



Smithsonian

Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

Festival of American Folklife papers, 1967

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Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections
Title:	1967 Festival of American Folklife papers
Date:	1967
Identifier:	CFCH.FAF.1967
Extent:	4 Boxes 7 Sound tape reels
Language:	English .
Summary:	This finding aid is intended as a historical document of the event, July 1-4, 1967 and the participants in this festival. Not all of the individuals listed below were recorded or photographed. The documentation of this festival was minimal so there is not a wealth of material still existing or accessible from this event for study. What exists is listed later in this document. Contains parts of several boxes of paper records. 7 reel to reel audiotapes, photographs.

Administrative Information

Related Publications

The following publications exist in the archive library and can be studied on-site.

Eaton, Allen H., *Handicrafts of the Southern Highlands*, New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1937
Jones, Bessie and Bess Lomax Hawes, *Step it Down: Games, Plays, Songs, and Stories from the Afro-American Heritage*, New York: Harper and Row, 1972.
Kirlin, Katherine S., and Thomas M. Kirlin, *Smithsonian Folklife Cookbook*, Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Press, 1991
Kurin, Richard, *Reflections of a Culture Broker: A View from the Smithsonian*, Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Press, 1997
Kurin, Richard, *Smithsonian Folklife Festival: Culture Of, By, and For the People*, Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution. Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, 1998

Processing Information

Prepared by Jeff Place, March, 2005. Revised by Jeff Place and Stephanie Smith, September 2007.

Encoded by Brittany Dunton, December 2011.

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Folklife Festival Documentation Collection, Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archive and Collection, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

These materials are available for research. Copies may be made by special arrangement for non-profit educational purposes only. Any commercial use must include permission from the informant or Festival participant.

Historical

In 1967, the Smithsonian held its first ever Festival of American Folklife. Then Smithsonian Secretary S. Dillon Ripley was interested in getting the museum out to the people. He assigned the task of creating a festival to James Morris, head of what was then the Smithsonian Division of Performing Arts. Ralph Rinzler was hired as the folklore consultant. Rinzler had been one of the chief talent scouts for the Newport Folk festival and had done extensive fieldwork on American folk traditions. Rinzler had also been involved in the creation of the "festival workshop" concept which incorporates narratives and audience interaction with musical performance. He also felt strongly that craft and food traditions were equally important and also a major part of the folklife of a traditional community.

This four day event set the pattern for what became a yearly event. It featured craft traditions as well as musical performances by some of the well known traditional musicians of the 20th century, many of whom had previously appeared at the Newport Folk Festival.

Scope and Content

The collection includes the paper records that resulted from the production of the program. The collection includes audiovisual documentation during the festival itself including audio recordings and photographs. For specific information about the materials in each series, please refer to the series description. For additional information about the 1967 Festival of American Folklife, one should consult the central Smithsonian Institution Archives and the papers of the Division of Performing Arts.

List of Festival Participants

Crafts:

- Louise Jones, Coil basket making, South Carolina
- Margaret Coochwyte, Coil and Yucca leaves, Hopi basket maker, Arizona
- Joseph Grismayer, Willow, basket maker, Pennsylvania
- Bea Hensley, blacksmith, North Carolina
- Homer Miracle, Hand-hewn bowls, carver, Kentucky
- Charles Mayac, Ivory carver, Alaska
- Leo J. Meyer, scrimshaw carver, Maryland
- Edd Presnell, Dulcimer maker, North Carolina
- Willard Watson, Toy maker, North Carolina
- Dewey Harmon, Whittler, North Carolina
- Herman Benton, Scoop maker, New York
- Robert Keith, Chair maker, North Carolina
- Mrs. Robert Keith, Chair maker, North Carolina
- Clifford Lucas, Indian dolls, New Mexico
- Hazel Miracle, Apple face, corn shuck dolls, Kentucky
- Mildred Cleghorn, Indian cloth dolls, Oklahoma
- Alice Merryman, Corn shuck dolls, Arkansas
- Lila Marshall, Corn shuck dolls, North Carolina
- Ann Mitchell, Corn shuck dolls, Maryland
- Maisy Coburn, Apple face and Corncob dolls, Arkansas
- Mary Bowers, Seminole patchwork, needlework, Florida
- Georgianne Robinson, Osage ribbon work, needlework, Oklahoma
- Genevieve Tomey, Osage ribbon work, needlework, Oklahoma
- Ora Watson, Quilting, North Carolina

- Freedom Quilting Bee, Alabama
- Marie Chino, Acoma pottery, New Mexico
- Norman Miller, Southern pottery, Alabama
- Mrs. Norman Miller, Southern pottery, Alabama
- Norman Kennedy, Carder, spinner, weaver, Massachusetts
- Golda Porter, Spinner, North Carolina
- Taft Greer, Weaver, Tennessee
- Elisia Trivett, Rug hooker, North Carolina
- Ambrose Roanhorse, Navajo silversmith, Arizona
- Garnet Claw Roanhorse, Navajo rug weaver, Arizona
- Lou Seshier, Model boat builder, Pennsylvania
- Victor Coochwytewa, Hopi silversmith, Arizona
- Harry Belone, Navajo sand painter, Arizona

Music:

