

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Rodney Jones

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Jones, Rodney, 1956-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones,
Dates:	March 30, 2022
Bulk Dates:	2022
Physical Description:	8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:45:17).
Abstract:	Guitarist Rodney Jones (1956 -) is professor emeritus of jazz guitar studies at The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music. He has performed and recorded with Dizzie Gillespie, James Brown, Lena Horne, Quincy Jones, Elvin Jones, Kenny Burrell, Stan Getz, Christian McBride, Stevie Wonder, and others. Jones was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 30, 2022, in Danbury, Connecticut. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2022_036
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Guitarist Rodney Jones was born on August 30, 1956 in New Haven, Connecticut to Mary Ellen Cooley and Lawrence Neale Jones. He studied at the City College of New York.

Jones started playing the guitar at age six. In 1976, at the age of twenty, he began touring with Dizzy Gillespie. His first solo album, *The Liberation of Contemporary Jazz Guitar*, was released by Strata-East in 1977. In 1989, Jones joined the Maceo Parker Band for three years. In 2001, he was hired as a professor at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. In 2007, he joined the faculty of The Juilliard School as a professor of jazz guitar studies. Jones also served as the staff guitarist for the *Rosie O'Donnell Show* from 1996 to 2002 and the house guitarist for Showtime at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem for nine years. Jones has written commercials and has had more than 125 compositions recorded. Jones is the owner of New Tide Music, Inc., and has led jazz workshops and master classes worldwide.

Jones has toured internationally and performed and recorded with James Brown, Lena Horne, Quincy Jones, Elvin Jones, Kenny Burrell, Stan Getz, Christian McBride, Stevie Wonder, and others. Also, he served as musical director and producer for Lena Horne, Ernestine Anderson, Gloria Lynne, Ruth Brown, and more. Jones's albums have been released by Timeless, MusicMasters, Minor Music, Blue Note, HighNote, Savant, 18th and Vine, and his own label. His discography includes *Articulation* (1978), *When You Feel the Love* (1981), *Friends* (1981), *My Funny Valentine* (1983), *The Unspoken Heart* (1992), *The "X" Field* (1996), *Right Now* (1996), *The Undiscovered Few* (1999), *Soul Manifesto* (2001), *Soul Manifesto Live!* (2003), *Dreams and Stories* (2005), *A Thousand Small Things* (2009), *The Journey of Soul* (2013), *The Resonance of Love* (2012), and *The Beloved* (2017). His book *Hip Guitar Lines: The Lines, Fingerings, and Ideas That Will Transform Your Playing* was published in 2020.

Jones and his wife, Rachel Jones, live in Danbury, Connecticut. They have four daughters, Leana Phipps, Serena

Howerton, Laura Jones, and Cara Jones.

Rodney Jones was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 30, 2022.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Rodney Jones was conducted by Larry Crowe on March 30, 2022, in Danbury, Connecticut, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Guitarist Rodney Jones (1956 -) is professor emeritus of jazz guitar studies at The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music. He has performed and recorded with Dizzie Gillespie, James Brown, Lena Horne, Quincy Jones, Elvin Jones, Kenny Burrell, Stan Getz, Christian McBride, Stevie Wonder, and others.

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:

Jones, Rodney, 1956-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Jones, Rodney, 1956---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Jazz Guitarist

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 Rodney Jones, March 30, 2022. 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 Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_001, TRT: 1:30:16 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_002, TRT: 2:30:02 ?

- Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_003, TRT: 3:31:26 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_004, TRT: 4:31:15 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_005, TRT: 5:30:32 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_006, TRT: 6:29:57 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_007, TRT: 7:29:31 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Rodney Jones, Section A2022_036_001_008, TRT: 8:12:18 ?