



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## Guide to the Elliot Leib films, 1978-1985

Human Studies Film Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Human Studies Film Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Elliot Leib films
<b>Date:</b>	1978-1985
<b>Identifier:</b>	HSFA.1986.02
<b>Creator:</b>	Leib, Elliot Romano, Renee
<b>Extent:</b>	Film reels (1 hour 57 minutes; color sound) 44 Videocassettes (12 hours; color sound; 3/4 inch)
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Received from Elliot Leib in 1986.

### Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

### Preferred Citation

Elliot Leib films, 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 documenting Rastafari culture in Jamaica, shot by Elliot Leib and Renee Romano in 1978 and 1983. Collection contains associated texts.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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:

- Jamaicans
- Rastafarians

### Cultures:

- Jamaicans
- Rastafarians

### Types of Materials:

- Sound films
- Video recordings

### Places:

- Caribbean Area
- Jamaica
- Kingston (Jamaica)
- Saint Catherine (Jamaica)

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## Container Listing

### Rastafari Voices, 1978

2 Film reels (58 minutes; color sound; 2072 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film documenting selected aspects of Biblically-inspired religious discourse, ritual, and music among the Rastafari of Jamaica. Emphasis is given to belief and practice among members of the Nyabinghi Order, the most fundamentalist sect of the Rasta movement. Film depicts instances of prayer, communal discourse known as "reasoning" which is accompanied by the sacramental use of ganja (marijuana), and the 1978 Heroes Park Nyabinghi celebration which was held to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the birthday of Marcus Garvey, the Jamaican-born founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association. Interview footage provides some insights into the generational diversity and absence of orthodoxy within the movement.

Legacy Keywords: Language and culture ; Ritual dance drumming Nyabinghi Jamaica ; Prayer Rastafari Jamaica ; Drums akete Nyabinghi Jamaica ; Ideology reasoning Rastafari Jamaica ; Speech speechifying preaching Rastafari Jamaica ; Hair treatment of dreadlocks Rastafari Jamaica ; Millenarian movements ideology of Rastafari Jamaica ; Bible as ideology Rastafari Jamaica ; Ritual marijuana used in Rastafari ; Instruments musical instruments

HSFA 1986.2.1

### Rastafari: Conversations Concerning Women video project, 1983

44 Videocassettes (12 hours; color sound; 3/4 inch)

Notes: Full video record concerning women's position in Jamaican society and the Rastafari movement. Included are interviews with women in the movement from different generational and social backgrounds.

Language and culture ; Ritual use of marijuana in Rastafari Jamaica ; Sexual division of labor ideas about Jamaica ; Family relations ideas about Jamaica ; Taboos menstration ideas about Rastafari ; Speech speechifying women Rastafari Jamaica ; Hair treatment of dreadlocks Rastafari Jamaica ; Millenarian movements ideology of Rastafari Jamaica ; Bible as ideology Rastafari Jamaica ; Markets vendors women Jamaica

HSFA 1986.2.2

### Rastafari: Conversations Concerning Woman, 1985

Film reels (59 minutes; color sound)

Notes: Edited film produced by Eye In I Filmworks explores black women's situation in Jamaica and the Rastafari woman's self-image through numerous interviews.

HSFA 1986.2.3