



Haitian Americans on Long Island Collection, 2008 - .

Special Collections Department/Long Island Studies Institute

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	Date Completed:	[Apr. 11, 2018]	

Haitian Americans on Long Island, 2008 - .

0.3 cubic ft.

The Haitian Americans on Long Island Collection includes materials concerning St. Martha's Church (Uniondale, N.Y.), artist Frenal Mezilas, author Josaphat-Robert Large (1942-2017), and three service organizations: Association Des Ouanaminthais (ADO), American Family of Long Island, Inc. (HAFALI), and Solidarite Haitiano-Americaine de Long Island, Inc. (SHALI).

The materials include biographical information, flyers, photographs, posters, press kits, print materials and programs.

SUBJECTS

Names:

Large, Josaphat-Robert, 1942-2017.

Mezilas, Frenal, 1979-

Association Des Ouanaminthais (ADO)

Haitian American Family of Long Island, Inc. (HAFALI)

Solidarte Haitiano-Americaine de Long Island, Inc. (SHALI)

St. Martha Church (Uniondale, N.Y.)

Subjects:

Artists.

Authors.

Arts, Haitian.

Haitian Americans--New York (State)--Long Island.

Organizations--New York (State)--Long Island.

Nonprofit organizations--New York (State)--Long Island.

Places:

Freeport (N.Y.)

Haiti.

Long Island (N.Y.).

Ouanaminthe, Haiti.

Uniondale (N.Y.)

Form and Genre Terms:

Photographs.

Print materials.

Occupational terms:

Artists.

Authors.

Index of Individuals, Churches and Organizations Represented in the Collection

Association Des Ouanaminthais (ADO): Founded in 1997, ADO, a non-profit organization based in Queens, N.Y., is devoted to serving the people of Ouanaminthe (Haiti) and the surrounding areas through health, education, stewardship and cultural development.

Haitian American Family of Long Island, Inc. (HAFALI): Incorporated in February 1995, HAFALI obtained its 501 © (3) status in July 1999 as a not-for-profit organization to promote, foster, increase and advance the cultural, civic, social and economic welfare of Haitian American families residing on Long Island; to aid and assist the Haitian people to acclimate to life in the United States; to encourage civic responsibility and involvement in American community life; to identify problems affecting the Haitian community and to implement programs and activities to resolve such problems.

Large, Josaphat-Robert (1942-2017): Haitian American poet, novelist and art critic, born in Jeremie, Grand' Anse, Haiti. He left Haiti at the end of 1963, after being arrested during a student strike against the regime of Papa Doc Duvalier. His novel *Les terres entourées de larmes (Shore Surrounded with Tears)* won the prestigious Prix littéraire des Caraïbes (Caribbean literary Prize) in 2003. Large belonged to several organizations, including "La Société des Gens de Lettres de France" (Society of French Intellectuals de langue française).

At the time of his passing, Large was a resident of Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Mezilas, Frenal: Haitian American artist born in Jeremie, Grand' Anse, Haiti, in 1979. He began painting at age 10 and later went on to study drawing and painting at the Ecole Nationale des Arts (ENARTS) in Haiti, where he was influenced by the works of Bernard Sejourne, Dieudonne Cedor, Picasso, Dali, Monet, Kandinsky, and Braque.

After finishing his studies at ENARTS, Mezilas was invited to Mexico to work on an exhibition project in the residence of artistic creation HINKILI CASA AFRICA. While in Mexico, he exhibited his paintings at a number of different cultural events and, at Autonoma del Estado de Morelos, a university in Cuernavaca, he realized the creation of the first international and intercultural group wall.

Since moving to the United States, Mezilas' paintings, which represent Haitian culture and history, have been exhibited in various art galleries and have won multiple awards. Additionally, in May 2013, he received a plaque of honor and merit in the Assembly Chamber of the New York State Capitol building in Albany.

Along with exhibiting his own works, Mezilas, a resident of Uniondale, N.Y., enjoys teaching painting, drawing and pottery making in New York.

Index of Individuals, Churches and Organizations Represented in the Collection (continued)

Solidarte Haitiano-Americaine de Long Island, Inc. (SHALI): SHALI is a non-profit organization that aims to serve the social, cultural, bilingual and emotional needs of the Haitian-American community of Long Island. The founder and president of the organization is Marie Sonia Saint Rose-Bienvil, a resident of Uniondale, N.Y.

St. Martha Church: A Roman Catholic Church in Uniondale, N.Y., whose parishioners include members of the local Haitian community.

The Haitian Americans on Long Island Collection is arranged in Two Series:

- I. Artists and Authors
- II. Churches and Organizations

Haitian Americans on Long Island Collection, 2008 - .

Box and Folder Listing

Series I: Artists and Authors

Large, Josaphat-Robert

<u>Box /</u> <u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-1	Biographical information (three-page word-processed document), 2017

Mezilas, Frenal

<u>Box /</u> <u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-2	Biographical information, c.2013, 2018. (2 items)
1-3	Events, 2011. (Includes facsimiles)
1-4	Photo exhibit at Hofstra, 2016
1-5	Photographs, 2013-1016 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Classes, 2013- Paintings by Mezilas, 2008-2015- Portraits of Mezilas, 2011-2016 Poster, "Celebrating the Battle of Vertieres" (art exhibit), CUNY Haitian Studies Institute, Brooklyn College, 2017 See: Map Case 1-9 Print material and publications
1-6	Exhibition catalog, <i>Energie Nouvelle</i> , 2015
1-7	Flyers and programs, 2011-2016

Series II: Churches and Organizations

Association Des Ouanaminthais (ADO)

<u>Box /</u> <u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-8	Press kit, 2016

Haitian American Family of Long Island, Inc. (HAFALI)

1-9	"Cultural Competence Presentation" handout materials, 2014
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Series II: Churches and Organizations

Solidarite Haitiano-Americaine de Long Island, Inc. (SHALI)

<u>Box / Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
1-10	Flyers, 2015-2017
1-11	Photographs <ul style="list-style-type: none">- SHALI presentation, Haitian Women in Literature and Arts, 2015. (1 photo)- 2010 Haiti Earthquake Seventh Anniversary Conference, 2017
1-12	PowerPoint presentation (on CD) featuring the ten departments of Haiti. The presentation was made during Solidarite Haitiano-Americaine de Long Island, Inc.'s Eight Annual Cultural Night, at Hofstra, 2016

St. Martha Church (Uniondale, N.Y.)

1-12	Photographs, Way of the Cross ritual (Good Friday), 2018. (6 photos)
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