



The New York Public Library
Photographs and Prints Division. Schomburg Center for
Research in Black Culture

Guide to the

Harry Belafonte photographs

1925-2010s

SCP 186084

Processed by Nathan Evans in 2022.

Summary

Creator: Belafonte, Harry, 1927-

Title: Harry Belafonte photographs

Date: 1925-2010s

Size: 32.16 linear feet (82 boxes, 9 oversize folders, 1 tube)

Source: Purchased from Harry Belafonte in 2019.

Abstract: Harry Belafonte (1927-) is a Jamaican-American musician, actor, and activist best known for popularizing calypso music with international audiences, and his involvement in the American Civil Rights movement. His photographs, dating from 1925 to the 2010s, contain photographic prints, contact sheets, negatives, and slides that document his career as a singer, actor, and entertainer; advocacy for political and humanitarian causes; awards and honors; personal life with family and friends; relationships with colleagues in the arts; and international and domestic travels.

Preferred citation: Harry Belafonte photographs, Photographs and Prints Division. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Nathan Evans in 2022.

Creator History

This biographical note was written in 2022 by Heather Lember and Nathan Evans for the Harry Belafonte papers.

Harry Belafonte was born Harold George Bellanfanti, Jr. in 1927 in New York City. Belafonte's parents were Jamaican immigrants, and he spent much of his childhood in Jamaica. After attending George Washington High School in the Washington Heights neighborhood of New York City, Belafonte enlisted in the United States Navy in 1944, and served in World War II.

Upon returning from the War, Belafonte acted in productions for the American Negro Theatre in Harlem,

and took acting lessons at the Dramatic Workshop of The New School. He began singing at clubs in order to pay for his classes, leading to a record contract with Roost Records in 1949, and RCA Victor in 1953. Between 1953 and 1954, Belafonte made his Broadway debut with *John Murray Anderson's Almanac*, a performance which earned him a Tony Award.

Belafonte's 1956 album, *Calypso*, helped popularize the style of Caribbean folk music, and became the first record to sell over a million copies. It contained the hit song, "Day-O (Banana Boat Song)," which Belafonte would be closely associated with for the rest of his career. He also starred in several films during the 1950s, including *Carmen Jones* (1954), *Island in the Sun* (1957), *The World, the Flesh and the Devil* (1959), and *Odds Against Tomorrow* (1959).

Belafonte has appeared in and produced numerous television series and specials. In 1959, he became the first Jamaican-American to win an Emmy for *Revlon Revue: Tonight with Belafonte*. He also produced the television movie *The Strollin' Twenties* (1966) and television special *A Time for Laughter* (1967); filled in for Johnny Carson on *The Tonight Show* in February 1968; and appeared on such programs as *The Ed Sullivan Show*, *The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour*, and *The Flip Wilson Show*.

Throughout the 1960s, Belafonte continued to record albums in various styles, such as pop, blues, gospel, folk, and show tunes. After releasing his final calypso album in 1971, Belafonte focused mainly on performing and toured internationally. He released five more albums in the 1970s and 1980s, including *Turn the World Around* (1977), whose title track he performed on *The Muppet Show* in 1978. In 1984, Belafonte scored and produced *Beat Street*, a film about New York City hip-hop culture. Other film credits include *The Angel Levine* (1970), *White Man's Burden* (1996), *Kansas City* (1996), and *Bobby* (2006).

In addition to music and acting, Belafonte has been an advocate for humanitarian and political causes throughout his life. His political views were greatly influenced by his mentor, Paul Robeson, and led to Belafonte being blacklisted in Hollywood in 1950. A decade later, he appeared in a campaign ad for John F. Kennedy, performed at his inauguration, and was appointed as a cultural advisor to the Peace Corps by Kennedy.

Belafonte was a key figure in the American Civil Rights movement, and became a close confidant of Martin Luther King, Jr., who he bailed out of jail during the 1963 Birmingham Campaign. Belafonte also provided funding for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and the 1961 Freedom Rides, participated in numerous rallies and protests, and helped organize the 1963 March on Washington For Jobs and Freedom. During this time, he began speaking out against apartheid in South Africa; his final studio album, *Paradise in Gazankulu* (1988), featured ten apartheid protest songs. Belafonte also helped facilitate "We Are the World," a charity song for famine relief, and served as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. In the 1990s and 2000s, he supported the campaign against AIDS in South Africa and raised education awareness in Kenya.

Belafonte has received dozens of awards for his music, acting, and activism. His awards include the Kennedy Center Honors (1989), National Medal of Arts (1994), Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award (2000), Domestic Human Rights Award (2004), BET Humanitarian Award (2006), and NAACP Spingarn Medal (2013). In 2011, *Sing Your Song*, a documentary about Belafonte's life and career, was released. His memoir, *My Song*, was published the same year.

Belafonte has four children: two with his first wife, Marguerite Belafonte, and two with his second wife, Julie Belafonte. As of 2022, he resides in New York City with his third wife, Pamela Belafonte.

Scope and Content Note

The Harry Belafonte photographs chronicle Belafonte's performing arts career, involvement with political and humanitarian causes, and personal life with family and friends, especially in the context of international and domestic travel. The collection reveals the many aspects of Belafonte's career and how they often intertwined, as well as the wide array of artistic and political relationships he forged throughout his life. It is arranged into two series: Photographs and Prints, which comprehensively cover Belafonte's professional and personal life; and Slides that document his trips, tours, vacations, and humanitarian missions with photographs mostly taken by Belafonte.

