



Guide to the Gertrude Duby Blom exhibit photographs and project records, 1941-2004, 2015

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Summary

Collection Title:

Gertrude Duby Blom exhibit photographs and project records, 1941-2004, 2015

Creator:

Blom, Gertrude Duby; Harris, Alex, 1949-; Norris, Barry, 1952-

Source:

Archive of Documentary Arts (Duke University)

Abstract:

Gertrude Duby Blom (1901-1993) was a Swiss-born photographer, journalist, anthropologist, and environmental activist. Collection comprises 71 black-and-white exhibit photographs featuring images taken by Gertrude Duby Blom between 1941 and 1979 in the highland jungles of Lacandón and other areas and towns in the state of Chiapas, Mexico. The images document the cultural and ecological environments inhabited by indigenous Maya, predominantly the Lacandones; there are also images of Latino immigrants to the region, chiefly lumber industry workers and their families, and other townspeople in San Cristobal. Scenes from camps and towns portray mealtimes, hunting and gathering expeditions, agricultural customs, religious ceremonies, folk Catholicism and its rituals, classrooms, medical clinics, and street scenes. Later images attest to the destruction of native ecosystems and the rapidly changing culture of the indigenous peoples. The matted gelatin silver prints vary in size from 11x14 to 22x22 inches; there is also one 26x26 inch matted print. The accompanying exhibit and project records contain correspondence, notes, publicity, and other materials (1983-2004) documenting the collaboration between Alex Harris, documentary photographer from the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University, Gertrude Blom, and individuals in Mexico and the U.S., which resulted in a major exhibit, "People of the forest: photographs of the Maya by Gertrude Blom," launched in 1984, and the publication of "Gertrude Blom: bearing witness" (1984). Includes a 2015 audio interview conducted by Alex Harris with Blom's collaborator Barry Norris, who printed the photographs in this collection. Acquired as part of the Archive of Documentary Arts at Duke University.

Extent:

9 Linear Feet (8 boxes; 1 oversize folder)
1.21 Gigabytes (3 files (.WAV, .MP3, and .PKV))

Language:

English .

Collection ID:

RL.10084

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1f60c>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Gertrude Duby Blom exhibit photographs and project records, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection comprises 71 black-and-white exhibit prints featuring images taken by anthropologist, activist, and journalist Gertrude Duby Blom between 1941 and 1979 in the highland jungles of Lacandón and other areas and towns of the state of Chiapas, Mexico. The photographs were printed in 1982 by Barry Norris, Blom's close friend and collaborator, for a major exhibition of her work that opened in 1984 in New York City.

The landscapes and portraits taken by Blom document the cultural and ecological environments inhabited by indigenous Maya, predominantly the Lacandón, but also neighboring Tzotzil and Tzeltal; there are also images of Latino immigrants to the region, chiefly lumber industry workers and their families, and other townspeople in San Cristobal, state of Chiapas. Scenes from camps and towns document mealtimes, hunting and gathering expeditions, agricultural customs, religious ceremonies, folk Catholicism and its rituals, classrooms, medical clinics, and street scenes. Later images attest to the destruction of native ecosystems and the rapidly changing culture of indigenous peoples. The matted gelatin silver prints vary in size from 11x14 to 22x22 inches; there is also one 26x26 inch matted print.

Accompanying the photographs are files of project correspondence, notes, publicity, and other materials (1983-2004) documenting the collaboration between Alex Harris, documentary photographer of the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University, Gertrude Duby Blom, and individuals in Mexico and the U.S., which resulted in a major international traveling exhibit, "People of the forest: photographs of the Maya by Gertrude Blom," launched in 1984, and the publication of a book of essays and images, "Gertrude Blom: Bearing witness" (1984), edited by Alex Harris and Margaret Sartor. Includes 2015 audio interview recording conducted by Alex Harris of Blom's collaborator Barry Norris, who discusses the production of the book and exhibit, and Blom's project and photography work and her personal life (available online).

