

**KORINE-DUNLAP COLLECTION**  
**Film, Video, Audio, Photographs, Manuscripts**

**01-014**

**Physical Description:**

Video Units:

194 - U-Matic ¾" Videocassettes  
28 - ½" Videocassettes (12-VHS; 16-Beta)  
16 - 1" Videotape reels  
28 - 2" Tape reels  
25 - 16mm. Film reels  
7 – DVDs of digitally transferred analog video documentaries

Audio Units:

25 - 5" Tape reels  
8 - 7" Tape reels  
10 - 10" Tape reels  
5 - Tape cassettes

166 Photographs  
.9 linear feet of Manuscripts  
4 Performance documents  
1 Sound Recording

**Dates:**

1974-1993 (bulk 1975-1981)

**RESTRICTIONS:**

All materials in this collection are subject to standard national and international copyright laws. Materials for which undeniable rights for "fair use" apply are those that Blaine Dunlap created himself. Dunlap holds copyright to all such materials. Reproduction of some materials (Uncle Dave Macon, Roy Orbison, National Archives) are copyright restricted. Center staff are able to assist with copyright questions for this material.

**Provenance:**

Deposited in the Center for Popular Music by Blaine Dunlap in July 2001. The 7 DVDs were given to the Center for Popular Music by Blaine Dunlap on November 17, 2010.

**Agency History/biographical sketch:**

Blaine Dunlap was born in Lubbock, Texas June 30, 1953. He was the son of librarians, educated in public schools in Dallas, Texas, and studied documentary filmmaking with Stephen Schmidt at Southern Methodist University in the early 1970s. He moved to Tennessee after encountering a group of media-makers while attending the Sinking Creek Film Celebration in Nashville in June 1974. (Dunlap won the Commission Prize for his student film, *Sometimes I Run*.) Dunlap, Broadside TV, and video artist Sol Korine recorded the Fiddler's Jamboree in Smithville, Tennessee on July 4, 1975. The finished program became *Showdown at the Hoedown* and was aired with great success by PBS on December 27, 1977.

In the spring of 1976, Dunlap and Broadside TV produced *Symphony No. 5*. Meanwhile, Sol Korine, MTSU professor Chares K. Wolfe, folklorist Ralph Hyde, and the Tennessee Folklore

Society received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the production of

documentaries about Uncle Dave Macon and Hamper McBee. Working with pioneering small-format video engineer, Frank Forgette, in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and audio recordist, Ron Judkins, Dunlap devised a simpler method of “double-system” sound recording that was used in *Hamper McBee: Raw Mash*. This film, which aired on PBS in April 1978 was a portrait of Tennessee singer and semi-retired moonshiner, Hamper McBee. In 1981, Korine and Dunlap released *The Uncle Dave Macon Program*, a 60-minute work about the life and times of this early country music star. Also released in 1981 was *Southbound*, a ten-part anthology roots music series.

Blaine Dunlap received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1984, which led to the video narrative, *Nightwork*. This aired as a segment of *Likely Stories*, an anthology series by independent directors that aired on The Learning Channel and public television stations. In 1988 found Dunlap producing the pilot for *Turners World of Adventure*, an avant-garde non-fiction series. In 1989, he teamed with New Orleans-based filmmaker Stevenson Palfi in *Played in the USA*, a 13-hour anthology music series. In 1990, Chiz Schultz and Dunlap were commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts to make *Who We Are*, an examination of three pioneering grass-roots community arts organizations.

Blaine Dunlap currently (2007) divides his time between New Orleans and Denton, Texas and devotes all his professional energies to the restoration and preservation of video, film, and still photographs.

[Parts of the above biography written by Blaine Dunlap in 2007.]

### **Scope and content:**

Documentary filmmakers Blaine Dunlap and Sol Korine produced a variety of audio-visual programs pertaining to music in Tennessee and the South in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Approximately 20 programs featuring traditional music subjects were produced, primarily for television broadcast. The collection includes videotapes, audio tapes and film in a variety of formats, including both finished programs edited for broadcast and raw, camera originals or unedited footage. The programs document genres, artists, and elements of music in the South. Each series is summarized below in the Series Description.

