

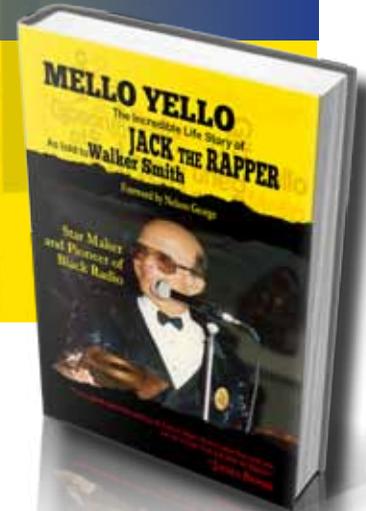
Walker Smith's two newest releases

BLUESTONE RONDO

A Jazz masterpiece of love and hate —
a labyrinth of plot twists —
one fatal showdown ...



MELLO YELLO Jack the Rapper
Mentor to 40 years of musical superstars
Here are the show business stories you
have never heard before...



Media Kit



SYNOPSIS

Jack the Rapper --Mentor to 40 years of musical superstars
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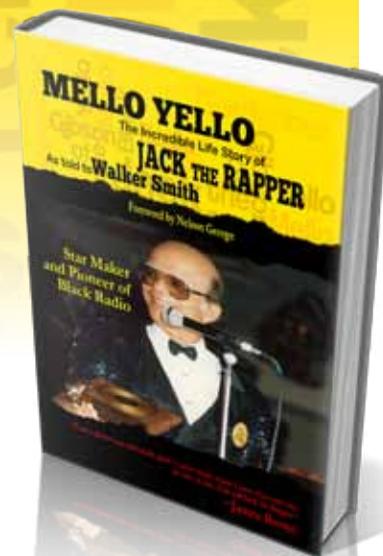
In the 1920s a little boy named Jack Gibson shook hands with the great Marcus Garvey. Over the course of his amazing life, he crossed paths with the most famous personalities of the 20th century. He would become a giant of the music industry, known to all as "Jack the Rapper."

In the '40s, he established the first black-owned radio station in the USA, and built enduring friendships with the royalty of black entertainment: Sammy Davis Jr., Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan, Nat King Cole, and Ray Charles, to name a few. The '60s and '70s took him to Motown, Revelot, and Stax to mentor a new generation of stars: Stevie Wonder, The Supremes, Otis Redding, Jackie Wilson, Isaac Hayes, and The Staple Singers.

He reported the history of the Civil Rights years in interviews with Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, and did an impromptu remote from Detroit as it burned following Dr. King's assassination.

As publisher of an influential Black trade magazine called the Mello Yello, Gibson contributed to sweeping changes for African Americans in radio and the recording industry. But The Rapper's most long-reaching achievement was his glittering "Family Affair"—an annual black music convention and springboard for new talent. The heavy hitters of the music industry always cleared their schedules to lend their talents to The Rapper's big night: Prince, Tina Turner, Janet Jackson, James Brown, Whitney Houston, Eddie Murphy, Hammer, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Sinbad, L.L. Cool J, Babyface, Heavy D, Tupac, Queen Latifah, Snoop Dogg, Suge Knight, Bobby Brown... And the list goes on like a "Who's Who" of entertainment superstars.

This tell-all book contains the inside stories you have never heard before...



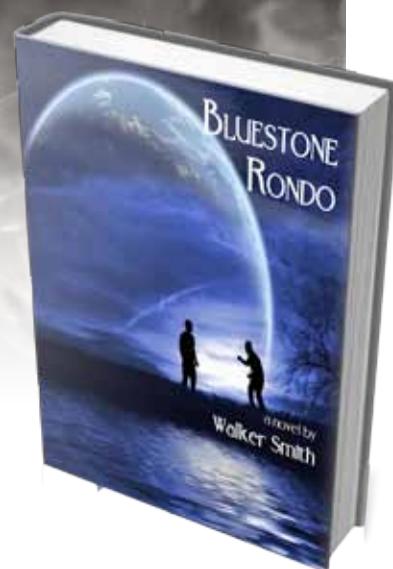
An edgy, racial adaptation of Cain and Abel,
set to a score of modern Jazz, obsession, and revenge.