Acquired as part of the Archive of Documentary Arts at Duke University.

Biographical/Historical

Gertrude Duby Blom (1901-1993) was a journalist, anthropologist, and activist of Swiss descent who spent more than 40 years documenting the Mayan cultures of Chiapas, Mexico. She married Kurt Duby in 1925; they divorced several years later. Forced to emigrate from her native country in the 1930s because of her Socialist and anti-Fascist activities, she traveled to England, then made her way to Mexico City, where she began a long association with the Mexican people and their country.

A major turn in life occurred when Blom met with anthropologists who were studying the native peoples of central Mexico's highlands and jungles; on one of her first trips she encountered the Lacandon tribe of Mayan Indians, who had only just been in contact with Europeans since the late 1880s. In 1943, anthropologist Frans Blom invited her to join an expedition to the cloud forests of Chiapas, thus beginning a lifelong alliance. The Bloms, who married in 1951, focused all of their research, support, and patrimony on this area of Chiapas and on the Lacandon in particular, studying and documenting the plight of indigenous peoples from the 1940s to the 1980s as settlers deforested their territory and brought their way of life to an end.

In the 1950s, Gertrude and Frans established Casa Na Bolom (House of the Jaguar), a research center and hostel, which also served as a center for a support network for the Lacandon and other indigenous peoples. By the 1970s the Bloms has also shaped it into an active center for environmental activism in support of the Lacandón highland jungles of Chiapas, threatened by mining, logging, and modern methods of farming.

Blom published her first collection of photographs in 1984, *Gertrude Blom: Bearing Witness*, sponsored by the Center for Documentary Studies (CDS) at Duke University and guided to publication by Alex Harris and Margaret Sartor of the CDS. A one-hour biographical film, "Reina de la Selva," was released in 1989 by director Robert Cozens.

The photographs in this collection were printed in 1982 by Barry Norris, Blom's close friend and collaborator, for a large traveling exhibition that opened in 1984 in New York City, titled "People of the Forest: photographs of the Maya by Gertrude Blom," which subsequently traveled to major cities in the U.S. and overseas through the 2000s.

Gertrude Duby Blom passed away December 23, 1993, and is buried in La Selva Lacandona alongside her husband, Frans Blom.

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Arrangement

Collection arranged in three series: Exhibit Prints, Exhibit Project Records, and Audio Interview Recording. The matted prints are arranged by size and chronologically within size groups.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Gertrude Duby Blom exhibit photographs and project records were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a transfer from the Center for Documentary Studies in 2013.

Processing Information

Processed by: Levi Crews and Paula Jeannet, February 2014.

Encoded by Levi Crews and Paula Jeannet, March 2014.

Updated description and subject heading access provided by Paula Jeannet, July 2023.

Accessions described in this finding aid: 2013-0144

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Names and Subjects

- Deforestation -- Mexico -- Photographs
- Documentary Photography -- Mexico
- Ethnology -- Mexico -- Chiapas Highlands
- Forest people -- Mexico -- Photographs
- Mayas -- Mexico -- Chiapas Highlands -- 20th century -- Exhibitions
- Mayas -- Mexico -- Social conditions
- Mayas -- Mexico -- Social life and customs
- Photographers -- Mexico
- Photographers -- United States -- Correspondence
- Chiapas Highlands (Mexico) -- Photographs
- Lacandón (Community) -- Photographs
- Lacandona Forest (Mexico) -- Photographs
- Mexico -- Social conditions -- 20th century
- Sound recordings
- Photographs
- Gelatin silver prints
- Interviews
- Archive of Documentary Arts (Duke University)
- Norris, Barry, 1952-
- Blom, Gertrude Duby -- Gertrude Blom: bearing witness
- Duke University. Center for Documentary Studies
- Harris, Alex, 1949-

Collection Inventory

Exhibit Prints, 1941-1982

Physical Description: 7 boxes

Scope and Contents note

Series of 71 exhibit prints of black-and-white images taken by Gertrude Duby Blom between 1941 and 1982 in the highland jungles and towns of Chiapas,

Mexico. The photographs were printed in 1982 by Barry Norris, Blom's close friend and collaborator since 1977. The matted prints are arranged in groups by size, from 11x14 to 22x22 inches (mat sizes), accompanied by a larger matted print measuring 26x26 inches. Within size groups, prints are arranged by year. Captions are taken from original text printed on the mats beneath each image.

