



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the William Claxton Photographs

NMAH.AC.0695

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2007

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	William Claxton Photographs
Date:	1951-1970
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0695
Creator:	Claxton, William
Extent:	1 Cubic foot (28 items)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Photographic prints taken by photographer William Claxton (October 12, 1927-October 11, 2008) of jazz musicians.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The National Museum of American History purchased the collection on March 31, 1999.

Provenance

Photographic prints of Duke Ellington were previously exhibited in the National Museum of American History's 1999 centennial celebration of his birth.

Materials in the Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Duke Ellington Collection, NMAH.AC.0301

William H. Quealy Collection of Duke Ellington Recordings, NMAH.AC.0296

Duke Ellington Oral History Project, NMAH.AC.0368

Billy Strayhorn Ephemera Collection, NMAH.AC.0383

Collection of Duke Ellington Ephemera and Related Audio-visual Materials, NMAH.AC.0386

Robert Udkoff Collection of Duke Ellington Ephemera, NMAH.AC.0388

Frank Driggs Collection of Duke Ellington Photographic Reference Prints, NMAH.AC.0389

New York Chapter of the Duke Ellington Society Collection, NMAH.AC.0390

Felix Grant Collection, NMAH.AC.0410

Carter Harman Collection of Interviews with Duke Ellington, NMAH.AC.0422

Archives Center Collection of Music Transcriptions of Duke Ellington Compositions, Carter Harman NMAH.AC.0430

Jazz Oral History Collection about Duke Ellington, NMAH.AC.0431

Herman Leonard Photoprints, NMAH.AC.0445

Don Brown Collection of Duke Ellington Recordings, NMAH.AC.0472

Betty McGettigan Collection of Duke Ellington Memorabilia, NMAH.AC.0494
Dr. Theodore Shell Collection of Duke Ellington Ephemera, NMAH.AC.0502
Jay McCarter Phonograph Record Collection, NMAH.AC.0541
Tom Whaley Collection, NMAH.AC.0652
Edward and Gaye Ellington Collection of Duke Ellington Materials, NMAH.AC.0704
Andrew Homzy Collection of Duke Ellington Stock Arrangements, NMAH.AC.0740
John Gensel Collection of Duke Ellington Materials, NMAH.AC.0763
W. Royal Stokes Collection of Music Publicity Photoprints, Interviews and Posters, NMAH.AC.0766 Milt Gabler Papers, NMAH.AC.0849
Paquito D'Rivera Music Manuscripts and Photograph, NMAH.AC.0891
Charismic Productions Records of Dizzy Gillespie, NMAH.AC.0979
Floyd Levin Jazz Reference Collection, NMAH.AC.1222
Al Celley Collection of Duke Ellington Materials, NMAH.AC.1240
James Moody Papers, NMAH.AC.1405

Processing Information

Collection processed by Vanessa Broussard-Simmons, 2007.

Preferred Citation

William Claxton Photographs, 1951-1971, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Gloves required with unprotected photographs.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright restrictions. Contact staff for information.

Scope and Contents

Collection consists of twenty-eight photographic prints processed in 1999 by a professional laboratory for photographer William Claxton. The prints document jazz artists in recording sessions and performing throughout the United States. It is divided into two series: Series 1, Duke Ellington, 1955-1960, and Series 2, Other Artists, 1955-1970.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into two series.

Series 1: Duke Ellington, 1955-1960

Series 2: Other Artists, 1951-1970

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Jazz
Music -- West coast -- 1950-1960
Musicians -- 1950-1960 -- United States

Types of Materials:

Black-and-white photographic prints -- Silver gelatin -- 1950-2000

Names:

Armstrong, Louis, 1901-1971
Baker, Chet
Baker, Halima
Charles, Ray, 1930-2004
Charles, Roosevelt
Coleman, Ornette
Coltrane, John, 1926-1967
Davis, Miles
Ellington, Duke, 1899-1974
Evans, Bill, 1929-1980
George Williams Brass Band.
Gillespie, Dizzy, 1917-1993
Jones, Elvin
Kenton, Stan
Monk, Thelonious
Mulligan, Gerry
Parker, Charlie, 1920-1955
Rollins, Sonny
Sinatra, Frank, 1915-1998
Stan Kenton Band.
Washington, Dinah, 1924-1963
Webster, Ben
Williams, Cootie, 1911-1985
Williams, Joe, 1918-

Container Listing

Series 1: Duke Ellington, 1955-1960

Scope and Contents: Images document Duke Ellington performing before live audiences and in recording sessions. Public performances are in Hollywood and Monterey, California and Las Vegas, Nevada, between 1955 and 1960. The photographs are arranged in chronological order.

Box 1, Folder 1	Duke Ellington and Jimmy Rushing; on stage, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1955
Box 1, Folder 2	Duke Ellington at piano, Monterey, California, 1958
Box 1, Folder 3	Duke Ellington at piano during a recording session, Hollywood, California, 1960
Box 1, Folder 4	Duke Ellington and Johnny Hodges, recording session, Hollywood, California, 1960
Box 1, Folder 5	Duke Ellington with his orchestra, recording session, Hollywood, California, 1960
Box 1, Folder 6	Duke Ellington examines early manuscript of Take The A Train, recording session, Hollywood, California, 1960 Image(s): Duke Ellington examines early manuscript of Take The A-Train, recording session, Hollywood, California, 1960.

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Series 2: Other Artists, 1951-1970

Scope and Contents: Include images of well-known jazz artists in professional settings. The photographs are arranged in chronological order.

Box 2, Folder 1	Charlie Parker, La Crescinita, California, 1951
Box 2, Folder 1	Sonny Rollins, recording session, Hollywood, California, 1955
Box 2, Folder 1	Frank Sinatra, Out of a Harp Caste, Hollywood, California, 1955
Box 2, Folder 1	John Coltrane, Monterey, California, 1955
Box 2, Folder 1	Halima and Chet Baker, Risdondo Beach, 1955
Box 2, Folder 5	Louis Armstrong, 1955
Box 2, Folder 5	Louis Armstrong, 1956
Box 2, Folder 2	Stan Kenton Band, Balboa Beach, California, 1957
Box 2, Folder 2	Miles Davis, Hollywood, California, 1957
Box 2, Folder 2	Dinah Washington, Hollywood, California, 1959
Box 2, Folder 2	Gerry Mulligan and Ben Webster Hollywood, California, 1959
Box 2, Folder 3	Roosevelt Charles, Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola, Louisiana, 1960
Box 2, Folder 3	Ornette Coleman, Hollywood, California, 1960
Box 2, Folder 3	Dizzy Gilliespie, New York, New York, 1960
Box 2, Folder 3	Elvin Jones, New York, New York, 1960
Box 2, Folder 4	Second Liners Dance with the George Williams Brass Band, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1960
Box 2, Folder 4	Street Musician, Time Square, New York, New York, 1960
Box 2, Folder 4	Cootie Williams, Harlem, New York, 1960
Box 2, Folder 4	Joe Williams, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1960
Box 2, Folder 5	Thelonious Monk, San Francisco, California, 1961
Box 2, Folder 5	Ray Charles and Rayette, Hollywood, California, 1962

Box 2, Folder 5

Bill Evans, Hollywood, California, 1970

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