



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Eduardo Masferre photographs of the
Luzon Cordillera, circa 1934-1956

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National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Eduardo Masferre photographs of the Luzon Cordillera
Date:	circa 1934-1956
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.91-30
Creator:	Masferré, E. (Eduardo), 1909-1995
Extent:	152 Prints (silver gelatin)
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Provenance

103 prints donated by Eduardo Masferre to the Department of Anthropology, with additional funds from Mobil Oil Company, 1991; Masferre donated 49 additional prints at the same time.

Location of Other Archival Materials

A photograph of Masferre held in the National Anthropological Archives in Photo Lot R92-43.

Other Finding Aids

List with references to photos published in Jill Gale de Villa's book on the Masferre photographs, available in repository.

Available Formats

Collection also includes copy negatives, made from the prints.

Preferred Citation

Photo lot 91-30, Eduardo Masferre photographs of the Luzon Cordillera, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

These photographs cannot be published without permission from Eduardo Masferre's heirs. Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

Eduardo Masferre (1909-1995) was born in the Gran Cordillera Central region of Luzon to a Spanish father and native Filipino mother from the Kankanai tribe. Between 1914 and 1921, the Masferre family lived in Spain, where Eduardo began his education. After completing his schooling in the Philippines, Masferre

followed in his father's footsteps and became a missionary teacher and then a missionary administrator in Sagada. He began photographing the mountain tribes in 1934, documenting traditions that he feared would be lost. After World War II, he opened a photographic studio in Bontok, selling studio portraits as well as photographs of nearby villages. In 1988, a book of his photographs, *E. Masferre: People of the Philippine Cordillera*, was produced.

Scope and Contents

Photographs made by Eduardo Masfere documenting the lives and culture of the Igorot (mountain) people, mainly Bontok and Kalinga. There are also a few photographs that relate to the Gaddang, Ifugao, and Kankanai peoples. Many of the photographs are portraits, though others show pipes and tobacco use, basketry and weaving, ceremonies, and agriculture.

Bibliography

Photographs published in Jill Gale de Villa, Maria Teresa Garcia-Farr, and Gladys Montgomery, *E. Masferre: People of the Philippine Cordillera, Photographs, 1934-1956*, Manila: Devcon I.P. Inc., 1988; and Paul Michael Taylor, "Eduardo Masferre, Photographer of Highland Luzon," *Discovery: The Magainze of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History* 25, no. 2, 1995.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 91-30

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Agriculture
- Basket making
- Bontoks (Philippine people)
- Cooking
- Dance
- Dwellings
- Gaddang (Philippine people)
- Ifugao (Philippine people)
- Igorot (Philippine people)
- Kalinga (Philippine people)
- Kankanay (Philippine people)
- Musical instruments
- Pottery craft
- Rites and ceremonies
- Tattooing
- Textile fabrics
- Tobacco
- Weaving

Cultures:

Bontoks (Philippine people)
Gaddang (Philippine people)
Ifugao (Philippine people)
Igorot (Philippine people)
Kalinga (Philippine people)
Kankanay (Philippine people)

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Places:

Cordillera Administrative Region (Philippines)
Philippines