

# **EARWAX RECORDS.**

## **Earwax Records collection, 1984-2007**

Emory University  
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### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Earwax Records.  
**Title:** Earwax Records collection, 1984-2007  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 1518  
**Extent:** 5 linear feet (5 boxes) and 2 oversized papers boxes and 2 oversized papers folders (OP)  
**Abstract:** Collection of materials, accumulated by Darryl "Jasz" Smith, documenting the history of the Atlanta, Georgia, store, Earwax Records, including audiovisual material, photographs, memorabilia, and printed material.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### **Administrative Information**

#### **Restrictions on Access**

Special restrictions apply: Use copies have not been made for audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library at least two weeks in advance for access to these items. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to audiovisual material.

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#### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### **Source**

Purchased from Darryl "Jasz" Smith, 2022

#### **Custodial History**

Darryl "Jasz" Smith was the owner of Earwax Records. Curator of African American Collections Clint Fluker transferred the collection from Smith's home to the Rose Library.

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**Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Earwax Records collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

**Appraisal Note**

Acquired by Curator of African American Collections Clint Fluker as part of the Rose Library's holdings in southern hip-hop music. The Rose Library has retained all material that formed part of the original acquisition.

**Processing**

Arranged and described at the file level by Meaghan O'Riordan, March 2022. The magazines occupy most of a single box and, therefore, were not placed in folders but instead arranged alphabetically and chronologically both in the box and in the finding aid.

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**Collection Description****Historical Note**

Earwax Records (Atlanta, Georgia) is a music retail store opened and owned by Darryl "Jasz" Smith. They opened in Midtown in 1992. Their goal was to provide music that was difficult to find. It was credited as the first Atlanta retailer to carry an extensive selection of hip-hop and rap music. It was also a gathering place for the public, DJs, artists, producers, and promoters and hosted media events, live performances, and listening sessions. In 2008, the store became available only online.

**Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of material documenting Earwax Records from 1984-2007. It includes videocassettes, DVDs, audiocassette tapes, and open reel audiotapes featuring hip-hop artists and labels, such as Public Enemy, Big Daddy Kane, Boogie Down Productions, Kool Moe Dee, MC Lyte, and Too \$hort. Some of the audiovisual materials are promotional or sampler items provided to record stores to promote labels, albums, and artists. There is also a series of fifty audiocassette tapes labeled "PHATBEATS" with recordings of beats created by Smith. There is a flash drive associated with one of these tapes. Printed material consists primarily of magazines about hip-hop music, including *Complex*, *The Fader*, *Vibe*, and *XXL*. Also included are memorabilia for Earwax Records and artists, including t-shirts, posters, handbills, access passes, buttons, keychains, a plastic shot glass, and a tote bag. Photographs document artists, the store, and performances at Uptown Comedy Club and for Second Saturday. There are some financial records, as well as a stack of business cards. Smith was also the co-founder of Nation Time Productions, Inc., and there are related photographs, printed material, audiovisual material, and minutes and bylaws for the non-profit organization.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order.

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	-	4 Jacks & A Jill, <i>The Sea</i> , undated [original: open reel audiotape]
4	-	<i>24 Hours in the Life of Mobb Deep</i> , undated [original: DVD]
4	-	<i>The 1997 Technics World DJ Championships</i> , 1997 [original: videocassette tape]
OP1	1	Aaliyah and Cheba, advertisements, undated
1	1	Access passes, 2000-2001
5	-	A-Dam-Shame, <i>Dirty Game</i> (album sampler) featuring UGK and Too \$hort, cassette tape cover, 2000
5	-	Tha Alkaholiks, <i>21 &amp; Over</i> , 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
1	2	Artists, photographs, undated [1 of 2]
1	3	Artists, photographs, undated [2 of 2]
OP1	2	Artists and building, photographs, undated
5	-	Artists & Music Spring '93, "We're About the Music," 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
2	-	Back on Black, 18-month calendar, 2006-2007
5	-	Barsha, <i>Explicit Lyrics</i> , 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	<i>Beat Street: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack</i> , Volume 2, 1984 [original: audiocassette tape]
2	-	Best of Atlanta, Critics' Choice Best Urban/Hip Hop Record Store, certificate for Earwax Records, 1997
5	-	Big Daddy Kane, <i>Looks Like a Job For...</i> , 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	Big Daddy Kane, <i>Prince of Darkness</i> , 1991 [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	Big Daddy Kane, <i>Taste of Chocolate</i> , 1995 [original: audiocassette tape]
2	-	<i>BlackBook</i> (New York, New York), number 29, fall 2003
5	-	Blahzay Blahzy, <i>Blah Blah Blah</i> , undated [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	BMG, <i>Urban Street Vibe Sampler</i> , 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	Boogie Down Productions, <i>Criminal Minded</i> , 1987 [1] [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	Boogie Down Productions, <i>Criminal Minded</i> , 1987 [2] [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	Boogie Down Productions, <i>Sex and Violence</i> , 1992 [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	Brand Nubian, <i>In God We Trust</i> , 1992 [original: audiocassette tape]
OP2	1	Brand Nubian Foundation flag, undated
5	-	Breeze, <i>The Young Son of No One</i> , 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
2	-	Business cards, undated
1	4	Buttons and keychains, undated
5	-	BWP, <i>Two Minute Brother</i> , 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
5	-	Capital Punishment, Compilation Sampler, 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]

