

**Vodou religious expression in Haiti collected by Odette Mennesson Rigaud,
Milo Rigaud, and Shirley Keller**



**American Folklife Center, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
July 2022**

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Prepared by Marcia K. Segal

Finding aid encoded by Marcia K. Segal, July 2022
Revised August 2022

Collection Summary

Title: Vodou religious expression in Haiti collected by Odette Mennesson Rigaud, Milo Rigaud, and Shirley Keller

Inclusive Dates: 1944-1985

Call No.: AFC 2019/041

Creators: Rigaud, Milo, 1904-1981, collector; Mennesson-Rigaud, Odette, collector

Extent (total): 105 items

Extent (manuscripts): 1 folder (21 pages)

Extent (sound recordings): 1 sound tape reel : analog ; 10 in.

Extent (sound recordings): 12 sound tape reels : analog ; 7 in.

Extent (sound recordings): 1 sound tape reel : analog ; 5 in.

Extent (sound recordings): 50 sound wire reels : analog ; 3 in.

Extent (sound recordings): 17 audiocassettes : analog

Extent (moving images): 1 videocassette (Hi-8) : sound, color

Extent (electronic media): 1 DVD-R : sound, color

Extent (moving images): 1 file : digital, sound, color ; .vob

Language: Collection material in French, Haitian French Creole, and English.

Location: American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2019655314>

Summary: The collection includes audio documentation of religious expression in Haiti, circa 1940s-1950s, as well as an audio interview with Shirley Keller about her work on the book *The Magic Orange Tree* and a video of a presentation she gave with Angus Gillespie on vodou traditions. The wires appear to be the source recordings for the 1953 Rigaud book *La tradition voodoo et le voodoo haïtien : (son temple, ses mystères, sa magie)*. Most of the sound tape recordings are compiled dubs of wire recordings.

Provenance

Scott Keller; Donation; 2019.

Custodial History

Shirley Keller received the wire recordings from Odette Mennesson Rigaud on an unspecified date.

Accruals

No accruals are expected.

Processing History

The collection was processed by Marcia K. Segal in 2021-2022.

Related Materials

[Diane Wolkstein collection \(AFC 2016/057\)](#)

[Maya Deren Collection \(#515\), Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center, Boston University.](#)

[Shirley Keller Collection \(#20266-z\), Southern Folklife Collection, The Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.](#)

[Fonds Odette Mennesson Rigaud/Milo Rigaud, Bibliothèque Haïtienne des Spiritains, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.](#)

Copyright Status

Duplication of collection materials may be governed by copyright and other restrictions.

Access and Restrictions

The collection is open to research. To request materials, please contact the Folklife Reading Room at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/folklife.contact>

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container number], Vodou religious expression in Haiti collected by Odette Mennesson Rigaud, Milo Rigaud, and Shirley Keller, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Odette Mennesson-Rigaud

Odette Mennesson-Rigaud (1907-1990) was born in France and became a Haitian citizen following her marriage to Milo Rigaud (in New York City, on January 10, 1935). She became an ethnographer of Vodou, and was a noted photographer in her own right.

Milo Rigaud

Milo Rigaud (1904-1981) was born in Port au Prince, Haiti, where he spent the greater part of his life studying Vodou traditions. In Haiti he also studied law, and in France ethnology, psychology, and theology. The involvement of Vodou in the political struggle of Haitian Blacks for independence was one of his main concerns.

Shirley Keller

Shirley Keller (-2017) of New Jersey was a white folk singer and musician who played guitar, Appalachian dulcimer, auto harp, and banjo. In the 1980s and 1990s, Keller hosted a weekly radio program on WFDU FM Radio and later a cable television show in New Jersey and New York called "The Folk People." She interviewed guest folk musicians and artists, who also performed in the studio.

Scope and Content

The collection includes audio documentation of religious expression in Haiti, circa 1940s-1950s, as well as an audio interview with Shirley Keller about her work on the book *The Magic Orange Tree* and a video of a presentation she gave with Angus Gillespie on vodou traditions. The wires appear to be the source recordings for the 1953 Rigaud book *La tradition voodoo et le voodoo haïtien : (son temple, ses mystères, sa magie)*. Most of the sound tape recordings are compiled dubs of wire recordings.

Arrangement

The collection is organized in four series:

- [Series 1: Manuscripts](#)
- [Series 2: Vodou-related recordings](#)
- [Series 3: Various sound recordings](#)
- [Series 4: Dubbed commercial recordings](#)

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Gaither, Edmund B.--Interviews.
Gillespie, Angus K., 1942-
Keller, Shirley (Guitarist)
Keller, Shirley (Guitarist)--Interviews.
Menesson-Rigaud, Odette
Menesson-Rigaud, Odette--Interviews.
Rigaud, Milo, 1904-1981
Robinson, Rudy, 1937-1987--Interviews.

Subjects

Drum music--Haiti.
Folklore--Haiti.
Percussion music--Haiti.
Vodou music--Haiti.
Vodou--Haiti.
Vodou--Rituals--Haiti.

Places

Haiti--Religion.
Haiti--Religious life and customs.

Titles

Milo and Odette Rigaud Haiti recordings

Form/Genre

Correspondence.
Interviews.
Sound recordings.
Video recordings.

Description of Series

Container

Series

Series 1: Manuscripts

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Information transcribed from audio containers and carriers has been edited for clarity (e.g., some abbreviations have been expanded). Tape recordings seem to be primarily dubs of wire recordings, and as such the audio quality reflects the original recording, as well as any imperfections introduced in the dubbing process.

Series 3: Various sound recordings

Series 4: Dubbed commercial recordings

Container List

Container	Contents
	Series 1: Manuscripts
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Documents related to the collection, 1940s-after 2001 Includes documentation from sound recording containers, original and photocopied instructions on how to use a wire recorder, a handwritten note from Odette Rigaud to Shirley Keller, and a handwritten letter from Odette Rigaud to an unidentified person (implicitly identified as Shirley Keller, see afc2019041_dc001_aip_01 for details).
	Series 2: Vodou-related recordings
	Information transcribed from audio containers and carriers has been edited for clarity (e.g., some abbreviations have been expanded). Tape recordings seem to be primarily dubs of wire recordings, and as such the audio quality reflects the original recording, as well as any imperfections introduced in the dubbing process.
Item_ID: AFC 2019/041: SR001	Sound recording, undated Rack number: WIRE 01063 Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:10:00) : analog Transcriptions: Box panel: 1 / Passe / Concher Ciceron / Au Revoir / [?]onper debut [?] ajartes [?] 10' c[?] / de rondeau II a fin / milieu en fin excellents / Rerecording sur tape No 6-7 Box lid: 1 Tape 6-7 / 60' / Concher Ciceron Written on the wire spool: passé / Concher Ciceron / rerecorded tape 6-7
Item_ID: AFC 2019/041: SR002	Sound recording, undated Rack number: WIRE 01064 Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:08:00) : analog Transcriptions: Box panel 1: 21 / concher Ciceron / [?] - 8' / tape rerecording No 7 Box panel 2: 21 / Odette Rigaud / 21 Box lid: Concher Ciceron 8 / Tape 7 / 21 Written on the wire spool: passé / Concher Ciceron 4 / 8' 2 / rerecording son tape [?]
Item_ID: AFC 2019/041: SR003	Sound recording, undated Rack number: WIRE 01065 Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:55:00) : analog Transcriptions: Box panel: I - Ciceron son des differentés danses / Rada / 55' Box lid: Ciceron son Rada / 55' approx. Written on the wire spool: 55' / I / Ciceron son des diverses danses Rada
Item_ID: AFC 2019/041: SR004	Sound recording, undated Rack number: WIRE 01066 Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog Archivist's note: One of the spool flanges is chipped; the piece accompanies the spool. Transcriptions:

