

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Suzanne Malveaux

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Malveaux, Suzanne, 1966-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Suzanne Malveaux,
Dates:	March 17, 2012
Bulk Dates:	2012
Physical Description:	3 uncompressed MOV digital video files (1:35:28).
Abstract:	Television news correspondent Suzanne Malveaux (1966 -) has broken numerous stories for CNN, including the plea deal of lobbyist Jack Abramoff, White House personnel changes and the retirement of Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. She also played a key role in CNN's election coverage. Malveaux was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 17, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2012_080
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Broadcast Journalist Suzanne Malveaux was born December 4, 1966 in Lansing, Michigan to Floyd J. and Myrna Maria Ruiz Malveaux. Her father was a Ph.D. student at the time of her birth and went on to become a prominent physician and professor. Her mother was an early childhood educator. Malveaux cites her parents' leadership and guidance as key factors in her success in elementary school. She received her B.A. degree in sociology from Harvard University and her M.A. degree in journalism from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Between her time at Harvard and Columbia, she spent time as an intern in Africa, doing documentary work in Kenya and Egypt where she lived. Malveaux also worked on a documentary about the Great Depression with Henry Hampton, founder of Blackside, Inc.

Malveaux's first job in television news was as a general assignment reporter for New England Cable News in Boston, Massachusetts. After several years, she took a position reporting local and crime news for NBC affiliate WRC-TV before joining NBC Network News in 1999. She spent six years, three in Washington and three in Chicago, as both a Pentagon correspondent and reporter, covering national stories such as the Kosovo War, the 2000 Presidential Election and the 9/11 attacks. In May 2002, Malveaux joined CNN as a White House correspondent. During the 2004 and 2006 elections, she played a crucial role in the network's election coverage, helping to earn the station an Emmy Award in 2006. Throughout Malveaux's ten years as a White House correspondent, she conducted interviews with Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama. In addition to her work as a reporter, Malveaux served as a panelist during the Democratic presidential primary debate in January 2008 and anchored a 90-minute documentary on then presidential candidate Senator Barack Obama. Also in 2008, Malveaux interviewed former first lady, Hillary Clinton. She also served as the primary fill-in host on "The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer".

Malveaux's work at the New England Cable News Network earned her an Emmy award and contributed to the

station's "Best Newscast in Boston" award. Her role in CNN's coverage of events such as Hurricane Katrina and the Southeast Asia Tsunami disaster helped earn the network both a Peabody Award and an Alfred I. DuPont Award. In 2004, the National Black MBA Association awarded her Communicator of the Year. She was named one of "America's Most Powerful Players Under 40" by Black Enterprise magazine in 2005 and Journalist of the Year by Essence magazine in 2009. In 2011, Malveaux was promoted to anchor of CNN Newsroom. Throughout her career, Malveaux has traveled the world and interviewed all five living U.S. presidents.

Suzanne Malveaux was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 17, 2012.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Suzanne Malveaux was conducted by Larry Crowe on March 17, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia, and was recorded on 3 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Television news correspondent Suzanne Malveaux (1966 -) has broken numerous stories for CNN, including the plea deal of lobbyist Jack Abramoff, White House personnel changes and the retirement of Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. She also played a key role in CNN's election coverage.

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:

Malveaux, Suzanne, 1966-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Malveaux, Suzanne, 1966- --Interviews

African American--Interviews.

African American journalists--Interviews.

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Cable News Network

Occupations:

Television News Correspondent

HistoryMakers® Category:

MediaMakers

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 Suzanne Malveaux, March 17, 2012. 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 Suzanne Malveaux, Section A2012_080_001_001, TRT: 1:29:58
?

Suzanne Malveaux describes her family's history. Her mother, Myrna Maria Ruiz Malveaux, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana around 1941, with roots in Europe and Africa. She was raised in New Orleans, attended Xavier University, and later received her master's degree in higher education. Malveaux talks about her maternal grandparents, John and Loucille Ruiz, their life in New Orleans, and her grandfather's job as one of the few black mail carriers in his time. Malveaux's father, Floyd Joseph Malveaux, was born in Opelousas, Louisiana. She talks about her paternal grandparents, Delton and Inez Malveaux, and their family's donut business in Opelousas. Her father attended Creighton University, Loyola University in New Orleans, Michigan State University and Howard University, earning both his Ph.D. degree as well as his M.D. degree. Malveaux also talks about how her parents met in New Orleans, her siblings, including her twin sister Suzette, and her likeness to her parents.

Racially mixed people--Louisiana--New Orleans--History.

African American families--Louisiana.

Segregation--Louisiana.

Segregation.

African Americans--Education--Southern States--History--20th century.

Twins--Michigan.

Video Oral History Interview with Suzanne Malveaux, Section A2012_080_001_002, TRT: 2:36:34
?

Suzanne Malveaux was born in East Lansing, Michigan while her father attended Michigan State University. Her family moved to Maryland, while her father taught and attended medical school at Howard University, and her mother taught in the Head Start program and first grade. Malveaux attended Rock Creek Palisades Elementary School and Swansfield Elementary School, and then went on to Harper's Choice Middle School and Centennial High School. She describes the learning challenges that she faced early on in elementary school, her improvement as a student, her experience in high school, and her involvement in extracurricular activities including a co-ed Boy Scout troop while growing up. She also talks about growing up with her twin sister, Suzette, and the special bond that they share. Malveaux recalls her family's subscription to 'Ebony' and 'Jet' magazines and 'The Washington Post', and watching the first black journalists on television – Max Robinson, Jim Vance, Renee Poussaint, J. C. Hayward and Maureen Bunyan.

Twins--Michigan.

Stuttering.

Education, Secondary--Maryland.

African American sisters.

Video Oral History Interview with Suzanne Malveaux, Section A2012_080_001_003, TRT: 3:28:56

?

Suzanne Malveaux was raised in Maryland, where she received all of her early schooling. She talks about her teachers and role models, including her mother, who influenced her while growing up. Malveaux graduated from Centennial High School in 1984, where she was active in the student government. She describes her and her twin sister Suzette's decision to attend Harvard University, her impressions of Harvard, her experience as an undergraduate student, and her teachers and mentors there. She majored in sociology, while Mary C. Waters taught at Harvard, and also took a class on the history of genocide with Elie Wiesel. Malveaux also talks about her exposure to the early days of cable television, her interest in dance while growing up, her dual interest in medicine and broadcast journalism, and her decision to pursue the latter.

Education, Secondary--Maryland.

Mentoring.

Family vacations--United States.

Harvard University.

Education, Higher--Massachusetts--Cambridge.