Key Terms

Subjects

Actors, Black
African American political activists
African American singers
African Americans in the performing arts
Jamaican Americans
Musicians, Black

Occupations

Actors.
Civil rights activists.
Musicians
Television personalities.

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Color slides
Contact sheets
Documentary photographs
Negatives (photographs)
Photographic prints
Photographs

Names

Belafonte, David
Belafonte, Gina
Belafonte, Harry, 1927-
Belafonte, Julie
Belafonte, Shari
Horne, Lena
King, Martin Luther, Jr., 1929-1968
Makeba, Miriam
Mandela, Nelson, 1918-2013
Mouskouri, Nana
Poitier, Sidney
Robeson, Paul, 1898-1976
UNICEF

Container List

Series I: Photographs and Prints 1925-2010s (55 boxes, 9 oversize folders, 1 tube 20.91 linear feet)

Series I contains photographs and photographic prints that extensively detail Belafonte's professional and personal life. Dating from 1925 to the 2010s, this series reveals Belafonte's decades-long career as a singer, actor, and entertainer; the numerous awards and honors he received; relationships he forged with colleagues in the arts; his involvement in the Civil Rights movement and commitment to humanitarian causes; personal life with family and friends; and travels.

Images are in black-and-white and color, with 4" x 6" and 8" x 10" the most common sizes. Several scrapbooks and albums of photographs are included. In addition, this series holds some contact sheets and negatives, which are typically filed with their corresponding photographs. Negative sizes include 35mm, 120 film, and 8" x 10". Contact sheets and negatives are most frequently held in Subseries I.C., I.D., and I.G.

Subseries I.A. Awards, Honors, and Events 1950s-2010s

Subseries I.A documents awards and honors Belafonte received, and formal events he attended as a speaker or guest. The majority of photographs date from the 1980s to the 2000s, and primarily depict Belafonte receiving honorary degrees, and events relating to humanitarian causes. Photographs are arranged alphabetically by award, event, institution, or organization.

There are photographs of Belafonte receiving degrees from, or speaking at, Brooklyn College, Columbia University, Dillard University, Howard University, and Wayne State University. Belafonte is also shown receiving awards for his humanitarian work, including the Estelle Witherspoon Lifetime Achievement Award, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation Award, and Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award. Other humanitarian events featured include the 2012 Human Justice Awards Gala, 1988 Frederick Douglass Dinner Awards Gala, and 10th anniversary celebration of USA for Africa.

Also of note are photographs from the 1989 Kennedy Center Honors, and contact sheets for the 1965 "Sunday Evening with the SNCC [Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee]" fundraiser at which Belafonte performed. This subseries holds a large set of photographs from Belafonte's formal 79th birthday party at the Alhambra Ballroom in New York City, with many celebrities in attendance.

- b. 1 f. 1 **Abyssinian Baptist Church Bicentennial 2008**
- b. 1 f. 2 **Academy Awards 1971**
- b. 1 f. 3 **Africare Bishop John T. Walker Memorial Dinner 2002 October 24**
- b. 1 f. 4 **Albert Einstein Award 1981**
Yeshiva University.
- b. 1 f. 5 **American Film Institute Lifetime Achievement Award 1992**
Awarded to Sidney Poitier. Belafonte was a speaker.
- b. 1 f. 6 **The Amer-I-Can Program 1990s**
Gina Belafonte was a speaker.
- b. 1 f. 7 **AmeriCorps 2001**
- b. 1 f. 8 **Associated Black Charities 1994-1996**
Black History Makers Award Dinner.
- b. 1 f. 9-16 **Birthday Party 2006 March**
- b. 2 f. 1-3 Belafonte's 79th birthday party at the Alhambra Ballroom in New York City. Attendees included Tony Bennett, Ruby Dee, Danny Glover, Whoopi Goldberg, Walter Mosley, and Donald Saddler.
- b. 2 f. 4 **Bonn Rally 1981**
- b. 2 f. 5 ***Bopha! Premier* 1993**
- b. 2 f. 6 **Brandeis University 1991**
- b. 2 f. 7 **Brooklyn College 1998**

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)
Subseries I.A. Awards, Honors, and Events (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 8 **Brotherhood Awards 1997**
- b. 71 **A Candle in the Dark Awards 2001**
 Framed photograph set.
- b. 2 f. 9 **Chaney, Goodman, and Schwerner Commemoration 1989**
- b. 2 f. 10 **Chaplin Award 2011**
 Film Society of Lincoln Center.
- b. 2 f. 11 **City College of New York 1990**
- b. 2 f. 12 **City College of South Africa 1997**
- b. 2 f. 13-14 **Columbia University 1968-1993**
- b. 2 f. 15 **Dillard University 2002**
- b. 2 f. 16 **Estelle Witherspoon Lifetime Achievement Award Dinner 2003**
- b. 2 f. 17 **Frederick Douglass Dinner Awards Gala 1988**
- b. 2 f. 18 **Friendship Day Camp 1960s**
- b. 2 f. 19 **Havana Film Festival 1987**
- b. 2 f. 20 **Heartfest 2000**
 Includes a letter from Coretta Scott King about the event.
- b. 61 **H.E.L.P. Decade Tribute Dinner 1997**
 Album.
- b. 2 f. 21 **Henry Grunwald Award Luncheon 2003**
- b. 2 f. 22-23 **Howard University 2001**
- b. 2 f. 24 **Human Justice Awards Gala 2012**
 Scrapbook.
- b. 3 f. 1 **International Entertainment Summit 2005**
- b. 3 f. 2 **Israel Bonds Luncheon 1972**
- b. 61 **Jackie Robinson Foundation Awards Dinner 1998 April 2**
 Album.
- b. 3 f. 3 **Joan Warburg Humanitarian Award 2004**
- b. 3 f. 4 **John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum 2011**
 "A Conversation with Harry Belafonte."
- b. 3 f. 5 **Kennedy Center Honors 1989**
- b. 3 f. 6 **Marian Anderson Award 1998-1999**
- b. 3 f. 7 **Miami Children's Hospital Foundation 1996**
 Ambassador David M. Walters International Pediatric Hall of Fame award.
- b. 3 f. 8 **National Arts Centre Orchestra Association 1983**
 Youth benefit gala.
- b. 3 f. 9 **Nelson Mandela 70th Birthday Tribute 1988**
- b. 61 **Nettie Mann Achievement Award 2005 June**
 Album.
- b. 3 f. 10 **The New School 2011**
 Discussion about Martin Luther King, Jr.
- b. 3 f. 11 **Newcastle University 1998**
 Memorial for Martin Luther King, Jr.
- b. 69 f. 1 **"Night of 100 Stars" 1982**
- b. 3 f. 12 **Nuclear Age Peace Foundation World Citizenship Award 2003**