The majority of the collection is U-Matic videocassette tapes. Other formats include ½ inch videotapes, 1” and 2” tapes, 16 mm film and audio tape. At this time (11/04) each has been viewed and logged, with the exception of the 2” tapes, some 16 mm film and the audio tapes. There are 7 DVDs that are digitally restored versions of analog videotape documentaries that the filmmakers: “Memories of Prince Albert Hunt”; “Showdown at the Hoedown”; “Hamper McBee: Raw Mash”; “Mouth Music”; “This Cat Can Play Anything”; “Give the World a Smile”; and “Piano Players Rarely Ever Play Together.”

Southbound is an eleven-part documentary series originally broadcast on PBS exploring the roots of Southern music. The programs document African American folk music, blues, ballads, gospel music, jazz, Cajun, Western swing, rockabilly, and old-time fiddling. Of particular importance locally is the complete footage of Korine and Dunlap's documentary of Rutherford Countian Uncle Dave Macon. The Macon documentary won a regional Emmy award.

Papers include materials associated with the production of several of the programs contained in the collection, materials relating to other films produced by Blaine Dunlap, and personal papers. Materials include correspondence, contracts, financial reports, receipts, bills, budget data, and promotional materials relating to entities involved with the production of various programs: National Endowment for the Arts, Tennessee Arts Commission Sinking Creek Film Celebration, Tennessee Arts Commission, Public Broadcasting System, Georgia Public Television, "Showdown at the Hoedown," "Symphony #5," and American Patchwork. A transcript of "Raw Mash" with Hamper McBee is included. For a more detailed description please see Finding Aid Shelf List.

Photographs in the collection consist of black and white prints, contact sheets and slides of Blaine Dunlap, Sol Korine, artists, and production staff members shooting various programs as well as promotional prints. On location photographs include Blaine Dunlap and Sol Korine editing "Raw Mash" in 1978, Blaine Dunlap shooting Leonarus Emmaul for "Mouth Music" in 1980 on location in North Carolina, and shooting Hamper McBee and Fannie Bell Chapman in Memphis. Slides of performances of "Symphony No. 5" in Knoxville, 1976, a contact sheet of the Sinking Creek Film Celebration in 1974, and contact sheets of the Video South Conference in 1975 also comprise the collection.

Promotional photographs include all the programs associated with the "Southbound" series and photographs of Hamper McBee distributed in connection with the airing of "Raw Mash." Several photographs of Uncle Dave Macon in various poses during earlier years were supplied by Les Leverett, the official photographer of the Grand Ole Opry and used as promotional material for the "Uncle Dave Macon" video.

**Location:**

All collection materials are located in four closed cabinets in the storage area. Please refer to the accompanying shelf list located in the Reading Room for specifics. Photographs are cross-referenced in the Iconographic files and cataloged in the InMagic Iconographic database.

**Related Materials:**

In addition to the materials described above, the collection included one 45 rpm sound recording and four performance programs. These materials have been interfiled in the suitable Center for Popular Music collection and may be searched in the InMagic database. A promotional 33 1/3rpm sound recording titled Southbound also resides in the sound recording collection.

Gretchen Robinson produced a set of tapes that became the camera originals for "Give the World

a Smile" in the *Southbound* series. The subject of these tapes revolve around farming with the Schuylers in Virginia. An inventory of these U-Matic tapes may be found at the end of the Folder/Box list. There are a total of 84 tapes housed in five boxes located in the metal closed-cabinet shelving units.

**Series Description:**

(VCT = Umatic ¾" video cassette and VHS = ½" video)  
(TSA = 7" audio; TFA = 5" audio; TTA = 10" audio)

*Series A: "Long Time Gone"*

"Long Time Gone" is a Blaine Dunlap film commissioned by the Sinking Creek Film Celebration at Vanderbilt University and presented in 1975. The film's subject is Bluegrass Music performed at the Station Inn in Nashville, Tennessee. The performers comment on the close-knit Bluegrass community in Nashville and their love of this style of music.

