



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Frank L. Kreznar films

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Frank L. Kreznar films
Date:	1959-1979
Identifier:	HSFA.1997.17
Creator:	Kreznar, Frank L. Kreznar, Sonia
Extent:	22 Film reels (color sound; color silent; 16mm)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Sonia Kreznar in 1997.

Provenance

Previously titled "Frank Kreznar Film Collection."

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

Frank L. Kreznar 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

Short films created by Frank L. Kreznar. engineer award winning amateur filmmaker. Collection also contains film production notebooks; research materials; technical writings; screening logs; amateur cinema newsletters, awards and programs; and still photographs.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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

Travelogues (Motion pictures)

Types of Materials:

Home movies
Sound films
silent films

Places:

Europe, Eastern

Container Listing

- Item 1997.17.15 With Notebook In Hand, circa 1959
1 Film reel (21 minutes; color sound, 728 feet; 16mm)
Notes: Edited film is the story of the Kreznar family vacation to Florida. The youngest daughter is instructed by a teacher to keep a notebook of her experiences in Florida which include visiting a Florida visitor center, setting up camp in a park, watching a water skiing performance, visiting a marine animal park where they watch a dolphin show, touring the Everglades on an air powered boat, riding on a glass bottom boat, viewing bird and animal wildlife and swimming at a beach. Sound is the daughter's narration of their experiences.
- Item 1997.17.14 Czech Invasion, 1968
1 Film reel (7 minutes; color sound, 220 feet; 16mm)
Notes: Edited film captures aspects of the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. Kreznars were completing the last days of vacation in a Czechoslovakian town when the Russians invaded. The film captures images of Russian soldiers and tanks, Czechs protest marching, makeshift memorials on sites where people were killed, graffiti telling the Russians to go home. Sound is Sonia Kreznar's narration of their experience.
- Item 1997.17.9 Lens Behind the Iron Curtain, part 1, 1965
1 Film reel (19 minutes; color sound, 692 feet; 16mm)
Notes: Edited film created by Kreznars during a guided tour of the Soviet Union in 1965. Film consists of footage of Moscow and Leningrad mainly of public places with a special emphasis on historically important buildings. Throughout the footage Kreznar shows modern apartment buildings as they are being constructed, with his commentary discussing the Soviets' efforts to modernize the territories under their control and the recent population growth in these cities. Kreznar is also interested in the modes of public transportation in each city - such as street cars or the metro in Moscow. Kreznar notes that most automobile production in the Soviet Union focuses on trucks for work while cars are considered a rare luxury for private citizens. He also discusses the high volume of pedestrian traffic. Kreznar also takes an interest in religion in this footage, showing churches in disrepair or having been de-sanctified and converted into housing, museums, or other government administrated buildings. Kreznar notes that this is due to the Soviet government's anti-religious policy, but he also shows some churches under recently started restoration due to the government's realization of the touristic value of these sites. Film includes occasional shots of people working, mainly in outdoor produce markets. Women are shown doing road construction in Moscow as well as various public parks, swimming pools, and other public recreation areas, with a special emphasis on how the Soviet government has given children places to play.

Film is broken up into three parts, each with its own opening title screen, although, the narrative seems to be continuous and the footage likely follows the original chronological order of the guided tour. This footage was shot silent with no live audio recorded during the tour. Voiceover audio commentary and background music added by Kreznar during editing.

Item 1997.17.10 Lens Behind the Iron Curtain, part 2, 1965
1 Film reel (18 minutes; color sound, 659 feet; 16mm)

Item 1997.17.11 Lens Behind the Iron Curtain, part 3, 1965
1 Film reel (20 minutes; color sound, 728 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Part 3 of edited film created by Kreznar during a guided tour of the Soviet Union in 1965. Part 3 consists of footage of Tashkent, Bukhara, and Samarkand in Uzbekistan mainly of public places with a special emphasis on historically important buildings. Throughout the footage Kreznar shows modern apartment buildings as they are being constructed, with his commentary discussing the Soviets' efforts to modernize the territories under their control and the recent population growth in these cities. Kreznar is also interested in the modes of public transportation in each city such as street cars although footage of the Uzbek cities include shots of donkeys and carts still being heavily used as a means of transport. Kreznar also takes an interest in religion in this footage, showing churches and mosques in disrepair or having been de-sanctified and converted into housing, museums, or other government administrated buildings. Kreznar notes that this is due to the Soviet government's anti-religious policy, but he also shows some churches and mosques under recently started restoration due to the government's realization of the touristic value of these sites. Women are shown doing road construction in Tashkent. Film concludes with shot of Muslims praying in public in Samarkand.

Film is broken up into three parts, each with its own opening title screen, although, the narrative seems to be continuous and the footage likely follows the original chronological order of the guided tour. This footage was shot silent with no live audio recorded during the tour. Voiceover audio commentary and background music added by Kreznar during editing.

Mexican Sojourn, 1963
1 Film reel (26 minutes; color sound, 966 feet; 16mm)

Present Day Mayans, 1977
1 Film reel (24 minutes; color sound, 893 feet; 16mm)

Journey to Uluru, 1979
1 Film reel (color sound, 985 feet; 16mm)

Continental Sprawl, 1976

1 Film reel (color sound, 974 feet; 16mm)

Yugoslavia - Land of Our Fathers, 1976
1 Film reel (25 minutes; color sound, 897 feet; 16mm)

South Slavs, 1976
1 Film reel (21 minutes; color sound, 741 feet; 16mm)

Item 1997.17.6 Cambodia Via Pedicab, 1971
1 Film reel (22 minutes; color sound, 771 feet; 16mm)

Balinese Galungan, 1971
1 Film reel (26 minutes; color sound, 925 feet; 16mm)

New Zealand, 1976
1 Film reel (color silent, 780 feet; 16mm)

Hawaii, circa 1969
1 Film reel (12 minutes; color sound, 442 feet; 16mm)

Apple Sculpture, 1970
1 Film reel (color sound, 294 feet; 16mm)

Nature's Profile (Outtakes), circa 1970-1971
1 Film reel (color silent, 137 feet; 16mm)

Insects and Animals, circa 1964-1973
2 Film reels (color silent, 559 feet; 16mm)

Nature, 1959-1975
2 Film reels (color silent, 850 feet; 16mm)

Moods and Motion in Nature, 1974
1 Film reel (14 minutes; color sound, 501 feet; 16mm)