



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

THORNE_R01

**Sound recordings collected by
Roy Thorne, 1968**

Prepared November 2005 by AMH
Last updated 20 December 2016

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact [AIATSIS](#) to arrange an appointment to listen to the recordings or to order copies.

Restrictions on listening

This collection is open for listening.

Restrictions on use

Copies of this collection may be made for private research. Permission must be sought from the depositor as well as the relevant Indigenous individual, family or community for any publication or quotation of this material. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the *Copyright Act* (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1968

Extent: 2 sound tape reels (ca. 2 hrs., 9 min.) : analogue, 3 ¾ ips, mono.

Production history

These recordings were collected by Roy Thorne in September, 1968 at Yirrkala in the Northern Territory. They document the mortuary rites and ceremonies of the Rirratjingu people of East Arnhem Land. Participants include Roy Dadanga, Madhaman, Milirrpum, Monyu, Yinintjurr, Dundiwuy, Wandjuk and other unidentified people.

RELATED MATERIAL

For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult the Institute's Mura® online catalogue at <http://mura.aiatsis.gov.au>.

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information contained in documentation provided by Roy Thorne and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
001739A 001739B	Field tape 1	Mortuary rites and ceremony including songs in Rirratjingu accompanied by clapsticks and didjeridu, performed by Roy Dadanga, Madhaman, Milirrpum, Monyu, Yinintjurr, Dundiwuy, Wandjuk and other unidentified people
001739B	Field tape 2	Continuation of mortuary rites and ceremony including songs in Rirratjingu accompanied by clapsticks and didjeridu, performed by Roy Dadanga, Madhaman, Milirrpum, Monyu, Yinintjurr, Dundiwuy, Wandjuk and other unidentified people

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

001739A + 001739B/Field tape 1

Performer/speaker(s): Roy Dadanga, Madhaman, Milirrpum, Monyu, Yinintjurr, Dundiwuy, Wandjuk, other unidentified people
 Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Clapsticks, Music – Didjeridu, Music – Ceremonial music, Mortuary / funeral ceremonies
 Language/people: Rirratjingu
 Places: Yirrkala (East Arnhem Land SD53-04)
 Recording quality: Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
THORNE_R01-001739A	00:00:00	Mortuary rites and ceremony that take place over several days and nights for an old man who had died the previous year. Roy Thorne gives a description of the events that are occurring. The participants are led by the old man's sons, brothers and other family members including Roy Dadaynga, Madhaman, Milirrpum, Monyu, Yinintjurr, Dundiwuy, Wandjuk, and other unidentified people. The ceremonies include speeches, singing and dancing accompanied by clapsticks and didjeridu.	September 1968	Yirrkala NT
	00:64:38	End of THORNE_R01-001739A.		
THORNE_R01-001739B	00:00:00	Continuation of the mortuary rites and ceremony.	September 1968	Yirrkala NT
	00:30:31	End of field tape 1.		

001739B/Field tape 2

Performer/speaker(s): Roy Dadanga, Madhaman, Milirrpum, Monyu, Yinintjurr, Dundiwuy, Wandjuk, other unidentified people
Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Clapsticks, Music – Didjeridu, Music – Ceremonial music, Mortuary / funeral ceremonies
Language/people: Rirratjingu
Places: Yirrkala (East Arnhem Land SD53-04)
Recording quality: Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
THORNE_R01-001739B	00:32:44	Continuation of mortuary rites and ceremony that takes place over several days and nights for an old man who had died the previous year. Roy Thorne gives a description of the events that are occurring including. The performers are led by the old man's sons, brothers and other family members including Roy Dadaynga, Madhaman, Milirrpum, Monyu, Yinintjurr, Dundiwuy, Wandjuk, and other unidentified people. The ceremonies include speeches, singing and dancing accompanied by clapsticks and didjeridu.	September 1968	Yirrkala NT
	00:64:24	End of field tape 2 and THORNE_R01-001739B.		