



**AIATSIS**  
Australian Institute of Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

**Interim  
Finding aid**

**LAADE\_W01**

**Sound recordings collected by  
Wolfgang Laade, 1963-1965**

## ACCESS

### Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit by completing an [online enquiry form](#) or phone (02) 6261 4212 to arrange an appointment to listen to the recordings or to order copies.

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

**Date:** 1963-1965

**Extent:** 82 sound tape reels (ca. 34 hrs. 30 min.) : analogue, 3 3/4 ips, 2 track, mono. ; 7 in. (not held).

### Production history

These recordings were collected by Dr Wolfgang Laade of the Freie Universität, West Berlin, between 1963 and 1965 at various locations on Cape York Peninsula and the Torres Strait Islands, Queensland, Australia. They document various song styles from these regions. The research was funded by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (AIAS). The language groups of the performers include Gugu Yau, Gupapuyngu (a recording of Elcho Islanders visiting Thursday Island), Kaanju, Olgolo, Umpila, Wuthathi, Yadhaykenu, Atambaia, Meriam Mir and various Western Torres Strait dialects including Kalaw Lagaw Ya.

## RELATED MATERIAL

See also MS 2883, Volumes 1-2, in the AIATSIS Library for a catalogue of the recordings prepared by Laade. This manuscript includes important background information about the performers and how the recordings were made, as well as details about individual songs and their composers. For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®.

## ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Wolfgang Laade and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

Copies of Laade's recordings were made in 1966 and the originals were subsequently returned. Unfortunately an accurate concordance of the original field tapes numbers and the AIATSIS archive numbers was not kept. For this reason the attached item list refers to segments (what Laade calls 'items') of recordings, as per Laade's "Catalogue of field tape recordings". It is worth noting that the AIAS/AIATSIS copies were edited together by Laade and AIAS audio technician, Ken Pounsett according to regions and song types. True, unedited, originals were never lodged at AIATSIS and the material is not in chronological order. There is a good chance that the original 82 sound tape reels referred to on the catalogue record for this collection are in fact the full list of original Laade field recordings, which were edited to make up the various Laade collections (not just this one).

Please note that Laade did not provide any advice regarding restrictions but it is possible that some of the Torres Strait material is also secret/sacred, for example items 263-264.

Atambaia (or Atampaya) is not listed in the AIATSIS Language Thesaurus. According to Austlang, Crowley has described it as a dialect of Uradhi.

Contrary to the title of the accompanying manuscript, *Catalogue of Field Tape Recordings 1963-1964*, quite a number of the recordings were made in 1965.

## ITEM LIST

Field recording number	AIATSIS item number	Description
Items 1-51n	LAADE_W01-000036A; LAADE_W01-000036B	Ceremonial (Bora) songs in Gugu Yau and Kaanju and discussions in English with Harry Siyu, Edward Kanora, Billie Daniels, Johnny Short, George Morton, Hughie Temple and Rex Moses. Recorded at Lockhart River. <b>RESTRICTED.</b>
Items 51o-145	LAADE_W01-000037A; LAADE_W01-000037B	Ceremonial (Bora) songs (and a small number of secular songs) in Gugu Yau, Kaanju, Wuthathi and Umpila, and discussions in English with Billie Daniels, Edward Kanora, Johnny Short, George Morton, Hughie Temple, Jack Palo, Rex Moses, Peter Pascoe, Charlie Oominio, Harry Siyu, Annie Fruit, Margaret Temple and Jimmy Johnson. Recorded at Lockhart River Mission and Umagico. <b>RESTRICTED.</b>
Items 146-232	LAADE_W01-000038A; LAADE_W01-000038B	Wungka songs, contemporary Lockhart River songs, church songs and songs in English by Gugu Yau, Umpila and Night Island people, Annie Fruit, Margaret Temple, Peter Pascoe, Edward Pascoe, Pedro Pascoe, Mick Oominio, Lawrence Oominio, David Marett, Simon Ropeyarn, Jack Palo, Jimmy Johnson, Roy Sandy, Alfred Short and Tessi Peter (of Horn Island). Recorded at Cowal Creek (Injinoo) and Umagico.
Items 233-317	LAADE_W01-000039A; LAADE_W01-000039B	Malkari, Bora, Wangka, Owalapatanu songs, and Bunggul (the latter performed by Elcho Islanders visiting Thursday Island). Singers include John Jack Johnson Nyungu (Olgolo), Coriga Ware (Yadhaykenu), William Dyusi (Atambaia/Kaanju), Jack MacDonnell (Atambaia), Edward Kanora (Gugu Yau), Billy Daniels (Gugu Yau, Umpila), Wiryi (Gupapuyngu), Buwajjigu (Gupapuyngu), Sanna Lockhart, Lizzie Karomba, Minnie Douglas (language group not noted). The recordings were made at Coen, Injinoo and Thursday Island. <b>RESTRICTED IN PART</b> – much of the material is secular in nature, with the exception of the Bora songs, which were recorded at Injinoo (items 249-252).
Items 1-74 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000040A; LAADE_W01-000040B	Songs from the Torres Strait, performed by Della Mopoali, Tom Dau, Mose Dau, Sailor Auda, Juda Ganaia, Pabai Banu, Arama Marama, Bunai Marama, Araine Marame, Awati, Manesse Toby, Elisala Bigi, John Peter, Harry Captain, Alfred Aniba. Includes 'lamenting' song from Boigu recorded at Mer; various songs recorded at Boigu, including <i>Dhiu</i> or <i>Kassa Girer</i> , song from the <i>Djeai</i> story, <i>Pipi</i> songs, <i>Mawa</i> songs, <i>Badra</i> songs, old time dances, magic turtle hunting songs, rainmaking songs, funeral wailing, <i>Wana</i> songs and <i>Wame</i> songs, game songs; <i>Gamuzir</i> songs