[Final Version: Bluegrass at Station Inn, Nashville, TN, Blaine Dunlap 16 mm film, 1974-1975. See p. 4 of finding aid: Film Inventory # 8. Also see p. 1 of finding aid: Sinking Creek Film Celebration folder.]

*Series B: "Showdown at the Hoedown"*

"Showdown at the Hoedown" showcases Smithville, Tennessee, as the host city of the Fourth Annual Old Time Fiddlers' Jamboree in 1975. This Korine-Dunlap film intersperses clips of contestant-performers with festival director Berry Williams' comments on the event, the town, the music, and the people. The "showdown" aspect of the title relates to the final competition between the Senior (Frazier Moss) and Junior (Paul Chrisman) category winners.

[Final Version: Smithville, TN, Fourth Annual Old Time Fiddlers' Jamboree, Korine-Dunlap, 1975. See p. 11 of finding aid: VCT-0239-TTTTTTT and (p.12) VCH-0239-BB/BB (Beta), Southbound show #10.]

*Series C: "Symphony #5"*

"Symphony no. 5" is the title of the original music by David Van Vactor that is the subject of this film. The composer describes his conception of the piece, as the film follows the rehearsals and opening performance of the symphony, performed by the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of conductor Arpad Joo. During the 18-month editing phase of this project, Blaine Dunlap refined a post-production nomenclature used by the film/video industry until the emergence of non-linear video. [1975-1979]

[Final Version: Knoxville, TN, David Van Vactor symphony performed by the Knoxville Symphony, Blaine Dunlap, 1976 Bicentennial project. See p. 11 of finding aid: VCT-0239-UUUUUUU. Also see p. 1 of finding aid: "Symphony #5" folder.]

*Series D: "Merry Go Round"*

"Merry Go Round" is the working title of an unreleased biodrama of Balladeer-moonshiner Hamper McBee. The camera original tapes we have suggest the story line of a seasoned carnival

con man (McBee) taking on a younger protege. The story is probably an outgrowth of McBee's personal accounts of working at carnival midway game booths, in conversation that arises while Korine-Dunlap filmed "Raw Mash" (see below).

**(Korine-Dunlap Collection continued)**

[Final Version: unreleased Hamper McBee biodrama shot on 1" type A, Korine-Dunlap, 1978 (also called "Teddy Bears & Frigidaires"). See p. 10 of finding aid: VCT-0239-OOOOO, VCT-0239-QQQQQ, and VCT-0239-RRRRR; and p. 11 of finding aid: VCT-0239-JJJJJJ and VCT-0239-KKKKKK. (These are camera originals.)]

*Series E: "Uncle Dave Macon"*

"Uncle Dave Macon" is a Korine-Dunlap project that interviews many people, including Macon's sons, around the Woodbury, Tennessee, home of this Grand Ole Opry veteran. Those interviewed include Roy Acuff, Sid Harkreader, Kirk McGee, sons Archie and Doris Macon. Comments range from loving memories of a jovial audience favorite to Macon's darker side of jealousy and problems with alcohol.

[Final Version: Korine-Dunlap/Tennessee Folklore Society, 1980. See p. 11 of finding aid: VCT-0239-ZZZZZZ.]

*Series F: "Southbound"*

The *Southbound* series, narrated by Hamper McBee, travels across the Southeast, showcasing Southern music styles as the roots of American music. Korine-Dunlap were the executive producers of the series which aired in 1981. However, some shows were produced by other filmmakers, as indicated. *Southbound* included works by Les Blanc, Bill Ferris and Judy Pieser, Gretchen Robinson, Alan Steckler, Stevenson Palfi, and Ken Harrison.

