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Salim (Yusuf) Collection

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Lindsey Smith

North Carolina Collection Archives

300 N. Roxboro Street

Durham, NC 27701

ncc@dconc.gov

URL: <https://durhamcountylibrary.org/ncc>

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Summary Information

Repository:	North Carolina Collection Archives
Source - dnr:	Crovitz, Elaine
Source - dnr:	Murray, Pat
Title:	Yusuf Salim collection
ID:	NCC.0012
Date [inclusive]:	2004-2013
Physical Description:	.08 Linear Feet (5 folders, 1 oversize folder)
Language of the Material:	English

Preferred Citation

[Item, folder, and box information], Yusuf Salim collection (NCC.0012), North Carolina Collection, Durham County Library, NC.

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Biographical / Historical

Yusuf Salim (1929-2008), was born Joseph Blair in Baltimore, Maryland, where he began a career in music early in life. At the age of 14, Salim was playing piano with the Ken Murray Sextet. At 17, he began working as house pianist at the Royal Theatre, performing with such notable entertainers as Sammy Davis, Jr. and Redd Foxx. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Salim performed around Harlem and knew notable jazz musicians including Charlie Parker and Sonny Rollins. After a tour with the Red Prysock Band, he joined the Marine Corps and played in the Marine Band. After his service Salim returned to Baltimore for a short time and then moved to Durham in 1974. In Durham he helped found the Salaam Cultural Center, where he hosted workshops for musicians in the Durham community. He also hosted a 13-part locally produced UNC-TV series called "Yusuf and Friends." Salim composed over 53 pieces, which have been performed by a variety of artists, and in 1999 he received the North Carolina Arts Council Jazz Fellowship.

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Scope and Contents

This collection is primarily composed of promotional materials and newspaper articles related to Yusuf Salim, known as Brother Yusuf, a Durham resident and musician. Many of the items are related to 2004 and 2007 concerts in his honor. It also contains memorials and articles written about Brother Yusuf after his death in 2008, a few photographs, a vinyl record, and one chapter of a memoir Yusuf wrote.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

North Carolina Collection Archives

300 N. Roxboro Street
Durham, NC 27701

ncc@dconc.gov

URL: <https://durhamcountylibrary.org/ncc>

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Elaine Crovitz and Pat Murray

Conditions Governing Use

There are no restrictions on the use of this material except where previously copyrighted material is concerned. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain all permissions.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Bus Brown Collection (NCC.0013)

Billy Stevens Papers (NCC.0206)

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Controlled Access Headings

- Musicians -- North Carolina -- Durham
- Arts -- North Carolina -- Durham
- Performing arts -- North Carolina -- Durham
- Community life -- North Carolina -- Durham
- Salim, Yusuf, 1929-2008
- Crovitz, Elaine
- Murray, Pat

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Vinyl record cannot be listened to and must be reformatted before access is granted. Contact staff for more information.

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Promotional Material, 2004-2007	box 1 - Small folder 7 Collections
Scope and Contents	
Correspondence and flyers related to a 2004 appreciation concert in honor of Brother Yusuf as well as a 2007 birthday	

Salim (Yusuf) Collection

concert for him. The folder also contains questions to be asked in a 2005 interview of Yusuf.

Memorials and tributes, 2008

box 1 - Small
Collections

folder 8

Scope and Contents

Includes a program from Yusuf's funeral, newspaper clippings related to his death, a copy of an Indyweek article, and a Carolina Jazz Connection blog post about his life and legacy.

Newspaper articles, 2004-2013

box 1 - Small
Collections

folder 9

Scope and Contents

Newspaper articles from a variety of sources, generally related to the 2007 birthday concert for Brother Yusuf as well as the 2004 appreciation concert. Also contains a 2013 article about the Durham County Library's North Carolina Collection and their wish for materials related to Brother Yusuf.

Memoir, ca. 2004

box 1 - Small
Collections

folder 10

Photographs, ca. 2005

box 1 - Small
Collections

folder 11

"The Story Teller" by Bus Brown, 1982

box 1 - Vinyl
Records

Oversize
Folder 1

Scope and Contents

A vinyl record by Bus Brown featuring music and arrangements by Yusuf Salim.