



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of African Art*

Philip M. Abram photographs, EEPA  
1986-002, 1957-1973, bulk 1970-1973

Judith Luskey

2011

Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art  
National Museum of African Art  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art
<b>Title:</b>	Philip M. Abram photographs
<b>Identifier:</b>	EEPA.1986-002
<b>Date:</b>	1957-1973 (bulk 1970-1973)
<b>Extent:</b>	358 slides (photographs) (+22 postcards; color) 10 photographic prints ((dupe prints); color; 8 x 10 in. or smaller)
<b>Creator:</b>	Abrams, Philip M.
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined
<b>Summary:</b>	Photographs taken and postcards gathered by Philip M. Abrams during his travels through Liberia, Mali, Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Burkina Faso, 1970-1973. Activities documented in the images include a Bundu sande women's society performance with Soweï (female guardian spirit) masks in Liberia; a Dogon dama (festival) masquerade staged for tourists in Sangha, Mali; a Grebo war dance in Krutown, Monrovia, Liberia; young Vai boys during initiation into the poro male secret society; and masked Vai dancers performing on Providence Island, Monrovia.
<b>Container:</b>	Volume 1
<b>Container:</b>	Volume 2

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Donated by Philip M. Abrams, 1986.

### Restrictions

Use of original records requires an appointment. Contact Archives staff for more details.

### Conditions Governing Use

Permission to reproduce images from the Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives must be obtained in advance. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

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## Biographical Note

U.S. Foreign Service Official.

## Arrangement

Slides:organized in one volume;.arranged numerically by image number.

Dupe prints:organized in one volume;arranged numerically by image number.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Cultures:

- Bassa (Liberian and Sierra Leone people)
- Dogon (African people)
- Grebo (African people)
- Vai (African people)

### Types of Materials:

- Color slides
- Photographic prints
- Postcards

### Geographic Names:

- Africa
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Guinea
- Liberia
- Mali

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## Container Listing

Children, 1970

*1 slide (col.)*

Abrams, Philip M., Photographer

Girl and camel herd, Timbuctu, Mali. The date on the slide is JUL 70.

Local Numbers

B 1 MAL 4.16 EE 70

Place: Africa  
Mali

Genre/Form: Color slides

Women, 1973

*1 slide (col.)*

Abrams, Philip M., Photographer

Dogon woman working, Bandiagara Cliffs, Mali. The date on the slide is 1973.

Local Numbers

B 1 MAL 4.16 EE 70

Place: Africa  
Mali

Genre/Form: Color slides

Topic: Dogon (African people)

Men, 1973

*1 slide (col.)*

Abrams, Philip M., Photographer

Dogon man spinning cotton, Bandiagara Cliffs, Mali. The date on the slide is 1973.

Local Numbers

B 1 MAL 4.16 EE 70

Place: Africa  
Mali

Genre/Form: Color slides

Topic: Dogon (African people)

Women, 1973

*1 slide (col.)*

Abrams, Philip M., Photographer

Dogon woman winnowing millet, Bandiagara Cliffs, Mali. The date on the slide is 1973.

Local Numbers

B 1 MAL 4.16 EE 70

Place: Africa  
Mali

Genre/Form: Color slides

Topic: Dogon (African people)