

Native American Artisans  
OH 3342 to 3347

**OH 3342**

“An oral history with Stella Eyetoo”

Narrator: Eyetoo, Stella (b. not recorded)  
Interviewer: Carlota Haider  
Date: March 26, 1997  
Location: Narrator’s home in White Mesa, Utah  
Language: English  
Project: Native American Artisans

Format(s): Cassette (40 min.)  
Transcript: Edited (16 pages)  
Other: Term paper with photos

**Abstract:** An oral history with Stella Eyetoo, a Ute basket weaver from White Mesa, Utah. This interview was conducted as part of a research project for a History of the American West course at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about her work as a basket weaver. Specifically, this interview details her techniques and methods; her early years as a basket maker; maintaining the tradition through her daughter and granddaughter; steps to making a basket, including conditioning, dyeing, and weaving the willow bark; the making of resin baskets for water jugs; sources for willow and other materials; her baskets are included in the State Art Collection and recognized by the Utah Arts Council for preservation and perpetuation of art and culture.

**Subject headings:** Art—Indian influences, Indian art, Basket-maker Indians, Native American culture

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**OH 3343**

“An oral history with Damian Jim”

Narrator: Jim, Damian (b. not recorded )  
Interviewer: Carlota Haider  
Date: March 26, 1997  
Location: Blue Mountain Trading Post in Blanding, Utah  
Language: English  
Project: Native American Artisans

Format(s): Cassettes (45 min.)  
Transcript: Edited (18 pp.)  
Other: Term paper with photos

**Abstract:** An oral history with Damian Jim, a Navajo graphic designer from Blanding, Utah. This interview was conducted as part of a research project for an History of the American West course at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about his work as a graphic designer and painter. Specifically, this interview details how his work with computers and his interest in art led to his designing programs producing patterns for local jewelers, rug and basket weavers; his focus on painting, schooling, and work at the trading post; family background; symbolism and purpose of Navajo baskets; application of Navajo mythology in his designs; development of webpage with his art.

**Subject headings:** Native American culture, Indian art, Computer art

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**OH 3344**

“An oral history with Barry Simpson”

Narrator: Simpson, Barry (b. not recorded)  
Interviewer: Carlota Haider  
Date: March 27, 1997  
Location: Blue Mountain Trading Post in Blanding, Utah  
Language: English  
Project: Native American Artisans

Format(s): Cassettes (40 min.)  
Transcript: Edited (15 pp.)  
Other: Term paper with photos

**Abstract:** This is an interview with an owner of the Blue Mountain Trading Post. He shares the Navajo folklore on cedar berry beans and their power to keep away ghosts and unlucky events. Sees his role of buying and selling baskets important in the effort to keep the Navajo culture alive and pure. Points out the challenges and benefits of living on a reservation for the Navajo, their oral tradition used to teach morality, and the efforts being made to keep the skills alive with fewer craftspeople active every year. Briefly discusses items in a contemporary basket exhibit planned for Los Angeles

**Subject headings:** Basket-maker Indians, Native American culture.

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**OH 3345**

“An oral history with Shirley Kills-In-Sight”

Narrator: Kills-In-Sight, Shirley (b. not recorded)  
Interviewer: Carlota Haider  
Date: March 27, 1997  
Location: Blanding, Utah  
Language: English  
Project: Native American Artisans

Format(s): Cassette (60 min.)  
Transcript: Edited (25 pp.)  
Other: Final paper with photos

**Abstract:** An oral history with a Navajo bead artisan. This interview was conducted as part of a research project for a History of the American West course at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about her work as a beader. As a child she learned beading styles from her Navajo mother and after her marriage learned other methods from her Sioux in-laws. Is very conscious of passing both traditions to her children, not only in this craft but also in their dance and manners to the elderlies. Enjoys helping others acquire traditional dance costumes and is aware of significance of feathers as payment in return for her efforts. Discusses use of regional and seasonal colors, traditional and modern basket designs, and using beadwork to teach math to her children.

**Subject headings:** Art—Indian influences, Indian art, Beadworkers, Native American culture

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**OH 3346**

“An oral history with Bonnita Denetsosie”

Narrator: Denetsosie, Bonnita (b. not recorded)  
Interviewer: Carlota Haider  
Date: March 26, 1997  
Location: White Mesa, Utah  
Language: English  
Project: Native American Artisans

Format(s): Cassette (15 min.)  
Transcript: Edited (7 pp.)  
Other: Final paper with photos

**Abstract:** A very brief oral history with an Ute basket weaver. This interview was conducted as part of a research project for a History of the American West course at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about her work as a basket weaver. Describes the steps in basketry from collecting willows and conditioning them to dying and weaving into non-traditional patterns like butterflies.

**Subject headings:** Art—Indian influences, Indian art, Basket-maker Indians, Native American culture

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**OH 3347**

“An oral history with Rose Keith”

Narrator: Keith, Rose (b. 1920)  
Interviewer: Carlota Haider and Sue R. Elgar  
Date: March 27, 1997  
Location: Narrator's home in Blanding, Utah  
Language: English  
Project: Native American Artisans

Format(s): Cassette (30 min.)  
Transcript: Edited (18 pp.)  
Other: Final paper with photos

**Abstract:** An oral history with a Navajo weaver. This interview was conducted as part of a research project for a History of the American West course at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about her work as a wool weaver. Includes a discussion on collecting and stringing cedar berry beads, the death of her daughter and raising her five grandchildren with little hope that the craft will continue with them, her aging symptoms, and her work to prepare wool for weaving. Interview site changes to her weaving room where she gives a demonstration on making fabric that will be used for pillow cases. Mentions again that her grandchildren have little to no interest in learning how to make the fabric.

**Subject headings:** Art—Indian influences, Indian art, Beadworkers, Native American culture