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Container

Contents

Box panel: Ciceron 30' / son differentes danses / Congo - Petro / Pangole
Box lid: Ciceron sons Congo - Petro 30'
Written on the wire spool: II Ciceron sons différentés danses / Congo - Petro / 30'

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR005

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01067
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (approx. 00:20:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: passé 10' ca Ciceron à revoir chantes divers 10' / 10' vierge
Box lid: Ciceron chantes divers
Written on the wire spool: efforce 20' / [?]

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR006

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01068
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:04:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Ciceron 4' / bohoun / bohoun / appel [?]ondé [?] morts / Songs of the Dead
Box lid: Ciceron - bohouns
Written on the wire spool: Cicéron - bohouns

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR007

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01069
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Silvertone, approx. 00:13:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: effacé / 13' 15' / Ciceron - histoires / [?] jais bien / -[?] chien jappé / -[?] mu[?]
pas fait par[?] / -[?] couleure r[?]
Box lid: Ciceron - histoires 2
Written on the wire spool (front): histoires Ciceron 13'
Written on the wire spool (back): effacé 13'

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR008

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RXK 3578
Extent: 1 sound reel (acetate, 00:48:00) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; half track, mono ; 7 in.

Summary:

The content fades in about 00:00:19. A male singer (probably Cicéron), with multiple voices singing at times. Conversations can be heard in the background. The recording includes the following instruments: drums, a rattle, a whistle, and perhaps other instruments. Some hand clapping can be heard. The audio crackles intermittently, probably from the source recording. The recording fades in and out at times, and ends abruptly. The tape was probably was dubbed from one or more wire recordings.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Rerecording 1 Concher Ciceron 50' [?] sur [?] 7
Information from the donor (written on the tape box): Tape 6 to cassette 6 / April 1982 by Shirley Keller / Odette was Voodoo [sic] Priestess from 1950's / Voodoo [sic] from wire recordings of Odette Rigaud of Port au Prince Haiti

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR009

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RXK 3579
Extent: 1 sound reel (acetate, 00:48:00) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; half track, mono ; 7 in.

Summary:

The content fades in about 00:00:07. Male singer (probably Cicéron), with multiple voices singing at times. The recording includes drums, metal percussion, a rattle, and perhaps

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other instruments. Some hand clapping can be heard. The recording fades in and out at times, and ends abruptly. The tape was probably was dubbed from one or more wire recordings.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Rerecording (1) Concher Ciceron (suite) 10' / Rerecording (2) Concher Ciceron 8' / Rerecording (3) Canzo Ciceron (début) / 7 - should be 5

Information from the donor (written on the tape box): Re-recorded on to Cassette #7 May 1982 by Shirley Keller

Written on the tape reel flange: Rerecording on to Cassette #7 May 1982 by Shirley Keller

Accompanying documentation: Rerecording (1) Concher Ciceron (suite) 10' / Rerecording (2) Concher Ciceron 8' / Re-recording (3) / Canzo Ciceron (début)

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR010

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RXK 3580

Extent: 1 sound reel (acetate, 00:48:00) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; half track, mono ; 7 in.

Summary:

The content starts at 00:00:05. Speech and a cappella singing, with some conversation and laughter, and possibly recitations. A baby can be heard crying occasionally. Some hand clapping can be heard. The recording includes drums can be heard; there may be other instruments played. The recording ends abruptly. The recording ends abruptly. Dubbed from one or more source recordings (probably wires).

The note "Made on Ito's machine (Webster)" is probably a reference to Teiji Ito, composer and drummer, who met Maya Deren in 1955 and traveled with her to Haiti. He may have loaned the wire recorder to the Rigauds.

Transcriptions:

Box panel [listed thus]:

Rerecording (M) V - commencé sur 4

Zaca Titon et Julia chants

arrivée de Ogon - Julia Ogon

Zaca Titon - venue Ogon [erased word] Titon

chants Wago paroles Issange [?] [duege Malo?]

Venue de entretoutt

Histoires Entre toutt - Chants

Titon Martinique "Sina"

Titon Martinique "Jouda [?]porte" "Amude" [?]

Titon Martinique A l'assant

Titon Martinique Erzulie Dantor

O loa rele Loas o Dantor javné[?]

Avanncé[?] o Z'arezs[?] non d'leau

Recordist's note:

Made on Ito's machine (Webster) [wire recorder]

Tape leader:

Head - Debut. Rerecording No 5. Vodou. 2e rerecording (M) V

Accompanying documentation:

11 wire / 2 copies sur tape moins 1 (priere) no 8 manqour [?] - reste in Boston / Rerecording 3 [?] [?] de Canzo Ciceron / et 19 non mis sur tape

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR011

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RXK 3581

Extent: 1 sound reel (acetate, 00:25:30) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; full track, mono ; 7 in.

Summary:

The content starts about 00:00:05. Two male voices; the first sings in a yodeling style. It is unclear which is Ciceron. Other male voices sing in the background. Later in the

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recording, mixed voices sing in the background. A man sings in a hiccuping style. The recording includes drums, rattles, and other percussion can be heard. There is some hand clapping. Dubbed from one or more source recordings.

Transcriptions:

Box panel:

8 (note de 7) erreur

Rerecording (3) Canzo Ciceron (suite)

15' de priéré battement de me[?]

a la fin priere catholique

priere G[?] [?] mache

[?] a la fin du wire du Canzo 3.