New York City in the 1950s was an electrifying crossroads where Jazz, unprecedented racial harmony, and the chilling upheaval of the Blacklist converged. Into this tumultuous mix Walker Smith delivers her stunning adaptation of Cain and Abel.

The story begins in 1927, when the wife of a black Mississippi tenant farmer gives birth to unusual twins—Calvin, who is dark, and Joe, who is light enough to pass for white. Growing up to learn that color is worth more than brotherhood in the Jim Crow South, they fall into a trap that was set for them by generations of racial discord. After a violent fight, Joe disappears and Calvin is convicted for his murder.

As Calvin's life takes a downward turn, Joe basks in the bright lights of New York as a successful white Jazz singer on 52nd Street. After marrying Magda, the blue-eyed girl of his dreams, his fear of exposure takes a turn for the irrational. The entertainment industry is in a cold-sweat panic over Joseph McCarthy's Blacklist, and Joe feels threatened by the non-stop radio reports of blacklisted witnesses "naming names." He is unable to break the moth-and-flame hold of black trumpet player Doc Calhoun and his unforgettable wife Pearl, a paradox of wisdom and heroin addiction. And Joe begins to see his brother in the shadows.

Bluestone Rondo is a story of life-and-death choices—a Jazz masterpiece of love and hate that leads to two volatile plot twists and one fatal showdown.



THE WALKER SMITH EXPERIENCE



With a background in writing and music, Walker recorded three solo albums with the prestigious Casablanca label before shifting back to writing. Moving from the L.A. music scene to New York, she wrote interviews and commentary for Vertigo and African Voices, as well as features for the Reel Sisters Film Festival. After the publication of her first novel *The Color Line*, she completed two additional novels, *Bluestone Rondo* and *Letters from Rome*. *Mello Yello* is the result of a two-year collaboration with Jack Gibson.

OTHER BOOKS BY WALKER SMITH: **The Color Line** and **Letters from Rome**



From page one, Walker Smith grabs you:

The year is 1952. You are in a luxury hotel suite high above the city lights of Chicago. The song playing on the radio is at odds with the tension you already feel. You see every detail of the room—atmospheric lights and shadows playing at the window curtains, a broken glass on the floor. You see a face; his name is Joe. He seems a nice enough guy until you notice his vacant expression and see the gun in his hand. A news report on the radio has rattled him. By the time you turn to page two, you want to know why... What happened? And how did he end up here?

That was a snapshot of the opening scene for Walker Smith's new novel, **Bluestone Rondo**.

Walker Smith writes in a non-linear style that builds tension by way of revelations that come at you in unexpected waves. The opening scene of *Bluestone Rondo* is revisited three times over the course of the novel, and each retelling provides a missing clue to the surprising outcome.

With an ear for dialects and a talent for revealing the inner workings of characters' minds and emotions, Smith sometimes reveals the duplicity of her characters in brief glimpses, and other times in telling, graphic scenes. The sinners are capable of heroism, and the saints dabble in deception. They are at once guilty and innocent—unique individuals that defy racial, religious, and social stereotypes. As you immerse yourself into the joys and sorrows of their complex lives, you begin to notice the surroundings in their world—a rich and accurate tapestry of current events and their impact. Through the eyes of the characters, you find yourself walking the pages of history, in real time. You are there.

Unusual plot twists, unforgettable characters, historical accuracy, and unexpected endings. A high-torque ride in a time machine. That is the Walker Smith experience.



BOOKING INFORMATION:

For interviews, workshop requests, and speaking engagements: -

Jacqueline Rhinehart
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Organic Soul Marketing

<http://www.organicsoulmarketing.net>

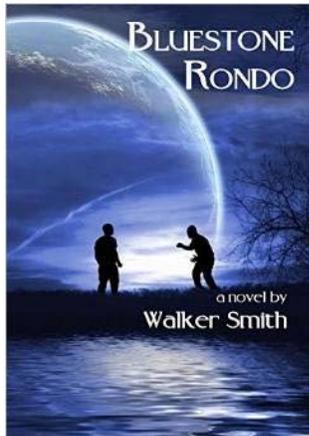
<http://www.jacquelinerrhinehart.net>

PRESS

Houston Style Magazine

Walker Smith Novel Release at Red Cat Jazz Café - Live

[Demez White](#) | 7/28/2014, 5:36 p.m.