Show #1: "Mouth Music" illustrates the drill march chants, children's jump-rope rhymes, auctioneer bidding routines, and other forms of vocalizations that perhaps go overlooked as music. Most noteworthy are North Carolina river hollering and Fentress County, Tennessee, traditional Scot-Irish/British songs with funny, nonsense words.

[Final version: "*Mouth Music*" p. 11: VCT-0239-CCCCCC and VCH-0239-C/BB (VHS).]

Show #2: "Gravel Springs Fife & Drum" couples with "Give My Poor Heart Ease" to illustrate black musical rhythms of delta Mississippi and Memphis blues.

[Final version: "*Gravel Springs Fife & Drum*" (from the Center for Southern Folklore) and "*Give My Poor Heart Ease*" (B. Ferris), p. 12: VCT-0239-B/BB (VHS) and VCH-0239-Y/BB (Beta).]

Show #3: "Raw Mash" stars Hamper McBee as a dying breed of traditional ballad singer and moonshiner on Monteagle mountain, Tennessee. Korine-Dunlap secured permission

from state and local authorities to construct a still in the woods and produce moonshine on camera. The show follows McBee as he procures materials, sings ballads, and comments on his life, including run-ins with the law and personal problems with alcohol. [Final version: "*Raw Mash*," Hamper McBee, Monteagle, TN, Korine-Dunlap/Tennessee

**(Korine-Dunlap Collection continued)**

Folklore Society, 1978. See p. 11 of finding aid: VCT-0239-FFFFFFF and (p. 12) VCH-0239-AA/BB (Beta).]

Show #4: "Give the World a Smile" projects the story of white Gospel music through one family who advocates simple, country living.

[Final version: "*Give the World a Smile*," VCT-0239-MMMMMMM and VCH-0239-Z/BB (Beta).]

Show #5: "Fannie Bell Chapman" tells the story of Southern black Gospel music through a singer-healer.

[Final version: "*Fannie Bell Chapman*," VCT-0239-PPPPPPP.]

Show #6: "*This Cat Can Play Anything*," NOT IN COLLECTION.

Show #7: "*Spend it All*" (Les Blank), NOT IN COLLECTION.

Show #8: "Chulas Fronteras" takes place along the Texas-Mexican border and features the music and traditions of the people there. This is a Chris Strachinsartz film.

[Final version: "*Chulas Fronteras*," (Chris Strachinsartz) VCT-0239-VVVVVVV.]

Show #9: "Gimble's Swing" features Texas Swing music in its early radio days and generations later. This is a film by Ken Harrison.

[Final version: "*Gimble's Swing*," (Ken Harrison), VCT-0239-WWWWWW.]

Show #10: "*Showdown at the Hoedown*," see above.

Show #11: Show about *Roy Orbison*, was never produced due to rights/money issues.

However, there are two tapes of Orbison shows: VCT-0239-YYYYYYY and VCT-0239-ZZZZZZZ

*Series G: "Sometimes It's Gonna Hurt"* Korine-Dunlap/PBS, 1983 (also known as "Kiddie Korral"). This is Dunlap's last show. "Sometimes It's Gonna Hurt" was a 1983 Korine-Dunlap project about a rodeo school for children. Though these reels are unview-able as is, there is an excerpt within VCT-0239-WWWWWW, "Dunlap's 'timecode' scam."

*Series H: "Played in the USA"*

"Played in the U.S.A." is a 1992/1993 series of American music hosted by Martin Sheen for The Learning Channel, produced by Blaine Dunlap. The episodes included in this collection are:

(See p. 12 of finding aid, out of a total of 11 shows, this collection contains the following four:)

Show No. 3 "All by Myself" Eartha Kitt's life story of growing up an orphan, rising to success, but still feeling alone. [Final version: "*All By Myself*" (Eartha Kitt story), VCH (Korine-Dunlap Collection continued) 0239-I/BB and -J/BB]

Show No.6 "Machito: A Latin Jazz Legacy" describes the merging of Latin rhythms with jazz. [Final version: "*Machito: A Latin Jazz Legacy*," VCH-0239-K/BB]