Rerecording (4) canzo Ciceron début (priere) 20 minutes

From the leader tape: fin Tape 8 Rerecording Canzo Ciceron 3 (suite) et no 4 (début)

Item_ID: AFC

2019/041: SR012

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01070

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:52:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: 52 / Emmanuel / 3 Parreun Cain Hounfor / 4 Damballah Oueddo / 4 Viré

Damballah Oueddo / 5 Wo je rele [further details on the box panel; Legba is one of the names]

Box lid: Emmanuel Vodon - rois / 52'

Written on the wire spool: Emmanuel chants 52' Chants Sortu de Bande

Item_ID: AFC

2019/041: SR013

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01071

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, 00:15:00) : analog

Archivist's note: While the wire's duration is pre-printed on the spool as 15 minutes in duration, the accompanying documentation suggests the recording is 30 minutes long.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Bande Emmanuel - 30' / mascaron / r'aras / Quinbe [?] jes Cagré [?] / 2

Written on the wire spool: Bande Emmanuel - 30' / mascaron / r'aras

Item_ID: AFC

2019/041: SR014

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01072

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:52:00) : analog

Archivist's note: While the wire's duration is pre-printed on the spool as 30 minutes in duration, the accompanying documentation suggests the recording is 52 minutes long.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Box panel 1: No. I / Manger Ste Terre / 52' / à garder rec[?] priere -- Box panel 2: Odette Rigaud

Box lid: Manger Ste Terre / 52' / no I / à revoir

Written on the wire spool: Manger St Terre I / 52'

Item_ID: AFC

2019/041: SR015

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01073

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel 1: passé rerecording I [further details on the box panel] / tape rerecording no 1 et 2

Box panel 2: rerecording

Box lid: 3 / Tape 1-2 / Rerecording I / Rada

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- Written on the wire spool: passé re recording I
Sound recording, undated
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR016
- Rack number:** WIRE 01074
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:15:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Tape recording no 4 / Rerecording IV I / 5' o madia ové / 3 1/2 Jambé Calfon / 4 Miro Miba / 4 1/2 Panama'm Tombé Congo / Rerecording IV 1 Tape 4
Box lid: Tape 4 / Rerecording IV - 1
Written on the wire spool: Rerecording IV / I chants et tambours Petro?
- Sound recording, undated
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR017
- Rack number:** WIRE 01075
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (unknown duration) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: rerecording IV 2 / 4 Nago drawd / 4 1/2 Guede Crabigne [?] / 4 1/2 Wago / 3 1/2 Congo / 4 Aux chases [?] / Rerecording sur tape no 4
Box lid: Tape 4 / Rerecording IV - 2 / 8
Written on the wire spool: rerecording IV 2 tambourines
- Sound recording, undated
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR018
- Rack number:** WIRE 01076
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Canzo III / a [?] [?] prier[?] jusque 55' / jusque 28' Rerecording sur tape no 8 et 28 ags [?] / tape rerecording no 8
Box lid: 3 / Tape 7 8 / Canzo III
Written on the wire spool: 3 / Canzo III rerecording sur tape 7-8
- Sound recording, undated
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR019
- Rack number:** WIRE 01077
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: 4' / 2 chants de travailleurs
Box lid: 10 / 2
Written on the wire spool: 4' / 2 chants travailleurs
- Sound recording, undated
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR020
- Rack number:** WIRE 01078
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago; approx. 00:30:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: 1 / 5 / Chants de Travailleurs each 10' / Prie non jo [?] / [further details on the box panel]
Box lid: 1 / 10 / 9 / 5 / chants de travailleurs
Written on the wire spool: Chants des travailleurs / each 10'
- Sound recording, November 2, 1949
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR021
- Rack number:** WIRE 01079
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Guedés (Lorgina) / sur assez long apres mon Antoine

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Container

Contents

- Box lid: 5 / Guédés - 2 Novembre 1949
Written on the wire spool: Guédés - Lorgina / 2 Novembre
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR022
- Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01080
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Box panel 1: 1/ Odette Ligilia Andoclés 4' / histoire Man Bellande 11' / Milo A[?] 1950 5' / [?]issa etc 8' -- Box panel 2: Lizila Andoclés / Man Bellande / 15'
Box lid: 1 / Lizila Andoclés / Man Bellande / Milo / 28'
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR023
- Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01081
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:15:00) : analog
Archivist's note: "Bobine" is a reel; probably a reference to the wire spool.
Transcriptions:
Box panel: a garder / Bobine II / Debut manger Hountor / 31' + 10' de 4 (B) / Manger Hountor / Bobine II / 31 10' 3 / Odette Rigaud
Written on the wire spool: III 31' Hountor (A) a garder / + 10' des grande 4 - (B)
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR024
- Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01082
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago; approx. 00:15:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Bobine III / 31' / a garder / 4 / Fin Manger Hountor (C)
Written on the wire spool: Manger Hountor (C) / 31' / 4
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR025
- Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01083
Extent: 1 sound wire reel : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Antoinette 10' / [?] Congo [?] / Antoinette
Written on the wire spool: Antoinette / 1 [?]
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR026
- Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01084
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: passé vierge
Written on the wire spool: Milo 25'
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR027
- Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01085
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago; approx. 00:30:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: [??] B[?] Guede / Banda / Malu / Famille Nada / [?] / Jodon [?] (divers) / Odette Rigaud
Written on the wire spool: Belecon [further details on the spool]
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR028
- Sound recording, 1950
- Rack number:** WIRE 01086

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Container

Contents

- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR029
- Extent:** 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago; approx. 00:30:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Lorgina [??] / Guedes Lorgina 1950
Written on the wire spool: Guedes Lorgina 1950
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** RXK 3582
1 sound tape reel (acetate, 00:48:05) : analog, 7 1/2 ips, half track, mono ; 7 in.
Summary:
The content begins about 00:00:08. Singing with mixed voices. On different songs, a man (possibly more than one man) leads singing, with a sung response from mixed voices. Later in the recording conversations can be heard. The recording includes drums, a rattle, a sound like a cowbell, an unidentified wind instrument. Songs start and end abruptly. The tape was probably was dubbed from one or more wire recordings.
Transcriptions:
Information from the donor (written on the tape box): Tape 2 to cassette 2 April 1982 by Shirley Keller
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR030
- Rack number:** WIRE 01087
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Rerecording III [?] 40' / [??] / Rerecording III Tape 3
Written on the wire spool: Rerecording III
Sound recording, undated
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR031
- Rack number:** RXK 3583
Extent: 1 sound tape reel (acetate, 00:48:00) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; half track, mono ; 7 in.
Summary:
The content begins about 00:00:06. At times a man sings the lead (almost certainly more than one man sings lead, at different times), with a group of mixed voices. Vocal whoops, possibly by a woman, can be heard. The recording includes drums, rattles, and other percussion (both wood and metal). The tape was probably was dubbed from one or more wire recordings.
Transcriptions:
Box panel: 3A / [more details in pencil here] / Voodoo [sic] - Rigaud
Written on the tape reel flange: Head (debut) Rerecording ([?]) 4 - [?]
Information from the donor (written on the tape box): Tape 3A to cassette April 1982 by Shirley Keller
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR032
- Rack number:** RXK 3584
Extent: 1 sound tape reel (acetate, 00:47:33) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; half track, mono ; 7 in.
Summary:
The content begins at 00:00:25. Primarily mixed voices, with occasional lead vocals by a woman and by a man. The recording includes drums and other percussion. The sound fades in and out on occasion. Hand-clapping can be heard towards the end of the recording. The recording ends abruptly. The tape was probably was dubbed from one or more wire recordings.
Transcriptions:
Box panel: Rerecording (M) 1 / [more details here]

