

**THE CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC, MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY,
MURFREESBORO, TN**

BESSEMER [ALABAMA] BLACK GOSPEL QUARTETS COLLECTION

89-064

Creator:

The Center for Popular Music

Type of Material:

Sound Recordings

Physical Description:

7 audio cassettes

7 analog audio cassette tapes (TCA-0091A/G)

Dates:

1989 October 7-8

Abstract (Descriptive Summary):

These audio tapes record rehearsals, a radio program, and performances of black gospel quartets Four Eagles, Birmingham Sunlights, Shelby County Big Four, Sterling Jubilee Singers, Delta-aires, Silver Queens, and the Fairfield Four.

Access/Restrictions:

The collection is open for research use.

Provenance and Acquisition Information:

Center-generated and recorded by Bruce Nemerov, audio archivist of the Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University, October 7-8, 1989.

Subject/Index Terms:

Gospel music--Alabama

African Americans--Music

Four Eagle Gospel Singers

Birmingham Sunlights (Musical group)

Shelby County Big Four

Sterling Jubilee Singers

Delta-Aires (Musical group)

Agency History/Biographical Sketch:

Scope and Content:

Audio tapes (TCA-0091A/B) of rehearsal of Four Eagles (James MacWilliams, Elorzia Coleman, Dell Coleman, Joe Watson, John Lawrence, and John Petty) recorded at the home of John Lawrence, Birmingham, Alabama, October 8, 1989 and of Birmingham Sunlights (Barry Taylor, Steve Taylor, James Alexander, Rickey Spates, and Eddie Washington) recorded at the home of

Barry Taylor,

Birmingham, Alabama, October 7, 1989. Includes brief discussion of P.L. Duncan and the Princely Players with gospel music researcher Doug Seroff.

Audio tape (TCA-0091C) of radio program by the Four Eagles broadcast over WENN, Birmingham, Alabama, October 8, 1989.

Audio tapes of performance on October 8, 1989 at AFL-CIO Hall, Bessemer, Alabama, by Four Eagles, Shelby County Big Four, Sterling Jubilee Singers, Delta-aires, Silver Queens, the Fairfield Four, and the Birmingham Sunlights. Includes invocation and exhortation by Deacon Walter Sanders; presentation of the key to the city to the Fairfield Four; and comments by the Birmingham Sunlights on their African tour.

Audio tape logs, including a list of all songs performed, made by audio archivist Bruce Nemerov are available in paper form in the Center's reading room. Please contact Center staff for more information.

Arrangement:

Audio tapes are arranged by tape number.

Location:

Audio tapes are filed by tape number with other audio visual archival materials.

Related Materials:

For earlier performances by these two groups, see "Sterling Jubilee Singers/Birmingham Sunlights Collection" (audio tapes and transcript, 89-034).

Processed by Ellen Garrison, May 1990
Revised by Rachel K. Morris, June 2011