



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

National Geographic *Explorer* videos, 1985-1988

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	National Geographic <i>Explorer</i> videos
Date:	1985-1988
Identifier:	HSFA.1990.01
Creator:	National Geographic Society (U.S.)
Extent:	5 Videocassettes (99 minutes; color sound)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Linda Goldman in 1990.

Preferred Citation

National Geographic *Explorer* videos, 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

Collection consists of five episodes of National Geographic EXPLORER. Titles are: FIRE AND STEEL; WAY OF THE WADAABE; SAMBA; JU JU MUSIC; HAITIAN VODOO.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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

Types of Materials:

Video recordings

Places:

Africa, West
Brazil
Caribbean Area
Haiti
Niger
Nigeria
South America
Trinidad

Preferred Titles:

Explorer (Television program)

Container Listing

Haitian Voodoo, 1985

1 Videocassette (11 minutes; color sound)

Notes: Edited film produced for National Geographic Society Explorer television series by John Lipscomb examines the nature of Vodou through the yearly Festival of Our Lady of Mount Carmel held at a sacred waterfall outside Ville Bonne Heure, Haiti. Photographer Carol de Villers is interviewed concerning the practice of Voodoo and is shown photographing the pilgrims. Pilgrims are shown praying and making offerings to the spirits at different stations on the way to the waterfalls, cleansing themselves in the falls, and attending mass.

HSFA 1990.1.5

Fire and Steel, 1986

1 Videocassette (17 minutes; color sound)

Notes: Edited film produced for National Geographic Society Explorer television series by Ann Derry explores the roll of steel drums in Trinidadian life. The footage shows making of steel drums from old oil barrels, a tuner "tuning" a drum, and painting of drums. Highlighted is a yearly steel festival in which a well-known steel orchestra, the Desperados from Lavantio, compete and win.

HSFA 1990.1.1

Way of the Wodaabe, 1988

1 Videocassette (28 minutes; color sound)

Notes: Edited film produced for the National Geographic Society Explorer television series was shot in 1987 and shows Wodaabe life, preparing for celebrations at the end of the rainy season, and relations with American photographer Carol Beckwith who has lived with and extensively photographed the Wodaabe. A pastoralist people of the African Sahel, Niger, the Wodaabe are seen setting up camp and performing gender divided labor according to strict tribal tabus, drinking tea at the men's morning tea ceremony, searching for a water hole, and sewing and doing bead work. Film concludes with two dances which are performed at the end of the rainy season--a celebration which had not been performed since before the severe drought of 1985. Preparations for the dances include elaborate face painting.

HSFA 1990.1.2

Samba, 1988

1 Videocassette (23 minutes; color sound)

Notes: Edited film produced for National Geographic Society Explorer television series by Steve Burns focuses on preparations for and performance in Brazil's Carnival Samba parade. Film features Samba dancers from the Manguera slums of Rio de Janiero, Brazil, as they prepare for the Samba parade and an interview with the Manguera master of Samba. Scenes include rehearsing for the parade, costume

construction, streets and homes of Manguera, and the children's and adult's Samba parade in which 16 Samba schools compete. Manguera inhabitants express conflicting views of Samba as an essential expression of community pride and as an impediment to economic improvement of an impoverished community.

HSFA 1990.1.3

Ju Ju Music, circa 1988

1 Videocassette (20 minutes; color sound)

Notes: Edited film produced for National Geographic Society Explorer television series explores Ju Ju music, particularly as played in Lagos, Nigeria. Ju Ju musicians playing calabash rattle, drum, guitar, and bottle are shown performing in various settings. Influences originating in the New World, such as Latin drums and English chamber music, are also shown and discussed.

HSFA 1990.1.4