

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Anthony Chisholm

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Chisholm, Anthony
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm,
Dates:	April 14, 2017 and November 10, 2016
Bulk Dates:	2016 and 2017
Physical Description:	10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:43:55).
Abstract:	Actor Anthony Chisholm (1943 - 2020) was a core cast member for off-Broadway and Broadway productions of August Wilson's Pittsburgh Cycle, including <i>Two Trains Running</i> , <i>Jitney</i> , <i>Gem of the Ocean</i> and <i>Radio Golf</i> . He appeared on the HBO series <i>Oz</i> , and in films like <i>Premium Rush</i> (2012) and Spike Lee's <i>Chi-Raq</i> (2015). Chisholm was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on April 14, 2017 and November 10, 2016, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2016_110
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Actor Anthony Chisholm was born on April 9, 1943 in Cleveland, Ohio to Edith Amilia and Victor Chisholm. Drafted by the U.S. Army, Chisholm served as platoon leader for the 4th Armored Calvary, 1st Infantry Division in the Vietnam War.

Upon returning from the Vietnam War, Chisholm performed in *The Boys from Syracuse* and *The Threepenny Opera* at Karamu House in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1968, he made his film debut in *Uptight*, directed by Jules Dassin. That same year, Chisholm began studying with Lloyd Richards in the Negro Ensemble Company's master class. Chisholm appeared in a number of films in the late 1960s and early 1970s, including *Putney Swope* in 1969 and *Cotton Comes to Harlem* in 1970. In 1985, he portrayed Habu and Drill Sergeant Williams in *Tracers* at the Joseph Papp Public Theater in New York City. In 1987, Chisholm's Vietnam War experiences served as the inspiration for the HBO television series *Vietnam War Story*. He also joined the Vietnam Veterans Ensemble Theater Company, where he acted in several productions including *Back in the World* in 1988 and *The Strike* in 1990. Chisholm met August Wilson in 1990 while auditioning for *Two Trains Running*, and was cast in the role of Wolf. After appearing in the first run at Yale Repertory Theatre, he went on tour with the production to Boston's Huntington Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Los Angeles' Doolittle Theatre, the Kennedy Center, and San Diego's Old Globe Theatre. Chisholm reprised the role in the Broadway production of *Two Trains Running* at the Walter Kerr Theatre in New York City in 1992. In 1996, he became part of the core cast for August Wilson's *Jitney*, which appeared off-Broadway at New York City's Second Stage Theatre in 2000. Between 2001 and 2003, Chisholm portrayed prisoner Burr Redding in the HBO crime drama series, *Oz*. He then acted in August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean* in 2004, alongside Phylicia Rashad, Ruben Santiago-Hudson and John Earl Jelks. Beginning in 2007, Chisholm portrayed Elder Joseph Barlow in the final installment of August Wilson's "Pittsburgh Cycle," *Radio Golf*. He received a Tony Award nomination for his portrayal of Elder Joseph Barlow in the Broadway production

of *Radio Golf*, directed by Kenny Leon at the Cort Theatre in New York City.

In addition to his stage roles, Chisholm appeared in numerous television shows and films, including *Reign Over Me* (2007), *Premium Rush* (2012) and Spike Lee's *Chi-Raq* (2015). He was the recipient of the Drama Desk, Obie, Ovation, NAACP Theatre, and AUDELCO awards.

Anthony Chisholm was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on November 10, 2016 and April 14, 2017.

Chisholm passed away on October 16, 2020.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Anthony Chisholm was conducted by Harriette Cole on April 14, 2017 and November 10, 2016, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Actor Anthony Chisholm (1943 - 2020) was a core cast member for off-Broadway and Broadway productions of August Wilson's Pittsburgh Cycle, including *Two Trains Running*, *Jitney*, *Gem of the Ocean* and *Radio Golf*. He appeared on the HBO series *Oz*, and in films like *Premium Rush* (2012) and Spike Lee's *Chi-Raq* (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:

Chisholm, Anthony

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Chisholm, Anthony--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Actor

HistoryMakers® Category:

ArtMakers

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 Anthony Chisholm, April 14, 2017 and November 10, 2016. 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 Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_001_001, TRT: 1:34:33
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_001_002, TRT: 2:37:02
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_001_003, TRT: 3:29:29
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_001_004, TRT: 4:18:33
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_002_005, TRT: 5:30:52
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_002_006, TRT: 6:30:01
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_002_007, TRT: 7:27:14
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_002_008, TRT: 8:27:08
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_002_009, TRT: 9:29:08
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Video Oral History Interview with Anthony Chisholm, Section A2016_110_002_010, TRT:
10:19:55 ?