



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Voices from the Renaissance collection

1974-1977

Sc MG 335

Summary

Creator: Lewis, David L., 1936-

Title: Voices from the Renaissance collection

Date: 1974-1977

Size: .06 linear feet (1/2 archival box)

Source: Gift of David Levering Lewis, 1987.

Abstract: The David Levering Lewis "Voices from the Renaissance" Collection consists of forty-three summary transcripts of interviews Lewis conducted with individuals who were either active during the Harlem Renaissance period or who knew people who were Harlem Renaissance figures. The interviews were done for Lewis's book, *When Harlem Was in Vogue* (1981).

Preferred citation: [Item], Voices from the Renaissance collection, Sc MG 335, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Creator History

David Levering Lewis is a Professor of History at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey and earlier taught American and African American history at the University of California, San Diego.

Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, Lewis earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Fisk University, 1956; Master of Arts degree from Columbia University, 1958; and his Ph. D. degree from the London School of Economics in economic history, 1962. Lewis's research focuses on twentieth-century African American history and comparative intellectual and cultural history as well as European and African history in the late nineteenth century. He is the author of *When Harlem Was in Vogue* (1981).

Scope and Content Note

The David Levering Lewis "Voices from the Renaissance" Collection consists of forty-three summary transcripts of interviews Lewis conducted with individuals who were either active during the Harlem Renaissance period or who knew people who were Harlem Renaissance figures. The interviews were done for Lewis's book, *When Harlem Was in Vogue* (1981). The transcriptions are impressionistic rather than verbatim, which Lewis prepared from the fifty-two audiotapes containing the interviews. Interviewees include Raoul Abdul; Wilhelmina Adams; Regina Andrews; Helen Armstead-Johnson; Poppy Cannon; Mercer Cook; Miriam DeWitt; Owen Dodson; Aaron Douglas; Pearl and Ivy Fisher; G. James Fleming; Emerson Harper; Jean Blackwell Hutson; C.L.R. James; Henry Lincoln Johnson; Mildred Johnson; Bruce Kellner; Alfred Knopf; Rayford Logan; Gerri Major; Henry and Mollie Moon; A'lelia Nelson Bruce Nugent; Mae Wright Peck; George N. Redd; Helga Rogers; Maurice Russell; George Schuyler; Charless Sebree; Amy Springarn; Mae Miller Sullivan; Marjorie Toomer; Charles H. Wesley; Dorothy West; Leigh Whipper; and Edith Wilson. Interviewees discuss their lives and individuals such as W.E.B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, J. A. Rogers, and Carl Van Vechten and his book, *Nigger Heaven*.

Key Terms

Subjects

African Americans -- New York (State) -- New York -- History
Harlem Renaissance

Geographic Names

Harlem (New York, N.Y.)

Names

Abdul, Raoul
Adams, Wilhelmina F. (Wilhelmina Ferris), 1900-
Douglas, Aaron
Du Bois, W. E. B. (William Edward Burghardt), 1868-1963
Hughes, Langston, 1902-1967
Hurstons, Zora Neale
Hutson, Jean Blackwell, 1914-1998
James, C. L. R. (Cyril Lionel Robert), 1901-1989
Lewis, David L., 1936-
Nugent, Bruce, 1906-1987
Rogers, J. A. (Joel Augustus), 1880-1966
Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964
Whipper, Leigh Rollin, 1876-1975