
Overview of the Collection

**Creator**
Garfias, Robert; Knight, Roderic; University of Washington Ethnomusicology Archives

**Title**
Robert Garfias recordings: Jali Nyama Suso: Kora Player of the Gambia

**Dates**
1972-06-03
1972-06-03 1972-06-03

**Quantity**
2 items: 94-8.1 EC - 1 vct (VHS); 94-8.2 EC - 1 DVD; Duration: 00:20:00; film log.

**Collection Number**
1994008

**Summary**
Commercial video produced by Robert Garfias and Roderic Knight in 1992 from film footage of a performance by Jali Nyama Suso (kora player and former professor at the University of Washington) recorded at the University of Washington, 6/3/72.

**Repository**
University of Washington Ethnomusicology Archives
University of Washington Ethnomusicology Archives
Box 353450
Seattle, WA
98195-3450
Telephone: 206-543-0974
ethnoarc@uw.edu

**Access Restrictions**
Access is restricted.

**Languages**
English

Biographical Note

Robert Garfias was born in San Francisco in 1932, the child of Mexican-American parents. As a youngster he studied classical guitar and jazz saxophone. In high school he studied Western classical music composition, and he formed a jazz combo that played gigs for beatniks in the North Beach area of San Francisco, where he traveled in a circle of musicians that included Dave Brubeck, Vince Delgado, Vince Guaraldi, Harry Partch, and Bill Smith. During his career he founded the ethnomusicology program at the University of Washington; served as Dean of Arts at the University of California, Irvine, as a member of the Smithsonian Council, and as a presidential appointee to the U.S. National Council for the Arts; and conducted significant periods of fieldwork and language study in Japan, Okinawa, Korea, the Philippines, Mexico, Zimbabwe, Central America, Burma, Romania, Turkey, Spain, Portugal, and among Okinawans in the United States.

- Society for Ethnomusicology Newsletter (Vol. 7, No. 4, September 2013)

Roderic C. Knight is an emeritus professor at Oberlin College, where he taught ethnomusicology courses for 32 years (1976-2008). His principal areas of research include the Mandinka people of
Gambia, tribal music of Central India, abd organology (the scientific study of musical instruments). Additionally, he created the Knight-Revision of Hornbostel-Sachs, a system for classifying musical instruments.

For more information, see http://www2.oberlin.edu/faculty/rknight/

Content Description

Filmed and recorded by Robert Garfias and Roderic Knight (2 Arriflex cameras, Nagra).

See collection 72-23 for original audio recording of film session.

Jali Nyama Suso/kora and vocals performs: Ala I'a ke (Allah's Deed); Jula Faso (Merchant's Tune); Yundumunku (Man from Yundum); Masane Sise (Masanneh Sisay).

DVD copy of published recording given to UW Ethnomusicology Archives by Roderic Knight, 2/2013.

Documentation: Additional liner notes by R. Knight

Administrative Information

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms:
Ethnomusicology
Kora (Musical instrument)
Kora music
Malinke
Music--Africa
Video recordings in ethnomusicology
Vocal

Geographical Names:
Africa
Gambia
Seattle (Wash.)
West Africa

Form or Genre Terms:
Video recordings

Other Creators:

Personal Names:
Suso, Nyama, -1991
(performer)

2017