Pepe Castillo, Lacandón, Monte Libano, 1943
(online item available)

Box 1 > Image
RL_10084_P_001

Physical Description: 11 x 14 inches

Digital Object: [Pepe Castillo, Lacandon, Monte Libano, 1943](#)

Vicente Bor performing religious ceremony with
corn gruel, Lacandón, Jataté River, 1950 (online
item available)

Box 1 > Image
RL_10084_P_002

Physical Description: 11 x 14 inches

Digital Object: [Vicente Bor performing religious ceremony with corn gruel, Lacandón, Jataté River, 1950](#)

K'in García in dugout canoe, Lacandón, Najá,
1958 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image
RL_10084_P_003

Physical Description: 11 x 14 inches

Digital Object: [K'in García in dugout canoe, Lacandón, Najá, 1958](#)

Zapatista, Yautepec, 1941 (online item
available)

Box 2 > Image
RL_10084_P_004

Physical Description: 14 x 17 inches

Digital Object: [Zapatista, Yautepec, 1941](#)

Ladino women, Malinalco, 1944 (online item
available)

Box 2 > Image
RL_10084_P_005

Physical Description: 14 x 17 inches

Digital Object: [Ladino women, Malinalco, 1944](#)

Lacandón man, Najá, 1948 (online item
available)

Box 2 > Image
RL_10084_P_006

Physical Description: 14 x 17 inches

Digital Object: [Lacandón man, Najá, 1948](#)

Don Florentino with his son, Tzeltal, Jetjá, 1943
(online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_007

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Don Florentino with his son, Tzeltal, Jetjá, 1943](#)

Manuel Castellanos, Tzotzil, assisting voter
registration of Chamula Indians, 1946 (online
item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_008

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Manuel Castellanos, Tzotzil, assisting voter registration of Chamula Indians, 1946](#)

Pedro Contreras with armadillo, San Quintín,
1946 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_009

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Pedro Contreras with armadillo, San Quintán, 1946](#)

Mahogany loggers at the Lacanjá River,
Montería, 1948 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_010

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Mahogany loggers at the Lacanjá River, Montería, 1948](#)

Vicente Chaqueta with his son, Lacandón,
Censo, 1948 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_011

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Vicente Chaqueta with his son, Lacandon, Censo, 1948](#)

Calle Diego Dugelay, San Cristóbal de las Casas,
1951 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_012

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Calle Diego Dugelay, San Cristóbal de las Casas, 1951](#)

Chan K'in Viejo weighing tobacco, Lacandón,
Najá, 1952 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_013

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chan K'in Viejo weighing tobacco, Lacandon, Najá, 1952](#)

Medical clinic of the National Indian Institute,
Chamula, 1952 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_014

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Medical clinic of the National Indian Institute, Chamula, 1952](#)

Vicente Bor, with sons K'in and K'ayum, leaving
the jungle for Na Bolom, Lacandón, El Real,
1952 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_015

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Vicente Bor, with sons K'in and K'ayum, leaving the jungle for Na Bolom, Lacandon, El Real, 1952](#)

Zinacantec nurse in the National Indian
Institute, Tzotzil, Zinacantán, 1952 (online item
available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_016

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Zinacantec nurse in the National Indian Institute, Tzotzil, Zinacantán, 1952](#)

Chenalhó religious official in the market,
Tzotzil, Chalchihuitán, 1954 (online item
available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_017

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chenalhó religious official in the market, Tzotzil, Chalchihuitán, 1954](#)

Lacandon jungle between Las Margaritas and
San Quintín, Tojolobal Indians, 1955 (online
item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_018

