



WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Walter P. Reuther Library

Guide to the James and Grace Lee Boggs Photographs and Audio-Visual Materials UAV001342

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <https://reuther.wayne.edu>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Walter P. Reuther Library
Creator:	Boggs, James
Creator:	Boggs, Grace Lee
Creator:	James, C.L.R. (Cyril Lionel Robert)
Creator:	Henry, Milton
Title:	James and Grace Lee Boggs Photographs and Audio-Visual Materials
ID:	UAV001342
Date [inclusive]:	1951-1991
Physical Description:	2.25 Linear Feet .5 MB, 1 SB, 1 OS, 1 folder.
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Material primarily in English. One poster is in Italian.
Abstract:	<p>The James and Grace Lee Boggs Photographs and Audio-Visual Materials document the personal and philosophical interests of the Boggses throughout their respective lives. Featured are audio recordings of lectures, sermons, and interviews by Rev. Albert Cleage (Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman), Malcolm X, Milton Henry, and C.L.R. James, among others, and recordings from entities such as the Freedom NOW Party and the National Grassroots Leadership Conference. Though not as heavily represented, recordings of both James and Grace Lee Boggs offer insight into the evolution of their personal beliefs. Photographs are primarily of a personal nature, and include numerous snapshots. Graphic materials include buttons and stickers pertinent to issues involving Detroit politics and community activism, as well as a poster advertising a lecture that James Boggs gave in Italy, likely in 1968.</p>

Citation Style

"James and Grace Lee Boggs Photographs and Audio-Visual Materials, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University"

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History

James and Grace Lee Boggs were revolutionary socialists who played a leading role in organizing radical organizations in Detroit and nationally as well as theorizing and updating the political philosophy of Marxism-Leninism. James Boggs was also a career auto worker employed at the Chrysler Corporation from 1940 to 1968. Mr. Boggs authored a number of books, including *The American Revolution: Pages From a Negro Worker's Notebook*, *Racism and the Class Struggle: Further Pages From a Black Worker's Notebook*, *Revolution and Evolution in the Twentieth Century* and *Conversations in Maine*. He died on July 22, 1993.

Grace Lee Boggs, who received a Ph.D. from Bryn Mawr College in 1940, co-authored *Revolution and Evolution in the Twentieth Century* and *Conversations in Maine* with her husband. Dr. Boggs was also employed by the city of Detroit as a teacher for many years. The Boggses also contributed to the founding of the National Organization for an American Revolution (NOAR) from 1979-1981 and were primary theorists and organizers for NOAR from 1979-1987. During the 1970's and 1980's the Boggses spent much of their time lecturing to university audiences, community organizations and revolutionary and radical groups nationwide.

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Scope and Content

Series 1: Audio Recordings, 1950s-1980s. Includes 5-inch reel-to-reel tapes, 7-inch reel-to-reel tapes, and cassette tapes. Series 2: Visual Materials, 1960s-1990s. Includes photographs, posters, stickers, and buttons.

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Arrangement

Material is arranged in two series.

Series 1 (Boxes 1-2) contains audio recordings, further divided into subseries by format, and arranged is chronologically.

Series 2 (Box 3) contains visual materials, further divided into subseries by formats, and is arranged alphabetically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Walter P. Reuther Library

5401 Cass Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202

URL: <https://reuther.wayne.edu>

Acquisition

The papers of James and Grace Lee Boggs were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in 1987 by James and Grace Lee Boggs. Additional donations were made in 1993, 1994, and 2008.

Processing History

Processed and finding aid written by Elizabeth Clemens on January 7, 2020.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Use

Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library "Rules for Use of Archival Materials."

Other Copies

Digital Copies of many of the audio recordings are available for research.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Detroit (Mich.)
- Black nationalism--United States
- Civil rights movement
- Asian American women
- Detroit (Mich.) -- Politics and government
- African Americans
- Communism
- Radicalism
- Social history

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Audio Recordings

Subseries A: 5-inch reel-to-reel tapes

Title/Description	Instances	
American Vision Lecture #2: CLR James, "Melville," 1953 April 22. Reel 1 of 2.	Box 1	Audio Reel 1
American Vision Lecture #2: CLR James, "Melville," 1953 April 22. Reel 1 of 2.	Box 1	Audio Reel 2
American Vision Lecture #3: CLR James, "The Time is Out of Joint," 1953 April 29. Reel 1 of 2.	Box 1	Audio Reel 3
American Vision Lecture #3: CLR James, "The Time is Out of Joint," 1953 April 29. Reel 2 of 2.	Box 1	Audio Reel 4
Side One: James Boggs on culture, undated. Side Two: Malcolm X at University of Michigan, Late 1963.	Box 1	Audio Reel 5
Side One: Malcolm X interview by Milt(ton) Henry, 1964 July. Side Two: Rev. Albert Cleage at Eastern Michigan University, 1962 May 21.	Box 1	Audio Reel 6
Freedom Now Rally, Detroit, MI, 1965-10-11. Speakers: William Worthy, Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr., Wilfred X, Ref Wilson. [Tape needs conservation work]	Box 1	Audio Reel 7
"The World Across the Street," Harvard Graduate School of Education One Shot Special Series, 1966-09-21.	Box 1	Audio Reel 8

