

**New York Folklore Society  
2001-02 Documentary Heritage Project  
Documenting Hip Hop**

**Collection creator:**

Ivan "Doc" Rodriguez

**Title:**

Photographs and memorabilia

**Dates:**

1978-1990

**Extent:**

1 photograph album  
Award certificates, newspaper and magazine clippings  
1 jacket

**Organization and arrangement:**

Photographs and event flyers are arranged chronologically in an album

**Biographical/historical note:**

Ivan "Doc" Rodriguez, who lives and works in Manhattan, New York, is the first Latino producer/engineer/disc jockey to have a creative role in the production of early Hip Hop records, some of which have since become classics. As a disc jockey, Rodriguez has used the name "DJ Doc."

**Scope and content:**

This collection consists of an album containing approximately 30 photographs and 10 event flyers arranged chronologically, and documenting the evolution of Ivan "Doc" Rodriguez's career from KRS-ONE's first DJ, to that of a notable sound engineer and record producer for Hip Hop artists such as EPMD, KRS-ONE, Biz Markie, Eric B & Rakim, MC Lyte, LL Cool J, Redman, Ed OG, Fugees and Das EFX. The collection also includes award certificates, and newspaper and magazine articles from the late 1980s featuring Rodriguez, as well as an original tour jacket from the first KRS-ONE/BDP tour in 1987.

Several photographs are of particular interest: Rodriguez and KRS-ONE performing live for the first time songs from KRS-ONE's debut LP *Criminally Minded* at the Jive Records release party for the album; several photographs of recording sessions at Power Play studios during the finishing sessions for EPMD's *Strictly Business* album, Biz Markie's "Just a Friend" single, and KRS-One's *Criminal Minded* album; a rare photograph of the Furious Five backstage at a Texas show in 1985; and a photograph of KRS-ONE's first performance at the Apollo Theater. There are also individual and group photographs the following

performers: Biz Markie, EPMD, KRS-ONE, Nice and Smooth, K-Solo, and D-Nice. In addition there are autographed photographs by legendary New York City artists such as DJ Red Alert, Lisa Lisa, Teddy Ted and Special K. In one photo of Rodriguez and EPMD, a turntable can be seen hooked up into a mixer, followed by a sampler, which according to Rodriguez, was the original way in which Hip Hop records were made, including EPMD's *Strictly Business*. The collection also includes an early roster sheet of all the artists under RUSH Producers Management from 1990.

**Finding aid note:**

While there is no formal finding aid for this material, Vee Bravo has interviewed Ivan "Doc" Rodriguez about this collection. The digital video recording of this interview/oral history is in Mr. Bravo's possession, and may be accessed by contacting Urban Think Tank; P.O. Box 1476, New York, NY 10185; phone 718-670-3739; fax: 718-596-1228; Email: urbanthinktank@usa.net.

**Additional physical forms:**

None.

**Location:**

The collection is in the possession of Ivan "Doc" Rodriguez, New York, NY.

**Restrictions on Access:**

Researchers wishing access to this collection must contact Urban Think Tank; P.O. Box 1476, New York, NY 10185; telephone 718-670-3739; Email: urbanthinktank@usa.net.

**Other authors:**

Vee Bravo

**Indexing terms:**

*Personal names:*

DJ Doc  
LL Cool J (Musician)  
Ed OG (Musician)  
K-Solo (Musician)  
D-Nice (Musician)  
DK Red Alert (Musician)  
Lisa Lisa (Musician)  
Teddy Ted (Musician)  
Special K (Musician)  
Biz Markie (Musician)

*Corporate/organizational names:*

BDP (Musical group)  
EPMD (Musical group)  
Eric B & Rakim (Musical group)  
KRS-ONE (Musical group)  
Nice and Smooth (Musical group)  
Power Play Studios  
RUSH Producers Management

*Subject terms:*

Hip-hop  
Rap (music)  
Sound recording – Production and direction

*Geographical coverage:*

New York, N.Y.

*Form and genre/Form of material:*

Photograph albums  
Coats  
Fliers (printed matter)  
Certificates  
Clippings

*Occupations:*

Sound recording executives and producers – New York, N.Y.

**Date of interview and survey:** May 10, 2001

**Interview and survey by:** Vee Bravo for Urban Think Tank, Inc.

**This summary written by:** Nancy Johnson