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)
Subseries I.A. Awards, Honors, and Events (cont.)

- b. 3 f. 13 **Ordre International des Arts 1976**
- b. 3 f. 14 **Press Conference 1960**
 - o. 1 **Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award 2002**
- b. 3 f. 15 **Santa Cruz Barrios Unidos 2002**
- b. 3 f. 16 **"Sunday Evening with SNCC" 1965**
Fundraiser for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee at the Grand Ballroom of the New York Hilton Hotel. The event featured performances by Belafonte, Marlon Brando, Diahann Carroll, Sammy Davis, Jr., Sidney Poitier, Barbra Streisand, and Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee.
- b. 66 f. 1 **Tony Awards 1967-1996**
- b. 3 f. 17 **TransAfrica Forum 2006**
Amílcar Cabral International Freedom Award.
- b. 3 f. 18 **Tribeca Film Festival 2012**
Photographs are for the talk, "From *Beat Street* to These Streets: Hip-Hop Now and Then."
- b. 3 f. 19-20 **United Way International 1990s**
- b. 3 f. 21 **University of Massachusetts Boston 1996**
- b. 3 f. 22 **University of the West Indies 1996**
- b. 3 f. 23 **USA for Africa 10th Anniversary 1995**
- b. 3 f. 24 **Wayne State University 2011**
Keith Biennial Lecture series.
- b. 4 f. 1-7 **Various Events 1950s-2010s**
 - b. 66 f. 2
 - b. 76 f. 1-5

Subseries I.B. Colleagues and Artists 1925-2000s

This subseries contains photographs of well-known individuals, primarily in the arts, with whom Belafonte collaborated or otherwise interacted from the 1950s to the 2000s. The images are largely informal and feature Belafonte with colleagues, often at events. Some promotional shots are also contained here, mostly for musicians and actors in Belafonte's orbit. Files of Sidney Poitier and Paul Robeson photographs are included as well. This subseries reveals the artistic relationships Belafonte forged, and the wide array of artists he came into contact with throughout his career. It is arranged in the following groups: Belafonte with Colleagues; Colleagues without Belafonte; Promotional Photographs; Sidney Poitier; and Paul Robeson.

Prominently featured individuals with Belafonte include James Baldwin, Jack Benny, Danny Glover, Mahalia Jackson, and Gregory Peck. The promotional photographs depict Patti Austin, Godfrey Cambridge, Aretha Franklin, Gloria Lynne, Hugh Masekela, Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee, and Dionne Warwick, among others. Some of these images are signed to Belafonte.

The Sidney Poitier photographs primarily show Poitier with Belafonte at events from the 1960s through the 1970s.

The Paul Robeson photographs feature Robeson acting and attending events. Some portraits are also included. Belafonte is not in any of these images.

Because Belafonte's public life brought him into contact with many artists in a wide variety of settings, some of the people featured in these images appear elsewhere in the collection, particularly Subseries I.A., I.C., and I.D.

Belafonte with Colleagues

- b. 4 f. 8-9 **1950s-1960s**
- b. 5 f. 1-3 **Individuals depicted include:** Mahalia Jackson, Donald Sadler, Jack Benny, Leontyne Price (box 4, folder 8); Alberta Hunter, Barbra Streisand (box 4, folder 9); Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole, Otto Preminger (box 5, folder 1); Muhammad Ali, Joe Williams (box 5, folder 2); Marlon Brando, Jackie Robinson (box 5, folder 3); Pablo Casals, Lena Horne (box 69).
- b. 66 f. 3 **1950s-1990s**
Individuals depicted include Danny Glover and Jesse Jackson.

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)

Subseries I.B. Colleagues and Artists (cont.)

Belafonte with Colleagues (cont.)

