



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to Eduardo the Shaman: A Case Study of Culture and Hallucinogens, 1977

Human Studies Film Archives
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents	1
Names and Subjects	
Bibliography	2

Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	<i>Eduardo the Shaman: A Case Study of Culture and Hallucinogens</i>
Date:	1977
Identifier:	HSFA.1988.09
Creator:	Cowan, Richard (Filmmaker) Sharon, Douglas (Anthropologist)
Extent:	32 Film reels (color sound; 22,000 feet; 16mm)
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Douglas Sharon and Richard Cowan in 1988.

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

Eduardo the Shaman: A Case Study of Culture and Hallucinogens, 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.

Scope and Contents

Full film record explores a pre-Columbian tradition of folk therapy known as *curanderismo* in northern Peru. Based on seven years of ethnographic research by Douglas Sharon, the footage documents the activities of Eduardo Calderon, a Peruvian fisherman, ceramacist and *curandero* (healer). Scenes of the healer in various daily interactions with members of his family and local community illustrate the impact of Eduardo's charismatic personality and serve to underscore the importance which a specific cultural context has upon the diagnostic and healing process. Also explored is the importance of the local pre-Columbian ceramic art and iconography to Eduardo's healing practice; the use of herbs (including the San Pedro cactus), divination with the use of a live guinea pig, and the various

ritual manipulations of the healer on his *mesa*(table). Featured are scenes from a number of "seances" or curing ceremonies. The edited film *Eduardo the Healer* was produced from this footage.

Supplementary materials: written annotation, 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.

Bibliography

Sharon, Douglas. "The San Pedro cactus in Peruvian folk healing." In *Flesh of the Gods: The Ritual Use of Hallucinogens*, edited by Peter Furst. Praeger: New York, 1972.

Sharon, Douglas. "Eduardo the healer." *Natural History* 81, no. 9 (1972): 32-47.

Sharon, Douglas. "Becoming a curandero in Peru." In *Enculturation in Latin America: An Anthology*, edited by Johannes Wilbert. Los Angeles: UCLA Latin American Center Publications, 1976.

Sharon, Douglas. *The Wizard of the Four Winds*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1979.

Local Number

HSFA 1988.9.1

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Ceramics
- Moche (Mochica) (archaeological culture)
- Shamanism

Cultures:

- Moche (Mochica) (archaeological culture)

Types of Materials:

- Sound films

Names:

- Calderón, Eduardo, 1930-1995

Places:

- Chan Chan Site (Peru)
- Lima (Peru)
- Moche River Valley (Peru)
- Peru

South America
Trujillo (La Libertad, Peru)