



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

EDOLS_M02

**Sound recordings collected by
Michael Edols, 1972**

Prepared April 2016 by IE
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ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are not yet available, but can be arranged on application. Contact the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit by completing an [online enquiry form](#) or phone (02) 6261 4212 for further information.

Restrictions on listening

This collection is open for listening on the AIATSIS premises.

Restrictions on use

Permission must also be obtained from Michael Edols and the relevant Indigenous individuals, families and communities for quotation or publication.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1972

Extent: 6 audiotape reels (approximately 15 minutes each); 5 inches

Production history

This collection was recorded by Michael Edols as the sound component for the film *Lalai Dreamtime*, beginning in 1972, and had its first private screening in a tin shed in Mowanjum with Worrora elders present to give their approval. It is the winner of numerous prizes including the Bronze award for Best Documentary at the 1976 AFI awards, and was screened at the Berlin Film Festival to critical acclaim.

The film is a companion film to *FLOATING ... Like Wind Blow'em About*, and depicts the story of Namarali, the Wandjina of the Worrora people, as told by Sam Woolagoodja to his descendants Stanley and Kerry. The film documents the Woolagoodja family traveling to traditional Worrora country where they hadn't been for thirty years, many hundreds of kilometres north of Derby.

Edols writes that the film "remains iconic for the community and over the years has become the only 'bridge' of its kind, through storytelling, to their ancestral world of knowledge and ancient Aboriginal wisdom." (from the essay 'Aspects of a Life: Working with Indigenous Australians' by Michael Edols).

It is available as part of the *Aspects of a Life* collection, released on DVD in 2011 by Ronin Films.

RELATED MATERIAL

Important: before you click on any links in this section, please read our [sensitivity message](#).

Michael Edols has made the following essay freely available for researchers via AIATSIS, or Ronin Films (link leads to PDF file): '[Aspects of a Life: Working with Indigenous Australians](#)'.

Film rushes for *Lalai Dreamtime* are held in the AIATSIS collection at EDOLS_M001.

Film rushes, sound components and production material including sound report sheets for the following films are also held in the AIATSIS collection: *FLOATING ... Like Wind Blow'em About, Here's My Hand, When the Snake Bites the Sun, Flame of Light*.

For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®. To conduct a search of available audio finding aids, please [click here](#).

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Michael Edols. Detailed item descriptions, featuring timing points, are not yet available as the collection has not been auditioned by AIATSIS staff.

ITEM LIST

Field recording number	AIATSIS item number	Description
Lalai 1	n/a	Sound component for the film <i>LaLai Dreamtime</i> by Michael Edols, including a performance on 29/01/1975 at the Mowanjum community.
Lalai 2	n/a	Sound component for the film <i>Lalai Dreamtime</i> by Michael Edols, including voice-overs by Sam Woolagoodja, recorded 30/01/1975 – 03/02/1975
Lalai 3	n/a	Sound component for the film <i>Lalai Dreamtime</i> by Michael Edols.
Lalai 4	n/a	Sound component for the film <i>Lalai Dreamtime</i> by Michael Edols, including Sam Wooladoodja humming songs, recorded on 03/02/1975.
Music roll 1	n/a	Sound component for the film <i>Lalai Dreamtime</i> by Michael Edols.
Music roll 2	n/a	Sound component for the film <i>Lalai Dreamtime</i> by Michael Edols.