

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with James F. Blue, III

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Blue, James (James F.)
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with James F. Blue, III,
Dates:	August 18, 2019
Bulk Dates:	2019
Physical Description:	7 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:25:02).
Abstract:	Producer James F. Blue, III (1969-) served as a producer for NBC News, ABC News in London, and BET Networks before becoming the senior content and special senior producer at PBS News in 2015. Blue was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 18, 2019, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2019_070
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Producer James F. Blue III was born on August 5, 1969 in Richmond, Virginia to James F. Blue, Jr. and Addie L. Wall. In 1991, Blue received his B.A. degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

In 1991, Blue was hired by NBC News as an editorial producer and guest booker for *The Today Show*. Two years later, he served as a field producer for a primetime magazine show at NBC News. In 1994, he was hired as a *Nightline* producer for ABC News in London, United Kingdom. During his twelve year career with *Nightline*, Blue produced stories on the Oklahoma City Bombing, the 1996 presidential elections, colorism within the Black community, and the auction of the estate of Jackie Kennedy. In 2006, he joined Discovery Communications as a producer with the Koppel Unit. The same year, Blue's debut documentary for Discovery, *Iran – Most Dangerous Nation*, won the national Emmy Award for best long-form program. In 2008, Blue founded Public Affairs Media Group, Inc. in Baltimore, Maryland. He went on to serve as executive producer at BET Networks in 2011, where he produced the documentary "Michelle Obama on a Mission: Impact Africa." In 2013, Blue was appointed as the Washington Bureau Chief and White House Correspondent by ARISE News. In 2015, Blue joined PBS NewsHour as the senior content and special senior producer.

Blue served on the advisory board of The Samaritan Community beginning in 2008. In 2009, he was elected to the board of trustees of the Maryland Institute College of Art and the board of overseers of the Baltimore School for the Arts. In 2013, Blue became a member of the board of trustees of the Princeton Alumni Weekly. He was a member of the Overseas Press Club, the National Association of Black Journalists, and the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association.

Blue has won every major broadcast journalism award including eight national Emmy Awards, two Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia Awards, two George Foster Peabody Awards, and two Overseas Press Club Awards. In 2012, he

received the NABJ Award for Overall Excellence. Blue was also twice a finalist for the Livingston Award for Young Journalists.

Blue and his husband have two children: Alden and Effie.

James F. Blue III was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on August 13, 2019.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with James F. Blue, III was conducted by Larry Crowe on August 18, 2019, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 7 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Producer James F. Blue, III (1969-) served as a producer for NBC News, ABC News in London, and BET Networks before becoming the senior content and special senior producer at PBS News in 2015.

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:

Blue, James (James F.)

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Blue, James (James F.)--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Television News Producer

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 James F. Blue, III, August 18, 2019. 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 James F. Blue, III, Section A2019_070_001_001, TRT: 1:27:53

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Video Oral History Interview with James F. Blue, III, Section A2019_070_001_002, TRT: 2:28:51

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Video Oral History Interview with James F. Blue, III, Section A2019_070_001_003, TRT: 3:30:15

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Video Oral History Interview with James F. Blue, III, Section A2019_070_001_004, TRT: 4:27:57

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Video Oral History Interview with James F. Blue, III, Section A2019_070_001_005, TRT: 5:29:19

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Video Oral History Interview with James F. Blue, III, Section A2019_070_001_006, TRT: 6:29:35

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Video Oral History Interview with James F. Blue, III, Section A2019_070_001_007, TRT: 7:31:12

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