- b. 5 f. 4-6 **1970s-1980s**
Individuals depicted include: Carlos Santana, The Staple Singers, Stevie Wonder (folder 4); Muhammad Ali, Lena Horne (folder 5); James Baldwin; the Smothers Brothers (folder 6).
- b. 5 f. 7-9 **1980s-2000s**
Individuals depicted include: Gregory Peck, Tony Bennett (folder 7); Danny Glover, John Travolta, Alice Walker (folder 8); Dolly Parton, Lionel Richie, Larry King (folder 9).
- b. 6 f. 1 **Colleagues without Belafonte 1950s-1990s**
- b. 66 f. 4 Individuals depicted include: Pete Seeger, Flourney Miller, James P. Johnson (box 6); Niels
- b. 75 f. 1 Matthiasen, Eli Wallach (box 66); Harold Arlen, Bob Wise (box 75); Ruby Dee (box 76).
- b. 76 f. 6
- b. 6 f. 2-3 **Promotional Photographs 1950s-1970s**
- b. 6 f. 4 **Sidney Poitier 1960s-1990s**
- b. 66 f. 5
- b. 6 f. 5 **Paul Robeson 1925-1965**

Subseries I.C. Film and Television 1933-1999

The images in Subseries I.C. chronicle Belafonte's film and television appearances from 1953 to 1999. All major films Belafonte starred in or produced, and television programs he appeared in from 1950s through the 1970s, are represented. Several photographs for *3 for Tonight* and *John Murray Anderson's Almanac* are also included here, the only references to his early theatrical work in the collection. This subseries is arranged alphabetically by title.

Images for films comprise still frames, production stills, and occasionally informal shots of the cast and crew. Images for television programs, particularly those in which Belafonte performed music, comprise rehearsal shots and production stills.

Odds Against Tomorrow is the most represented film in the subseries. There are numerous still frames and production stills, in the form of both prints and contact sheets. Other prominently featured films include *The Angel Levine*, *Buck and the Preacher*, *Island in the Sun*, and *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*.

This subseries holds many photographs for *The Strollin' Twenties*, mostly rehearsal shots that feature Belafonte with cast members such as Sidney Poitier, Duke Ellington, and Sammy Davis, Jr. Additionally, there are photographs for two of Belafonte's concert specials, *Revlon Revue: Tonight with Belafonte* and *Belafonte: New York 19*. Photographs from Belafonte's week hosting *The Tonight Show*, and his appearances on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, *The Danny Kaye Show*, and *The Muppet Show*, are contained here as well.

Promotional portraits of Belafonte for 20th Century Fox and MGM, and images for films not starring Belafonte, are ordered at the end. The latter date from 1933 to 1970 and are chiefly for MGM musicals.

- b. 62 ***3 for Tonight* 1955**
- b. 76 f. 7 Box 62 contains an album.
- b. 6 f. 6-9 ***The Angel Levine* 1970**
- b. 66 f. 6
- b. 75 f. 2
- b. 7 f. 1 ***Beat Street* 1984**
- b. 7 f. 2 ***Belafonte: New York 19* 1960**
- b. 7 f. 3 ***The Bell Telephone Hour* 1959**
- b. 7 f. 4 ***Bright Road* 1953**
- b. 7 f. 5-8 ***Buck and the Preacher* 1971-1972**
- b. 62 Box 62 contains an album.
- b. 66 f. 7
- b. 76 f. 8-9
- b. 7 f. 9 ***Carmen Jones* 1954**
- b. 7 f. 10-11 ***The Danny Kaye Show* 1965**
- b. 66 f. 8
- b. 7 f. 12-14 ***The Dinah Shore Special* 1965**

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)
Subseries I.C. Film and Television (cont.)

- b. 8 f. 1 *The Ed Sullivan Show* 1955-1962
- b. 8 f. 2 *Grambling's White Tiger* 1981
- b. 8 f. 3 *Harry Belafonte: Don't Stop the Carnival* 1985
- b. 8 f. 4-5 *Island in the Sun* 1956-1957
- b. 76 f. 10 *John Murray Anderson's Almanac* 1953
- b. 8 f. 6 *Kansas City* 1996
- b. 8 f. 7 *The Muppet Show* 1978
- b. 8 f. 8 *The New Bill Cosby Show* 1972
- b. 8 f. 9-12 *Odds Against Tomorrow* 1959
- b. 9 f. 1-8
- b. 66 f. 9
- b. 76 f. 11
- b. 9 f. 9 *Revlon Revue: Tonight with Belafonte* 1959
- b. 66 f. 10
- b. 9 f. 10 *The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour* 1968
- b. 9 f. 11 *The Steve Allen Show* 1958
- b. 10 f. 1-6 *The Strollin' Twenties* 1966
- b. 66 f. 11
- b. 10 f. 7 *Swing Vote* 1999
- b. 10 f. 8 Television Appearances with Sivuca 1972-1973
- b. 10 f. 9-11 *A Time for Laughter* 1967
- b. 11 f. 1-3 *The Tonight Show* 1968
- b. 11 f. 4 *Uptown Saturday Night* 1973
- b. 11 f. 5 *White Man's Burden* 1995
- b. 11 f. 6-8 *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil* 1959
- b. 11 f. 9-11 Various Television Appearances 1950s-1970s
- b. 66 f. 12
- b. 76 f. 12
- b. 11 f. 12 Promotional Film Portraits 1950s-1960s
- b. 76 f. 13
- b. 66 f. 13 Other Films 1933-1970

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)

Subseries I.D. Music 1949-2003

This subseries holds photographs and prints relating to Belafonte's music career, dating from 1949 to 2003. These images document Belafonte performing live, in studio, and in rehearsal; his collaborations with other musicians; and consist of commercial prints used for album covers, and promotional shots for concerts and tours. The subseries is arranged in the following groups: Collaborations, Commercial and Promotional, Live Performances, and Studio and Rehearsal.

The Collaborations grouping highlights musicians with whom Belafonte recorded and performed from the 1950s through the 1970s, such as Lena Horne, Miriam Makeba, Letta Mbulu, and Nana Mouskouri. These images comprise promotional, studio, and live performance shots. Nana Mouskouri is prominently featured, with many photographs from the sessions for *An Evening with Belafonte/Mouskouri* (1966). Belafonte's collaborations with Miriam Makeba are also well-represented.