- 5 - Cappadonna, *The Plague*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - Chamillionaire: *The East Coast Shake Down (pt. 2)*, undated [original: DVD]
- 5 - Champ MC, *Ghetto Flava*, 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Chubb Rock with Howie Tee, *And the Winner Is...*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - *Complex* (New York, New York), 2003 October-November
- 2 - *Complex* (New York, New York), 2004 February-July and October-November
- 2 - *Complex* (New York, New York), 2006 February-March and August-September
- 4 - *The Conrads THUG N\*\*\*\*\* The Movie*, featuring MACK 10, 2000 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - Convicted Felons, *The Year of the Ho Niggas is Over*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Cypress Hill Still Smokin'*, 2001 [original: videocassette tape]
- 4 - *Dead Prez*, 2000 February 22 [original: videocassette tape]
- 4 - *Death Row Uncut*, 1999 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - De La Soul, *3 Feet High and Rising*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Dilated Peoples: The Release Party*, 2007 [original: DVD]
- 2 - Disturbing Tha Peace record label, view master, undated
- 5 - Divine Styler, *Wordpower:2*, 1998 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince, *And in This Corner...*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince, *He's the DJ, I'm the Rapper*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - DJ Kizzy Rock, *Can't Stop the Rock*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - D Nice, *Call Me D Nice*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Domestic Violence*, 1999 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - Doug E. Fresh & the Get Fresh Crew, *The World's Greatest Entertainer*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 1 5 Earwax Records, Jasz with artists, photographs, undated
- OP1 4 Earwax Records, logo painted by Hudson, 1998
- OP2 2 Earwax Records, mounted photograph of building for store with graffiti, 1998
- OP1 3 Earwax Records, mounted news clippings from *The Atlanta-Journal Constitution* (Georgia), 1999
- 1 6 Earwax Records, photographs, undated [1 of 2]
- 1 7 Earwax Records, photographs, undated [2 of 2]
- OP3 - Earwax Records, poster, undated
- 1 8 Earwax Records, printed material, 1992-1998
- 3 - Earwax Records, t-shirts, 1993-1998
- 4 - *Eminem: All Access Europe*, 2002 [original: DVD]
- 4 - *Eminem presents...The Slim Shady Show*, 2001 [original: videocassette tape]

- 5 - EPMD, *Strictly Business*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - EPMD, *Unfinished Business*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Eric B. & Rakim, *Paid in Full*, 1987 [1] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Eric B. & Rakim, *Paid in Full*, 1987 [2] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Erick Sermon, *No Pressure*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Exclusive Street Battles*, 2006 [original: DVD]
- 2 - *The Fader* (New York, New York), 2000 Spring and Fall
- 2 - *The Fader* (New York, New York), numbers 52-57, 2008 March-November
- 5 - Figure UV Speech, *U Already Know*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - Financial records, 1992
- 5 - Freddie Foxxx, *Freddie Foxxx is Here*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Freestyle: The Art of Rhyme*, a film by Kevin Fitzgerald also known as DJ Organic, 2004 [original: DVD]
- 4 - *The Freshest Kids: A History of the B-Boy*, 2002 [original: DVD]
- 4 - *Frontstage*, undated [original: DVD]
- 5 - *The Greatest Hits of the Street*, 1987 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - *Gunmen: Music from the Original Motion Picture Soundtrack*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 1 9 Handbills, circa 2003
- 5 - Hardfloor, *TB Resuscitation*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Harmony, *Let There Be Harmony*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Hip-Hop Uncensored*, Volume 5, 2003 [original: DVD]
- 4 - *HRTV*, undated [original: DVD]
- 5 - Ice Cube, *True to the Game Givin' Up the Nappy Dug Out*, 1992 [1] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Ice Cube, *True to the Game Givin' Up the Nappy Dug Out*, 1992 [2] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Insane Clown Posse, *Ringmaster*, 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Insomnia, *The Erick Sermon Compilation Album*, 1996 [original: audiocassette tape]
- OP2 3 J Dilla, *Donuts*, poster, circa 2006
- 5 - Jasz/Justice, Panther Power Tour (side A) and Shabazz 88.5 Nation Time Productions, Inc. (side B), undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - K-9 Posse, 1998 [original: audiocassette tape]
- OP1 5 "Kid Capri, Soundtrack to the Streets," felt record mats, undated
- 5 - Kid 'N Play, *2 Hype*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kid 'N Play, *Funhouse*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - *King* (New York, New York), 2002 Spring
- 2 - *King* (New York, New York), 2007 March-April
- 1 - KISS rocks!, April 3 [original: open reel audiotape]

