Guide to the Timothy B. Bladen
Southern Maryland Portraits: Photoprints

NMAH.AC.0767
David E. Haberstich
2003
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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Timothy B. Bladen Southern Maryland Portraits: Photoprints
Identifier: NMAH.AC.0767
Date: 1980 - 2000
Extent: 0.2 Cubic feet (1 box, 7 items)
Creator: Bladen, Timothy B.
Language: English

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information
Collection donated by Timothy B. Bladen, December 2000.

Provenance
Negatives made by Bladen, 1998. Prints donated to the Archives Center in late 2000 by the photographer.

Provenance
These photographs were made in 1998, and the prints were made between 1998 and 2000.

Frank Robinson, Jr., donor to the Archives Center and the Museum's costume collections and a sometime Archives Center volunteer and contractor, brought Bladen's photographs to the attention of the Archives Center. Frank Robinson's father and brother are shown in one of the photographs.

Location of Originals
Negatives are located in the collection of Timothy B. Bladen.

Processing Information
Collection processed by David Habestich, 2003.

Preferred Citation

Restrictions
Collection is open for research.
Conditions Governing Use
Timothy B. Bladen retains copyright. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical
Timothy B. Bladen is a Maryland-based photographer. At the height of summer 1998, when Maryland was in the midst of a horrific drought, Timothy Bladen toured the southern Maryland countryside with an antique camera in his trunk, hunting for signs that the rural lifestyle was surviving. On this sentimental tour of Southern Maryland, he located and photographed many people from his own memories including a sausage maker, wood-carvers and watermen and aging farmers perched on their front stoops, tobacco farmers working in the fields and people milling about at a farmer's market.

Scope and Contents
These seven photographs were included in Mr. Bladen's exhibition, "Southern Maryland Portraits," at the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Riverdale, Maryland, 2000. The prints are silver gelatin, received unmounted, all on 11" x 14" double-weight photographic paper.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged into one series. Captions provided by the artist; editing and additional descriptive notes in brackets.

Names and Subject Terms
This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:
  Agriculture -- 20th century -- Maryland
  Auctions
  Crabbing
  Crabs
  Farms -- Maryland
  Fishing
  Mennonites -- 20th century
  Sausages

Names:
  Robinson, Franklin A., Sr., 1932-

Geographic Names:
  Maryland -- 1980-2000
Container Listing

Box 1, Item 1  Franklin, Theresa, and David Robinson, Benedict, Maryland.
   Image(s)
   At Serenity Farm, the artist notes, there are pastel painted out buildings [:] they
   are a very diversified operation with emus and llamas.

Box 1, Item 2  Farmer at Auction, Cheltenham, Maryland.
   Image(s)
   [Bearded man holding microphone, with box of watermelons and group of people
   wearing shorts, man in cap sitting on cab of truck in foreground.] I made this
   image because I was impressed with a farmer who had a beeper and a cell
   phone. In the subsequent time I found farmers with beepers and cell phones are
   the norm in this day and age.

Box 1, Item 3  William Zang, Harwood, Maryland.
   Image(s)
   [Zang wearing cap, leaning on back of pickup truck on right, with barn and field
   in background.] Mr. Zang has an orchard and a roadside stand on Muddy Creek
   Road.

Box 1, Item 4  Produce Auction, Cheltenham, Maryland.
   Image(s)
   [Another view of same scene as no. 2; cars and pickup trucks are seen parked in
   the background.] The two Mennonite farmers and their friend with the truck are
   regulars at this market. Rodney Thompson is the auctioneer.

Box 1, Item 5  William Swan, Sr., and Jr., Popes Creek, Maryland.
   Image(s)
   [The father and son stand on pier with bushel baskets, including a stack of four
   on a hand truck.] The Swans had one of the best crabbing days of a very dry
   summer.

Box 1, Item 6  Maurice Hardesty, Jr., Sunderland, Maryland
   Image(s)
   Mr. Hardesty is forming sausage links. He made it look very easy. The
   commercial refrigerator in the background began use for the [Hardestys] family
   store as a commercial ice box. It has had [an] electric cooling unit added.

Box 1, Item 7  Billy Groom, Shadyside, Maryland.
   Image(s)
   Captain Groom uses this boat to pound net fish in the bay. A barge is used to
   hold one end of the net while the boat encircles the fish. Capt. Groom makes
   crab skiffs and oyster tonging boats as well as being a fisherman.