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Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Creator: Smithsonian Productions
Title: Productions
Dates: 1998-1999
Quantity: 2.5 cu. ft. (1 record storage box) (3 document boxes)

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation
Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 06-099, Smithsonian Productions, Productions

Access Restriction
Special restrictions on use of these materials may apply. Viewing/listening copies are not currently available, but can be made for a fee, Transferring office; 4/10/2002 memorandum, Peters to SIA; Contact reference staff for details.

Descriptive Entry

This accession documents the production of "The Mississippi: River of Song." Better known as "River of Song," this project combined a television series, radio series, and 2-disc compact disc. The project as a whole explores the richness and vitality of American music at the close of the twentieth century through live performances and intimate discussions with musicians along the course of the Mississippi River. The 4-part television series aired on the Public Broadcasting Service beginning in January 1999. It takes viewers on a musical journey from the headwaters in northern Minnesota to the river's mouth in the Gulf of Mexico, creating a portrait of the American musician along the way. All scenes were shot live on location and feature musicians that represent the regional culture. The 7-part radio series aired on Public Radio International affiliates beginning in January 1999. The radio series is similar in content to the television series and is hosted by Ani DiFranco. The 2-CD set consists of 36 tracks of live recordings from 1995 through 1997. The CDs feature contemporary musicians who have forged their styles out of the rich musical heritage found along the banks of the Mississippi River. The CDs were distributed through Smithsonian Folkways beginning in 1998. Materials in this accession include originals, production masters, archives, narration, sound mixes, distribution copies, and promotional copies. Additional and detailed information about these productions may be found at The River of Song Project website at http://www.pbs.org/riverofsong/.
Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
- Documentary television programs
- Music -- United States
- Musicians -- United States
- Television -- Production and direction
- The Mississippi: River of Song (Radio program : 1999)
- The Mississippi: River of Song (Television program : 1999)
- Video recordings -- Production and direction

Types of Materials:
- Audiotapes
- Compact discs
- Videotapes

Names:
- DiFranco, Ani
- Public Broadcasting Service (U.S.)
- Public Radio International
- Smithsonian/Folkways Recordings
Container Listing

Box 1


"Mississippi: River of Song," Episode 104: "Louisiana, Where Music is King," PBS Version, TRT 56:46, Betacam SP


"Mississippi: River of Song," Press Screening Tapes with Scenes from All Shows, TRT 15:02, 12/17/2998, Betacam

"Mississippi: River of Song," Press Event, Tapes 1 and 2, 12/17/1998, Betacam SP

"Mississippi: River of Song," Press Event, Tapes 3 and 4, 12/17/1998, Betacam SP

Box 2


"Mississippi: River of Song," Show 1, International Television Version, Archives, 10/22/1999, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Show 1, PBS Version, Final Archives, 12/12/1998, D-8 Data Cartridge


"Mississippi: River of Song," Show 3, PBS Version, Final Archives, 12/14/1998, D-8 Data Cartridge


"Mississippi: River of Song," Promos and 15-minute Sampler, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Show 1, International Television Version, Original, DA113 Digital Tape

"Mississippi: River of Song," Show 2, International Television Version, Original, DA113 Digital Tape


"Mississippi: River of Song," Show 4, International Television Version, Production Master, DA113 Digital Tape

Box 3

"Mississippi: River of Song," Episode 101, PBS Version, Final Sound Mix, Original, DA113 Digital Tape

"Mississippi: River of Song," Episode 102, PBS Version, Final Sound Mix, Original, DA113 Digital Tape

"Mississippi: River of Song," Episode 103, PBS Version, Final Sound Mix, Original, DA113 Digital Tape

"Mississippi: River of Song," Episode 104, PBS Version, Final Sound Mix, Original, DA113 Digital Tape


"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Shows 1-3, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 1, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 2, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 3, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Shows 4-7, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 4, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 5, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 6, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 7, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Promos, Archives, D-8 Data Cartridge

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 1, Final, Production Master, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 2, Production Master, 12/20/1998, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 2, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 3, Production Master, 12/20/1998, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 4, Production Master, 12/20/1998, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 5, Production Master, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 6, Production Master, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 7, Not for Production, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Promos, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Demo, 10/16/1998, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 1, Scratch Narration, DAT
"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 1, Narration, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 2, Scratch Narration (Newhouse), DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 4, Scratch Narration (Newhouse), DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 6, Scratch Narration, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show (Louisiana), Scratch Narration (Newhouse), DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show (Arkansas/Mississippi), Scratch Narration (Newhouse), DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show, Ani DiFranco Tracks with TC 1, 7/24/1998, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show, Ani DiFranco Tracks with TC 2, 7/26/1998, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show, Ani DiFranco, Original Master, RS970M0314, 9/11/1998, DAT 1


"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show, Ani DiFranco, Original Master, RS970M0316, 9/12/1998, DAT 3

Box 4

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show, Ani DiFranco, Original Master, RS970M0317, 9/12/1998, DAT 4

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show, Tape A Remix, RS970M0328, DAT

"Mississippi: River of Song," John Hartford for River Intro, Cassette Tape

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 1, CD

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 2, CD

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 3, CD

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 4, CD

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 5, CD

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 6, CD

"Mississippi: River of Song," Radio Show 7, CD

"Mississippi: River of Song," CD Set, Distribution Copy, 2 CDs and Booklet

"Mississippi: River of Song," CD Set, Selections Only, Promotional Copy, CD