



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

Guide to the John Emigh films  
of Indian performing arts, 1980

Human Studies Film Archives  
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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	3

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Human Studies Film Archives
<b>Title:</b>	John Emigh films of Indian performing arts
<b>Date:</b>	1980
<b>Identifier:</b>	HSFA.1984.02
<b>Creator:</b>	Emigh, John
<b>Extent:</b>	Film reels (8 hours; color sound) Videocassettes (5 hours; color sound)
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Received from John Emigh in 1984.

### Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

### Preferred Citation

John Emigh films of Indian performing arts, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

### Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

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## Scope and Contents

Film and video of masked dance performances of East India and Hajari Bhand, a former court jester and street performer of Rajasthan. Collection includes sound recordings.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Comedy
- Dance
- Entertainers
- Festivals
- Martial arts
- Masks
- Music
- Musical instruments
- Puppeteers
- Puppets
- Rites and ceremonies

### Types of Materials:

- Sound films
- Video recordings

### Occupations:

- Actors

### Places:

- Odisha (India)
- Rajasthan (India)
- South Asia

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## Container Listing

Hajari Bhand, 1980

Videocassettes (5 hours; color sound)

Notes: Full film record documents the work of Hajari Bhand, a former court jester and traditional street performer of Rajasthan, India. Footage documents the activities of Hajari Bhand as an itinerant actor, role player, and comic-cum-bone-setter. Included are interviews with and comparative footage of other former jesters.  
HSFA 1984.2.1

Masked Dance Performers of East India, 1980

Film reels (8 hours; color sound)

Notes: Full film record documents masked dance performances and *melas* festivals of Orissa, India. Footage includes masked dance performances in the Shiva and Ramela celebrations of Ganjam Province; the Honujatra celebration commemorating the early life of Krishna and the dance-drama of Aurimanya; the Festival of Harirajpur; the Chitraparava celebration; shadow puppetry devoted to Rama which forms part of the Ravanachya tradition; puja offerings at a temple in Ganjam; and the procession of Kali and devotions by participants which include firewalking, flagellation, animal sacrifices, and devotees impaled on hooks from a spinning turnstyle. Footage also includes illustration of the martial arts aspects of dance and documentation of the process by which masks are made from clay molds layered with paper mache and linen.

HSFA 1984.2.2