- 1 - KISS rocks!, circa 1987 March 29 [original: open reel audiotape]
- 5 - KOB and the Saw, *Don't Look No Further*, 1991 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kool DJ Red Alert, *Kool DJ Red Alert Presents...*, 1996 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kool Moe Dee, 1987 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kool Moe Dee, *How Ya Like Me Now*, 1987 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kool Moe Dee, *Knowledge Is King*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - KRS-One, *Return of the Boom Bap*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kurtis Blow, *Ego Trip*, 1984 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kwamé & A New Beginning, *The Boy Genius*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Kwamé & A New Beginning, *Nastee*, 1992 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - *Tha Latest of the Greatest Gangsta Flicks: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Lightnin' Rod, *Hustlers Convention*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - *Link Up*, 1999 March
- 2 - *Linx*, 1999 Summer
- 5 - LL Cool J, *14 Shots to the Dome*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - LL Cool J, *Walking With a Panther*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Lord Hectordiono, demo, 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Loud Records Presents Luke's Freak Fest 2000*, 2000 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - Luke featuring 2 Live Crew, *Banned in the U.S.A.*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Mantronix, *The Cassette*, 1974 [original: audiocassette tape]  
Mantronix released an album titled Mantronix: The Album in 1985. This cassette tape has a handwritten label with the title The Cassette but is likely that album.
- 5 - Mantronix, *This Should Move Ya*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Masters of Ceremony, *Dynamite*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - MC Hammer, *Please Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - MC Lyte, *Ain't No Other*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - MC Lyte, *Lyte As a Rock*, 1988 [1] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - MC Lyte, *Lyte As a Rock*, 1988 [2] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - MC Nero-Baby, *Where U From Fool? Baton Rouge!*, 1992 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - MC Shan, *Down By Law*, 1987 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - MC Trouble, *Gotta Get A Grip*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Misfits in the Attic, *Kick It Anyway*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Mos Def & Talib Kweli, *Are Black Star*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]

- 2 - *Murder Dog Magazine*, volume 8, number 3, undated
- OP4 - Mýa, *Moodring*, poster, circa 2003
- 5 - Nation Time Productions, Inc., "DROPS," undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 1 10 Nation Time Productions, Inc., KISS 104 and IWC photographs, undated
- 1 11 Nation Time Productions, Inc., minutes and bylaws, undated
- 2 - Nation Time Productions, Inc., photographs and printed material, 1983-1984
- 5 - Naughty By Nature, *19 Naughty III*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Naughty By Nature, *Naughty By Nature*, 1991 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - *Neo* (New York, New York), undated
- 5 - Nice & Smooth, *Ain't A Damn Thing Changed*, 1991 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Nice & Smooth, *Nice & Smooth*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - Notebook with Def Jam image in comic book style, undated
- 5 - Oaktown's 3-5-7, *Wild & Loose*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - *Omigawd* (Doraville, Georgia), Summer, undated
- 4 - *Oochie Wally The Video*, undated [original: videocassette tape]
- 4 - *Outkast Uncovered*, 2001 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - Paris, *The Devil Made Me Do It*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - "PHATBEATS," numbers 2-4, 6-24, and 26-53, undated [original: audiocassette tape [50 tapes]]
- Tape 38 has a flash drive taped to it.
- 1 12 Photographs, undated
- 5 - *PLG's Phat Jeep Beats*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 1 16 Printed material, circa 2002
- 5 - Priority Records, *Ass Full O' Funk For Tha Trunk*, 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Professor X, *Puss 'N Boots (The Struggle Continues...)*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Public Enemy, *Apocalypse 91...The Enemy Strikes Black*, 1991 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Public Enemy, *Greatest Misses*, 1992 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Public Enemy, *It Takes A Nation Of Millions To Hold Us Back*, 1988 [1] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Public Enemy, *It Takes A Nation Of Millions To Hold Us Back*, 1988 [2] [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Public Enemy, *Yo! Bum Rush the Show*, 1987 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Pudgee, the Phat Bastard, *Give 'Em the Finger*, 1993 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Pumps & Dumps*, volume 18, 1998 [original: videocassette tape]