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		recorded at Dauan; and <i>Arkatalgamu</i> songs recorded at Saibai and Boigu .
Items 75-118 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000041A; LAADE_W01-000041B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Jacob Matthew, Mose Dau, Sailor Auda, Question Matthew, Daisy Matthew and her mother, Michel Banu, Elisala Bigi, Isabel Matthew, Muriel Banu, Dorothy Auda, Clara Toby, Garaz Anau, Elsie Daniel, Janet Daniel, Bithel Anbar, Mari Juda, Jim Gibuma, Sipau Gibuma, Ronald Toby, Tom Marama, Walther Canaia, Maiama Anau, Susan Ingui, Balu Gibuma, Elsie Abai, Steve Abai, Jerry Tom, Branai Awati, Janet Dau, Kenlock Auda, and others. Includes continuation of <i>Arkatalgamu</i> songs recorded at Boigu; 'long distance call' and modern dance songs recorded at Dauan; modern dances and dance plays from old legends recorded at Boigu.
Items 119-150 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000042A; LAADE_W01-000042A	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Sipau Gibuma, Ronald Toby, Maiama Marama, Kenlock Auda, Pabai Banu, Ronald Question, Isabel Matthew, Janet Dau, Ellen Gibuma, Jacob Matthew, Mose Dau, Question Matthew, Daisy Matthew, Michael Banu. Includes modern dance songs recorded on Boigu.
Items 151-175 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000043A; LAADE_W01-000043B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Question Matthew, Daisy Matthew, Sipau Gibuma, Mose Dau, and the congregation of the Thursday Island Cathedral. Includes <i>Dubau Sagul</i> , modern dance songs and church hymns recorded at Boigu.
Items 176-196 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000044A; LAADE_W01-000044B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include the Thursday Island Cathedral congregation, Kenlock Auda, Charlie Auda, Reverend Masapu Banu. Includes church songs and <i>Darobiri</i> performances recorded at Boigu.
Items 197-261 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000045A; LAADE_W01-000045B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Wasaku Waia, Gasu Sam, Sui Augad, Wagea Wais, Kala Waia, Timothy Akiba, Aniba Asa, Anau Mau, Elisala Bigi, Fred Atu, Sui Angad, Alfred Asa, Robson Asa, Enossa Waigana, Pabai Banu, Mose Dau, Nawielu, Francis Abai, Auiba Asa, Evelyn Tiati, Pazel Agi. Includes songs from old legends recorded at Saibai and Dauan; <i>Kassa Girer</i> recorded at Saibai, Boigu and Dauan; <i>Pipi</i> songs recorded at Saibai; <i>Mawa</i> songs recorded at Saibai and Dauan; and <i>Marilla</i> , <i>Tha</i> and Turtle Magic songs recorded at Saibai.
Items 262-346a (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000046A; LAADE_W01-000046B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Wagea Waia, Kala Waia, Auiba Asa, Alfred Asa, Robson Asa, Timothy Akiba, Nawia Elu, Francis Abai, Anau Mau, Evelyn Tiati, Pozel Agi, Alfred Aniba, Natarabubi, Gelma Asa, Elisala Bigi, Della Mopoali, Tom Dau, Fred Atu, Sue Augad,

