Yale University Library Oral History of American Music

Guide to Connor and Neff blues collection BL

Compiled by Anne Rhodes

2022-02-16

P.O. Box 208240 New Haven, CT 06520-8307 musicspecialcollections@yale.edu http://guides.library.yale.edu/oham/collectionsguide

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Oral History of American Music

P.O. Box 208240

New Haven, CT 06520-8307 musicspecialcollections@yale.edu

http://guides.library.yale.edu/oham/collectionsguide

CALL NUMBER: BL

CREATOR: Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer

TITLE: Connor and Neff Blues Interviews

BULK DATES: 1964–1976

BULK DATES: 1964–1976

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 35 Audiotape Reels

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 67 Audiocassettes

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 123 Computer Files (48.5 gigabytes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Connor and Neff Blues Collection consists of 96 interviews with various blues

musicians and blues industry figures. These interviews were the basis for the 1975 book

The Blues by Anthony Connor and Robert Neff.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: https://

hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/oham.bl

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research. To request access to recordings or transcripts of interviews (if available), see OHAM's website.

Some interviews may be restricted. Access to these restricted interviews may only be granted to a patron who has first obtained direct permission from the interviewee or their estate.

Some interviews may not have been digitized or are otherwise not available to stream online.

Conditions Governing Use

Rights and permissions for OHAM materials vary between individual interviews. Researchers wishing to publish or broadcast OHAM materials are responsible for obtaining direct authorization from copyright holders: generally, the interviewees or their estates.

Preferred Citation

BL, Connor and Neff Blues Collection, Oral History of American Music, in the Music Library of Yale University.

Scope and Contents

The Connor and Neff Blues Collection consists of 96 interviews with various blues musicians and blues industry figures. These interviews were the basis for the 1975 book The Blues by Anthony Connor and Robert Neff.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged alphabetically by surname of interviewee.

Collection Contents Allison, Luther

b. Allison, Luther 1976 October 26

39002038324142, # BL 64

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Allison, Luther, 1939-1997, interviewee

Bell, Carey

b. Bell, Carey 1974 May 7

39002038324142, # BL 42

39002038326923 1 Audiotape Reel

Names:

Bell, Carey, 1936-2007, interviewee

Below, Fred

b. Below, Fred unknown

39002038324142, # BL 8

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Below, Fred, 1926-1988, interviewee

b. Below, Fred 1973

39002038324142,

BL 7

item 1 Audiotape Reel

39002038326337 Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer

Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Below, Fred, 1926-1988, interviewee

Benton, Buster

b. Benton, Buster 1974 May 11

39002038324142, # BL 43

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Tape also contains live footage of Willie Dixon's band.

Names:

Benton, Buster, 1932-1996, interviewee

Bishop, Elvin

b. Bishop, Elvin 1974 August 13

39002038324142, # BL 61

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Bishop, Elvin (1942-10-21-), interviewee

Brooks, Lonnie

b. Brooks, Lonnie 1974 July 23

39002038324142, # BL 52

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Brooks, Lonnie (1933-12-18-2017-04-01), interviewee

Brown, Clarence "Gatemouth"

b. Brown, Clarence "Gatemouth" 1973 June 29

39002038324142, # BL 19

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Brown, Clarence, 1924-2005, interviewee

Cotton, James

b. Cotton, James unknown

39002038324142, BL 1

 $\#\ 39002038326501 \text{b}. \qquad I\ Audiotape\ Reel$

39002038324142, Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer # 39002038326519b. Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

39002038324142,

39002038326527b. Names:

39002038324142, # Cotton, James, 1935-2017, interviewee

39002038326535

Dawkins, Jimmy

Dawkins, Jimmy unknown

39002038324142, # BL 11

39002038326378 1 Audiotape Reel

> Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Dawkins, Jimmy (19361024-20130410), interviewee

Dawkins, Jimmy 1973 June

39002038324142, # BL 12

39002038326386

1 Audiotape Reel

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Dawkins, Jimmy (19361024-20130410), interviewee

