



Smithsonian

*National Museum of the American Indian*

Hugo Teweles film of an Apache Fire Dance

Emily Moazami

2018

National Museum of the American Indian  
4220 Silver Hill Rd  
Suitland, Maryland 20746-2863  
Business Number: Phone: 301.238.1400  
Fax Number: Fax: 301.238.3038  
nmaiarchives@si.edu  
<http://nmai.si.edu/explore/collections/archive/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Museum of the American Indian
<b>Title:</b>	Hugo Teweles film of an Apache Fire Dance
<b>Date:</b>	1929
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAI.AC.128
<b>Creator:</b>	Teweles, Hugo (Photographer)
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Film reel (8mm)
<b>Language:</b>	No linguistic content; Not applicable .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This film was shot by Hugo Teweles, inherited by his daughter Marie Teweles Wallau and donated to NMAI by her great niece Tracy Teweles in 2017.

### Processing Information

This collection was processed by Emily Moazami, Assistant Head Archivist, in 2018.

### Preferred Citation

Hugo Teweles film of an Apache Fire Dance, NMAI.AC.128; National Museum of the American Indian Archive Center, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

Access to NMAI Archive Center collections is by appointment only, Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. Please contact the archives to make an appointment (phone: 301-238-1400, email: [nmaearchives@si.edu](mailto:nmaearchives@si.edu)).

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## Biographical / Historical

Hugo Teweles was born in Cheboygan, Wisconsin on Sept. 18, 1871. In 1898, he married Alice Heller Teweles who was born in Milwaukee, Wis. on April 9, 1882. The Teweles had three children Lawrence (1899-1967), Richard (1902-1969), and Marie (1907-2000). Hugo worked as a seed merchant in Milwaukee. According to U.S. Passport applications and ship passenger lists, the Teweles family traveled for leisure often, and presumably, they shot this film when visiting New Mexico or Arizona.

Hugo died in June 1929 and Alice died in 1948.

## Scope and Contents

This collection contains one 8mm silent film that was shot by Hugo Teweles presumably while he and his wife Alice Heller Teweles and their children Lawrence, Richard, and Marie, were on vacation in New Mexico and Arizona. Included in the film is footage of an Apache Fire Dance, possibly by the White Mountain Apache dancers in Arizona.

The film canister indicates that the film was shot in Dec. 1929, however, the month or year must be inaccurate as Hugo died in June of that year. The label on the front of the original film canister reads, "M.T.W. & E.C.W. New Mexico and Arizona. Dec. 1929. X Fire Dance." The label on the back of the original film canister reads, "H. Teweles. 986 Sheperd. Children"

The initials M.T.W. and E.C.W. most likely refer to Marie Teweles Wallau and her husband Ernest C. Wallau. Marie inherited the film from her father.

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## Arrangement

Film is on one film core.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Indian dance -- North America
- Indians of North America -- Arizona
- Indians of North America -- New Mexico
- White Mountain Apache

### Cultures:

- White Mountain Apache