette Cole on January 19, 2017, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Music arranger and pianist Nat Adderley, Jr. (1955 - ) was the music director and musical arranger for Luther Vandross from 1981 to 2003.

### 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:**

Adderley, Nat, 1955-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

**Subjects:**

Adderley, Nat, 1955- --Interviews

African Americans--Interviews

**Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)
The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Pianist
Music Arranger

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


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 Nat Adderley, Jr., Section A2017_005_001_001, TRT: 1:38:40
Video Oral History Interview with Nat Adderley, Jr., Section A2017_005_001_002, TRT: 2:25:56
Video Oral History Interview with Nat Adderley, Jr., Section A2017_005_001_003, TRT: 3:11:19
Video Oral History Interview with Nat Adderley, Jr., Section A2017_005_001_004, TRT: 4:31:45
Video Oral History Interview with Nat Adderley, Jr., Section A2017_005_001_005, TRT: 5:27:50
Video Oral History Interview with Nat Adderley, Jr., Section A2017_005_001_006, TRT: 6:30:39
Video Oral History Interview with Nat Adderley, Jr., Section A2017_005_001_007, TRT: 7:30:06