



Smithsonian Institution

Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections

Deaf Folklore: What is Deaf Folklore? JUN 26 1981

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 11:45:38

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

WEBVTT

00:02:15.000 --> 00:02:17.000

<i>Jan DeLap/Sheila Grinell (interpreter)</i>: Tell them that you're not Deaf.

00:02:17.000 --> 00:02:21.000

<i>Steve Jones</i>: Oh, I'm not Deaf, I'm hearing.

00:02:21.000 --> 00:02:22.000

<i>Jo Radner</i>: [[LAUGHTER]] Thank you. Jan.

00:02:22.000 --> 00:02:26.000

[SILENCE]

00:02:26.000 --> 00:02:35.000

<i>Jan DeLap/Sheila Grinell (interpreter)</i>: My name is Jan DeLap. I was born and grew up in Wisconsin.

00:02:35.000 --> 00:02:47.000

I came here to this area a long time ago to go to Gallaudet College. I'm presently working at the Washington Post as a printer.

00:02:47.000 --> 00:02:50.000

<i>Jo Radner</i>: Thank you. Dick.

00:02:50.000 --> 00:03:03.000

<i>Dick Moore/Sheila Grinell (interpreter)</i>: My name is Dick Moore. I live in Maryland but my old hometown is in Kentucky. I work for the Washington Post also.

00:03:03.000 --> 00:03:05.000

<i>Jo Radner</i>: Thank you very much.

00:03:05.000 --> 00:03:11.000

And I should mention that these people together constitute, uh, a troop of actors for us here at the festival.

00:03:11.000 --> 00:03:20.000

And that right after this at 12 o'clock and at 1 o'clock they're going to be doing different performances of their skills. You'll get a little sample of that right now.

00:03:20.000 --> 00:03:32.000

Well the topic of our workshop this morning is "What is Deaf Folklore?" I think to begin with it's important to, to say a little bit about folklore.

00:03:32.000 --> 00:03:45.000

Uh, because folklore doesn't just pop up suddenly, full grown. Folklore develops in a community, and maybe a lot of hearing people are not

aware that there is a Deaf community.

00:03:45.000 --> 00:03:56.000

In fact there are several Deaf communities just as there are several black communities, several women's communities, several children's communities, several occupational communities, and so on.

00:03:56.000 --> 00:04:10.000

And each one develops its own stories, its own jokes, nicknames, games, traditions, out of the real needs to express itself. Folklore is the art of communities.

00:04:10.000 --> 00:04:19.000

So what I would like to do first is to ask these people to tell you a little bit about what strikes them as important about the Deaf community.

00:04:19.000 --> 00:04:28.000

To tell you just a little bit about what makes it special. The kinds of things that they perceive that are different or special for the Deaf themselves.

00:04:28.000 --> 00:04:31.793

I wonder if one of you would like to start out with something.



Smithsonian Institution

Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)