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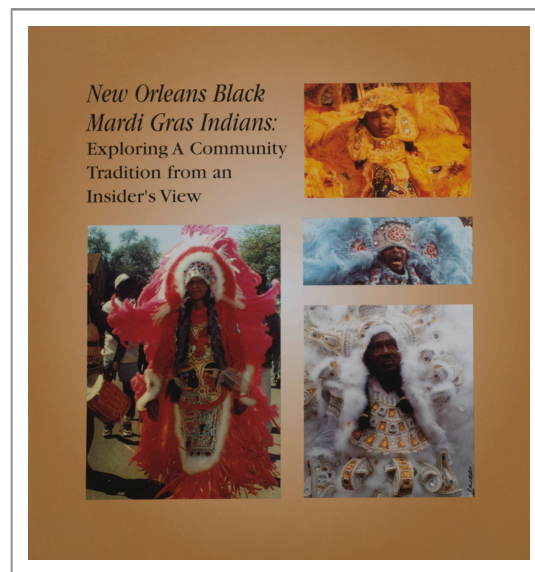
Anacostia Community Museum

*New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indians:
Exploring a Community Tradition from
an Insider's View Exhibition Records*

ACMA.03-076

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2019



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Collection Overview

Repository:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Title:	<i>New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indians: Exploring a Community Tradition from an Insider's View</i> Exhibition Records
Date:	April 23-August 27, 2006
Identifier:	ACMA.03-076
Extent:	1 Video recording (MiniDV)
Language:	English .
Summary:	An exhibition of New Orleans photographer J. Nash Porter's portraits of the Mardi Gras Indians, capturing them at close range and documenting their "true essence" and "cultural flavor" from an insider's point of view. The exhibit, held at the museum from April 23, 2006 - October 15, 2006, featured more than 40 images documenting the rich tradition of New Orleans' Mardi Gras Indians including the construction of suits (handmade costumes), practices, second liners, and other participants in this urban folk street ritual. On display also were full Mardi Gras Indian suits and beaded patches. For more than 35 years, Porter (1942-2007) documented the masking traditions and community support of the Black Mardi Gras Indians. These records include correspondence and video footage.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indians: Exploring a Community Tradition from an Insider's View Exhibition Records, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment: ACMarchives@si.edu.

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Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

African Americans

Mardi Gras Indians
Museum exhibits

Cultures:

African Americans

Types of Materials:

Brochures

Video recordings

Container Listing

ACMA AV005240: Mardi Gras 2006: Remembering Big Chief 'Tootie'
Montana, 2006

1 Video recording (MiniDV)

001830

Technical: 001830

Language: English.

Notes: Use of the materials requires an appointment. Some items are not accessible due to obsolete format and playback machinery restrictions. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment: ACMarchives@si.edu.

A WDSU news report covered Mardi Gras without Big Chief Tootie Montana. The news report briefly documented Big Chief Tootie Montana's legacy of advocating for and teaching about the culture of Mardi Gras Indians; creating elaborate Mardi Gras Indian suits; and creating peace among rival tribes through the promotion of creative competition over violence. Footage featured in exhibition includes images of Mardi Gras parades and costumes.

News report. Part of the 'New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indians: Exploring a Community Tradition from an Insider's View' exhibition. Undated.

Mardi Gras 2006: Remembering Big Chief 'Tootie' Montana, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

'New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indians: Exploring a Community Tradition from an Insider's View' exhibition, held at the Anacostia Community Museum from April 23, 2006 - October 15, 2006, featured more than 45 of New Orleans photographer J. Nash Porter's portraits of the Mardi Gras Indians and their elaborate handmade suits (costumes) and patches. Also on display were full suits from the museum's collection. For more than 35 years, Porter has documented the masking traditions and community support of the Black Mardi Gras Indians.

Courtesy of WDSU-TV NewsChannel 6 (New Orleans) and Hearst-Argyle Television, Inc. Copyright 2006.

Topic: African Americans
Mardi Gras Indians
Carnival
Carnival costume
Parades

Place: Washington (D.C.)
United States

Genre/Form: Video recordings