

# **John Denver television film specials collection**

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January 11, 2016

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## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Historical note</u> .....	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u> .....	4
<u>Arrangement note</u> .....	5
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	6
<u>General note</u> .....	6
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	7
<u>"John Denver Rocky Mountain Christmas" television special</u> .....	7
<u>"John Denver's Rocky Mountain Reunion" television special</u> .....	7
<u>"John Denver: The Higher We Fly" television special</u> .....	8
<u>"John Denver: Music in the Mountains" television special</u> .....	9
<u>Other materials</u> .....	10

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center
<b>Creator</b>	Jon-Jer Productions.
<b>Creator</b>	Stouffer Enterprises.
<b>Title</b>	John Denver television film specials collection
<b>Date</b>	1975-1981
<b>Extent</b>	14.0 Linear feet (120 16mm films, 9 1/4" magnetic video tapes, 10 VHS cassettes, and 1 CD in 61 cannisters; 496 color slides, 24 photographic prints, 6 contact sheets, 9 DVDs, film negatives, and manuscript materials in 2 boxes)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	Film footage, production photographs, and other materials relating to four television specials made by Colorado musician John Denver between 1975-1981.

### Preferred Citation note

John Denver television film specials collection, Ph.00575, History Colorado, Denver, Colo.

## Historical note

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Between 1975-1981, Stouffer Enterprises, Inc. and Jon-Jer Productions made television specials featuring the singer and actor John Denver. Stouffer Enterprises, Inc. was a production company run by Mark J. Stouffer (b. 1951), with assistance from his brother Marty Stouffer (b. 1948).

"John Denver Rocky Mountain Christmas" (1975) was produced by the American Broadcasting Company (ABC). It was filmed in Aspen, Colorado on November 1975 and aired on ABC on December 10, 1975. Directed by Bill Davis and produced by Mark Stouffer, it featured Denver hosting and performing Christmas music with guests Olivia Newton-John, Valerie Harper, and Steve Martin.

"John Denver's Rocky Mountain Reunion" (1979) was produced by Stouffer Enterprises. It was filmed in Colorado in 1978 and aired on ABC on April 29, 1979. Directed and produced by Mark Stouffer, it featured Denver working with wildlife biologists to help release breeding pairs of endangered Colorado animals and birds.

"John Denver: Music in the Mountains" (1981) was a production of Jon-Jer Productions. It was filmed in Aspen in 1980 and aired on ABC on April 24, 1981. Directed by Walter C. Miller and produced by Mark Stouffer, it featured Denver performing with guests opera singer Beverly Sills, flutist James Galway, and violinist Itzhak Perlman, along with the Aspen Festival Orchestra, conducted by Lee Holdridge.

"John Denver: The Higher We Fly" (1983) was produced by Stouffer Enterprises. It was filmed in Colorado in 1980 and aired on XXX in 1983. Directed and produced by Mark Stouffer, it featured Denver, who loved aviation, flying an F-15 fighter jet, hot air balloon, a recreation of the Wright brother's first bi-plane, and a glider, as well as Denver testing out NASA's space shuttle simulator.

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## Scope and Contents note

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This collection contains film, video, photographs, notes, clippings, press releases and correspondence relating to the production of four television specials about John Denver that aired between 1975-1983: "John Denver's Rocky Mountain Christmas," "John Denver's Rocky Mountain Reunion," "John Denver: Music and the Mountains," and "John Denver: The Higher We Fly." The films include 16mm camera original A- and B-rolls, workprints, and optical soundtracks; 1/4" magnetic video; and VHS video cassette. They include both edited footage that was used in the final productions, as well as unedited footage. The photographs document the production of all four specials, including

## Arrangement note

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Materials in this collection are arranged by the television special with which they correspond. Television specials are organized by air date.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

### Copyright status

History Colorado does not own copyright to materials relating to "John Denver Rocky Mountain Christmas." History Colorado owns copyright to all other materials in this collection.

### Conditions Governing Access note

DVD copies of "John Denver's Rocky Mountain Reunion," "John Denver: The Higher We Fly," and "John Denver: Music in the Mountains" are available for viewing in the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center. Access to all other moving image footage in this collection must follow History Colorado's standard access and use procedures for moving image collections. Contact [photos@state.co.us](mailto:photos@state.co.us) for more information.