Commercial and promotional prints primarily consist of portraits used for album covers and tours. Portraits for the albums *Jump Up Calypso* (1961), *The Midnight Special* (1962), *Turn the World Around* (1977), and *Loving You is Where I Belong* (1981) are contained here. Also included are promotional tour prints from the 1970s through the 1990s.

The live performance photographs date from 1949 to 2003, with most from the 1960s through the 1980s. Many performances depicted are in Germany. A scrapbook of Belafonte's performances at the Greek Theatre is present, as are photographs from Belafonte's final tour in 2003. A 1949 photograph shows Belafonte singing at the Royal Roost jazz club in New York City.

Photographs of Belafonte in studio and rehearsal largely date from the 1950s and 1960s. Several photographs originate from recording sessions in the early 1950s, and there is a large set of studio prints from 1962.

Many of the photographs in this subseries identify the photographer, especially those for live performances, studio sessions, and rehearsals. Photographers include Roy DeCarava, Bob Enriquez, and Micky Pallas.

Collaborations

- b. 12 f. 1 The Belafonte Folk Singers 1960s
- b. 12 f. 2-5 Lena Horne 1959-1970
- b. 69 f. 3
- b. 12 f. 6-8 Miriam Makeba 1960s
- b. 69 f. 4-5
- b. 12 f. 9-10 Letta Mbulu 1960s-1971
- b. 12 f. 11 Ella Mitchell 1972
- b. 13 f. 1-5 Nana Mouskouri 1965-1990s
- b. 66 f. 14
- b. 13 f. 6 Odetta 1960
- b. 13 f. 7 Falumi Prince and Rhetta Hughes 1972
- b. 13 f. 8 Floyd Westerman 1970s
- b. 13 f. 9-10 Kim Weston 1968
- b. 14 f. 1-9 Commercial and Promotional 1950s-1990s
- b. 67 f. 1-2
- b. 76 f. 14

Live Performances

- b. 76 f. 15 1949
- The Royal Roost.
- b. 63 The Greek Theatre 1955-1965
- Album of photographs, clippings, and letters detailing Belafonte's performances at the Greek Theatre.

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)

Subseries I.D. Music (cont.)

Live Performances (cont.)

- b. 14 f. 10 1959 April 19
Carnegie Hall.
- b. 14 f. 11 1959 December
RKO Palace Theatre.
- b. 14 f. 12 1961-1963
The Greek Theatre.
- b. 14 f. 13-14 1963
Includes a scrapbook with photographs by Robert Harris.
- b. 14 f. 15 1966 March
Paris, France.
- b. 67 f. 3 1978-1979
Germany.
- b. 15 f. 1 1981 September 25
Germany.
- b. 15 f. 2 1981 November 26
Hamburg, Germany.
- b. 15 f. 3 1983
Germany.
- b. 71 "Croma Show" 1986 March
Nice, France. Album.
- b. 15 f. 4 1988
Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- b. 15 f. 5 2003
- b. 15 f. 6-16 1950s-2000s
- b. 16 f. 1-23
- b. 17 f. 1-8
- b. 67 f. 4-8
- b. 75 f. 3-5
- b. 76 f. 16 o. 2 t. 1

Studio and Rehearsal

- b. 17 f. 9-12 1950s
- b. 76 f. 17-20 1950s-1960s
- b. 17 f. 13 1960 June 1
- b. 17 f. 14-18 1962
- b. 18 f. 1-2
- b. 18 f. 3 1963
- b. 18 f. 4-9 1960s
- b. 18 f. 10-11 1970s-1991

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)

Subseries I.E. Personal and Family 1945-2010s

Subseries I.E. contains personal photographs of Belafonte with family and friends, and at birthdays, weddings, and graduations. Portraits of Belafonte are also included in this subseries, as well as some photographs of other people. It is arranged in the following groups: Assorted Personal Photographs; Birthdays, Graduations, and Weddings; Family; Other People; and Portraits.

Photographs of Belafonte's family are most represented here. There are files on each of Belafonte's four children – Adrienne, David, Gina, and Shari – and his first two wives, Marguerite and Julie. Belafonte is in some photographs with them, but they mostly depict his family members alone or with other people. David, Gina, and Julie Belafonte are especially well-represented; the latter is shown in various dancing roles during the 1950s. Additionally, there is a large set of assorted family photographs that primarily date from the 1960s; and photographs given to Belafonte from his relatives, Beverly and Renee Belafonte, showing gravestones of family members.

The birthdays, weddings, and graduations chronicled in this subseries are mostly for Belafonte's family. The Other People grouping chiefly contains informal photographs of Belafonte with friends and acquaintances.

Portraits date from 1945 to the 2010s. Included here are two portraits of Belafonte in the U.S. Navy at age 18, one of which is inscribed to his mother; these are in box 24, folder 1. Most other portraits date from the 1990s to the 2010s, and feature a set of photographs taken by photographer Wolfgang Wendel in box 24, folders 10-12.

b. 19 f. 1-2
b. 75 f. 6-7
b. 77 f. 1

Assorted Personal Photographs 1950s-2000s

b. 19 f. 3-10
b. 20 f. 1-3
b. 64
b. 67 f. 9
b. 77 f. 2-3

Birthdays, Graduations, and Weddings 1959-2003

Box 64 contains a scrapbook for Belafonte's 76th birthday, with photographs and memorabilia from throughout his life.

