



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

**Finding aid**

**EDOLS\_M05**

**Sound recordings collected by  
Michael Edols, 1980-1985**

Prepared April 2016 by IE  
Last updated 27 April 2016

## 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:** 1980-1985

**Extent:** 37 audiotape reels (approximately 15 minutes each); 5 inches

### Production history

This collection was recorded by Michael Edols as the sound component for the production *Flame of Light*, which is the working title given to film rushes relating to the film *When the Snake Bites the Sun*.

In it, Edols revisits the Worrora people with whom he had worked closely filming *Lalai Dreamtime* and *FLOATING ... Like Wind Knock'em About*. The film takes the form of a first-person narrative to allow the audience to see who is taking them back to this community.

Edols writes:

“This highly provocative cinema verité work shows the rebuilding of relationships through a shared pilgrimage to ancestral lands and a traditional Aboriginal ceremony, despite occasional failures of cross-cultural communication. It reflects a community in transition through the journey of a family, especially the sole remaining custodian of that spirit country Amy Peters, and also Shirley the daughter of Sam Woolagoodja. Shirley sixteen years previously had taken her baby daughter to be purified ceremonially in a traditional ritual in the film *Lalai Dreamtime*. This event on film created a unique bond between daughter, grand-daughter, grandfather and aunts right in the middle of their spirit country ... The film shows our return with her tribal family to ‘spirit country,’ the ancient tribal grounds in the Northern outreaches of this continent, and commemorates a ceremony that puts to rest the spirit of Sam Woolagoodja, one enormously important song-man of the Kimberley.” (from the essay ‘Aspects of a Life: Working with Indigenous Australians’ by Michael Edols).

The film 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](#)'.

Sound report sheets for this collection are available as documentation.

More sound components, and sound report sheets, for *When the Snake Bites the Sun* are held in the AIATSIS collection at [EDOLS M03](#).

Film rushes for *Flame of Light* and *When the Snake Bites the Sun* are held in the AIATSIS collection at [EDOLS M004](#) and [EDOLS M005](#).

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*, *Lalai Dreamtime*.

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
Flame 1	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame 2	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame 3	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame 4	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 5	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 6	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 7	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 8	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 9	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 10	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 11	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 12	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 13	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 14	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 15	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 16	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 17	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 18	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 19	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols

<b>Field recording number</b>	<b>AIATSIS item number</b>	<b>Description</b>
Flame Roll No 20	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 21	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 22	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 23	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 24	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 25	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 26	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 27	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 28	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 29	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 30	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Flame Roll No 31	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Sam's song	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Site preservation	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Cello 1	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Cello 2	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Cello 3 and Dobro	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols
Birrlee 4	n/a	Sound component for <i>Flame of Light</i> (working title of <i>When the Snake Bites the Sun</i> ) by Michael Edols