



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Bluestime Prime Hour Videotapes

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents note.....	2
Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3
Series 1: Field Recordings, undated.....	3
Series 2: Broadcast Tapes, 1997-1998.....	5
Series 3: Reference Tapes.....	7

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Guide to the Bluestime Power Hour Videotapes
Date:	1997-1998
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0657
Creator:	Coleman, Cinthea T., 1947- McCracklin, Jimmy, 1931- Kenner, Sonny Shorty, Guitar Stovall, Beverly
Extent:	1.6 Cubic feet (6 boxes)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Cinthea T. Coleman, July 28, 1998.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Amanda Whitehead, intern and Midori Okazaki, intern; supervised by Scott Schwartz, archivist, 1999.

Preferred Citation

The Bluestime Power Hour Videotapes, 1997-1998, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

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Historical

The Bluestime Power Hour is a series of non-commercial documentaries designed primarily to showcase locally prominent blues musicians from around the country. The shows, produced during 1997 and 1998, include footage of live performances by the featured artists, and many include interviews with the performers.

The Bluestime Power Hour videotapes were the concept of Cinthea T. Coleman, an entrepreneur, music enthusiast and semi-professional producer. Coleman was born in Long Beach, California, in 1947. Her father was a chemical engineer, and her mother was a big band singer who performed predominately with local northern California bands in the early 1940's. She was first exposed to blues and jazz music while growing up in Southern California. In the early 1970's Coleman met bass player Walter M. ABookie@ Booker, Jr.,

while he was recording the album "Inside Straight" with Cannonball Adderly and began a 9-year relationship with him. During this period she lived with Booker in New York and became acquainted with many blues and rock musicians.

After ending her relationship with Booker, she returned to California and eventually settled in the Central Coast town of Los Osos. With a friend, Dee Grayson, she formed Blues Diva Music Productions, a company that sold blues recordings over the Internet. As part of this venture, which subsequently folded, Coleman came upon the idea of using streaming technology to broadcast live or taped performances over the Internet. From this concept came the Bluestime Power Hour show.

The Bluestime Power Hour series was produced with a limited budget. The format of the half-hour shows is simple. The programs consist of live performance footage of the featured artist along with an introductory and closing comments by the shows host (usually Coleman). The shows often included an interview with the artist. Coleman began the series with performers from the Oakland/East Bay area. She subsequently took her production on the road, featuring artists from Kansas City, St. Louis and central California. Coleman hopes to expand The Bluestime Power Hour series to include musicians from Memphis, New Orleans and Austin, Texas, and to "ferret out" the remaining real Blues people, still living, playing and respected in their own neighborhoods. She is currently working on "Full Moon/Midnight Sky," a project devoted to documenting the music of white blues musicians, primarily guitarists.

Scope and Contents

49 VHS videotapes containing the Bluestime Power Hour television shows. The programs document the music and culture of such local American blues musicians as Jimmy McCracklin, Sonny Kenner, Guitar Shorty and Beverly Stovall.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: Field Recordings,

Series 2: Broadcast Tapes, 1997-1998

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Blues (Music) -- 1990-2000 -- United States
- Music -- 20th century
- Television programs

Types of Materials:

- DVDs
- Video recordings -- 1990-2000
- Videotapes -- 1990-2000

Container Listing

Series 1: Field Recordings, undated

Scope and Contents: This series consists of twenty-three V.H.S.-format videotapes containing the field recordings which were used as source material for The Bluestime Power Hour shows. The videotapes, dubbed from Hi-8 master tapes, include both interviews and performance footage. The tapes range in running time from 30 minutes to 2 hours, and many tapes contain footage of more than one performer. The tapes, which are undated, have been numbered 1 through 27 by the producer (noted in brackets in the container list), although there are gaps in the sequence. The tapes are arranged in the order provided by the donor.

Box 1, Folder 1	Ms. Dee at Larry Blake's, Oakland, California; performances at the 5th Amendment, Oakland, California; interview with Domingo Ballentin, loCaliforniation unknown; Bay Area Blues Society Californiaravan of All Stars at Jimmy's, Oakland, California[FR1], undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Steve Gannon, Ms. Dee and others at Larry Blake's, Oakland, California [FR2], undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Birdlegg performance at A&C Club, Oakland, California, Birdlegg and Steve Gannon interview; performances at A&C Club; Bay Area Blues Society Californiaravan of All Stars at Jimmy's, Oakland, California[FR3], undated
Box 1, Folder 4	Steve Gannon interview by Coleman, location unknown; Big Bob Deance and County Pete McGill, Oakland, California[FR4], undated
Box 1, Folder 5	Lady Margaret, Oakland, California; interviews of Willie G. and Billy Dunn, location unknown [FR5], undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Beverly Stovall and Steve Gannon kitchen conversation, location unknown; interviews with Lady Margaret, Steve Gannon and Beverly Stovall, location unknown; Lady Margaret at Eli's, Oakland, California; Beverly Stovall at Serenaders, Oakland, California[FR6], undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Jimmy McCracklin interview, McCracklin residence; performances at the 5th Amendment, Oakland, California [FR7], undated
Box 1, Folder 8	Jimmy McCracklin at Yoshi=s, San Francisco; Bobby Rush performance, location unknown [FR8], undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Guitar Shorty and the Central Avenue Rhythm and Blues Band at B.B. King's, Universal City, California [FR9], undated
Box 1, Folder 10	Ms. Dee interview, location unknown; Steve Gannon and Ms. Dee at Larry Blake's, Oakland, California [FR10], undated
Box 1, Folder 11	Valerie Johnson, Morro Bay, California [FR11], undated

