

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Kinshasha Holman Conwill

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Conwill, Kinshasha
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill,
Dates:	November 2, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	9 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:40:30).
Abstract:	Museum director Kinshasha Holman Conwill (1951 -) was the director of the Studio Museum in Harlem, and the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. Conwill was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 2, 2017, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_198
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Museum director Kinshasha Holman Conwill was born on April 11, 1951 in Atlanta, Georgia to Moses Carol Holman and Mariella Ukina Ama Holman. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts as a National Achievement Scholar, and received her B.F.A degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1973, and her M.B.A. degree from the University of California, Los Angeles in Los Angeles, California in 1980.

In Los Angeles, Conwill worked as an arts educator and activities coordinator for the Frank Lloyd Wright Hollyhock House for several years. In 1980, Conwill became the deputy director of the Studio Museum in Harlem, and served in that position for eleven years. Conwill then became senior policy advisor for the Museums and Community Initiative of the American Association of Museums, and also served as the director for the New York City Creative Communities Leveraging Investments in Creativity program. She was exhibit coordinator for the Museum of the American Indian in New York City. Conwill also worked as project director for the New York City Creative Communities program of LINC (Leveraging Investments in Creativity), project director and managing editor for Culture Counts: Strategies for a More Vibrant Cultural Life for New York City (New York Foundation for the Arts), and project manager for Creative Downtown: The Role of Culture in Rebuilding Lower Manhattan (New York City Arts Coalition). In 2005, Conwill was appointed as deputy director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington D.C. In this role, Conwill engaged in fundraising campaigns, expanded the museum's collections, developed exhibits and programming, and supervised the museum's publishing activities.

Conwill has also published two books; *Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing: How the Apollo Theater Shaped American Entertainment* co-authored by Richard Carlin, and *Dream A World Anew: The African American Experience and the Shaping of America* with the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Conwill served as a board member for numerous organizations, including the Provisions Library in Washington D.C., the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the Municipal Art Society of New York, and the Rockefeller Foundation. She has also served on the management panel for the Pew Center for Arts and Heritage, and as an advisor for the Harvard University Program for Art Museum Directors.

Kinshasha Holman Conwill was interviewed by *TheHistoryMakers* on November 2, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill was conducted by Randall Pinkston on November 2, 2017, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Museum director Kinshasha Holman Conwill (1951 -) was the director of the Studio Museum in Harlem, and the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

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:

Conwill, Kinshasha

Pinkston, Randall (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Conwill, Kinshasha--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Museum Director

Arts Administrator

HistoryMakers® Category:

ArtMakers|CivicMakers

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 Kinshasha Holman Conwill, November 2, 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 Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_001, TRT: 1:28:32 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_002, TRT: 2:29:48 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_003, TRT: 3:29:42 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_004, TRT: 4:29:14 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_005, TRT: 5:28:34 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_006, TRT: 6:28:37 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_007, TRT: 7:28:00 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_008, TRT: 8:12:47 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kinshasha Holman Conwill, Section A2017_198_001_009, TRT: 9:05:16 ?