Show No. 7. "Mary Lou Williams: Music on My Mind" chronicles the rise to success of Williams as a musician and composer who later seeks comfort by giving back to music through instruction and inspiration of young musicians. [Final version: "*Mary Lou Williams-Music On My Mind*," VCH-0239-L/BB]

Show No. 11 "Sing Beast Sing" is a short animated clip of blues music; "In Heaven there is No Beer" showcases happy, hearty polka music festivals; "Live and Remember" features Lakota Sioux dance, rhythm, and oral history. [Final version: "*Sing Beast Sing*," "*In Heaven There Is No Beer*" (polka music), and "*Live and Remember*," VCH-0239-G/BB and -H/BB]

**Folder/box list:**

**Box # Folder # Description**

**1 Personal Papers**

- 1 Sinking Creek Film Celebration 1974 and 1975
- 2 Broadside TV Programming 1974 and 1975
- 3 Arts Exposure Budget 1975 and 1976
- 4 Coalition for New Public Affairs Programming, Feb. 13 1976- Dec. 22 1976
- 5 TN Arts Commission 1976, Broadside Video "Showdown at the Hoedown"  
Music cue sheets
- 6 "Symphony #5" (1975-1979)
- 7 SECA 1978
- 8 Athens Video Festival 1978
- 9 Correspondence, use agreements 1978-1979
- 10 Lomax/American Patchwork (see VCT-0239-RRRRRR)
- 11 Personal Expenses-Murfreesboro, 1978-1979
- 12 Dunlap Correspondence 7-18-2001, TFS Agreement June 7, 1980 and May 13, 1981, USIA film catalog search
- 13 NEA Contract Nov. 13, 1975, Contract State of Georgia Nov. 27, 1980, TFS-Southbound Jan. 31, 1982 Center for Southern Folklore

- 14 PBS Raw Mash 1979, GA Public TV Program Guide-1981
- 15 Items removed from film canisters, 1980
- 16 Spiral-bound notebook, "Hamper Transcriptions"



**(Korine-Dunlap Collection continued)**

**Box # Folder # Description**

(Box 2 contains three complete copies of both Press Kits.)

**2 Press Kit 1**

Generic	Southbound, Biography-Hamper McBee
Program 1	Vocal Resources "Mouth Music"
Program 2	Black Folk Music and Blues "Gravel Springs Fife and Drum," "Give My Poor Heart Ease"
Program 3	Ballads, Hamper McBee "Raw Mash"
Program 4	White Gospel, "Give the World a Smile"
Program 5	Black Gospel, "Fannie Bell Chapman"

**Press Kit 2**

Program 6	Traditional Jazz, "This Cat Can Play Anything"
Program 7	Cajun, "Spend it All"
Program 8	Tex-Mex, "Chulas Fronteras: Part 2"
Program 9	Western Swing, "Gimble Swing"
Program 10	Fiddling Music, "Showdown at the Hoedown"

Duplicate photographs from "Southbound" Press Kits

**Box # Folder # Description**

**3 Photographs**

1	Hamper McBee (1978) – B/W prints
2	"Raw Mash" (1978); "Mouth Music" (1980) – B/W prints
3	"Symphony No. 5" (1975) – color slides and B/W prints
4	"Southbound" (1981) –B/W prints
5	"Seeking Creek Film Festival" (1974) – contact sheet
6	"Video South" Conference (1975) – contact sheets
7	Uncle Dave Macon (ca. 1930-1950) –B/W prints

Note: The Arts Center of Cannon County received an NEA grant to produce master digital copies of finished programs and create preservation elements in 2006. Four intermediate DVD production copies were received June 5, 2008, accession number 07-025. DVDs were: Mock up of "Raw Mash/Mouth Music," "Showdown at the Hoedown," "Uncle Dave Macon."

Written by Lucinda Cockrell and Andra Kowalczyk 11/04; updated 5/07, LPC and Betsy Snowden; updated LPC 6/08.