- First Maryland Regiment Fife and Drum Corps, martial music, Maryland
- Dejan's Olympia Brass Band, New Orleans marching band, Louisiana
- Clark Kessinger, mountain fiddler, West Virginia
- Gene Meade, West Virginia
- Scottish Pipe Band, Highland marching music, Washington, D.C.
- Wade Ward and the Buck Mountain Band, mountain string band, Virginia
- Ed Young and family, African American fife and drum group, Mississippi
- Bessie Jones and the Georgia Sea Island Singers, shouts, jubilees, spirituals, and ring games, Georgia
- The Moving Star Hall Singers, shouts, jubilees, spirituals, and ring games, South Carolina
- Yomo Toro Band, Puerto Rican music, New York
- Billie and De De Pierce and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, New Orleans jazz, Louisiana
- Jimmie Driftwood, Ozark ballad singer, Arkansas
- John Papakee, Mesquakie Indian music, Iowa
- Grace Papakee, Mesquakie Indian music, Iowa
- Almeda Riddle, Ozark ballad singer, Arkansas
- Vinice Lejeune Group, Cajun band, Louisiana
- John Jackson, Songster and blues singer, Virginia
- Libba Cotten, Country guitarist, North Carolina, Washington, D.C.
- The Baca Family Band, Czech-American polka music, Texas
- Norman Kennedy, Scots ballad singer, Massachusetts
- The McGee Brothers with Sid Harkreader, String band, Tennessee
- Glenn Ohrlin, Cowboy singer, Arkansas
- Young People's Chorus from the Scripture of Church of Christ, gospel, Virginia

Dance:

- Blue Ridge Mountain Dancers, cloggers, North Carolina
- St. Andrews Society Group, Scottish dancing, Washington, D.C.
- Glinka Dancers, Russian dance group, New Jersey
- McNeff Dancers, Irish dancing with Ceilidh band, New York
- Chinese Lion Group, Washington, D.C.
- Jochim Koyuk, King Island Eskimo dancer, Alaska
- Mrs. Jochim Koyuk, King Island Eskimo dancer, Alaska
- Los Gallegos d'España, Galician dance, New York
- Henry Paterick, square dance caller, Virginia
- Maurice Flowers, square dance caller, Maryland

Container Listing

Series 1: Business Records

Scope and Contents: The records of the 1967 festival make up part of the contents of the following boxes. For the full contents of the box consult the Archive Inventory.

Restrictions: The following boxes of records are in deep storage in Boyers, Pennsylvania. They can be retrieved but costs will be involved and transfer will take prearrangement of three weeks.

FP-011 : Festival Administrative files , 1967 - 1976

FP-034: Festival Press , 1967 - 1974

FP-112: Festival Administrative files, 1967 - 1969

FP-134: Festival Administrative files including Regional Research , 1967

FP-172: Publicity and Press Reports, Festival Reports , 1967 - 1978

FP-533: Fieldwork files/Interview report forms, Festival of American Folklife , 1967 - 1972

1003: Brochures

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Series 2: Audio Recordings from the production of the Festival

General: All recordings were made on the National Mall. They are on 10" (1/2") open reel audio tape. They are filed in the Festival reel to reel tape collection in the Archives stacks. The archive does not currently have a machine to play these tapes. Users will have to pay to get them copied to a usable format at a recording studio

FP-1967-10RR-0002 (67.101.02): Festival Recordings: Dejan's Olympia Brass Band; St. Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C , 1967-07-01

FP-1967-10RR-0003 (67.101.03): Festival Recordings: Dejan's Olympia Brass Band, D.C; Wade Ward and the Buck Mountain Band; Clark Kessinger and Gene Meade , 1967-07-01

FP-1967-10RR-0004 (67.101.04): Festival Recordings: The Blue Ridge Mountain Dancers , 1967-07-01

FP-1967-10RR-0005 (67.101.05): Festival Recordings: Young People's Chorus from Scripture Church of Christ (Va.); Jimmie Driftwood; Mr. and Mrs. Jochim Koyuk (King Island community); Glenn Ohrlin; Norman Kennedy , 1967-07-03

FP-1967-10RR-0006 (67.101.06): Festival Recordings: Almeda Riddle; Glenn Ohrlin; Norman Kennedy; Antonio Mosquera; Chinese Lion Group , 1967-07-03

FP-1967-10RR-0007 (67.101.07): Festival Recordings: Chinese Lion Group (Washington, D.C.); Jimmie Driftwood; Baca Band; Young People's Chorus from Scripture Church of Christ (Va.) , 1967-07-03

FP-1967-10RR-0001 (67.101.01) : Festival Recordings: First Maryland Regiment Fife and Drum Corps; Scottish Pipe Band (Washington, D.C.); Dejan's Olympia Brass Band , 1967-07-01

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Series 3: Photographs from the production of the Festival

General: All photographs are stored in binders in the archive. Black and white photographs are represented by contact sheets. The negatives are stored in the National Museum of American History. Copies may be ordered from them. Slides are stored in binders in the Ralph Rinzler Archives and can be viewed on site.

Color, B&W prints, B&W contact sheets and color slides from the 1967 Festival of American Folklife can be found in binders on the archives shelves.

Binder 1 B&W contact sheets and slides

Binder 12 Color Slides, 1967 - 1971

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Series 4: Audio recordings from the fieldwork phase of the Festival

FP-RINZ-7RR-0545: Rinzler Fieldwork: Antonio Mosquera , 1969

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