



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the William Claxton Photography

NMAH.AC.0695

Vanessa Broussard Simmons

2007

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	William Claxton Photographs
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0695
Date:	1955-1960.
Extent:	1 Cubic foot (28 items)
Creator:	Claxton, William
Language:	English
Summary:	Photographs consist of 16 x 20 inch silver gelatin; selenium-toned archival photographic prints of jazz musicians performing and recording music throughout the United States.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection purchased on March 31, 1999.

Provenance

The six prints in series one were processed for Mr. Claxton by a professional laboratory in 1999. The National Museum of American History purchased the William Claxton Photographs on March 31, 1999. The photographs were previously exhibited in the National Museum of American History's 1999 centennial celebration of Duke Ellington's birth. The prints in series two were Prints made for Mr. Claxton by a professional laboratory, 1999.

Materials in the Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Duke Ellington Collection, 1928-1988 (AC0301)

Herman Leonard Photoprints, 1948-1993 (AC0445)

Frank Driggs Collection of Duke Ellington Photographic Reference Prints [copy prints], 1923-1972 (AC389)

W. Royal Stokes Collection of Music Publicity Photoprints, Interviews and Posters circa 1970-2003 (AC0766)

Charismic Productions Records of Dizzy Gillespie, 1940s-1993 (AC0979)

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.

Biographical / Historical

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Scope and Contents

The collection consists of 16 x 20-inch silver gelatin; selenium- toned archival photographic prints. It is divided into two series.

Series 1, Duke Ellington, 1955-1960, consists of Duke Ellington performing and recording music in Hollywood and Monterey, California and Las Vegas, Nevada, between 1955 and 1960. The photographs are arranged chronologically by date.

Series 2, Other Jazz Musicians and Singers, 1955-1970, consists of photographs of musicians and singers such as Charlie Parker, Sonny Rollins, John Coltrane, Chet Baker, Stan Kenton, Miles Davis, Dinah Washington, Cootie Williams, Thelonious Monk, Dizzy Gilliespie and Ray Charles. The performers are all photographed with their instruments. Photographs are arranged in chronological order.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into two series.

Series 1: Duke Ellington, 1955-1960

Series 2: Other Jazz Musicians and Singers, 1955-1970

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:

Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- Silver gelatin -- 1950-2000

Names:

Armstrong, Louis, 1900-1971
Baker, Chet
Baker, Halima
Charles, Ray, 1930-
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
Williams, Joe, 1918-

Container Listing

Series 1: Duke Ellington, 1955 - 1960

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Duke Ellington and Jimmy Rushing; on stage, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1955.
Image(s) |
| 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.
Image(s) |
| 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) |

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Series 2: Other Performers, 1951 - 1970

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 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 1	John Coltrane, Monterey, California, 1955
Box 2, Folder 1	Halima and Chet Baker, Risdondo Beach, 1955
Box 2, Folder 2	Stan Kenton Band, Balboa Beach, California, 1957
Box 2, Folder 2	Miles Davis, Hollywood, California, 1957 Image(s)
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 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 5	Ray Charles and Rayette, Hollywood, California, 1962 Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 5	Bill Evans, Hollywood, California, 1970
Box 2, Folder 5	Louis Armstrong, 1955
Box 2, Folder 5	Louis Armstrong, 1956

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