Diddley, Bo

b. Diddley, Bo 1974 April 3

39002038324142, BL 37-38 # 39002038326873b. *I Audiotape Reel*

39002038324142, # Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer 39002038326881 Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Bo Diddley, 1928-2008, interviewee

Dixon, Willie

b. Dixon, Willie unknown

39002038324142, # BL 6

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Dixon, Willie, 1915-1992, interviewee

b. Dixon, Willie 1973

39002038324142, # BL 7

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Dixon, Willie, 1915-1992, interviewee

b. Dixon, Willie 1974 July 26

39002038324142, # BL 56

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Dixon, Willie, 1915-1992, interviewee

Guy, Phil

1974 July 2

b. Guy, Phil 39002038324142, # BL 47

1 Audiotape Reel 39002038326972

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Guy, Phil (1940-04-28-2008-08-20), interviewee

Guy, Buddy

b. Guy, Buddy 39002038324142,# BL 49 undated

1 Audiotape Reel 39002038326998

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Guy, Buddy (19360730), interviewee

Harvey, Ted

b. Harvey, Ted 1973 July 25

39002038324142, BL 21-22

39002038326550b. 2 Audiotape Reels

39002038324142, # Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer 39002038326568 Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Guy, Buddy (19360730), interviewee

Hooker, John Lee

b. Hooker, John Lee 1973 September

39002038324142, BL 29-30 # 39002038326824b. 2 Audiotape Reels

39002038324142, # Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer 39002038326832 Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Hooker, John Lee (1917-08-22?-2001-06-21-), interviewee

b. Hooker, John Lee 1974 March 10

39002038324142, # BL 36

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Hooker, John Lee (1917-08-22?-2001-06-21-), interviewee

Hutto, Joseph Benjamin "J.B."

b. Hutto, Joseph Benjamin "J.B." 1973 June 26

39002038324142, BL 12-13 # 39002038326386b. *I Audiotape Reel*

39002038324142, # Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer 39002038326394 Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Hutto, J. B. (1926-04-29-1983-06-12), interviewer

unknown

Johnson, Kennard

b. Johnson, Kennard "Kenny the Snake"

39002038324142, # BL 2

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Johnson, Kennard, interviewee

undated

Johnson, Luther "Georgia Boy"

b. Johnson, Luther "Georgia Boy"

39002038324142, # BL 36

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Johnson, Luther, 1934-1976, interviewer

King, Freddy

b. King, Freddy 1973 October 3

39002038324142, # BL 28

> King, Freddy, 1934-1976, interviewee Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

b. King, Freddie 1974 August 2

39002038324142, # BL60

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

King, Freddy, 1934-1976

Koester, Bob

b. Koester, Bob 1973 June 27

39002038324142, # BL 17

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Koester, Bob, 1932-, interviewee

Koester, David

b. Koester, David 1973 June 27

39002038324142, # BL 16

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Koester, David, interviewee

Lawhorn, Sammy

b. Lawhorn, Sammy undated

39002038324142, # BL 57

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Lawhorn, Sammy (19350712-19900429), interviewee

Littlejohn, John

b. Littlejohn, John 1974 July 26

39002038324142, BL 55-56 # 39002038327186b. *I Audiotape Reel*

39002038324142, # Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer 39002038327194 Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Littlejohn, Johnny, 1931-1994, interviewee

1973 June 27

Luandrew, Albert ("Sunnyland Slim")

b. Luandrew, Albert ("Sunnyland Slim")

39002038324142, # BL 18

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Sunnyland Slim, 1907-1995, interviewee

McGhee, Brownie

b. McGhee, Brownie ca. 1974 July

39002038324142, # BL 44

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

McGhee, Brownie, 1915-1996, interviewee

McGhee, Brownie and Sonny Terry

b. McGhee, Brownie and Sonny Terry 1974 June 26

39002038324142, # BL 45

Connor, Anthony, 1946- , interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930- , interviewer

with Sonny Terry

Names:

