

APPENDIX A: Woody Guthrie Home Recordings Finding Aid

Creator: Woody Guthrie Archives

Title: Woody Guthrie Home Recordings

Dates: 1949-1958

Extent: 15 ¼ inch reel-to-reel audiotapes

Historical/Biographical Note: see <http://woodyguthrie.org/biography/biography1.htm>

Scope and Content Note: The Woody Guthrie Home Recordings consist of fifteen ¼ inch reel-to-reel audiotapes. The tapes were recorded between 1949 and 1958 by Woody Guthrie or his immediate family. The tapes include recordings of Guthrie singing his songs (sometimes accompanying his own recordings) and dance classes conducted by Guthrie's wife Marjorie. In addition, the recordings document family gatherings, including a December 1951 recording with Guthrie's mother-in-law Aliza Greenblatt and grandmother-in-law. Many of these tapes are recorded on acetate-based tape, which is inherently unstable and prone to brittleness, deformation and vinegar syndrome.

These recordings offer a rare and intimate glimpse into the Guthrie's home life, including the chaos of large family gatherings, the oral traditions of Marjorie's European Jewish family, and rare glimpses of Guthrie singing and playing along to his own recordings. In addition, these recordings contain very early performances by Arlo, Joady and Nora Guthrie. Several reels also provide insight in the Guthrie family after Woody and Marjorie divorced, including reels from 1958 with a "panel discussion" between Marjorie, Arlo, Joady and Nora on topic such as space travel and integration.

Arrangement: Tapes are arranged alphabetically by title.

Restrictions: Tapes are unavailable for playback. CD Audio access copies exist for some tape. Consult archivist for further information

Provenance: The provenance of this collection is unknown.

Container Listing

Title	Date	Technical Information
<p><i>Alan and N. Kass</i> ID#: 65 <i>Content Note: other information on box; reel may have been re-recorded</i></p>	undated	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel Scotch/3M (polyester)
<p><i>At home with the Guthrie tribe</i> Includes Woody Guthrie; Arlo Guthrie; Joady Guthrie Venue: Beach Haven ID#: 52 <i>Content Note: "first reel of Arlo and Joady"; WG's handwriting on box</i></p>	January 20, 1951	1/4" audiotape, 7" reel Scotch/3M 111A (acetate backed) 3 3/4 ips <i>Technical note: half track, two directions</i>
<p><i>Christmas 1955</i> ID#: 69</p>	December 1955	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel Web-Cor 2907
<p><i>Dance Class 1955</i> ID#: 70 <i>Content Note: content listing on box</i></p>	December 1955	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel Web-Cor 2907
<p><i>Four Generations</i> Includes Bubby Brooka; Bubby [Aliza] Greenblatt; Marjorie Guthrie; Arlo Guthrie; Joady Guthrie; Nora Guthrie Venue: Atlantic City ID#: 51 <i>Content Note: discussions of Hanukah and life in Chernobyl; WG's handwriting on box</i></p>	December 1951	1/4" audiotape, 7" reel Scotch/3M 111A (acetate backed) 3 3/4 ips <i>Technical note: half track, two directions; originally on 5" reel, transferred 10/23/03 by Art Shifrin.</i>
<p><i>Guthrie Children Playing</i> Including Arlo Guthrie, Nora Guthrie, Joady Guthrie ID#: 71 <i>Content Note: content listing on box</i></p>	Summer 1954; November 1958	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel Web-Cor 2907 3 3/4 ips
<p><i>Guthrie Children Playing</i> Including Arlo Guthrie, Nora Guthrie, Joady Guthrie ID#: 72</p>	Summer 1954; November 1958	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel <i>Technical note: Art Shifrin preservation copy of item 71</i>

<i>Content Note: content listing in box</i>		
<i>Guthrie Children's Concert Rehearsal/Radio Station A-D-D-E-O</i> Including Arlo Guthrie; Nora Guthrie; Joady Guthrie; Marjorie Guthrie; Al Addeo Venue: Park Slope ID#: 55 <i>Content Note: content listing on box</i>	October 21, 1958	1/4" audiotape, 7" reel 3 3/4 ips <i>Technical note: half track, two directions; originally on 5" reel, transferred 10/23/03 by Art Shifrin.</i>
<i>Marjorie's dance class at our house; Woody's songs</i> Venue: Beach Haven ID#: 54 <i>Content Note: content listing on box; WG accompanies records of his songs</i>	February 1951	1/4" audiotape, 7" reel <i>Technical note: Art Shifrin preservation copy of item 56</i>
<i>Marjorie's dance class at our house; Woody's songs</i> Venue: Beach Haven ID#: 56 <i>Content Note: content listing on box; WG accompanies records of his songs</i>	February 1951	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel Scotch/3M 111A (acetate backed)
<i>Nora, Joady, Arlo and Tiny Talking</i> ID#: 68 <i>Content Note: content listing on box</i>	undated	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel Web-Cor 2907 3 3/4 ips
<i>Original Songs by Woody Guthrie</i> Performers: Woody Guthrie ID#: 13 <i>Content Note: VD Songs; content listing on box in WG's handwriting</i>	July 14, 1949	1/4" audiotape, 7" reel Scotch/3M 100A (paper backing) 7 1/2 ips
<i>Songs by Sue Guthrie Garvin</i> ID#: 49 <i>Content Note: content listing on box</i>	undated	1/4" audiotape, 7" reel Scotch/3M 131 (polyester)
<i>Whippoorwill (Dance Recital)/Gathering of Family and Friends/Recording of Radio/Bobby Addeo</i> ID#: 67 <i>Content Note: content listing on box</i>	July 1955; undated	1/4" audiotape, 5" reel Web-Cor 2907 3 3/4 ips
<i>Woody Guthrie Family</i>	January 20, 1951	1/4" audiotape, 7" reel

<p>Includes Woody Guthrie; Marjorie Guthrie; Arlo Guthrie; Joady Guthrie; Nora Guthrie Venue: Beach Haven ID#: 53 <i>Content Note: content listing on box; WG's handwriting on box</i></p>		<p>Scotch/3M 111A (polyester backed) 3 3/4 ips <i>Technical note: half track, two directions</i></p>
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