



Smithsonian

National Museum of the American Indian

Charles J. Kroehle photographs from Peru

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	Charles J. Kroehle photographs from Peru
Date:	Circa 1890
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.375
Creator:	Kroehle, J. Charles, 1876-1902
Extent:	9 Photographic prints
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection includes nine black and white photographs taken by Charles J. Kroehle taken in Peru circa 1890.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Cyril Morrison, 1961.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Mattie Lewis, Archives Technician in 2025.

Restrictions

Access to NMAI Archives 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: nmaiarchives@si.edu).

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Charles J. Kroehle (1876-1902) was a German photographer who primarily worked with expeditions in the Amazon. His photographs were published in magazines and books. He is considered a pioneer in photography for work.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains nine 3x5 inch black and white photographs, collected by Cyril Morrison. Eight of the images depict Native people in Peru, taken by Charles J. Kroehle. One image is a non-native female relative of the collector. Some photographs contain nudity.

Image numbers P37486-P37494.

Arrangement

Arranged by catalog number.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)
- Cashibo
- Conibo
- Piro

Cultures:

- Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)
- Cashibo
- Conibo
- Piro

Container Listing

Photo-folder 1	P37486: P37486, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Image of an elderly partially-nude woman, posed outdoors in front of a cloth background, wearing a long skirt, headscarf, with a bundle or shawl around her neck, holding a bowl, and several other unidentified objects. She appears to have tattooing on her upper arms.
Photo-folder 1	P37487: P37487, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Image of young partially-nude woman with shorn hair.
Photo-folder 1	P37488: P37488, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Image of a young man wearing a geometrically-patterned robe, and a bandolier sash of wooden beads.
Photo-folder 1	P37489: P37489, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Image of a partially-nude young woman wearing an elaborate bead and silver disk necklace, with large circles painted on her face
Photo-folder 1	P37490: P37490, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Profile image of a bare-chested young man wearing large ear plugs
Photo-folder 1	P37491: P37491, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Portrait of a bare-chested young man wearing a head scarf, and multiple bead, shell, and dew-claw necklaces.
Photo-folder 1	P37492: P37492, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Image of a man, wearing a dark cloth robe with a V-neck, and a beaded necklace with geometric designs, a disk in his nose, and geometric face painting.
Photo-folder 1	P37493: P37493, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Image of a man posed outdoors in front of a cloth background, wearing a long robe, two wooden bead bandolier sashes, and holding several long staffs or spears.
Photo-folder 1	P37494: P37494, Circa 1890 1 Photographic print Notes: Studio portrait of a non-Native woman, dressed in Native attire. Per the dornor, Cyril Morrison, in a letter to Frederick Dockstader,

10/24/1961: "She is probably some forgotten relative of mine about 1890, and is supposed to be showing off the Mapuche silver."