McGhee, Brownie, 1915-1996, interviewee

Terry, Sonny (1911-10-24-1986-03-11), interviewee

Montgomery, Eurrel Wilford "Little Brother"

b. Montgomery, Eurreal Wilford "Little Brother" 1973 June 26

39002038324142, BL 13-14

39002038326394b. 2 Audiotape Reels

39002038324142, # Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer 39002038326402 Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewee

Names

Montgomery, Little Brother, 1906-1985, interviewee

Murphy, Matt

b. Murphy, Matt "Guitar" 1974 March 10

39002038324142, # BL 35

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Murphy, Matt, (Guitarist) (1929-12-28-2018-06-15), interviewee

Myers, Louis

b. Myers, Louis undated

39002038324142, # BL 10

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Myers, Louis (1929-09-18-1994-09-05)

b. Myers, Louis undated

39002038324142, # BL 11

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Myers, Louis (1929-09-18-1994-09-05), interviewee

Myers, Dave

b. Myers, Dave 1974 July 26

39002038324142, # BL 58

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewee

Names

Myers, Dave, 1926-2001, interviewee

Parker, Dan

b. Parker, Dan undated

39002038324142, # BL 4

> Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

b. Parker, Dan undated

39002038324142, # BL 5

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewee

undated

Phillips, Esther

Phillips, Esther

39002038324142, # BL 61 x

39002038327137 1 Audiotape Reel

> Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Phillips, Esther, 1935-1984, interviewee

Phillips, Esther 1974 October 21

39002038324142, # BL 62

39002038327129 1 Audiotape Reel

> Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Phillips, Esther, 1935-1984, interviewee

Phillips, Esther undated

39002038324142, # BL 63

39002038327111 1 Audiotape Reel

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer

Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Phillips, Esther, 1935-1984, interviewee

undated

Rebenneck, Malcolm John ("Dr, John")

b. Rebenneck, Malcolm John ("Dr. John")

39002038324142, BL 65-66 # 39002038327087b. *I Audiotape Reel*

39002038324142, # Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer 39002038327095 Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Dr. John, 1941-2019, interviewee

Reidy, Bob

b. Reidy, Bob 1974 July 24

39002038324142, # BL 54

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Riedy, Bob, interviewee

Seals, Frank "Son"

b. Seals, Frank "Son" 1974 July 24

39002038324142, # BL 53

39002038327038 1 Audiotape Reel

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Seals, Son (1942-08-13-2004-12-20) , interviewee

Sharif, Little Beau

b. Sharif, Little Beau 1974 March 10

39002038324142, # BL 35

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Sharif, LIttle Beau, interviewee

Shaw, Eddie and Emery "Detroit Junior" Williams, Jr.

b. Shaw, Eddie and Emery "Detroit Junior" Williams, Jr. 1973 October 26

39002038324142, # BL 31

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Detroit Junior, 1931-2005, interviewee Shaw, Eddie, 1937-2018, interviewee

Shines, Johnny

b. Shines, Johnny 1974 June 30

39002038324142, # BL 46

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Shines, Johnny (1915-04-26-1992-04-20), interviewee

Smith, George "Harmonica"

b. Smith, George "Harmonica"

undated

39002038324142, # BL 3

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Smith, George, 1924-1983, interviewee

b. Smith, George "Harmonica"

undated

39002038324142, # BL 4

BL 4

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Smith, George, 1924-1983, interviewee

b. Smith, George "Harmonica", and his band

undated

39002038324142, # BL 5

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Smith, George, 1924-1983, interviewee

Smith, Willie "Big Eyes"

b. Smith, Willie "Big Eyes" 1973 August 10

39002038324142, # BL 26

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Smith, Willie, 1936-2011, interviewee

Sykes, Roosevelt

b. Sykes, Roosevelt 1974 October 21

39002038324142, # BL 62

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Sykes, Roosevelt (1906-01-31-1983-07-11), interviewee

Taylor, Theodore Roosevelt "Hound Dog"

b. Taylor, Theodore Roosevelt "Hound Dog"

