

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Ramon Hervey II

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Hervey, Ramon, II, 1950-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II,
Dates:	April 12, 2017 and December 6, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	12 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:50:01).
Abstract:	Music executive Ramon Hervey II (1950 -) served as partner and co-president in The Group & Gibson Group and launched Hervey & Company and managed the music careers of Vanessa Williams, Kenneth “Babyface” Edmonds and Natalie Cole. Hervey was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on April 12, 2017 and December 6, 2017, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_087
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Music executive Ramon Hervey II was born on October 18, 1950 in Chicago, Illinois to Ramon T. Hervey and Winifred Hervey. He attended Lompoc Junior High School and graduated from Cabrillo Senior High School in 1968 in Lompoc, California. He then received his B.A. degree from Whittier College in Whittier, California, in 1972. Hervey served as a flight attendant for Pan American Airlines from 1973 until 1975. He then entered the music industry, serving as a publicist for Starlite Music Artists from 1974 until 1975, as editor for Hamlett Marsh Publishers from 1975 until 1976, and as a writer/publicist for Motown Records from 1976 until 1977. While at Motown, Hervey worked on the publicity campaigns for artists like Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Marvin Gaye, and Diana Ross. Following his departure from Motown, Hervey joined Rogers & Cowan as a writer/publicist, and was later promoted to director of music and vice president of music and talent. During his tenure at Rogers & Cowan, he represented many high-profile clients including; Richard Pryor, Bette Midler, Herb Alpert, Nick Nolte, George Benson, and The Bee Gees, among others. When he left in 1981, he joined The Gibson Group (later named The Group) as a partner and co-president. Hervey remained with The Group until 1986. Some of his most noted clients were; Little Richard, Bette Midler, Vanessa Williams and Rick James. He then founded his own public relations and management company, Hervey & Company, with gospel legend Andrae Crouch becoming his first management client. He has also managed the career of Little Richard, and was credited for successfully revitalizing Little Richard’s career with his best-selling and controversial biography, *Little Richard, The Quasar of Rock ‘n’ Roll*, in addition to singer and actress Vanessa Williams, songwriter and producer Kenneth “Babyface” Edmonds, Motown recording artist Zhane, R&B singer Kenny Lattimore, keyboardist Philippe Saisse and acapella ensemble Sweet Honey In The Rock, among others.

In addition to developing his public relations and management companies, Hervey has been involved in the production of several documentary film and television projects. documentaries. In 2004, he served as executive producer to the documentary *Chisholm '72- Unbought & Unbossed*, which won a Peabody Award. Hervey also

served as a music supervisor for the documentaries, *Free Angela* and *Hot Flash Havoc*. He was also executive producer of televised music specials for Andrae Crouch and Kenny “Babyface” Edmonds.

Hervey has three children; daughters Melanie and Jillian, and son Devin.

Ramon Hervey II, was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on April 12, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Ramon Hervey II was conducted by Harriette Cole on April 12, 2017 and December 6, 2017, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 12 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Music executive Ramon Hervey II (1950 -) served as partner and co-president in The Group & Gibson Group and launched Hervey & Company and managed the music careers of Vanessa Williams, Kenneth “Babyface” Edmonds and Natalie Cole.

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:

Hervey, Ramon, II, 1950-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Hervey, Ramon, II, 1950- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Music Executive

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 Ramon Hervey II, April 12, 2017 and December 6, 2017. 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 Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_001_001, TRT: 1:31:21
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Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_001_002, TRT: 2:29:04
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Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_001_003, TRT: 3:29:30
?

Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_001_004, TRT: 4:35:27
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Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_001_005, TRT: 5:30:18
?

Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_002_006, TRT: 6:30:23
?

Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_002_007, TRT: 7:31:41
?

Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_002_008, TRT: 8:31:03
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Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_002_009, TRT: 9:29:54
?

Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_002_010, TRT: 10:29:46
?

Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_002_011, TRT: 11:32:05
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Video Oral History Interview with Ramon Hervey II, Section A2017_087_002_012, TRT: 12:09:29
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