

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Roslyn Watson

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Watson, Roslyn, 1949-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Watson,
Dates:	October 24, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:11:50).
Abstract:	Investment banker Roslyn Watson (1949-) established Watson Ventures, where, from 1992, she served as founder and president. Watson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on October 24, 2018, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_201
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Investment banker Roslyn Watson was born on October 29, 1949 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Charles and Christine Watson. She attended Joseph Pennell Elementary School and General Louis Wagner Junior High School. Watson graduated from The Philadelphia High School for Girls in 1967 and received her B.A. degree in political science and government from Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts in 1971. She attended Boston University School of Law from 1972 to 1973, and later became an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow and received her M.B.A. degree from MIT-Sloan School of Management in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1986.

After her first year of law school, Watson worked at the law firm of Hale & Dorr in Boston in 1973. She was then hired by the Massachusetts Port Authority in 1979 and was promoted to general manager in 1982, where she spearheaded the leasing of commercial properties held by Massport, the construction and leasing of the Park Plaza Massachusetts Transportation Building, and the redevelopment of the Commonwealth Pier Five, which became the World Trade Center Boston. In 1982, she was a co-founder of CREW Boston, the region's leading professional organization for women in commercial real estate. Watson served as vice president at Gunwyn Company in Cambridge from 1986 to 1992, and was named trustee of mutual funds at Dreyfus in New York City in 1990. She established Watson Ventures and served as its founder and president in 1992.

Watson served as Hyams Foundation trustee from 1981 to 2015 and as an independent corporate director of American Express Bank, FSB and vice chair of the board of directors at Pathfinder International. She was named to the board of directors for Dreyfus Alcentra Global Credit Income 2024 Target Term Fund, Inc in 2017. She has also served as member of the board of directors at Hydro One Inc., and as director of SBLI USA Mutual Life Insurance Company, Inc.

Watson received the Boston Big Sister Association Woman of Achievement Award, Boston YMCA Boston Black Achiever and *Working Woman* Magazine's Working Woman of the Year.

Roslyn Watson was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on October 24, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Roslyn Watson was conducted by Harriette Cole on October 24, 2018, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Investment banker Roslyn Watson (1949-) established Watson Ventures, where, from 1992, she served as founder and president.

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:

Watson, Roslyn, 1949-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Watson, Roslyn, 1949- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Investment Banker

HistoryMakers® Category:

BusinessMakers

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 Roslyn Watson, October 24, 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 Roslyn Watson, Section A2018_201_001_001, TRT: 1:28:29 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Watson, Section A2018_201_001_002, TRT: 2:27:31 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Watson, Section A2018_201_001_003, TRT: 3:28:58 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Watson, Section A2018_201_001_004, TRT: 4:28:54 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Watson, Section A2018_201_001_005, TRT: 5:28:30 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Watson, Section A2018_201_001_006, TRT: 6:30:04 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Roslyn Watson, Section A2018_201_001_007, TRT: 7:19:24 ?