



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Pacho Lane films, 1981-1992

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Pacho Lane films
Date:	1981-1992
Identifier:	HSFA.2004.14
Creator:	Lane, Bruce, 1938-
Extent:	Film reels (10 hours; color sound; 26,000 feet; 16mm)
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Pacho Lane in 2004.

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

Pacho Lane 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

Production film materials for TREE OF LIFE (2 versions *TREE OF KNOWLEDGE*, *EAGLE'S CHILDREN*, 1987 film footage of Afghanistan and film footage for a New Mexico Chile film.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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

- Rites and ceremonies
- Totonac (Totonaco)
- War

Cultures:

- Totonac (Totonaco)

Types of Materials:

- Sound films

Places:

- Afghanistan
- Asia
- Central America
- Mexico

Container Listing

The Tree of Life, 1988

1 Film reel (30 minutes; color sound; 1,055 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film by Pacho (Bruce) Lane documents preparations and performance of "Los Voladores" (men who are suspended from and "fly around" a tall pole made from a selected tree in the nearby forests), a 1500 year old ritual performed by the Totonac Indians of eastern Mexico that lies at the spiritual heart of Mexico. Sacred to Quetzalcoatl, the ritual is at the spiritual heart of Mexico and combines Mexican Indian dance, music, poetry (from the "Cantares Mexicanos, a collection of pre-hispanic Nahuatl verse from Texcoco) and art in a meditation on our place in nature, on how to keep the world in balance by our lives. Originally filmed in 1973? in Huehuetla in Sierra Norte de Pueblo in the Nuasteca region of Mexico.

HSFA 2004.14.1

The Tree of Life (short version), 1988

1 Film reel (color sound; 784 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film by Pacho (Bruce) Lane documents preparations and performance of "Los Voladores" (men who are suspended from and "fly around" a tall pole made from a selected tree in the nearby forests), a 1500 year old ritual performed by the Totonac Indians of eastern Mexico that lies at the spiritual heart of Mexico. Sacred to Quetzalcoatl, the ritual is at the spiritual heart of Mexico and combines Mexican Indian dance, music, poetry (from the "Cantares Mexicanos, a collection of pre-hispanic Nahuatl verse from Texcoco) and art in a meditation on our place in nature, on how to keep the world in balance by our lives. Originally filmed in 1973? in Huehuetla in Sierra Norte de Pueblo in the Nuasteca region of Mexico.

HSFA 2004.14.1

The Tree of Knowledge, 1981

1 Film reel (24 minutes; color sound; 864 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film by Pacho (Bruce) Lane focuses on the Totonac Indian community in Huehuetla, Puebla, in eastern central Mexico and contrasts two systems of education. The public school system uses patriotic symbols to "integrate" Indian pupils into the national culture while teaching them to reject their own identity. In contrast, the Danza de los Huehues urges young Totonacs to learn from the mestizos ("whites"), yet warns them not to abandon their own culture. Originally filmed in 197X[?]

HSFA 2004.14.3

The Eagle's Children, 1992

1 Film reel (39 minutes; color sound; 1,470 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film by Pacho (Bruce) Lane documents Mexican-American "danzantes" travelling to Chalma, Central Texas, and San Diego, California, where they rediscover their indigenous heritage. The

"danzantes" are adherents of "La danza de la conquista del Gran Tenochtitlan," also known as "Los concheros," "Danza Azteca," and "Danza Chichimeca," a dance tradition that traces its origins to pre-Columbian Nahua ("Aztec") roots

HSFA 2004.14.4

Inside Afghanistan, 1988

2 Film reels (56 minutes; color sound; 2,016 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film shot in Kabul, Herat, Kandahar, Spinbuldak, and the Afghan countryside in 1987, is a look at the "other" side of the war in Afghanistan - the Communist government and its supporters. Film includes interviews with Afghans, predominantly pro-government, describing the issues, events and conditions typifying the nine-year-old civil war. Hopes are expressed for the government's program of national reconciliation, with some compromises to be made between the modernist, pro-Soviet adherents and the predominantly tribal Islamic traditionalists.

HSFA 2004.14.5

The Black Tulip, 1988

2 Film reels (26 minutes; color sound; 936 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film examines the Afghan civil war through interviews with Russian military men who outline their perceptions of their mission in Afghanistan and the legitimacy of their presence; they describe the conditions and dangers of duty and characterize the nature of the Afghan rebels. Moscow civilians, including the bereaved parents of sons lost in battle, express their feelings about the Russian military intervention in Afghanistan.

HSFA 2004.14.6