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Lacandon jungle between Las Margaritas and San Quintín, Tojolobal Indians, 1955](#)

Ladino man on horseback, Santiago, 1955
(online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_019

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Ladino man on horseback, Santiago, 1955](#)

Festival of San Sebastián, Tzotzil, San
Bartolomé de los Llanos, 1955 (online item
available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_020

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Festival of San Sebastián, Tzotzil, San Bartolomé de los Llanos, 1955](#)

Preparation for the Festival of San Andrés:
sacristans building the sacred path, Tzotzil, San
Andrés, 1956 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image
RL_10084_P_021

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Preparation for the Festival of San Andrés: sacristans building the sacred path, Tzotzil, San Andrés, 1956](#)

Tzotzil actors during the Festival of San
Sebastián, Zinacantan, 1958 (online item
available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_022

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Tzotzil actors during the Festival of San Sebastián, Zinacantan, 1958](#)

Vincente Bor performing god house ceremony,
Lacandón, Jataté, 1958 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_023

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Vincente Bor performing god house ceremony, Lacandón, Jataté, 1958](#)

Zinacantec musicians, Tzotzil, Navenchauc,
1958 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_024

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Zinacantec musicians, Tzotzil, Navenchauc, 1958](#)

Zinatec boys at political rally for López Mateos,
Tzotzil, San Cristóbal de las Casas, 1958 (online
item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_025

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Zinatec boys at political rally for López Mateos, Tzotzil, San Cristóbal de las Casas, 1958](#)

Chamula women, Tzotzil, Romerillo, 1959
(online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_026

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chamula women, Tzotzil, Romerillo, 1959](#)

Lacandón boy, Cedro, 1959 (online item
available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_027

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Lacandon boy, Cedro, 1959](#)

Lacandones from Monte Libano, El Real, 1959
(online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_028

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Lacandones from Monte Libano, El Real, 1959](#)

Chilón, 1960 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_029

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chilón, 1960](#)

Masked dancer, Tzotzil, Chenalhó Carnival,
1960 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_030

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Masked dancer, Tzotzil, Chenalhó Carnival, 1960](#)

The Fire Run, Tzotzil, San Juan Chamula
Carnival, 1960 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_031

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [The Fire Run, Tzotzil, San Juan Chamula Carnival, 1960](#)

Tzeltal woman in the market, Yajalón, 1961
(online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_032

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Tzeltal woman in the market, Yajalon, 1961](#)

Chan K'in Viejo with his son, K'in García, in the
god house, Lacandón, Najá, 1963 (online item
available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_033

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chan K'in Viejo with his son, K'in Garcia, in the god house, Lacandon, Naja, 1963](#)

Celestino, Lacandón, Lacanjá Chan Sayab, 1964
(online item available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_034

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Celestino, Lacandon, Lacanja Chan Sayab, 1964](#)

Old Tzotzil man, San Andrés, 1965 (online item
available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_035

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Old Tzotzil man, San Andres, 1965](#)

Tzotzil cutting hair, Chilil, 1965 (online item
available)

Box 4 > Image
RL_10084_P_036

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Tzotzil cutting hair, Chilil, 1965](#)

San Andrés Indians visiting Santiago, Tzotzil,
Santiago, 1967 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_037

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [San Andrés Indians visiting Santiago, Tzotzil, Santiago, 1967](#)

Magdalenas dressing the saint for a visit to Santa Marta, Tzotzil, 1968 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_038

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Magdalenas dressing the saint for a visit to Santa Marta, Tzotzil, 1968](#)

Ladino students reenacting Aztec history, San Miguel Mitontic, 1969 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_039

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Ladino students reenacting Aztec history, San Miguel Mitontic, 1969](#)

Chamula family on the road to Tzmtchaitz, Tzotzil, The Sacred Mountain of Chamula, 1971 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_040

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chamula family on the road to Tzmtchaitz, Tzotzil, The Sacred Mountain of Chamula, 1971](#)

