

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Willie L. Hill, Jr.

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Hill, Willie
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr.,
Dates:	December 5, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:19:44).
Abstract:	Professor and musician Willie L. Hill, Jr. (1946-) served as assistant dean and professor of music at the University of Colorado, Boulder and was named professor in music education and director of the Fine Arts Center at University of Massachusetts Amherst. Hill was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 5, 2018, in Amherst, Massachusetts. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_221
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Professor and musician Willie L. Hill, Jr. was born on July 29, 1946 in Mobile, Alabama to Renetta and Willie Hill, Sr. After graduating from Williamson High School in Mobile, Alabama, Hill received his B.S. degree in music education from Grambling State College in Grambling, Louisiana in 1968. He went on to receive both his M.M. Ph.D. degrees in music education from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 1972 and 1987.

In 1968, Hill began teaching instrumental music in the Denver Public Schools, where he remained for sixteen years and was an instrumental music supervisor for four years. In 1984, Hill was a member of The Colorado Clarinet Choir touring organization, which represented the United States in London, England at the International Clarinet Symposium. He then joined the faculty at the University of Colorado, Boulder College of Music, where he served as assistant dean and professor of music from 1988 to 1999. During that period, he also served as the director of education for the Thelonious Monk Institute in Los Angeles, California. In 1999, Hill was named professor of music education and director of the Fine Arts Center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. As a woodwind specialist, he was also a faculty member of the Clark Terry Great Plains Jazz Camp. He founded and served as co-director of the Rich Matteson-Telluride Jazz Academy, and later founded the Mile High Jazz Camp in Boulder, Colorado. He also worked as musical director at The Schwayder and Bonfils Theaters. Hill was a member of the Denver Broncos Jazz Ensemble and a regular performer at the Denver Auditorium Theater, Paramount Theater, and Boettcher Concert Hall. Hill performed with George Burns, Liza Minnelli, Lena Horne, Lou Rawls, Ben Vereen, Lola Falana, Johnny Mathis, Sammy Davis, Jr., Dizzy Gillespie, James Moody, Jon Faddis, and many others.

Hill served as president of The National Association for Music Education (MENC) and the International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE). He was also a member of the writing team for MENC's Vision 2020 program and a member of the national board of directors for Young Audiences, Inc. Hill later served as president

of the Colorado Music Educators Association and Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society.

In 1998, he was inducted into the Colorado Music Educators Hall of Fame. In 2001, Hill was the recipient of the Lawrence Berk Leadership Award presented by the IAJE. Hill co-authored *Learning to Sight-Read Jazz, Rock, Latin, and Classical Styles*, and was the author of *The Instrumental History of Jazz, Approaching the Standards*, and *Jazz Pedagogy: The Jazz Educator's Handbook and Resource Guide*. Hill is listed in the first edition of *Who's Who among Black Americans*, *Who's Who among International Musicians* and was a 2003 Lowell Mason Fellow.

Willie L. Hill, Jr. was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 5, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr. was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 5, 2018, in Amherst, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Professor and musician Willie L. Hill, Jr. (1946-) served as assistant dean and professor of music at the University of Colorado, Boulder and was named professor in music education and director of the Fine Arts Center at University of Massachusetts Amherst.

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:

Hill, Willie

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Hill, Willie--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Professor

Musician

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 Willie L. Hill, Jr., December 5, 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).

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 Willie L. Hill, Jr., Section A2018_221_001_001, TRT: 1:29:55 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr., Section A2018_221_001_002, TRT: 2:28:40 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr., Section A2018_221_001_003, TRT: 3:29:10 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr., Section A2018_221_001_004, TRT: 4:28:22 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr., Section A2018_221_001_005, TRT: 5:28:39 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr., Section A2018_221_001_006, TRT: 6:28:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Willie L. Hill, Jr., Section A2018_221_001_007, TRT: 7:25:59 ?