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Container

Contents

Written on the tape reel flange: Side A: 5 1/2 signalé Agoné / 2 1/2 cinna ou cinna / 6' Fai guon [?] neve s[?] yanquilé [?] neve [?] can / 5 african [?] [?] legba Beni da o alyzan aluzan [?] marché / 4 1/2 voco atissan / 3 Coco Coco / 6 Demballah Aveddo [?] / 4 creol' o vodoines [?] Side B: 7 Rèle l.ment [?] . 1 manhaver [?] / 3 salve legba é / 3 Keke salve legba

Information from the donor (written on the tape box): 3 / Tape 3 to cassette April 1982 by Shirley Keller / Wire Rerecordings from Madame Odette Rigaud - P-au-P. [Port au Prince] Haiti year? 1950s / Bob Avedon made these / Voodoo [sic] tapes from wire Recordings

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR033

Sound recording, November 12, 1980

Rack number: RXK 4059

Extent: 1 sound tape reel (backcoated polyester and polyester, 00:19:05) : analog, 7 1/2 ips, half track, mono ; 5 3/4 in.

LC engineer's note: The tape is an edited combination of regular and backcoated stocks. The backcoated sections have sticky shed syndrome. The tape was baked before transfer.

Summary:

The content begins at 00:00:04. Michael Richards interviews Shirley Keller on Radio Metropol (Haiti). Subjects include the Appalachian dulcimer, the autoharp, Keller's family, educational, and professional backgrounds, her feelings about Haiti (as this was her second visit), her interest in preserving Haitian culture, the book she recently worked on with Diane Wolkstein (*The Magic Orange Tree, and Other Haitian Folktales*), the meaning of the book title, the publication history of the book, how the stories were gathered from various homes, the impact of television and radio on storytelling, an explanation of folk music and the meaning of songs, the difference between country music and folk music, the history of her working relationship with Paul Cadwell and Charlie Wright (a recording of "Music Is A Treat" is played at this point), kazoos, Keller's meeting with Tiroro (also Ti Roro; Raymond Baillargau, dancer/drummer); a recording of his drumming is played (but edited out of this recording), Keller's radio program ("The Folk People"), locations where she has played in Haiti and the response she received, her hope to collect more music in Haiti to present to the American people, and her invitation to Michael Richards to appear on her show.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Imperial / 12 Nov 1980 / Shirley Keller interview / Haiti / 894 595 / Refrains de demain 80/11 / 28' 00" 7 1/2 i.p.s. Francais 28.5.1980 / Philo Anjlach [?] [?] / Tiroro died 1 year ago 1979

Written on the tape reel flange: Shirley Keller interview 2/27/81

Information from the donor (written on the tape box): Interviewer - Michael Richards 11-12-80 / Tiroro died 1 year ago 1979

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR034

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RXK 4060

Extent: 1 sound tape reel (acetate, 00:48:00) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; half track, mono ; 7 in.

Summary:

The content begins at 00:00:07. A man sings a cappella, and soon after with drum accompaniment. One song has a chorus of children singing. One song seems to be entirely one man singing a capella, and is cut off abruptly. Singing also includes mixed adult voices. Conversations can be heard but the voices are almost unintelligible (as a result of low audio quality). There is occasional sound distortion, either from the source recording's condition, or possibly because the mic was too close to the instruments as they were being played. The recording ends abruptly. Instruments played include drums, metal percussion, and whistles.

Transcriptions:

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Container

Contents

Box panel: [??] Congo [further details on the box panel] / Haiti - Rigaud - Vodoo [sic] /
Head - (debut Rerecording (M) Lil Etudes [?] - IV
Written on the tape reel flange: Tape 4 to cassette 4

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR035

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYE 8034

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:32:30, Side B: 00:29:10) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

Summary:

Side A: The content begins at 00:00:09. A man sings to drum accompaniment. In another song, men sing lead vocals, to mixed chorus accompaniment. Instruments played include drums, a stringed instrument (possibly a guitar)

Side B: The content begins at 00:00:09. This side seems to be a continuation from Side A, with a man singing to stringed instrument accompaniment, with at least one extended solo on the instrument. Instruments played include a stringed instrument (possibly a guitar) and drums.

Transcriptions:

Written on the cassette housing: IIA #6 / Vodoo [sic] ceremonies recorded on wire by Odette Rigaud / put onto digital master - made by Bob Avedon - Park Ridge, N.J.

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR036

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RAA 66287

Extent: 1 sound tape reel (polyester, 00:11:00) : analog, 7 1/2 ips; half-track, stereo and mono ; 10 in.

Archivist's note: This tape was received without an individual tape box.

Summary:

Shirley Keller records herself speaking into a tape recorder, and uses another recorder to play back music performances and parts of Vodou ceremonies. She talks about Haitian drumming and her first experience attending a Vodou ceremony, in 1975. She mentions Diane (probably Diane Wolkstein) and Marie (otherwise unidentified). At 00:06:56 she mentions Milo Rigaud.

Transcriptions:

Written on the tape reel flange: Vodoo [sic]

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR037

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYF 1129

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:42:00, Side B: 00:45:34) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

Summary:

Side A: The content begins about 00:00:13. People are speaking while instruments are being played. For more than one song, a man leads the singing for a chorus of mixed voices. A dog can be heard barking. There are instances of hand clapping. The recording ends abruptly. Instruments played include drums, metal percussion, and rattles.

Side B: The content begins about 00:00:20. One man and sometimes two men lead a group of mixed voices in song, accompanied by rattles and drums. At one point a chicken can be heard clucking. The recording ends abruptly. Instruments played include drums, rattles, and metal percussion.

Transcription:

Box panel: Side A: I #3 / Side B: #4 #5

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR038

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYF 8606

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Container

Contents

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:32:30, Side B: 00:18:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

LC engineer's note: SR038, [SR039](#), and [SR040](#) have identical content.

Summary:

Side A: The content begins about 00:00:15. Vocal performances. Musical instruments include drums and metal percussion. The recording ends abruptly.

Side B: The content begins about 00:00:05. Mixed voices, sometimes with a leader, perform songs. Conversations can be heard. Musical instruments include drums, rattles and other percussion, and whistles. The recording ends abruptly.

Transcription:

Box panel: Side A: III #7 / Side B: #7, continued

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR039

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYH 8997

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:32:31, Side B: 00:18:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

LC engineer's note: [SR038](#), SR039, and [SR040](#) have identical content.

Transcription:

Box panel: Side A: III #7 / Side B: #7, continued

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR040

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYL 4397

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:32:36, Side B: 00:18:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

LC engineer's note: [SR038](#), [SR039](#), and SR040 have identical content.

