

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Kevin Eubanks

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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>	Eubanks, Kevin
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Kevin Eubanks,
<b>Dates:</b>	March 19, 2018
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2018
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:24:31).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Jazz musician Kevin Eubanks (1957-) was the band leader of The Tonight Show house band, and released over twenty albums. Eubanks was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 19, 2018, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2018_050
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Jazz musician Kevin Eubanks was born on November 15, 1957 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Vera Bryant Eubanks, a gospel and classical pianist and music teacher, and William Eubanks, a police officer and security manager for AT&T. As a young child, Eubanks was trained in piano and violin at the Settlement Music School in Philadelphia. He also studied jazz guitar with Ted Dunbar at Rutgers University. After graduating from Germantown High School in 1976, Eubanks earned his B.A. degree in composition from the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts in 1979.

Upon moving to New York City to pursue a career in music, Eubanks joined Art Blakey's band, the Jazz Messengers, and started his own group, the Kevin Eubanks Quartet. In 1983, Eubanks released his first record, *Guitarist*, with Elektra Records, and the following year, he released his second album, *Sundance*, with GRP Records. Eubanks went on to release several albums with the label, including *Opening Night* in 1985, *Face to Face* in 1986, *The Heat of Heat* in 1987, *Show Prophets* in 1988, *The Searcher* in 1989, and *Promise of Tomorrow* in 1990. In 1992, Eubanks moved to Los Angeles to play as the guitarist on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*. He released several additional albums with Blue Note Records, including *Spirit Talk* in 1993 and *Live at Bradley* in 1994. From 1995 to 2010, Eubanks was the band director of *The Tonight Show's* band. He also signed with Insoul Records and released the albums *Shine* in 2002 and *Slow Freight* in 2003. After leaving *The Tonight Show* in 2010, Eubanks became the artistic director for the Thelonious Monk Institute's Jazz in the Classroom Program. With Mack Avenue Records, he recorded and released the albums *Zen Food* in 2010, *The Messenger* in 2012, and *East West Time Line* in 2017. Eubanks has recorded with jazz singers like Dianne Reeves, Terri Lyne Carrington, and Carmen Lundy.

Eubanks was an active member of the Artistic Advisory Panel of the BMI Foundation since 1999. He received an honorary doctorate degree from Berklee College of Music in 2006. In 2010, Eubanks was inducted into the Philadelphia Music Alliance's Walk of Fame; and in 2014, he was awarded the Mark Twain Prize from PBS for his work on *The Tonight Show*.

Kevin Eubanks was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 19, 2018.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Kevin Eubanks was conducted by Harriette Cole on March 19, 2018, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Jazz musician Kevin Eubanks (1957-) was the band leader of The Tonight Show house band, and released over twenty albums.

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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:

Eubanks, Kevin

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Eubanks, Kevin--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:

Musician

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### HistoryMakers® Category:

MusicMakers

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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 Kevin Eubanks, March 19, 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 Kevin Eubanks, Section A2018\_050\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:32 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kevin Eubanks, Section A2018\_050\_001\_002, TRT: 2:29:09 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kevin Eubanks, Section A2018\_050\_001\_003, TRT: 3:29:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kevin Eubanks, Section A2018\_050\_001\_004, TRT: 4:30:30 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kevin Eubanks, Section A2018\_050\_001\_005, TRT: 5:31:06 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kevin Eubanks, Section A2018\_050\_001\_006, TRT: 6:29:05 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Kevin Eubanks, Section A2018\_050\_001\_007, TRT: 7:25:10 ?