Subseries B: 7-inch reel-to-reel tapes

Title/Description	Instances	
"James Baldwin Interview," 1959 January 13. Interview recorded at Monroe, NC.	Box 1	Audio Reel 9
"Robert Williams, NAACP president, interview in New York City," 1961 January 22.	Box 1	Audio Reel 10
"Who Will Blow the Trumpet?," 1963 August 20. Speaker: Grace Lee Boggs.	Box 1	Audio Reel 11
"Freedom Now Rally," Detroit, MI, 1963 October 11. Side One: William Worthy, Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr. Side Two: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr., Wilfred X.	Box 1	Audio Reel 12
Side One: King Solomon Rally, Detroit, MI, 1963 November 10. Speakers: Milton Henry; Selma Sparks; Gwen Mallette; Grace Lee Boggs; McGratton; George Mitchell; Shorton; Charles Thomas; William J. Brennen; Jimmy (James) Boggs; Joe Constantine; Charles Thomas; Shelton Tapps; Rev. Hunt; Gloria Hunt; Gratton. Side Two: Grassroots Leadership Conference, Detroit, MI, 1963 November 9. Speakers: Joe Constantine, Grace Lee Boggs, Charles Thomas, Selma Sparks; Ray; Reginal Wilson; Rev. Laurence Henry; Richard Henry; Gloria Richardson; William Worthy; Don Freeman.	Box 1	Audio Reel 13
"Freedom Now Party: Building the Party," 1964 June 10. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 14
"Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr., Jr., Candidate for Governor, Michigan Freedom Now Party." 1964 September 20th. Recorded at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Saginaw, MI.	Box 1	Audio Reel 15
"The Revolutionary Nationalist Image," 1966 February.	Box 1	Audio Reel 16
"Malcolm X. Memorial Service," 1967 February 24. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 17
"BTWBA," 1967 September 20. Note reads: "Booker T. Washington Meeting. Garrett for Cotillion Club. Cleage for CCAC."	Box 1	Audio Reel 18
"Black Revolution," Detroit, MI, 1968 May 3. Side One: Speakers: White, Intro Comments; Dr. Lewis Killen, "The Nature of the Real White Backlash;" Grace Lee Boggs, Comments; Milton Henry, comments. Side Two: Discussion, questions, and responses.	Box 1	Audio Reel 19
Side One: "Sermon," 1967 November 19. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr. Side Two: "Sermon," 1967 November 26. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 20
Side One: "Sermon," 1967 December 3. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr. Side Two: "Sermon," 1967 December 17. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 21
Side One: "Sermon," 1967 December 24. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr. Side Two: "Sermon," 1967 December 31. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 22

"First Statewide ICOC Convention," Side One: "Opening Remarks, James Boggs; Election; Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr., Keynote Session, Jr.," 1967 November 24. "Workshop: Control of Political Power (cont.), Control of Economic Power," 1967 November 25. Side Two: "Workshop: Control of Housing, Control of Education" "Workshop: Control of Political Power," 1967 November 25.	Box 1	Audio Reel 23
"First Statewide ICOC Convention," Side One: "Workshop: The Role of Youth in Black Revolution, 1967 November 25. (Partial recording of session). Side Two: "Conclusion of convention," 1967 November 26.	Box 1	Audio Reel 24
"Sermon: Let's Come out of the Wilderness," 1968 January 14. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 25
"Sermon: Fishers of Men," 1968 January 21. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 26
Side One: "Sermon," 1968 April 7. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr. Includes a tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 27
Side One: "Sermon," 1968 April 21. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr. Note reads: "Instant Salvation."	Box 1	Audio Reel 28
Side One: "Flaws in Movement," 1969 May. Speaker: Dan A. Side Two: "Origin (?)," 1969 June 6. Speaker: James B (Boggs).	Box 1	Audio Reel 29
Dr. C.N. Young, Stonybrook, NY, 1971 September 11.	Box 1	Audio Reel 30
"Blacks in the Cities: Agenda for the '70s," University of Detroit, Detroit, MI, 1972 May 5. Speakers: Jonas Chennault, James Boggs. Note: Event sponsored by Blacks Against Racism.	Box 1	Audio Reel 31
"Freedom Now Party Election," Undated. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 1	Audio Reel 32
Grassroots Leadership Conference, Detroit, MI, Undated. Speakers: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.; Dan Watts, "Liberator"; Charles Johnson, UHURU; Don Freeman, African American Institute; George Thorne; George Mitchell, GOAL; Robert Higgins; Lamarr Jarron, FAP; Charles Thomas, Direct Action Committee; Selma Sparks; Milton Henry; James Boggs; Wilbur Bratton.	Box 1	Audio Reel 33
"Harold Lawrence," Undated.	Box 1	Audio Reel 34
"P.E.C. - Committee Evaluation," Undated.	Box 1	Audio Reel 35