Tzotzil captains and patron in festival procession, Santiago, 1971 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_041

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Tzotzil captains and patron in festival procession, Santiago, 1971](#)

K'ayum and Pedro K'ayum, Lacandón, Lacanjá Chan Sayab, 1972 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_042

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [K'ayum and Pedro K'ayum, Lacandón, Lacanjá Chan Sayab, 1972](#)

Tzotzil men in front of the church, Santiago, 1974 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_043

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Tzotzil men in front of the church, Santiago, 1974](#)

Chan K'in Viejo with his wife Koh, Lacandon, Trudi's camp at Najá, 1976 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_044

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chan K'in Viejo with his wife Koh, Lacandon, Trudi's camp at Najá, 1976](#)

Chan K'in Presidente, Mateo Viejo, and K'in Garcia in the highlands, Lacandón, 1977 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_045

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chan K'in Presidente, Mateo Viejo, and K'in Garcia in the highlands, Lacandon, 1977](#)

K'ayum Ma'ax, Lacandon, Najá, 1977 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_046

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [K'ayum Ma'ax, Lacandon, Najá, 1977](#)

Lacandón women making clay figures to sell, Najá, 1978 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_047

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Lacandón women making clay figures to sell, Najá, 1978](#)

K'ayum Ma'ax with accordion, Lacandón, Najá, 1979 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_048

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [K'ayum Ma'ax with accordion, Lacandón, Najá, 1979](#)

Chamula boy carrying burlap bag of pine boughs for a ceremony, Tzotzil, undated (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_049

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Chamula boy carrying burlap bag of pine boughs for a ceremony, Tzotzil, undated](#)

Clearing land, Frontera Corozal (online item available)

Box 5 > Image
RL_10084_P_050

Physical Description: 15 x 15 inches

Digital Object: [Clearing land, Frontera Corozal](#)

Lacandón men near the Chocoljá River, Arena, 1948 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_051

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Lacandon men near the Chocoljá River, Arena, 1948](#)

Old Tzotzil man carrying wheat, Huistán, 1952 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_052

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Old Tzotzil man carrying wheat, Huistán, 1952](#)

Chamula teacher with Zinacantec students, Tzotzil, Ichin Ton, 1953 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_053

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Chamula teacher with Zinacantec students, Tzotzil, Ichin Ton, 1953](#)

Father Bermudez with festival officials, Tzotzil, San Juan Chamula Carnival, 1955 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_054

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Father Bermudez with festival officials, Tzotzil, San Juan Chamula Carnival, 1955](#)

Zinacantec musicians, Tzotzil, Festival of San Sebastián, San Bartolomé de los Llanos, 1955 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_055

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Zinacantec musicians, Tzotzil, Festival of San Sebastián, San Bartolomé de los Llanos, 1955](#)

Pedro K'ayum cutting down ceiba tree with machete, Lacandón, Jataté, 1958 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_056

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Pedro K'ayum cutting down ceiba tree with machete, Lacandón, Jataté, 1958](#)

Religious procession in the barrio of San Felipe, San Cristóbal de las Casas, 1958 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_057

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Religious procession in the barrio of San Felipe, San Cristóbal de las Casas, 1958](#)

Kimbor, Lacandón, Najá, 1959 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_058

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Kimbor, Lacandón, Najá, 1959](#)

K'in Obregon, Lacandón, ruins of Lacanjá, 1961 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_059

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [K'in Obregon, Lacandón, ruins of Lacanjá, 1961](#)

The Saint, San Andrés, visiting at the Festival of Santiago, Tzotzil, Santiago, 1962 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image
RL_10084_P_060

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [The Saint, San Andrés, visiting at the Festival of Santiago, Tzotzil, Santiago, 1962](#)

Chamula woman and child at Mitontic Festival, Tzotzil, San Miguel, 1963 (online item available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_061

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Chamula woman and child at Mitontic Festival, Tzotzil, San Miguel, 1963](#)