Family

b. 20 f. 4-14
b. 21 f. 1-5
b. 67 f. 10-11
b. 77 f. 4-7 o. 3

Assorted Family Photographs 1960s-1980s

b. 68 f. 1
b. 77 f. 8

Adrienne Belafonte 1950s-1975

b. 21 f. 6-7

Adrienne and Shari Belafonte 1950s

b. 21 f. 8-13
b. 77 f. 9-11
b. 78 f. 1-11
b. 79 f. 1-13
b. 80 f. 1-3 o. 4

David Belafonte 1957-1990s

Boxes 78-80 contain personal photographs mostly taken by David Belafonte from the late 1980s and 1990s. These photographs depict friends, family members, pets, and nature, often on vacation.

b. 22 f. 1-8
b. 80 f. 4 o. 5

Gina Belafonte 1962-1990s

b. 22 f. 9-13
b. 68 f. 2
b. 80 f. 5-7

Julie Belafonte 1950s-1990s

Folder 13 in box 22 and folder 7 in box 80 contain photographs of Julie with Harry.

b. 22 f. 14 o. 9

Marguerite Belafonte 1950s

b. 23 f. 1-3 o. 6

Shari Belafonte 1950s-1980s

Box 23 contains a 1973-1974 Hampshire College yearbook.

b. 23 f. 4-5
b. 80 f. 8

Grandchildren 1970s-2004

b. 23 f. 6

Photographs from Beverly and Renee Belafonte 1996-1998

b. 23 f. 7
b. 80 f. 9

Promotional Airline Photographs 1950s-1960s

Photographs of Belafonte traveling with his family, used for promotion by various airlines.

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)
Subseries I.E. Personal and Family (cont.)

- b. 23 f. 8-14 **Other People**
- b. 68 f. 3
- b. 70 f. 1
- b. 24 f. 1-12 **Portraits 1945-2010s**
- b. 68 f. 4-5
- b. 80 f. 10-11 o. 7-8

Subseries I.F. Politics and Activism 1930s-2010

Images held in this subseries relate to Belafonte's activism, humanitarian activities, and political relationships. Belafonte's work with Peace Corps, UNICEF, and USA for Africa is detailed here, as well as his relationships with Martin Luther King, Jr. and Nelson Mandela. Photographs are arranged alphabetically by subject.

Among the most comprehensive photographs in this subseries pertain to UNICEF. There are numerous images of Belafonte's trips as a Goodwill Ambassador to Rwanda and Zaire, in addition to the 1988 "Social Mobilization for Child Survival and Development" conference he attended in Zimbabwe. Belafonte's work with USA for Africa is mostly documented by photographs of his 1985 trip to Kenya.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. photographs largely depict King with Belafonte from 1964 to 1968. There is a set of photographs showing King and Belafonte at the John F. Kennedy International Airport in 1964 before Belafonte departed for Guinea.

This subseries holds photographs of Nelson Mandela with Belafonte from the 1990s and 2000s, including contact sheets chronicling Mandela's 1990 tour of the United States. Also contained here are photographs of Belafonte with John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, and other members of the Kennedy family, as well as with Rosa Parks, including one photograph of Belafonte and Parks at a 1957 NAACP event.

The Politics grouping contains photographs of Belafonte with political and activist figures from throughout his life. Yasser Arafat, Mario Cuomo, Queen Elizabeth II, and Desmond Tutu are among those represented.

- b. 25 f. 1 **Bloods and Crips 1994**
Belafonte was appointed to help maintain peace between the Bloods and Crips gangs in the 1990s. Most of the photographs are inscribed to him.
- b. 25 f. 2 **Fidel Castro 1980s-1990s**
- b. 25 f. 3 **Guinea Visit 1964**
 b. 64 Box 64 contains an album.
- b. 25 f. 4 **Kennedy Family 1960s-2008**
- b. 25 f. 5-7 **Martin Luther King, Jr 1960s**
 b. 68 f. 6
- b. 70 f. 2
- b. 25 f. 8-9 **Nelson Mandela 1986-2004**
 b. 70 f. 3 Includes a draft for a film project about Mandela; a speech given by Belafonte for Winnie Mandela; South African newsletters; and a letter from Mandela to Belafonte.
- b. 25 f. 10 **NAACP 2002**
- b. 25 f. 11 **Rosa Parks 1957-1985**
- b. 25 f. 12 **Peace Corps 1960s-1985**
- b. 25 f. 13-15 **Politics 1950s-2000s**
 b. 26 f. 1-8
- b. 68 f. 7
- b. 80 f. 12
- b. 26 f. 9 **Presidents 1992-2010**
- b. 26 f. 10 **Princess Lilian 1990s**
- b. 26 f. 11 **Student March 1960s**
- b. 26 f. 12 **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee 1960s**

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)
Subseries I.F. Politics and Activism (cont.)

- b. 26 f. 13-14 **UNICEF 1986-2000s**
- b. 27 f. 1-2 Box 72 contains an album.
 - b. 72
 - b. 75 f. 8
- b. 27 f. 3-7 **USA for Africa 1985-1986**
- b. 73 **Venezuela 2006**
Album containing photographs from a meeting with President Hugo Chávez.
- b. 27 f. 8 **Wide World Photos 1930s-1940s**
Photographs from Wide World Photos, Inc. depicting various political and social events.

Subseries I.G. Travel and Vacations 1950s-2000s

Subseries I.G. chronicles Belafonte's trips and vacations from the 1950s to the 2000s. Photographs are arranged first by location, then by date, with a large amount of assorted travel photographs ordered at the end. This subseries contains many contact sheets and negatives, chiefly in the Assorted Travel Photographs grouping.