Subseries C: Cassettes

Title/Description	Instances	
American Vision Lecture # 2: Speaker: CLR James, "Melville," 1953 April 22. Cassette 1 of 2.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 1

American Vision Lecture # 2: Speaker: CLR James, "Melville," 1953 April 22. Cassette 2 of 2.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 2
American Vision Lecture #3: CLR James, "The Time is Out of Joint," 1953 April 29. Cassette 1 of 2.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 3
American Vision Lecture #3: CLR James, "The Time is Out of Joint," 1953 April 29. Cassette 2 of 2.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 4
Grassroots Leadership Conference, Detroit, MI, 1963 November 9. Note reads: "Mr. Kelly's." Cassette 1 of 2.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 5
Grassroots Leadership Conference, Detroit, MI, 1963 November 9. Note reads: "Mr. Kelly's." Cassette 2 of 2.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 6
"Malcolm X. Memorial Service," 1967 February 24. Speaker: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 7
"Cultural Revolution," 1984 November 1.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 8
Untitled, 1984 November 1.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 9
"Education and the Black Family," 1987 March 11. Recorded at Jerusalem Baptist Church.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 10
"Mohawk," 1987 July 5. Note reads: "Spirituality, etc."	Box 2	Audio Cassette 11
"Greens: Katsi Miskitos," 1987 July.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 12
"Greens: Indian Spirituality," 1987 July. Note Reads: "Mohawk, Barreinos (?), Spirituality, etc."	Box 2	Audio Cassette 13
"Greens: Indian Rights," 1987 July. Note Reads: "Mohawk, Ritual, Resource Rights."	Box 2	Audio Cassette 14
"Indian Rights," 1987 July. Note Reads: "Jose Barreinos(?), Greens."	Box 2	Audio Cassette 15
"Good News on WEPROS," 1989 October.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 16
"CLR James Soc Sch Conference," 1989 April 1. Speakers: Buble, Boyd, Campbell, Blackburn.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 17
National Grassroots Leadership Conference; Undated. Cassette 1 of 3.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 18
National Grassroots Leadership Conference; Undated. Cassette 2 of 3.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 19
National Grassroots Leadership Conference; Undated. Cassette 3 of 3.	Box 2	Audio Cassette 20

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Series 2: Visual Materials

Subseries D: Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
Asian Political Alliance	Box 3	Folder 1
Boggs, Grace Lee; Groups; with James Boggs	Box 3	Folder 2
Boggs, Grace Lee; Individual	Box 3	Folder 3
Boggs, Grace Lee; Travel; China	Box 3	Folder 4
Boggs, Grace Lee; Travel; Switzerland, 1991	Box 3	Folder 5
Church of our Father Missionary Baptist Church; Group Scene, 1990	Box 3	Folder 6
Demonstrations; Detroiters United vs Gambling, Detroit, MI, 1988	Box 3	Folder 7
James, C.L.R.	Box 3	Folder 8
Ming, Chi	Box 3	Folder 9
Radical Bookstore; Interior	Box 3	Folder 10
Unidentified Snapshots	Box 3	Folder 11

Subseries E: Posters, Stickers, Buttons

Title/Description	Instances	
"Alberta Tinsley Williams for City Council," Sticker.	Box 3	Folder 12
"If You're Not Working Neither is the Capitalist System," Bumper Sticker.	Box 3	Folder 12
"I'm Mad as Hell About My Gas Bill," Bumper Sticker.	Box 3	Folder 12
"NO Proposal A: Save Ford Auditorium," Sticker. (2 copies)	Box 3	Folder 12
"Say No to Casinos," Bumper Sticker.	Box 3	Folder 12
"SOSAD: Save our Sons and Daughters," Button.	Box 3	Folder 12
"We Won't Let Crime Be Normal," Sticker.	Box 3	Folder 12
"Potere Negro E Movimento Operaio Internazionale introdurre James Boggs," 28x37 inches, poster, ca. 1968 [in Italian].	Folder 4	Folder 1

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