Ceiba, The Sacred Tree of the Maya, Yaxchilán,
1967 (online item available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_062

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Ceiba, The Sacred Tree of the Maya, Yaxchilán, 1967](#)

Religious procession, Tzotzil, San Miguel
Mitontic, 1967 (online item available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_063

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Religious procession, Tzotzil, San Miguel Mitontic, 1967](#)

Cut mahogany, Lacandón jungle near Lacanjá
Chan Sayab, 1968 (online item available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_064

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Cut mahogany, Lacandón jungle near Lacanjá Chan Sayab, 1968](#)

Gourd tree, Huitiupán, 1972 (online item
available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_065

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Gourd tree, Huitiupán, 1972](#)

Chamula woman praying to San Miguel,
Tzotzil, San Miguel Mitontic, 1973 (online item
available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_066

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Chamula woman praying to San Miguel, Tzotzil, San Miguel Mitontic, 1973](#)

Lacandón jungle between Sibál and Najá, 1974
(online item available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_067

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Lacandón jungle between Sibál and Najá, 1974](#)

Religious official, Tzotzil, Santiago, 1974 (online
item available)

Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_068

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Religious official, Tzotzil, Santiago, 1974](#)

Lacanjá River, 1975 (online item available) Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_069

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Lacanjá River, 1975](#)

Cut mahogany, Najá, 1979 (online item available) Box 7 > Image
RL_10084_P_070

Physical Description: 22 x 22 inches

Digital Object: [Cut mahogany, Najá, 1979](#)

Deforested hillside, Lacandón jungle between El Real and Najá (oversize exhibit print), 1982 Oversize-folder 1

Physical Description: 26 x 26 inches; One oversize matted exhibit print

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Exhibit Project Records, 1983-2004 and undated

Physical Description: 1 box

Language: English.

Scope and Contents note

Series is comprised of correspondence, notes, financial records, and travel schedules relating to the creation and curation of the exhibit, "People of the Forest: Photographs of the Maya by Gertrude Blom," which opened at the International Center of Photography in New York City in April 1984. The documents are accompanied by a large publicity poster for the "People of the Forest" exhibit (1984), and two copies of the book, released the same year as the exhibit, Gertrude Blom: Bearing Witness. Series is arranged in chronological order; original folder titles have been retained.

"People of the Forest" exhibition, text and panels, 1983 November 22-1995 March 28 Box 8

"People of the Forest" exhibition, correspondence, 1983 December 12-1998 April 16 Box 8

Na Bolom, correspondence and records, 1988 April-1998 March 3 Box 8

Environmental programming, 1997 September 3-1998 March 3	Box 8
Exhibit redesign by the Smithsonian, 1997 December 9-2003 July 7	Box 8
Asheville (N.C.) exhibit, 1998-1999, 1998-1999	Box 8
Alex Finlayson, proposal for play about Blom, circa 1998	Box 8
"People of the Forest" exhibit poster, 1984 (online item available)	Box 7

Physical Description: 16x24 inches

Digital Object: ["People of the Forest" exhibit poster, 1984](#)

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Audio Interview Recording, 2015 November 18

Language: English.

Barry Norris interviewed by Alex Harris, 2015
November 18 (online item available)

Physical Description: 1.21 Gigabytes

3 files (.WAV, .MP3, and .PKV) TRT: 00:53:21

Digital Object: [Barry Norris interviewed by Alex Harris, 2015](#)

Digital Object: [Barry Norris interviewed by Alex Harris, 2015](#)

Scope and Contents

Audio interview recording conducted by Alex Harris in conversation with Barry Norris, Gertrude Blom's printer, November 18, 2015. Norris and Harris discuss creating the book, Gertrude Blom: Bearing Witness, how Norris and Blom first connected, Blom's work with Alex Harris and others on the book and exhibit, her approach to photography, Blom's temperament and her relationships with project partners, and Norris's thoughts on digital scanning and printing of images.

Full recording and contents index available through the collection guide link or through the Duke Digital Collections website.

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