



Smithsonian

*National Museum of the American Indian*

Denise Bacca photographs from Panama

2025

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>	Denise Bacca photographs from Panama
<b>Date:</b>	2001 July
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAI.AC.355
<b>Creator:</b>	Smith, Morgan (1926-2015)
<b>Extent:</b>	12 Photographic prints
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	This collection includes twelve black and white photographs taken in Rio Chagres, Panama by Denise Bacca.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Gift of H. Morgan Smith, 2002.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Mattie Lewis, Archives Technician in 2025.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; July 2021; Denise Bacca photographs from Panama, image #, NMAI.AC.355; National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

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## Biographical / Historical

Harry Morgan Smith was an environmental scientist and anthropologist. He worked with NASA and the U.S. military teaching jungle survival training. His interest in Indigenous people started as an undergrad at Florida State University when he spent a summer working as an anthropology assistant in a Emberá community. He continued working with the tribe for more than 30 years. He married Denise Bacca circa 2000, and she traveled with him to Panama.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection contains twelve black and white photographs taken in 2001 among the Emberá (Choikoi) people in Panama by Denise Bacca. Images depict women in beaded chest plates, children playing, and Senior Elder Antonio Zarco. Some photos have been restricted for child nudity.

Image numbers P28002-P28013.

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## Arrangement

Arranged by catalog number.

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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:

Emberá (Choikoi)

### Cultures:

Emberá (Choikoi)

### Types of Materials:

Black-and-white photographs

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## Container Listing

Photo-folder 1	P28002: P28002, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Portrait of woman wearing seed bead necklaces and woven bead breastplate decorated with U.S. quarters and crosses.
Photo-folder 1	P28003: P28003, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Closeup portrait of young man
Photo-folder 1	P28006: P28006, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Three young women and babies sitting on a board and pole bench under trees
Photo-folder 1	P28008: P28008, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Portrait of a young boy
Photo-folder 1	P28009: P28009, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Portrait of woman wearing seed bead necklaces and woven bead breastplate decorated with U.S. quarters
Photo-folder 1	P28010: P28010, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Portrait of young woman outside
Photo-folder 1	P28012: P28012, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Close up portrait of Antonio Zarco Embera.
Photo-folder 1	P28013: P28013, 2001 July 1 Photographic print Notes: Portrait of Antonio Zarco. Back of the photograph says "Senior Elder, Choco, Rio Chagres, Panama. 80 yrs. Old. He has given many artifacts to the Smithsonian."