Subseries I.G. complements the slides in Series II, which also cover Belafonte's trips and vacations. There is minimal overlap between the two. The photographs contained here depict people, including Belafonte's family, more prominently than the slides in Series II.

Trips to Germany, Jamaica, and Japan feature extensively; two albums from Belafonte's visits to Japan in the 1960s are contained here. Also included are photographs of Belafonte water skiing, an activity he enjoyed while on vacation.

By Location

- b. 27 f. 9-11 **Argentina 1990s**
Photographs primarily depict a concert venue.
- b. 28 f. 1 **Big Cypress National Preserve 1970s**
Photographs taken by Jack Holmes.
- b. 28 f. 2 **Brazil 1960s**
- b. 28 f. 3-4 **Cuba 1970s**
 - b. 73 Box 73 contains an album.
- b. 80 f. 13 **Fire Island, New York**
- b. 81 f. 1 **Florence, Italy**
- b. 28 f. 5 **France 1969-1980s**
- b. 28 f. 6-13 **Germany 1970s-2003**
 - b. 68 f. 8
- b. 29 f. 1-2 **Haiti 1960s**
 - b. 81 f. 2
- b. 29 f. 3 **Hong Kong 1960s**
- b. 29 f. 4 **Hudson, New York 1960**
- b. 29 f. 5 **Israel 1960s**
 - b. 65 Box 65 contains an album given to Belafonte by members of Kibbutz Lahav.
- b. 29 f. 6-8 **Jamaica 1950s-2008**
 - b. 68 f. 9 Box 29 contains Jamaican postcards, and photographs taken in 2008 of Aboukir, Jamaica, where Belafonte lived as a child. Box 81 contains an album of Belafonte's 1997 trip.
 - b. 81 f. 3-4
- b. 29 f. 9-12 **Japan 1960s-1980s**
 - b. 65 Boxes 65 and 74 contain albums.
 - b. 68 f. 10
 - b. 74
 - b. 81 f. 5
- b. 30 f. 1 **Las Vegas, Nevada 1968 October**
- b. 30 f. 2 **Liberty City, Florida**
- b. 30 f. 3-5 **Mexico 1970s**

Series I: Photographs and Prints (cont.)
Subseries I.G. Travel and Vacations (cont.)
By Location (cont.)

- b. 30 f. 6 Navajo Nation 1970s
- b. 30 f. 7 Puerto Rico 1960s
- b. 30 f. 8-9 Soviet Union 1960s-1984
- By Date
- b. 30 f. 10 1988 June
- b. 30 f. 11-12 1996-1997
- b. 31 f. 1-2 1996-1997
- b. 31 f. 3 1998-1999
- b. 31 f. 4 Water Skiing 1970s
- b. 70 f. 4
- b. 31 f. 5-14 Assorted Travel Photographs 1960s-2000s
- b. 32 f. 1-15 Mostly contact sheets and negatives.
- b. 33 f. 1-12
- b. 68 f. 11
- b. 81 f. 6-13
- b. 82 f. 1-12

Series II: Slides 1958-1999 (27 boxes 11.25 linear feet)

The slides held in Series II extensively chronicle Belafonte's international and domestic travels from 1958 to 1999, including his humanitarian missions in the 1980s and 1990s. The majority of slides contain photographs taken by Belafonte; accordingly, he does not appear in most of them. Rather, the slides largely depict landscapes, nature, animals, city life, local inhabitants, monuments, buildings, and events. Belafonte (and, often, his family) travelled in the countries he toured as a musician, and many of the slides originate from these trips. The bulk of slides are arranged by date and cover trips and vacations; the rest are arranged by subject. Nearly every slide is in color and 35mm.

All the slides arranged by date use a numbering system that is drawn from an index in box 34. Slides are organized in sets by year, month, and a sequential number relating to the month. For instance, 9-43 for 1996 indicates the 43rd set of slides for September, 1996. The majority of sets contain around forty slides. The year and month-numbers are written on preservers that house each set of slides, and on their folders. The index also includes detailed descriptions of every set; brief descriptions taken from the index can be found in the container list. Additionally, the index lists a small number of undated slides.

Not every set of slides listed on the index is included. Some sets are missing entirely, while others have been removed from the sequence and arranged by subject. These slides retain the subject arrangement in the collection.

Highlights of the indexed slides include numerous trips to Saint Martin (where Belafonte owned property), Cuba, Germany, Jamaica, and Japan. There are slides from Belafonte's 1958 visits to East Berlin, Greece, Italy, and the Philippines, as well as 1960 visits to Hong Kong, Israel, and Australia. A trip to Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands in 1996 is chronicled by more than 3,000 slides that mostly depict animals and nature. A 1998 visit to Madagascar and Mauritius is also heavily chronicled.

Belafonte's humanitarian missions for UNICEF and USA for Africa are well-represented. His 1985 visits to Sudan, Ethiopia, and Tanzania for USA for Africa feature here, as do UNICEF trips from 1987 (Senegal), 1988 (Mozambique and Zimbabwe), and 1994 (Rwanda and Zaire). There are also slides of Nelson Mandela in both the United States and South Africa after his release from prison in 1990.

Slides arranged by subject are fewer, and cover various aspects of Belafonte's life and career. There is a large number of slides from the *Harry Belafonte and Friends* television special, in addition to other live performances. A group of slides titled "Harry Being Harry" contains informal shots and portraits of Belafonte from throughout his life.

