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Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections

Deaf Folklore: What is Deaf Folklore? JUN 26 1981

Extracted on Mar-29-2024 05:33:53

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WEBVTT

00:21:02.000 --> 00:21:06.000

<i>Libby Hathaway/Sheila Grinnell (interpreter)</i>: No, [overlap]

<i>Jo Radner</i>: No [overlap] too easy huh?

00:21:06.000 --> 00:21:23.000

<i>Libby Hathaway/Sheila Grinnell (interpreter)</i>: No, I think, the trick is, well we all know the numbers, by heart but we're expected to go in sequence, you know it should be one, two, three, four, five, six, but it's how you sign it,

00:21:23.000 --> 00:21:38.000

if it makes sense at all and relates, and coordinates the movements making a story, that if you do it well, will be real surprised that it, you know it was a good story.

00:21:38.000 --> 00:21:48.000

<i>Jo Radner</i>: Thank you. Let me ask the audience, do you have questions? Yes.

00:21:48.000 --> 00:21:57.000

<i>Audience Member</i>: I'm interested in the mouth gestures, especially that Jan is making, what is she saying in her head as she's signing?

00:21:57.000 --> 00:22:06.000

[SILENCE]

<i>Jan DeLap/Sheila Grinnell (interpreter)</i>: Um, that's a heavy one.

00:22:06.000 --> 00:22:19.000

I have to tell you a little thing. My father is hearing and my mother is deaf so I often switch between two modes of communication. Right now I'm using English word order,

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and it helps, for me to help, it helps me to mouth it in English but if I just go ahead like a de—deaf ASL person I won't use my mouth movement because it's more comfortable for me to gesture and talk and communicate that way. Can you can see the difference?

00:22:38.000 --> 00:22:58.000

<i>Jo Radner</i>: Could you explain a little bit perhaps, any of you about the difference that you just mentioned between ASL, American sign language and signed English? I'm not sure people are quite aware of the difference yet.

00:22:58.000 --> 00:23:13.230

<i>Steve Jones</i>: I just er, I went to Gallaudet for two semesters last year and for years, my friends had been telling me that there was a difference between English and sign language, maybe I'm a little dense but I couldn't quite get the idea



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