39002038324142, # BL 8

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Taylor, Hound Dog, 1915-1975, interviewee

b. Taylor, Theodore Roosevelt "Hound Dog"

39002038324142, # BL 9

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Taylor, Hound Dog, 1915-1975, interviewee

b. Taylore, Theodor Roosevelt "Hound Dog"

 $39002038324142,\#\ BL\ 10$

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Taylor, Hound Dog, 1915-1975, interviewee

b. Taylor, Theodore Roosevelt "Hound Dog"

39002038324142, # BL 21

39002038326550

1 Audiotape Reel

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Taylor, Hound Dog, 1915-1975, interviewee

b. Taylor, Theodore Roosevelt "Hound Dog"

 $39002038324142,\#\ BL\ 22$

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Taylor, Hound Dog, 1915-1975, interviewee

undated

undated

undated

undated

undated

Taylor, Koko

b. Taylor, Koko 1974 July 23

39002038324142, # BL 52

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Taylor, Koko (1928-09-28-2009-06-03), interviewee

b. Taylor, Koko 1974 July 30

39002038324142, # BL 59

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Taylor, Koko (1928-09-28-2009-06-03), interviewee

Thornton, Willie Mae "Big Mama"

Thornton, Willie Mae "Big Mama" BL 33 a-b 23 pp.
Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

1974 February 10

Names:

Thornton, Big Mama (1926-12-11-1984-07-25), interviewee

Tucker, Luther

b. Tucker, Luther 1973 September

39002038324142, # BL 29

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Tucker, Luther (1936-01-20-1993-06-18), interviewee

Vinson, Eddie "Cleanhead"

b. Vinson, Eddie "Cleanhead" 1973 June 30

39002038324142, # BL 19

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer

Neff, Robert, 1930-

Names:

Vinson, Eddie (1917-12-18-1988-07-02), interviewee

b. Vinson, Eddie "Cleanhead" 1973 July 25

39002038324142, # BL 20

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Vinson, Eddie (1917-12-18-1988-07-02), interviewer

Wallace, Sippie

b. Wallace, Sippie 1974 October 21

39002038324142, BL 62

item 1 Audiotape Reel

39002038327129 Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer

Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Wallace, Sippie (18981101-19861101), interviewee

Waterman, Dick

b. Waterman, Dick 1973 July 28

39002038324142, # BL 23

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Waterman, Dick, interviewee

b. Waterman, Dick 1973 July 28

39002038324142, # BL 24

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewee Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewee

Names:

Waterman, Dick, interviewee

Waters, Muddy

b. Waters, Muddy 1973 July 9

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Muddy Waters, 1915-1983, interviewee

b. Waters, Muddy 1973 August 9

39002038324142, # BL 26

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewee

Band members, Calvin "Fuzz" Jones, Hollywood Fats, and Mojo Buford, are also present.

Names

Muddy Waters, 1915-1983, interviewee

b. Waters, Muddy 1973 August 10

39002038324142, # BL 27

39002038326808 1 Audiotape Reel

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Muddy Waters, 1915-1983, interviewee

Wells, Junior

b. Wells, Junior 1974 July 5

39002038324142, # BL 48

> Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names

Wells, Junior, 1934-1998, interviewee

b. Wells, Junior 1974 July 5

39002038324142, # BL 49

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Names:

Wells, Junior, 1934-1998, interviewee

Young, "Mighty" Joe

Young, "Mighty" Joe 1974 April 6

39002038324142, # BL 39

1 Audiotape Reel 39002038326899

Names:

Young, Mighty Joe , interviewee

b. Young, "Mighty" Joe 1974 April 6

39002038324142, # BL 40

39002038326907 1 Audiotape Reel

> Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer

Young, Mighty Joe, interviewee

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

African American musicians Blues (Music) Blues Musicians Women blues musicians

Contributors

Connor, Anthony, 1946-, interviewer Neff, Robert, 1930-, interviewer