

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Miller London

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	London, Miller, 1946-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Miller London,
Dates:	November 3, 2022, October 18, 2017 and October 20, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017 and 2022
Physical Description:	13 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:57:38).
Abstract:	Music executive Miller London (1946 -) worked at Motown Records for twenty-one years as its executive vice president and general manager. He also worked as an executive at RCA Records, A&M Records, and as owner of The Urban Network magazine. London was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 3, 2022, October 18, 2017 and October 20, 2017, in Detroit, Michigan. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_186
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Music executive Miller London was born on October 13, 1946 in Detroit, Michigan. He attended Estabrook Elementary School and McMichael Junior High School and graduated from Northwestern High School in Detroit, Michigan in 1964. After high school, London attended Highland Park Junior College before he enrolled at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan where he studied history and English.

While in college, London worked in the sales department at both Star Hickey Ford and then the Bill Markley Chevrolet dealerships in Detroit. In 1969, London was hired as the first African American regional sales manager at Motown Records and was the first African American to work in any major record company's sales department. London was later promoted as the record company's executive vice president and general manager for the company. London worked at Motown Records for twenty-one years, before he left in 1990, and joined RCA Records in New York. There, he became the first African American to head a label's sales division for all music genres. He was later promoted to vice president of product and development, and became vice president of marketing. He then joined A&M Records in Los Angeles, California as executive vice president and general manager of its urban music division, where he worked with Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, CeCe Peniston and Barry White. London then assisted the N.W.A. rapper Ice Cube develop his independent record label, Lench Mob Records. In 1994, London became the president of *The Urban Network* magazine. When Clear Channel Entertainment purchased the magazine, London became its executive vice president of urban entertainment. In 2003, London purchased *The Urban Network* from Clear Channel Entertainment and became its president and CEO. In 2017, he joined The Celeb Group as senior vice president.

In 2012, he collaborated with Bert Dearing to form Detroit-based Russell Street Entertainment to bring in young talent and teach them the business side of music. London is the 2016 recipient of The Living Legends Foundation's Chairman's Award. He also served on the board of directors of The Living Legends Foundation.

Miller London was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on October 16, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Miller London was conducted by Larry Crowe on November 3, 2022, October 18, 2017 and October 20, 2017, in Detroit, Michigan, and was recorded on 13 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Music executive Miller London (1946 -) worked at Motown Records for twenty-one years as its executive vice president and general manager. He also worked as an executive at RCA Records, A&M Records, and as owner of The Urban Network magazine.

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:

London, Miller, 1946-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

London, Miller, 1946- --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 Miller London, November 3, 2022, October 18, 2017 and October 20, 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 Miller London, Section A2017_186_001_001, TRT: 1:31:46 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_001_002, TRT: 2:37:30 ?

- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_001_003, TRT: 3:26:40 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_001_004, TRT: 4:30:53 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_002_005, TRT: 5:27:08 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_002_006, TRT: 6:28:36 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_002_007, TRT: 7:23:43 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_002_008, TRT: 8:31:43 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_003_009, TRT: 9:22:54 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_003_010, TRT: 10:28:58 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_003_011, TRT: 11:30:01 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_003_012, TRT: 12:30:53 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Miller London, Section A2017_186_003_013, TRT: 13:06:53 ?