The club is packed, two men are sitting on stage talking. One is obviously nervous, uncomfortable, the other is the life of the room. People in the audience laugh, get quiet, laugh again. We're all on the edge of our seats listening to their conversation.

"You can fool them but you can't fool me," the trumpet player said.

Just like that Author Walker Smith transforms The Red Cat Jazz Café in 2014 into a smoky Jazz Lounge during the height of the Harlem Renaissance.



Author Walker Smith Talks About Black Radio Trailblazer 'Jack The Rapper' Biography

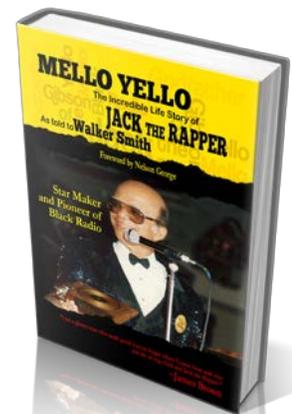
By: Ann Brown
Friday, April 24, 2015



Walker Smith may have numerous books on the market, but she wasn't always a top-selling author. But earlier this year she released her long-awaited biography of celebrated radio pioneer Jack "The Rapper" Gibson.

Prior to her writing, Smith worked in Los Angeles under the name Bobbi Walker as a recording artist signed to hit-making Casablanca Records. She recorded three solo albums, but took creative writing studies on the side and began writing professionally part-time. By 1995, she had moved to New York to pursue a full-time writing career.

After moving to New Orleans, Smith released her first novel, *The Color Line*, just two months before Hurricane Katrina. After relocating again, she wrote her most personal novel, *Bluestone Rondo* using her childhood memories of her father's bebop jam sessions with her own experiences as inspiration. Her *Jack The Rapper* biography has been long in the making.



The Walker Smith Experience Takes Readers on Literary Rollercoaster Ride

Apr 8, 2015 by Don Saint-James

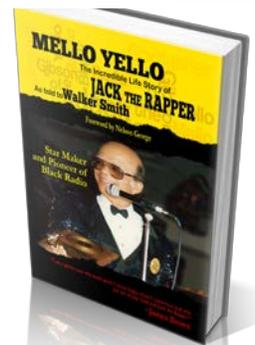
Author Walker Smith has been described as a brilliant storyteller and black historian, whose characters will live with readers long after they have finished reading her novels. She has also been described as a writer, whose prose play like music to the readers' eyes, and an author who writes like Picasso painted.

Such descriptions may sound like pure hyperbole, but to Walker Smith's many fans, it's all a part of "The Walker Smith Experience," which features a signature brand of writing, based on black history, unforgettable characters, gripping suspense, stunning plots and sub-plots, and unguessable endings.

While Smith is primarily a writer of fictional novels, all under the auspices of "Walker Smith Books," she recently penned "Mello Yello: The Incredible Life Story of Jack the Rapper." The biographical book chronicles the life and times of Jack "The Rapper" Gibson, a pioneering force in the radio and music industries. He is credited with launching, guiding and/or influencing the music careers of a multiplicity of African American recording artists across such genres as R&B, pop, jazz, and even hip-hop.

Just before the release of "Mello Yello," Smith wrote a novel entitled "Bluestone Rondo." The story begins in Mississippi in the 1920s and follows the life of unusual twins: one's complexion is dark; the other is light enough to pass as white. The story ultimately becomes a jazz masterpiece of love and hate, as it transitions to New York and its vibrant jazz scene in the late-1940s.

Smith's first novel, written in the mid-2000s, was "The Color Line," which was set during the era of the Harlem Renaissance and uncovers a lost story of The Harlem Hellfighters, an African American military unit that served brilliantly in World War I. Yet, when the war was over, one black hero returns home to see racial segregation in a new light and embarks on a new war for equal and human rights. Other novels by Smith are "Letters from Rome" and "In My Father's House."



Author Walker Smith (seated) flanked by Don Thomas, Ruth Innis and Vivian Reed, at her Jack the Rapper "Mello Yello" book signing held at Ashford & Simpson's Sugar Bar in Manhattan. Hosted by PR Guru Jackie Rhinehart (5th from right) a host of devoted fans of the late lovable promoter Jack Gibson also attended the event. (Photos: Ronnie Wright)