Transcription:

Box panel: Side A: III #7 / Side B: #7, continued

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR041

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYL 4476

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:47:00, Side B: 00:41:40) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

Summary:

Side A: The content begins about 00:00:23. Mixed voices, sometimes with a leader, perform songs. Hand clapping can be heard. At 00:33:19 a woman says "chants des travailleurs" (worker's songs); this may be Marie Rigaud. At 00:41:34 a horn honks twice (possibly a car passing by). The recording ends abruptly. Musical instruments include drums, metal percussion, and rattles.

Side B: The content begins about 00:00:06. Mixed voices, sometimes with a leader, perform songs. Hand clapping can be heard. There are occasional, brief conversations. The recording ends abruptly. Musical instruments include drums, rattles, and metal percussion

Transcription:

Written on the cassette housing: 100 / [Side] B

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR042

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYL 9619

Extent: 1 sound cassette (00:30:30) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

Summary:

Content begins about 00:00:08. The first two songs are sung by two different men, possibly with one woman singing in the background. The balance of the recording has mixed voices, sometimes with a leader, who perform songs. From about 00:10:48-00:12:17 a

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Container

Contents

woman sings solo and a cappella. Conversations can be heard. Audio distortion from the source recording towards the end of the tape. The recording ends abruptly. Musical instruments played include drums, rattles, metal percussion, and whistles.

Transcription:

Written on the cassette housing: Voodoo [sic] - Rigaud tape - #? [sic]

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR044

Sound recording, April 21, 1972

Rack number: RXK 4061

Extent: 1 sound reel (acetate, 00:55:00) : analog, 3 3/4 ips, full track mono ; 7 in.

LC engineer's note: Aircheck date: April 21, 1972.

Archivist's note: The recording has commercial breaks, editorials, and other parts of the recording unrelated to the interview from about 00:00:05-00:05:10, 00:11:50-00:15:10, 00:24:24-00:31:41, 00:41:52-00:43:45, and 00:52:03-00:55:00 (end).

Summary:

Bruce Lee interviews Odette Rigaud about various topics related to Vodou. She talks about her association with Vodou, Vodou as a religion and not black magic, her interest in African sculpture and religion, the exhibit of her photographs at the Elma Lewis Center, Vodou in Haiti, the perception of Vodou as black magic, the role of missionaries in developing this perception, Haiti as a colony and the perception of colonists about Vodou, elements of Christianity in Vodou, lwa (spirits) as emanations from God. Rudy Robinson (a professional photographer) and Barry Gaither are introduced. Barry's connection with the Elma Lewis Center exhibition was to work with Odette Rigaud for two weeks to select images for the show, and the time and effort involved in discussions and the selection process. Barry Gaither, the director of the art teaching program at the center, and is also the curator and director for the museum program of the National Center of Afro-American Artists (which includes the Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts) talks about "Ah-Haiti: Glimpses of Voodoo [sic]" (the exhibit's title) and the focus on Vodou as a series topic, details about the exhibit, plans for a traveling exhibit, publication of the book *Secrets of Vodou* in English, and access to the center. The guests respond to questions called in by listeners. Part 1 effectively ends at 00:52:03.

The show spans three recordings in the collection (regardless of the documentation that accompanies the tapes); this is part 1. See [SR046](#) for part 2 and [SR045](#) for part 3. See [SR047](#) for a dub of part 1.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Rigaud / Bay St Forum / 1

Information from the donor (written on the tape box): 12 / 12-1 Boston, Mass. Radio station WEEI Interview of Odette M. Rigaud on the Bruce Lee Show. 1 Hour - 3 3/4 speed / transferred to cassette #12 by Shirley Keller 5-9-82

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR046

Sound recording, April 21, 1972

Rack number: RXK 4063

Extent: 1 sound reel (acetate, 00:59:46) : analog, 3 3/4 ips, full track mono ; 7 in.

LC engineer's note: The date noted is the aircheck date.

Archivist's note: The recording has commercial breaks, news reports, and other parts of the recording unrelated to the interview from about 00:00:06-00:05:14, 00:12:10-00:13:23, 00:17:07-00:19:52, 00:24:21-00:25:02, 00:29:11-00:30:16, 00:30:53-00:33:43, 00:33:56-00:35:00, 00:43:29-00:44:01 00:56:01-00:59:46 (end). The tape has audio gaps at 00:29:06 and at 00:44:01, as if it has been edited to exclude content. This tape may be a dub copy of the original recording.

Summary:

Continuation of the Bruce Lee show, beginning at 00:05:15. A story is continued, regarding a young Puerto Rican girl who traveled to Haiti and was healed by lwa. The panel discusses the nature of healing and the role of lwa, and discuss lwa with a man who call

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in to the show. Rigaud explains the how the word "Vodou" is used in Haiti (the name of the religion and also as an adjective). A woman calls the show and asks Rigaud about a particular ceremony she witnessed in Haiti, and asked Rigaud to explain the ceremony. Rigaud suggested that she may have witnessed a ceremony presented for the benefit of tourists. Another caller asks for guidance if someone is using Vodou to gain control over her. Rigaud recommends she pray to her own deity for protection. She responds to a caller who asks about elements of Vodou practice that he has observed. Barry Gaither gives an overview of the exhibit at the Elma Lewis Center. The panel discusses the perception of Vodou in America. They talk with a caller concerned about her teenage son; it turns out there was no relationship between her inquiry and Vodou. The recording ends abruptly.

See [SR044](#) for part 1 of the show and [SR045](#) for part 3.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Interview with Odette Rigaud by Bruce Lee - 1972 WEEI. I think this should be played after tape 12 and 13 is played after this for connect [?] [?].

Information from the donor (written on the tape box): 1-2 Re-recorded on to cassette #14 by Shirley Keller - May 1982. Subject, continued from tape 13

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR045

Sound recording, April 21, 1972

Rack number: RXK 4062

Extent: 1 sound reel (acetate, 00:27:44) : analog, 3 3/4 ips, full track mono ; 7 in.

LC engineer's note: Aircheck date: April 21, 1972.

Archivist's note: The recording has commercial breaks, news reports, and other parts of the recording unrelated to the interview from about 00:00:04-00:04:05.

Summary:

See [SR044](#) for part 1 of the show and [SR046](#) for part 3. See [SR048](#) for a dub of this recording.

The interview portion of the recording begins about 00:04:06. Barry Gaither speaks about the center's interest in archival materials, how the current show evolved, and the preparations. Gaither and Robinson talk about how preparations changed them, and Odette Rigaud's impact on them and her personality. Bruce Lee talks about his admiration for the exhibit. Gaither and Robinson talk about the exhibit going on tour, Rigaud's ability as a photographer, and the nature of a visual exhibit. The panel engage in a conversation with a caller. The show effectively ends at 00:27:22. The tape ends abruptly shortly after that.

