



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Andris Slapins films, 1982-1986

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Collection Overview

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| Repository: | Human Studies Film Archives |
| Title: | Andris Slapins films |
| Date: | 1982-1986 |
| Identifier: | HSFA.1989.07 |
| Creator: | Slapins, Andris, 1949-1991 |
| Extent: | Film reels (1 hour 58 minutes; black-and-white color sound; 4578 feet) |
| Language: | Films are in Russian and include examples of the Sirenikski language. |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Andris Slapins in 1989.

Preferred Citation

Andris Slapins 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.

Scope and Contents

Two edited films by Andris Slapins of the Riga Film Studio, USSR, CHUKOTKA: COAST OF MEMORIES (1986), documenting Chukchi and the Siberian Eskimo peoples of the Chukotka Peninsula, and TIME OF DREAMS: SIBERIAN SHAMANISM (1982) documenting the work of several traditional shamans.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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

Chukchi
Sirinek language

Types of Materials:

Sound films

Places:

Arctic regions
Siberia

Container Listing

[Time of Dreams: Siberian Shamanism, 1982](#)

Film reels (1 hour 9 minutes; black-and-white sound; 2490 feet)

Language: Audio track narration in Russian. There are no English subtitles.

Notes: Edited film documents the traditions and ritual practices of several Chukchi shamans. The film includes scenes at winter camps where shamans perform curing ceremonies that involve trance and reindeer sacrifice, shamanic drumming and dancing inside a skin dwelling, and the diagnosis of patients followed by "cupping" on the shoulders and back. Film includes historical footage of a Siberian shamanic performance in the Amur River area shot by Russian anthropologist A. Arsenev.

HSFA 1989.7.1

Chukotka: Coast of Memories, 1986

Film reels (49 minutes; color sound; 2088 feet)

[Video: Chukotka: Coast of Memories, 1986, 1989.07.002, clip 1](#)

[Video: Chukotka: Coast of Memories, 1986, 1989.07.002, clip 2](#)

Notes: Edited film depicts the native peoples of the Chukotka Peninsula, the Chukchi and Siberian Eskimo, whose traditional economies are based on whaling, hunting of other sea mammals, and reindeer herding. Coastal and tundra dwelling people are linked by trading relationships and a common culture. Coastal Chukchi are shown engaged in subsistence practices indistinguishable from their ancestors while the reindeer herders are shown living in the *iaranga*, a traditional complex tent built of poles and skins. The film presents the continuity and persistence of traditional practices including examples of the Sirenikski language (now almost extinct) spoken by elderly Eskimo.

HSFA 1989.7.2