

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Edwidge Danticat

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Danticat, Edwidge, 1969-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Edwidge Danticat,
Dates:	March 10, 2017
Bulk Dates:	2017
Physical Description:	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:02:15).
Abstract:	Author Edwidge Danticat (1969 -) an award winning author of several novels, including <i>Breath, Eyes, Memory</i> and <i>Claire of the Sea Light</i> , and was the recipient of a MacArthur Genius Fellowship. Danticat was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 10, 2017, in Miami, Florida. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2017_062
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Author Edwidge Danticat was born on January 19, 1969 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti to André Danticat and Rose Danticat. In 1981, she moved to Brooklyn, New York, where she graduated from Clara Barton High School and received her B.A. degree in French literature from Barnard College in New York City in 1990; and her M.F.A. degree in creative writing from Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island in 1993. In 1983, at age fourteen, Danticat published her first writing in English, "A Haitian-American Christmas," in *New Youth Connections*, a citywide magazine written by teenagers. Her next publication, "A New World Full of Strangers," was about her immigration experience and led to the writing of her first novel, *Breath, Eyes, Memory* in 1994. In 1997, she was named one of the country's best young authors by the literary journal *Granta*. Danticat's other works include, *Everything Inside*, *Claire of the Sea Light*, *Brother, I'm Dying*, *Krik? Krik!*, *The Farming of Bones*, *The Dew Breaker*, and *Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work*.

Danticat has also taught creative writing at New York University and the University of Miami. She has worked with filmmakers Patricia Benoit and Jonathan Demme, on projects on Haitian art and documentaries about Haiti. Her short stories have appeared in over twenty-five periodicals and have been widely anthologized. In 2009, she narrated *Poto Mitan: Haitian Women Pillars of the Global Economy*, a documentary about the impact of globalization on five women from different generations.

Danticat's works received critical acclaim and won numerous awards. *Brother, I'm Dying* won a National Book Critics Circle Award, *Breath, Eyes, Memory* was chosen as an Oprah Book Club selection, *The Farming of Bones* won an American Book Award, *The Dew Breaker* received a Story Prize, and *The Art of Death* was a finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award. Danticat won fiction awards from *Essence* and *Seventeen* magazines, was named as one of "20 people in their twenties who will make a difference" by *Harper's Bazaar* magazine, was named one of the "15 Gutsiest Women of the Year" by *Jane* magazine, and was the recipient of a MacArthur Genius Fellowship, a Ford Fellowship, and The 2018 Neustadt Prize. Danticat has also received honorary doctorate

degree from Brooklyn College, Brown University, Yale University, Smith College, Adelphi University, Saint Thomas University, The University of Indianapolis, and the University of the West Indies Open Campus.

Danticat and her husband, Faidherbe “Fedo” Boyer, have two daughters, Mira and Leila.

Edwidge Danticat was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 10, 2017.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Edwidge Danticat was conducted by Larry Crowe on March 10, 2017, in Miami, Florida, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Author Edwidge Danticat (1969 -) an award winning author of several novels, including *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and *Claire of the Sea Light*, and was the recipient of a MacArthur Genius Fellowship.

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:

Danticat, Edwidge, 1969-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Danticat, Edwidge, 1969---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Author

HistoryMakers® Category:

ArtMakers

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 Edwidge Danticat, March 10, 2017. 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 Edwidge Danticat, Section A2017_062_001_001, TRT: 1:26:38

?

Video Oral History Interview with Edwidge Danticat, Section A2017_062_001_002, TRT: 2:29:43

?

Video Oral History Interview with Edwidge Danticat, Section A2017_062_001_003, TRT: 3:28:23

?

Video Oral History Interview with Edwidge Danticat, Section A2017_062_001_004, TRT: 4:28:02

?

Video Oral History Interview with Edwidge Danticat, Section A2017_062_001_005, TRT: 5:26:31

?

Video Oral History Interview with Edwidge Danticat, Section A2017_062_001_006, TRT: 6:32:59

?

Video Oral History Interview with Edwidge Danticat, Section A2017_062_001_007, TRT: 7:09:59

?