Transcription:

Information from the donor (written on the tape box): 13 / Continuation of tape 12 - Radio Interview of Odette Rigaud by Bruce Lee - WEEI. Boston, Mass. Rerecorded by Shirley Keller on cassette #13 on 5-9-82. 2-230

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR047

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYN 9461

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:28:30, Side B: 00:26:13) : analog, 1 7/8, half track, stereo

SR047 is a dub copy of [SR044](#).

Transcription:

Written on the cassette housing: 12 - Odette Rigaud - Radio Shoro [?] / WEEI - Boston, Mass. / Bruce Lee - interviewer

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR048

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYR 3920

Extent: 1 sound cassette (00:27:00) : analog, 1 7/8, half track, stereo

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Archivist's note: Side B is blank. The cassette has been reshelled. Poor audio with many dropouts from the source tape used to make this cassette.

SR048 is a dub copy of [SR045](#).

Transcription:

Written on the cassette housing: 13 - Bruce Lee Interviews Odette Rigaud - WEEI - Boston, Mass.

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR049

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYR 3921

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:28:00, Side B: 00:16:45) : analog, 1 7/8, half track, stereo

Summary:

Side A: The content begins about 00:00:08. A large group of mixed voices sing more than one song, with a male lead singer. Instruments include drums, metal percussion, whistles, and possibly other instruments.

Side B: The content begins about 00:00:05. A large group of mixed voices sing more than one song. Frequently, a male singer can be heard above the other singers, possibly leading the song. Instruments include drums, metal percussion, rattles, and possibly other instruments.

Transcription:

Written on the cassette housing: Milo Rigaud - Voodoo [sic] / #2

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR050

Sound recording, circa 1980-1981

Rack number: RYR 3922

Extent: 1 sound cassette (00:23:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, stereo format, mono audio

Archivist's note: This is either a copy of [SR050](#) or the original recording. Side B is blank.

Summary:

The content begins about 00:00:05. Shirley Keller interviews Milo Rigaud during his hospital stay. The recording begins with Shirley suggesting he addresses Odette in French (his "native language"). Next, he mentions his younger brother Carl, who lives in his own home in Port-au-Prince. Keller has difficulty understanding what he says. Milo writes down his brother's address, since Keller has offered to contact Carl. She says she can record Milo speaking, and take the cassette to Carl and play it for him. He speaks in French, addressing his brother. He tells Shirley that his brother was in the same hospital last year for surgery. Shirley and Milo talk about his diet (foods he is permitted and enjoys). Milo talks about visitors he has while in the hospital. They make small talk, and then talk about his book, and the difficulties of publishing a book in New York, written in French. They talk about the need for a translator to understand about Vodou to translate the text accurately. He talks about Odette's wish to return to Haiti with him [currently, they are in New York]. The talk about the work of writing a book, and where he and Odette would live when they return to Haiti. They talk further about his brother, and as they say their farewells, they make further small talk. Shirley mentions Diane [probably Diane Wolkstein]. Milo gives Shirley contact information for a person in Haiti [unclear if this is to help her find a house]. The recording ends abruptly.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Haiti - Odette Rigaud - Milo / their voices

Written on the cassette housing: Side A: Milo to Odette and Karl; Side B: Odette to Michelle

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR051

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: RYR 3923

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:22:50, Side B: 00:01:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, stereo format, mono audio

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Contents

Archivist's note: This is either a copy of [SR050](#) or the original recording.

Summary:

Side A: See [SR050, Side A](#) for a summary of the contents.

Side B: An unidentified woman speaks in French. "Madame Shirley " (probably Shirley Keller) is mentioned near the end of the recording, which ends abruptly.

Transcriptions:

Written on j-card: [j-card spine] Milo Rigaud - in Hospital / message to Odette and Brother in Haiti (198_) [sic] [Side A] Milo Rigaud / at Hospital / messages to wife Odette and Brother in Haiti - Karl / this made in NYC house [?] / Milo died the day I left for Haiti to see his brother [Side B] Odette Rigaud to Michelle

Written on the cassette housing: copy only (2012) Milo at Hospital and message to Brother 1981? [sic] / copy - In Hospital Milo sec part on B

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR052

Sound recording, March 11, 1982

Rack number: RYR 3924

Extent: 1 sound cassette (00:15:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, stereo

Archivist's note: Side B is blank. Milo and Odette were married in 1935, in New York City. Other details in this recording may need to be cross-checked for accuracy.

Summary:

The content begins about 00:00:05. Shirley Keller interviews Odette Rigaud, with a translator present. Shirley asks questions in English, and Odette responds in French, with the translator acting for both. Shirley talks about the tape recorder she is using to record the interview. Interview topics include Odette's family, a relative who was killed during World War II, and how she met Milo. Dropout from 00:03:1100:03:23.

Transcription:

Written on the cassette housing: Odette Min Rigaud - 3-11-82 / talk of nothing in particular - Milo - how long ago they were married (1934?) - the name of Menneson. Who was shot by Germans, etc. Odette and translator friend / 3-11-82 - (2-6-10) talk with Odette Rigaud re Milo with translator friend. Married 46 years. Met in France. Milo lived there for 14-15 years. Married in Haiti. Tape length - Side I only? About 20 min.

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR043

Sound recording, February 27, 1984

Rack number: RYM 1072

Extent: 1 sound cassette (00:45:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, mono

Summary:

Content begins about 00:00:05. A man (probably Edward Berwet) can be heard singing bits of a song or songs. Traffic can be heard in the background, as well as recording equipment noise. There is a brief conversation, beginning about 00:02:07. A man can be heard in the background; possibly the recordist. The conversation begins at 00:03:53. Present during the interview: Leni Hamilton, Odette Rigaud, Shirley Keller, and Edward Berwet. The conversation alternates between French and English. In the recording Leni Hamilton says that Edward Berwet was recommended to her by Shirley Keller as a good source for stories relating to Vodou. Among other topics, Hamilton talks about the parallels between Greek mythology and Vodou. Toward the end of the recording it is made clear by Edward that Odette had been initiated as a mambo (priestess) but was not active in that role (she was not a practicing mambo).

See [SR054](#) for a partial dub of this tape.

Transcriptions:

Written on the cassette label 1: Divine [?] / [other words]

Written on the cassette label 2: Odette - Haiti

Written on the cassette j-card: Interview and talk between Leni Hamilton and Odette Rigaud (Menneson [sic]) and Edward Berwet / 2-27-84 4:30 p.m. Port-au-Prince Haiti

Series 2: Vodou-related recordings

Container

Contents

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR054

Sound recording, February 27, 1984 (Side A and part of Side B); July 26, 1977 (Side B)

Rack number: RYR 3926

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:30:32, Side B: 00:16:10) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, stereo

Side A: This is a copy of SR043, but lacking the first 00:04:19 of that recording.

Side B: The content begins at 00:00:05. The dub of SR043 continues until about 00:04:43, and is immediately followed by a dub of the audio from the television show "In Search Of..."; specifically the episode on Vodou. Episodes in the series were narrated by Leonard Nimoy. This is episode 22 from Season 1. Rada and Petro (later Petwo) rites are referenced, and toward the end of the episode Maya Deren is quoted from her book *The Divine Horsemen* on the nature and purpose of possession. A very brief clip from a commercial is at the end of the recording.

