



Guardians of the flutes /

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Electronic videos

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High in the mountains of New Guinea live the Sambia people, a war-like tribe whose secret rituals of initiation are aimed at making their warriors courageous and bold. Only because their culture is threatened have they allowed these initiation rites to be documented on film. This is a society where the roles of men and women are sharply delineated. They live in separate spaces in their round huts. A woman must crouch if she is in the same space as her husband. Her menstrual blood is considered a pollutant, damaging to her husband's vigor. Male children live with their mothers until they are old enough to move to the boys' house. For many, the separation from their mother is very painful. When it is time for the boys to become men, they undergo a severe initiation. Each is assigned an older guardian who accompanies him during this process. They are thrashed, deprived of food and sleep and have ginger root rubbed into their wounds, which is very painful. The most secret part of the initiation are the sexual rites, which are described by several initiates. Guardians of the Flute is a fascinating look at a society shaped by the ritualized distinction between male and female roles. For mature audiences

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Título: Guardians of the flutes produced by Paul Reddish with anthropologist Gilbert Herdt

Editorial: New York, NY Filmmakers Library 1996 [Alexandria, Virginia] Alexander Street Press

Descripción física: 1 online resource (1 streaming video (51 minutes) digital, sound, color

Duración: 005059

Nota general: Title from resource description page (viewed March 29, 2016)

Lengua: In English Original language in English

Premios: American Anthropological Association, 1996 American Psychological Association, 1996

Materia: Initiation rites- Papúa y Nueva Guinea Male homosexuality- Papúa y Nueva Guinea Masculinity- Papúa y Nueva Guinea Sambia (Papua New Guinean people)- Rites and ceremonies Sambia (Papua New Guinean people)- Sexual b Cultural anthropology Anthropology

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