- 4 - *The Raw Report DVD Magazine: Ludacris presents...Disturbing Tha Peace* [record label], circa 1998 [original: DVD]
- 4 - *The Raw Report DVD Magazine: Yung Joc: The JOCumentary*, undated [original: DVD]
- 5 - Redman, Def Jam sampler tape, 1997 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Redman, *Funkorama*, 1996 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *The Roots of Rap*, 2004 [original: DVD]
- 5 - Roxanne Shanté, *Def - Mix Vol #1*, undated [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Run DMC, *Back From Hell*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Run DMC, *Tougher Than Leather*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Scratch: All the Way Live*, 2005 [original: DVD]
- 4 - *Scratch: A Film by Doug Pray*, 2002 [original: DVD [2 discs]]
- 1 13 Second Saturday, photographs, undated
- 5 - *Slam the Soundtrack*, 1998 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 1 14 Snoop Dogg, *Paid Tha Cost To Be the Bo\$\$* album launch, decorations, 2002
- 4 - *Snoop Dogg presents Doggy's Angels Mr. Short Khop*, 2000 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - Sociopath, *Abyss: The First Experience*, 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - Sony/BMG tote bag, undated
- 2 - *The Source* (New York, New York), 2001 March and August
- 2 - *The Source* (New York, New York), 2004 February
- 5 - Special Ed, *Youngest in Charge*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Step Your Game Up*, undated [original: DVD]
- 5 - Stetsasonic, *In Full Gear*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Stezo, *Crazy Noise*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Stones Throw 101*, 2004 [original: DVD]
- 4 - *Street Dreams*, 2001 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - Street Information Network Music Industry X-Change (SINMIX), 1994 July [original: audiocassette tape]
- 4 - *Style Wars*, 2003 [original: DVD [2 discs]]
- 4 - *Technics World DJ Championships: The Eliminations*, 1998 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - Thug Life, *Cradle to the Grave*, 1994 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Too \$hort, *Don't Stop Rappin'*, 1988 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Too \$hort, *Players*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 5 - Too \$hort, *Raw, Uncut, and X-Rated*, 1991 [original: audiocassette tape]
- 2 - T-Pain, *Epiphany*, "Can I Buy U A Drank? [www.t-pain.net](http://www.t-pain.net)," plastic shot glass, 2007
- 4 - *Turntables Trix and Technics*, 1999 [original: videocassette tape]
- 5 - *Underground Airplay*, Volume 8, undated [original: audiocassette tape]

- 1 - Unidentified, undated [original: open reel audiotape]
  - 1 15 Uptown Comedy Club (Hapeville, Georgia), photographs, undated
  - 4 - *Urban Massacre*, undated [original: videocassette tape]
  - 2 - *Vibe* (New York, New York), 1995 April and October
  - 2 - *Vibe* (New York, New York), 2001 October
  - 2 - *Vibe* (New York, New York), 2003 April
  - 2 - *Vibe* (New York, New York), 2002 June
  - 2 - *Vibe* (New York, New York), 2007 February
  - OP1 6 "Vintage Hip Hop Classics," drawing in colored pencil, 1996
  - 5 - *Whiteboys Original Motion Picture Soundtrack*, 1999 [original: audiocassette tape]
  - 4 - *Wild Style*, 2002 [original: DVD]
  - 4 - *Wu-Tang Clan*, undated [original: videocassette tape]
  - 5 - X Clan, *To the East, Blackwards*, 1990 [original: audiocassette tape]
  - 4 - *X-Ecutioners: Built to Scratch*, 2004 [original: DVD]
  - 2 - *XXL* (New York, New York), 2001 November
  - 2 - *XXL* (New York, New York), 2002 June
  - 2 - *XXL* (New York, New York), 2003 April and June
  - 2 - *XXL* (New York, New York), 2004 Spring
  - 5 - Xzibit, *40 Dayz & 40 Nightz*, 1998 [original: audiocassette tape]
  - 1 - Yellow Brick Road, undated [original: open reel audiotape]
  - 5 - Young MC, *Stone Cold Rhymin'*, 1989 [original: audiocassette tape]
  - 5 - Yo-Yo, *Make Way for the Motherlode*, 1991 [original: audiocassette tape]
-