See [SR043](#) for a more complete copy of the interview.

Transcription:

Written on the cassette housing: Leni Hamilton / Rigaud / Voodoo [sic] - Haiti Port Au Prince / Leni Hamilton - Interview with Odette Rigaud and Edward B / Haiti - Feb. 1984 / Batteries ran down / Interview-continued. / TV Broadcast on Voodoo [sic] - March 1984

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR053

Sound recording, February 1984

Rack number: RYR 3925

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:45:00, Side B: 00:32:00) : analog, 1 7/8 ips, half track, stereo

LC engineer's note: The cassette was reshelled before digitization.

Archivist's note: There are frequent interruptions from phone calls, and background noise from a rooster crowing, from passing traffic, and people briefly interrupting the interview in person to ask Beauvoir questions.

Summary:

Side A: Leni Hamilton interviews Max Beauvoir. Hamilton gives some background about Greek ritual and its evolution into drama, and the same evolution in Ancient Egypt and Christian ritual during the Middle Ages [no country specified] and asks Beauvoir about the evolution of ritual to drama, and the myths about the lwa, and also how ancestors were transformed to lwa. Beauvoir's response is an overview of Vodou belief in regard to lwa, and also addresses the role of Christianity in beliefs, the mythological pantheon, the dead in Vodou belief as opposed to Christian belief, the materialization of spirits, and other topics. The conversation is multidisciplinary in nature (social, theological, etc.). Shirley Keller can also be heard occasionally on the recording.

Side B: The conversation continues about 00:00:04, with an abrupt start (mid-sentence). He also recommends a movie about the guede (spirits of the dead) that Lila [Lilas] Desquiron (Director of Cultural Affairs, at Television Nationale), could get Hamilton access to view the video. Shirley Keller asks about vèvè, and Milo Rigaud's book is mentioned, and Beauvoir praises it for its thoroughness on the treatment of vèvès. He explains numerous terms and beliefs involved in Vodou, gives a reference to another published work. Keller suggests a Beauvoir apply for a grant or do work to publish a book on Vodou. Beauvoir says he doesn't have the time to write a book. He suggests that Hamilton could get a grant to write the book. Hamilton emphasizes the importance of documenting Vodou as a religion but cannot get a grant to study outside the U.S. Further topics include matriarchal cultures and the role of women in culture. Toward the end of the recording Keller takes photos of Beauvoir, and of Beauvoir and Hamilton together. Hamilton photographs Beauvoir and Keller together. The discussion moves to "voodoo [sic] dolls," when the recording ends abruptly.

Transcription:

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Container

Contents

Written on the cassette housing: Leni Hamilton's interviews with Max Beauvoir - Vodoo [sic] Priest - Haiti - 2-84 / in Haiti

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR055

Sound recording, circa 1980s

Rack number: RYR 3927

Extent: 1 sound cassette (Side A: 00:45:00, Side B: 00:18:45) : analog, 1.87 ips, half-track, stereo

Archivist's note: The Peristyle de Mariani is Beauvoir's temple in Mariani, a suburb of Port-au-Prince. The interview is conducted in a house in Mariani. Traffic sounds in the background can be heard throughout the interview.

Side A: The content begins about 00:00:12. Shirley Keller's interview with Max Beauvoir. He talks about the multiple roles of the houngan, and how he became the successor to his grandfather Brun Icart as a houngan. Other topics include misconceptions about Vodou, American marines in Haiti and the response to their presence, the role of the houngan, Vodou's role in Haitian identity, vèvés and other elements of Vodou rites, locations where Vodou rites are conducted, how believers are possessed by lwa, the nature of fire, the experience of a person who has been possessed, the recognition of the presence of spirits, Vodou practices passed on as oral tradition, and voodoo dolls vs. paquet congo. The recording ends abruptly.

Side B: The interview continues, with discussion of the paquet congo. Further topics include Vodou as a tool, the subject of dolls again, biki (smaller version of paquet congo) that are used for good luck. Keller reviews the facts about Beauvoir as the houngan of his hounfour and related details. Further topics discussed include fire-eating, various ceremonies, the categories of lwa, the function of animal sacrifice, the individual natures of lwa, interest in publishing in book form what he knows and the difficulties involved, discussion of Milo Rigaud's writing and the issue of Rigaud's mingling of opinions with facts, and the vèvé on Keller's banjo. Keller explains that she had interviewed Beauvoir two years ago, but her tapes and the recorder were stolen while she was on the plane. She encourages people to come visit Haiti, and ends her part of the recording by saying her name and that of "The Folk People" (her radio show).

Transcriptions:

Box panel: La Peristyle - Vodoo [sic] - Max Beauvoir

Written on the cassette housing: Max Beauvoir - La Peristyle - Vodoo [sic]

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: MV01

Video recording, February 27, 1995

Rack number: VAS 7704

Extent: 1 videocassette (hi8, 01:01:04) : digital

Angus Gillespie's lecture on Haitian Vodou, at a gathering of members of the Rutgers University French Club. Towards the end, Shirley Keller speaks to the group briefly.

Transcription:

Box panel: Angus Gillespie and Shirley Keller - Haitian voodoo [sic] at Rutgers French Club (unedited) / TC

Series 3: Various sound recordings

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR056

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01088

Extent: 1 sound wire reel : analog

Transcriptions:

Series 3: Various sound recordings

Container

Contents

Box panel: 3/4 Flute chinoise / 5' Flute chinoise / 8/2 Méd[?] chinoise / 11[?] Inde / 16 Inde danse / 20 Java Surrend / 23 1/2 Harass / 27 habre ja / 30 Sonragbati / 33 1/2 Kenbang / 37 Kereos [other details, not transcribed]

Box lid: Oriental 40'

Written on the wire spool: abime' pas bousee courant attention reste 1/4 [?] [other details, not transcribed]

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR057

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01089

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Vierge [?] 17 + 5 + 8 / Titon (etudes)

Written on the wire spool: Vierge [?] 170 + 5 + 8

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR058

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01090

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: passé / 44' / Bandes (1-) e[?] 5' / Bandes (2) tressé rubaus 12' / Bande roi diab' 10' / Bande mascaron (2) / Bande Roi diab' / Bande Silvestre danse Rois / Bande Cholo danse Rois / Bande vaccines / Bande Rori Tuba - inter calée / Bandes 44'

Written on the wire spool: Bande Petronelle / env. [?] 45'

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR059

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01091

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Ti Jazz avec Titon / 60' [??]

Written on the wire spool: Ti Jazz avec Titon

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR060

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01092

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog, 7 1/2 ips

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Meringues - Julia / avec [?] / 1. Belle Congo 3 / 2. Tip' pa com [?] 2 / 3. Carle ca'que o similar 2 / Meringues / Julia / 7 1/2 [ips]

Written on the wire spool: Meringues / Julia / 7 1/2 [ips] / [?]