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		Warusam Aba, Wasaku Waia, Temkisa, Enossa Waigana. Includes <i>Surukad gasaman</i> song and male initiation song. <b>MAY BE RESTRICTED</b> (items 263-264). Also includes funeral song, warrior song, basket-making song, <i>Wana</i> songs, <i>Kulap</i> play songs, <i>Wame</i> songs, other play songs, swearing songs, old songs, and <i>Arkatalgamu</i> songs, recorded at Dauan, Saibai and Boigu.
Items 347-419 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000047A; LAADE_W01-000047B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Aniba Asa, Robson Asa, Alfred Asa, Mary Harris, Greta Waia, Wasaku Aniba, Temkisa Aniba, Pozel Agi, Gelma Asa, Mary Ann Asa, Selina Enossa, Vivian Enossa, Turner Enossa, Greta Waia, Jockton Anu, Ronald Tabuai, McLofty Assi, Solomon Aniba, Enossa Waigana, Emslon Bamaga, Mildred Mareko, Charlie Naivia, Asuelu Aniba, Alfred Aniba, Wilfred Aniba, Wasaku Waia. Includes island dance songs recorded at Saibai, Bamaga and Dauan.
Items 420-475 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000048A; LAADE_W01-000048B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Elisala Bigi and family, a group of children (no names are given), Greta Nawia, Mildred Mareko, Charlie Nawia, Jockton Anu, Donald Tabuai, McLofty Assi, Solomon Aniba, Emslon Bamaga, Abiba Asa, church congregation. Includes island dance songs recorded at Dauan; modern non-Torres Strait songs (including various Pacific island songs and songs in English) recorded at Saibai and Bamaga; and hymns recorded at Bamaga and Saibai.
Items 476-501/4 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000049A; LAADE_W01-000049B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include a church congregation, Enossa Waigana, and Dulcie Nawia. Includes church songs recorded at Saibai and Dauan; female chorus of the Erub Mothers' Union recorded at Mer; and songs at a feast for the celebration of the completion of the candlesticks and crosses for the New Guinea mission, recorded at Mer.
Items 501/5-557	LAADE_W01-000050A; LAADE_W01-000050B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Elisala Bigi, Anau Mau, Missi MacFarlane Mau, Jimmy Luffman, Manesse Bani, Made Paul, Mrs Kelam Wop, Kame Paipai, Enoch Yosen, Reverend Michael Bani, Nauri Esseli, Patipati Regu, Wasada Bani, Seluia Bani, Ellen Seo, Wairi Oisa, Mairaine Motlop, Kiwas Missi, Tata Kali, Aranua Kris, Refu Dugui, Bana Kris. Includes songs at a feast for the celebration of the completion of the candlesticks and crosses for the New Guinea mission, recorded at Mer; playing of <i>Darobiri</i> and various other instruments at Mer, Dauan and Saibai; <i>Pipi</i> and <i>Kawaladi</i> recorded at Saibai, Narupai (Horn Island) and Mabuiag; <i>Kab</i> , <i>Wana</i> , mat-making, south-sea dance and island dance songs recorded at Mabuiag and Bamaga; women's dance songs recorded at

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		Thursday Island, celebrating the ordination of two priests.
Items 558-630 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000051A; LAADE_W01-000051B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include the Thursday Island Cathedral congregation, Enoch Gosen, Irad Nona, Naila Nomo, Lassi Esseli, Refuam Solomon, Solomon Nona, Tom Dau, Della Mopoali, Sarau Billy, Dala Naptali, Alma Solomon, Ghee Ketabel, Dick Namok, Madu Paul, Tessi Peter, Mich Oominio, Lawrence Oominio, Edward Pascoe, Alfred Short. Includes a continuation of women's dance songs recorded at Thursday Island, celebrating the ordination of two priests; Church hymns recorded at Mabuig and Badu; island dance songs recorded at Badu; island dances and South Sea songs by people from Moa recorded at Saibai; and songs recorded at Muralag, including <i>Kab</i> , <i>Pipi</i> , <i>Kod</i> and turtle magic.
Items 631-665 (2 <sup>nd</sup> series)	LAADE_W01-000052A; LAADE_W01-000052B	Songs from the Torres Strait. Singers include Sailor Miskin, Salome Miskin, Emily Miskin, Nancy Miskin, Ronald Miskin, Mose Dau, Anu Ara, Mainau Kelley, Maza Samuel, George Sailor, Elisala Bigi, Greta Nawia, Salu Banu, Tom David, Jessi Pearson, Della Mopoali, Uulke Cercumo, Sarau Billy, Ned Stephen, Joseph Peter, Harry Captain, Louisa Oroki, Dowai Dau, Kebi Dau, Anau Mau, Francis Abai, Anau Elisala. Includes island dance songs recorded at Narupai, Boigu, Iama, Thursday Island, Saibai and Mer; Church hymns recorded at Iama, Erub and Mabuig; and <i>Kab</i> recorded at Masig, Erub, Dauan and Boigu.