

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Disu, Jessica, 1988-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu,
<b>Dates:</b>	February 21, 2018
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2018
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:52:27).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Community activist and poet Jessica “FM Supreme” Disu (1988 - ) was a two time winner of Chicago Young Author’s Louder than a Bomb poetry slam competition. She also founded Rez Publica Inc./CommonWealth Music Group, and the Chicago International Youth Peace Movement. Disu was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on February 21, 2018, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2018_020
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Community activist and poet Jessica “FM Supreme” Disu was born in Chicago, Illinois to Ida, a music producer, and Segun. As a child, Disu took part in Kuumba Lynx Hip Hop Arts Program and Chicago Young Authors. She was a two time winner of CYA’s youth poetry slam competition, Louder Than A Bomb, and released her first album, *The Diary of a Mad Black Woman Mixtape*, in 2005 under the stage name FM Supreme. After graduating from the Chicago Academy of the Arts in 2006, Disu spent a semester at Marymount Manhattan College in New York City, but ultimately received her B.A. degree in international arts management from Columbia College Chicago in 2014.

Upon returning to Chicago in 2007, Disu founded Rez Publica Inc./CommonWealth Music Group, an independent record label. CommonWealth Music Group released several of FM Supreme’s records including *The Beautiful Grind Mixtape* in 2008, *The Go State of Mind* in 2010, and *Beautiful Grind III* in 2014. In 2012, Disu founded the Chicago International Youth Peace Movement, a program under the Holy Family Ministries that facilitated international peace exchange efforts in Chicago, England, and Asia. As the co-founder of The Peace Exchange: Chicago - Asia 2013, Disu led trips to Thailand, Myanmar, Nicaragua, South Africa, and India. Disu was also a founding member of the Black Youth Project 100, served on Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s Commission for a Safer Chicago, and worked with the Open Society Foundation’s Campaign for Black Male Achievement. She also led workshops at Cook County Juvenile Detention Center, and was a creative writing teacher and HerStory Director at Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart in Chicago, which later moved to Bowen High School. In 2016, Disu gained public attention for her impassioned speech on Fox News’ *Kelly File* calling for the demilitarization of police in the United States. In 2018, Disu released a new music video called “Untitled, in the Beginning Black.” Disu has shared stages and performed at conferences with Chance the Rapper, Russell Simmons, Common, Nick Cannon, and Spike Lee. As the founder of the FM Supreme Company, Disu has also performed her rap and spoken word poetry internationally, and worked as a consultant to Fortune 500 Companies.

Jessica “FM Supreme” Disu was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on February 21, 2018.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu was conducted by Larry Crowe on February 21, 2018, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 6 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Community activist and poet Jessica “FM Supreme” Disu (1988 - ) was a two time winner of Chicago Young Author’s Louder than a Bomb poetry slam competition. She also founded Rez Publica Inc./CommonWealth Music Group, and the Chicago International Youth Peace Movement.

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Persons:

Disu, Jessica, 1988-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Disu, Jessica, 1988- --Interviews

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## Organizations:

## HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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### The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## Occupations:

Community Activist

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

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## 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 Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu, February 21, 2018. 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).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu, Section A2018\_020\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:56 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu, Section A2018\_020\_001\_002, TRT: 2:27:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu, Section A2018\_020\_001\_003,  
TRT: 3:28:00 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu, Section A2018\_020\_001\_004,  
TRT: 4:32:04 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu, Section A2018\_020\_001\_005,  
TRT: 5:29:19 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Jessica "FM Supreme" Disu, Section A2018\_020\_001\_006,  
TRT: 6:25:09 ?