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR071

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01103

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog

Archivist's note: Possibly a blank wire ("made erased")

Transcriptions:

Box panel: passé effacér

Written on the wire spool: passé

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR072

Sound recording, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01104

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: a passer

Series 3: Various sound recordings

Container

Contents

- Written on the wire spool: a passer 1#
Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR073
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01105
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:15:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: effacer 30' / Grade I / a S[?]der
Written on the wire spool: 30' effacé [?]
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR074
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01106
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: rerecording - V / 3 Zaca Titon - Julia [further details on the box panel]
Box lid: Rerecording V / Tape 5
Written on the wire spool: passé / Rerecording V / x Titon 8'
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR075
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01107
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog
Transcriptions:
Box panel: a effacer I
Written on the wire spool: passé vierge [?] mo[?]s 10'
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR076
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01108
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog
Archivist's note: This wire was received without an original container.
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR077
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01109
Extent: 1 sound wire reel (unknown duration) : analog
Archivist's note: This wire was received without an original container; it was packed in a plastic bag. The wire is partially sprung.
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR078
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01110
Extent: 1 sound wire reel : analog
Archivist's note: This wire was received without an original container; it was packed in a plastic bag. The wire is partially sprung.
- Item_ID:** AFC
2019/041: SR079
Sound recording, undated
- Rack number:** WIRE 01111
Extent: 1 sound wire reel : analog
Archivist's note: This wire was received without an original container; it was packed in a plastic bag. Wire wrapped around a paper roll of register or calculator tape. The recording is probably 30 minutes or less in length.
Spoken translation of a letter from French to English, June 30, 1983
Archivist's note: The file content of relevance is sound only. The video shows a desk, where the recording equipment sat during the recording.

Series 3: Various sound recordings

Container

Contents

Summary:

The audio content begins about 00:00:06. Nina (otherwise unidentified) reads an English translation of a letter (originally written in French by Odette Rigaud) to Shirley Keller. In the letter Rigaud writes about her current health and domestic circumstances. Shirley Keller is the woman listening (and occasionally speaking in response). The [original letter](#), translated after 2001, was dictated by Rigaud to Marie (otherwise unidentified).

Item_ID: AFC 2019/041: DVD carrier for DC001
DC001
BOX-FOLDER 1/2

Extent: 1 DVD-R

See [afc2019041_dc001_aip_01](#) for the digital file.

Digital ID: Digital content on DC001
afc2019041_dc001_aip_01

Extent: 1 VOB file (172 MB; 00:05:58): digital, sound, color

Digital copy of DVD extracted from original by AFC staff for preservation and access purposes.

Item_ID: AFC Sound recording, circa 1972-1974
2019/041: SR080

Rack number: RXK 4064

Extent: 1 sound reel (polyester, 00:32:05) : analog, 3 3/4 ips; half track, stereo ; 7 in.

LC engineer's note: The tape is an incomplete aircheck from an unspecified New York/New Jersey radio station (going by the included commercials) that has nothing to do with Haiti. It is an audio documentary about the early days of The Rolling Stones. The documentary is British in origin and features interviews with people not normally heard from in retrospectives.

Documentary on the Rolling Stones (musical group). While the content is out of scope for the collection, this recording has been retained.

Transcription:

Written on the tape reel flange: Stones Story 14, 45, 81, 101, 150, 170

Series 4: Dubbed commercial recordings

Item_ID: AFC African discs, undated
2019/041: SR061

Rack number: WIRE 01093

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Afrique - copie disques V. / 60'

Box lid: Afrique - copie disques V. / 60'

Written on the wire spool: Afrique disques V.

African disc copies

Item_ID: AFC African discs, undated
2019/041: SR062

Rack number: WIRE 01094

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Congo belge 30' / chants et danses / Afrique copie disques

Written on the wire spool: Congo belge 30' / chants et danses

Accompanying documentation: African disc copies

Series 4: Dubbed commercial recordings

Container

Contents

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR082

Classical music, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01112

Extent: 1 sound wire reel : analog

Archivist's note: It is assumed this spool contains disc copies; this is to be confirmed.

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Andano etude (Mendelssohn) / Rondo brillant (Weber)

Written on the wire spool: Tagliafero [further details on the spool]

Accompanying documentation: Classical music

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR063

Flamenco discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01095

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:30:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Flamenco - copie disques V. / Flamenco - copie disques Valentine [?]

Written on the wire spool: Flamenco (disques V.)

Accompanying documentation: Flamenco disc copies

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR064

Haitian discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01096

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (approx. 00:23:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: [??] disques haitiens

Written on the wire spool: [?] 23'

Accompanying documentation: Haitian disc copies

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR065

Jazz discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01097

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:15:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Jazz copie disques V.

Box lid: Jazz copie disques V.

Written on the wire spool: pas bon Jazz copie disques V. / 1/2 minute free

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR066

Jazz discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01098

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:25:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Duke Ellington - Liberian Suite / Liberian Suite - Duke Ellington [?] 25'

Written on the wire spool: Liberian Suite [?]. 25'

Accompanying documentation: Jazz disc copies

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR067

Jazz discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01099

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: copie disque V. 8' / Jazz copie disques V. 8'

Written on the wire spool: copie disques V. Jazz 28'

Accompanying documentation: Jazz disc copies

Series 4: Dubbed commercial recordings

Container

Contents

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR068

Jazz discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01100

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 01:00:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Jazz copie disques V. / attention [?] casse / Jazz copie disques V. / Casse ce [?]
plus [?] places

Written on the wire spool: essais toto

Accompanying documentation: Jazz disc copies

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR069

South American discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01101

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (Webster-Chicago, approx. 00:15:00) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: Musique Sud Americaine / copie disques V. / Sud Americaine / copie disques V.

Written on the wire spool: Argentina samba etc [?] copie disques / Roger

Accompanying documentation: South American disc copies

Item_ID: AFC
2019/041: SR070

Various discs, undated

Rack number: WIRE 01102

Extent: 1 sound wire reel (unknown duration) : analog

Transcriptions:

Box panel: 2/2 Peeter [Peter] - Marlene Dietrich /2/2 Johnny [Jonny] - Marlene Dietrich /2/2

Kasbek - Igor Gorin /2/2 Viut viteé [Viut Vitre] ([?]) - Igor Gorin /2/2 Song of the Plains

- Red Army Choir /2/2 Write What [?] - Red Army Choir /5 The moon shine (danse

[?]) /2/2 Saetas - Niña de los Peines / Bulerias [?] - Niña de los Peines / Tango flamenco

- Niña de los Peines / Sevillanas - Niña de los Peines

Box lid: Dietrich Russian-Flamenco

Written on the wire spool: Dietrich II - Russian Flamenco

Accompanying documentation: various disc copies