Box 1, Folder 12	Maria Muldaur, Morro Bay, California [FR12], undated
Box 1, Folder 13	Oliver Sain, St. Louis, Missouri [FR14], undated
Box 1, Folder 14	Millage Gilbert, Kansas City, Missouri [FR15], undated
Box 2, Folder 15	King Alex at the Mardi Gras, Kansas City, Missouri; Little Hatch performance and interview, Kansas City, Missouri [FR16], undated
Box 2, Folder 16	Californiamera test; Annette Cotton Californiandy Washington interview, Kansas City, Missouri; John Amaro at Blayne's, Kansas City, Missouri [FR17], undated
Box 2, Folder 17	Annette Cotton Californiandy Washington performance, Kansas City, Missouri [FR18], undated
Box 2, Folder 18	Sonny Kenner interview and performance, Kansas City, Missouri [FR19], undated
Box 2, Folder 19	John Amaro at the Blue Note Californiafe, Kansas City, Missouri; King Alex interview and performance, Kansas City, Missouri [FR20], undated
Box 2, Folder 20	Beverly Stovall, Oakland, Missouri; Virginia Stark (Cinthea Coleman's mother); Coleman introduction takes; Ms. Dee at Blues, San Francisco, California [FR22], undated
Box 2, Folder 21	Gary Mendoza and the Blues Effects, San Luis Obispo, California [FR23], undated
Box 2, Folder 22	Guy Budd, San Luis Obispo, California [FR24], undated
Box 2, Folder 23	Ron Thompson, Fresno, California [FR27], undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Broadcast Tapes, 1997-1998

Scope and Contents: The series consists of twenty-six V.H.S.-format videotapes containing The Bluestime Power Hour shows produced by Cinthea T. Coleman. The shows, generally one half-hour long, include footage of live performances by the featured artists and many include interviews with the performers. Many of the featured performers are locally prominent blues artists, such as Beverly Stovall and Sonny Kenner. Also featured are performers who have achieved more widespread acclaim, including Jimmy McCracklin, Guitar Shorty, Ron Thompson, and Maria Muldaur. Venues for the performances include clubs and open-air stages in Oakland, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Central California. The tapes are arranged chronologically by post date. Abstracts of the broadcast tapes are included as a part of this finding aid.

Box 3, Folder 1	Lady Margaret, Oakland and Monterey, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 2	Lady Margaret, part 2, Oakland and Monterey, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 3	Steve Gannon, Oakland, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 4	Birdlegg & Beverly Stovall, Oakland, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 5	Jimmy McCracklin, San Francisco, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 6	Guitar Shorty, Reno, Nevada and Universal City, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 7	Country Pete McGill, Oakland, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 8	Big Bob Deance, Oakland, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 9	Ms. Dee, San Francisco and Berkeley, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 10	Maria Muldaur, Morro Bay, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 11	Valerie Johnson, Morro Bay, California, 1997
Box 3, Folder 12	King Alex, Kansas City, Missouri, 1997
Box 3, Folder 13	Millage Gilbert, Kansas City, Missouri, 1997
Box 3, Folder 14	Annette Cotton California Candy, Washington, Kansas City, Missouri, 1998
Box 4, Folder 15	Sonny Kenner, Kansas City, Missouri, 1998
Box 4, Folder 16	Little Hatch, Kansas City, Missouri, 1998
Box 4, Folder 17	Oliver Sain, St. Louis, Missouri, 1998
Box 4, Folder 18	Beverly Stovall, part 2, Oakland, California, 1998
Box 4, Folder 19	An Evening at "Sweet Jimmy's, Oakland, California, 1998

Box 4, Folder 20	Steve Gannon, Oakland, California, 1998
Box 4, Folder 21	Lady Margaret, part 3, Oakland and Monterey, California, 1998
Box 4, Folder 22	Big John Amaro, Kansas City, Missouri, 1998
Box 4, Folder 23	Gary Mendoza and the Blues Effects, San Luis Obispo, California, 1998
Box 4, Folder 24	Guy Budd, San Luis Obispo, California, 1998
Box 4, Folder 25	Ron Thompson and the Resistors, Fresno, California, 1998
Box 4, Folder 26	Big Daddy's Blues Band Featuring ABI-G, Cambria, California, 1998
Box 5	Miscellaneous Cinthea Coleman/Boffo! Productions, undated
Box 5	Water In Motion, undated
Box 5	Hook Echo, undated
Box 5	Y2K: What If You're Wrong?, undated
Box 5	20 Years Ago ... Yesterday, undated
Box 5	Whiteboy Blues (selections), undated
Box 5	Boffo! Presents SARAH VAUGHAN, undated
Box 5	SARAH VAUGHAN: SASSY IN BRAZIL, undated
Box 5	Ray Charles Rehearsal (3/1953), By Special Arrangement with J. Wexler, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Reference Tapes

Box 1 Addenda

DVDS

[Return to Table of Contents](#)