### Conditions Governing Use note

Materials in this collection relating to "John Denver Rocky Mountain Christmas" are for educational and research only and may not be reproduced without permission from the copyright owner.

### Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of an anonymous donor, 2014.

### Processing Information note

This collection was processed by Megan K. Friedel, July 2015.

## Controlled Access Headings

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### Genre(s)

- Musicians--Television specials
- Television specials

### Personal Name(s)

- Denver, John

### Subject(s)

- Musicians--Colorado--Photographs
- Musicians--Colorado--Television specials
- Musicians--Photographs

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## General note

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Accession # 2014.54

## Collection Inventory

### Series 1. "John Denver Rocky Mountain Christmas" television special, 1975

FF 1. Production photographs, 1975

#### General note

Accession # 2014.157.139-238

### Series 2. "John Denver's Rocky Mountain Reunion" television special, 1978-1980

FF 2. "Behind the scenes of... John Denver's 'Rocky Mountain Reunion'" typescript manuscript, circa 1979

FF 3. Correspondence with Mark Stoufer and Stouffer Enterprises Inc., 1979

FF 4. DVD masters (3 copies), undated

Film Cannisters 1-9. Film footage, 1978

#### General note

Accession # 2014.157.1-19

#### Scope and Contents note

Vault Can #1: "Reel 1 and Reel 2: Edited Workprints" Vault Can #2: "Reel #1: 16mm composite mix-down, 16mm M&E" Vault Can #3: "Reel #2: 16mm composite mix-down, 16mm M&E" Vault Can #4:

**"John Denver: The Higher We Fly" television special,**

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"Composite Mag w/ Narration: Reels #1 and #2" Vault Can #5: "Optical Sound A Track: Reels #1 and #2" Vault Can #6: "CIN: Reels #1 and #2" Vault Can #7: "Reel 1: A & B Rolls" Vault Can #8: "Reel 2: A & B Rolls" Vault Can #9: "Workprint and/or Print: John Denver and Wolverines / Golden Eagle and Gilder" Vault Can #10: "Workprint and/or Print: John Denver in White Gilder / Misc. Glenwood scenes" Vault Can #11: "Workprint and/or Print: Magnetic Sync Sound Track / John Denver w/ Grizzly Cub" Vault Can #12: "Workprint and/or Print: Golden Eagle, misc scenes / J.D. w/ Grizzly cub / Some sync sound takes" Vault Can #13: "Workprint and/or Print: John Denver in White Glider / Misc. scenes of flying" Vault Can #14: "Workprint and/or Print: Golden Eagle, misc scenes / Golden Eagle flying with J.D. in White Glider"

FF 5. Letters to John Denver (photocopies)m 1979

FF 6. Media clippings, 1979-1980

Notes on shares and ratings, so April 1979

FF 7. Press releases, 1979

FF 8. Production photographs, 1978 82 color slides in 1 folder.

**General note**

Accession #s 2014.157.239-319

**Series 3. "John Denver: The Higher We Fly" television special, 1980-1983**

FF 9. DVD masters (3 copies), undated

Film cannisters 15-17. Film footage, 1980



**"John Denver: Music in the Mountains" television special,**

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**General note**

Accession # 2014.157.32-37

**Scope and Contents note**

Vault Can #15: "Optical Sound B Wind: Reels #1 and #2" Vault Can #16: "ECO A-B Rolls: Reel #1 A Roll / Reel #1 B Roll" Vault Can #17: "ECO A-B Rolls: Reel #2 A Roll / Reel #2 B Roll"

FF 10. Media clippings, 1980-1981

FF 11. Production graphics, 1980

**Series 4. "John Denver: Music in the Mountains" television special, 1980-1981**

FF 13. Correspondence, 1981

FF 14. DVD masters (3 copies), undated

FF 15-16. Media clippings, 1981

FF 17. Press releases, 1981

FF 18. Production notes, 1981

FF 19. Production photographs, 1980

**General note**

Accession # 20151.157.501-648

**Other materials,**

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FF 20. Program for benefit concert with the Aspen Festival Orchestra, 19 August 1980

**Series 5. Other materials, circa 1975-1981**

FF 21. John Denver stationary graphics, undated

FF 22. Photographs from unidentified productions and filming locations, circa 1975-1981