

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Frances Maclin

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Maclin, Frances
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Frances Maclin,
Dates:	May 4, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:57:16).
Abstract:	Music administrator Frances Maclin (1939 -) was the first tape librarian for Motown Records, where she served for twenty-five years. She published her memoir, <i>I Remember Motown: When We Were Just Family</i> in 2009. Maclin was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on May 4, 2017, in Birmingham, Alabama. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_093
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Music administrator Frances Maclin was born on March 31, 1939 in Roanoke, Alabama to Annie Lawson and David Heard. Her family moved to Birmingham, Alabama where she attended elementary school and later settled in Detroit, Michigan where Maclin attended Garfield Intermediate School in Detroit, Michigan and graduated from Miller High School in Detroit, Michigan in 1956. Maclin later graduated from Rhema Bible College in Tulsa, Oklahoma with a certificate in pastoral studies in 1994, and received certificates in religious studies from Black Ministries in Los Angeles California and West Angeles Four Square in Los Angeles, California in 1976 and 1977, respectively.

In 1956, Maclin worked as a file clerk for J.L. Hudson department store in Detroit, Michigan until 1959. She then moved to Los Angeles, California with her grandmother and secured a job in customer service and advertising at Bullocks department store. After a year, Maclin landed a job at May Company department store as assistant to the advertising manager. In 1961, Maclin returned to Detroit and joined the sales staff for the African American newspaper, the *Michigan Chronicle*, where she secured the first ad published by F.W. Woolworth's Company in an African American newspaper. The following year, Maclin became the first tape librarian at Motown Records, and later managed the department. In 1972, when Motown relocated their headquarters to Los Angeles, California, Maclin moved and managed the organization and catalogued their California library. Maclin was entrusted with the care and storage of master recordings, along with demos, alternate takes and other footage from more than two decades of recording sessions. She also supervised and maintained the label's photo archive. Maclin left Motown in 1986, after twenty-five years with the company and moved to Birmingham, Alabama with her husband, Charles Maclin. There, along with her husband, they managed the outreach department at the World of Life Christian Center, ministering to nursing homes, youth camps and prisons. In 1995, she became the manager of the World of Life Church bookstore until her retirement in 2014. In 2009, Maclin published her memoirs, titled *I Remember Motown: When We Were Just Family*.

Frances Maclin was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on May 1, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Frances Maclin was conducted by Denise Gines on May 4, 2017, in Birmingham, Alabama, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Music administrator Frances Maclin (1939 -) was the first tape librarian for Motown Records, where she served for twenty-five years. She published her memoir, *I Remember Motown: When We Were Just Family* in 2009.

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:

Maclin, Frances

Gines, Denise (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Maclin, Frances--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Music Administrator

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 Frances Maclin, May 4, 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 Frances Maclin, Section A2017_093_001_001, TRT: 1:29:36 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Frances Maclin, Section A2017_093_001_002, TRT: 2:28:56 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Frances Maclin, Section A2017_093_001_003, TRT: 3:28:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Frances Maclin, Section A2017_093_001_004, TRT: 4:29:48 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Frances Maclin, Section A2017_093_001_005, TRT: 5:26:50 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Frances Maclin, Section A2017_093_001_006, TRT: 6:24:17 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Frances Maclin, Section A2017_093_001_007, TRT: 7:08:50 ?