By Date

- b. 34 f. 1 Index of Slides
- b. 34 f. 2 1958
- East Berlin; Greece; Italy; Philippines.

Series II: Slides (cont.)
By Date (cont.)

- b. 34 f. 3-5 **1960**
Hong Kong; Israel; Australia; Philippines.
- b. 34 f. 6 **1962**
Tunisia.
- b. 34 f. 7 **1964**
Mabel.
- b. 34 f. 8 **1971**
Buck and the Preacher; Aruba.
- b. 35 f. 1-2 **1972**
Aruba.
- b. 35 f. 3 **1975**
Doug Franklin.
- b. 35 f. 4 **1976**
Floyd Westerman.
- b. 35 f. 5-6 **1977**
Corby's wedding; Cuba.
- b. 35 f. 7-9 **1978**
- b. 36 f. 1-7 Family; Eiffel Tower; Germany; Cuba; Corby and Dennis; Denmark; Saint Martin; Monaco; West Virginia; tour; Chatham.
- b. 37 f. 1-4 **1979**
Michael and Beverly Manley; Chatham; Jamaica; Japan; Denmark; East Berlin; Cuba; Amsterdam.
- b. 37 f. 5-8 **1980**
- b. 38 f. 1-3 Saint Martin; Jamaica; Scotland; Cuba; Harlem; Central Park.
- b. 38 f. 4-8 **1981**
- b. 39 f. 1 Rent march; Times Square; Gumbs brothers; Colin Jones; Australia; Saint Martin; Germany; Bonn Rally; concentration camp.
- b. 39 f. 2-9 **1985**
- b. 40 f. 1-3 Grenada; Saint Martin; USA for Africa; Sudan; Ethiopia; Tanzania; Saint Paul de Vence; Cuba.
- b. 40 f. 4-5 **1986**
Saint Martin; Washington, D.C. rally; Nassau; Japan.
- b. 40 f. 6-7 **1987**
- b. 41 f. 1-2 Senegal; Beverly Hills; Cuban music festival.
- b. 41 f. 3-7 **1988**
Mozambique; Zimbabwe; *The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour*; St. Barts; Greece; Germany; London.
- b. 41 f. 8-9 **1989**
- b. 42 f. 1-4 New Orleans; Cuba; Saint Martin; Lake Tahoe; Gabriel García Márquez.
- b. 42 f. 5-8 **1990**
- b. 43 f. 1-8 Danny Kaye Award; Cuba; Nelson Mandela; Spain; South Africa; Mexico.
- b. 44 f. 1-2 **1991**
Lake Tahoe; Monte Carlo.
- b. 44 f. 3 **1992**
Barbados; Saint Martin; Cuba.
- b. 44 f. 4-7 **1993**
Lake Tahoe; Washington, D.C.; *Philadelphia* (film); Belafonte's band; Spain; Portugal; Germany; Saint Martin; Las Vegas.

Series II: Slides (cont.)

By Date (cont.)

- b. 44 f. 8-9 **1994**
- b. 45 f. 1-8 Belafonte's band; San Diego; Japan; Cuba; Richard Rosenberg's wedding; Russia; Saint
- b. 46 f. 1-6 Martin; France; Zaire; Rwanda.
- b. 46 f. 7 **1995**
- b. 47 f. 1-3 Pete Seeger and Sweet Honey in the Rock; Atlantic City; Saint Martin; *Kansas City* (film);
- Palm Springs.
- b. 47 f. 4-8 **1996**
- b. 48 f. 1-8 Jamaica; Singapore; Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands; *White Man's Burden*; Djoliba visit;
- b. 49 f. 1-8 Saint Paul de Vence.
- b. 50 f. 1-7
- b. 50 f. 8 **1997**
- b. 51 f. 1-8 Singapore; Jamaica; Saint Martin; Cuba; Hawaii; Costa Rica; New York City.
- b. 52 f. 1
- b. 52 f. 2-8 **1998**
- b. 53 f. 1-8 Ireland; Newcastle upon Tyne; Madagascar; Mauritius.
- b. 54 f. 1-7
- b. 54 f. 8 **1999**
- Saint Martin.
- b. 54 f. 9 **Undated Slides**
- b. 55 f. 1-7 Cuba; France; tour; Richard Rosenberg; Copenhagen; Sweden; Austria; Saint Martin;
- German television; Japan; Philippines; Hong Kong; Haiti; Puerto Rico; Jamaica; Guinea.

By Subject

- b. 55 f. 8 **Africa 1979-1994**
- b. 56 f. 1
- b. 56 f. 2 **European Tour 1976**
- b. 56 f. 3 **Family**
- b. 56 f. 4 **Film and Television**
- b. 56 f. 5 **Harry Being Harry**
- b. 56 f. 6-8 *Harry Belafonte and Friends 1996*
- b. 57 f. 1-8
- b. 58 f. 1 **Japan 1974**
- b. 58 f. 2-8 **Live Performances**
- b. 58 f. 9 **Letta Mbulu**
- b. 59 f. 1 **Minneapolis, Minnesota Concerts 1981**
- b. 59 f. 2 **Nelson Mandela 70th Birthday Tribute 1988**
- b. 59 f. 3-5 **Portraits**
- b. 59 f. 6-10 **Saint Martin 1980-1981**
- b. 60 f. 1-7
- b. 60 f. 8 **Singers and Bands**
- b. 60 f. 9 **VIP Events**
- b. 60 f. 10 **Zimbabwe 1988**
- b. 60 f. 11 **Various Slides**