



KNOT

KNOWLEDGE OF THINGS:
REASSESSING THE INDIGENOUS
AMERICAN HERITAGE IN ITALY

Museo delle Scienze - Sistema Museale di Ateneo dell'Università degli Studi di Camerino

Vicolo del Pallone, 5, 62032, Camerino (MC)

Form compiled by Maria Luisa Magnoni (curator)

Introduction

The Museo delle Scienze of the University of Camerino was established by Rectorial Decree no. 476 of 19 October 1987, under the name Museo di Scienze Naturali, with the aim of promoting scientific research, outreach and museum-based teaching relating to the natural environment of the Marche region and the central Apennines. From 30 May 2003 until the seismic events of 2016 it was housed in the fifteenth-century San Domenico complex, to which it is expected to return in about a year.

Under the new Statute of the University of Camerino (UNICAM) the museum has become part of the University Museum System, which includes structures devoted to teaching and research together with the University's Botanical Garden. The Biocca Collection entered what was then the Museo di Scienze Naturali in 1996, when Prof. Ettore Biocca decided to donate his personal collection to the University of the area from which his family originated. The collection includes artefacts and zoological specimens gathered during a mission carried out under the auspices of the National Research Council (CNR) among the Yanoáma people between November 1962 and July 1963.

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Cultural Areas

Amazon

Collections

#01

<i>Name of the collection</i>	Biocca Collection
<i>Collector</i>	Biocca, Ettore
<i>Cultural areas</i>	Amazon
<i>Ethnic group / community / cultural context</i>	Yanomami (Rio Negro basin, Upper Orinoco)
<i>Description of the Collection</i>	<p>The collection consists almost entirely of objects of daily life and ornaments of the Yanoáma people. The ethnographic collection comprises 161 items, including bows and arrows, hammocks, pots and baskets. For this part of the collection inventory sheets were compiled, with photographs, measurements and weights and an indication of the materials of which the objects are made, as well as any notes, under the supervision of the Indigenous-rights specialist Loretta Emiri. This cataloguing campaign was carried out within the framework of the initiative “Iniziative per la</p>

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	Diffusione della Cultura Scientifica – Progetti Annuali – Legge 6/2000”. There are also zoological materials: 29 mammals, 162 birds belonging to 79 different species and insects, of which only 210 specimens have been identified. The collection also includes 18 printed photographs taken by Biocca during the mission and two boxes of slides (28 + 32), making a total of 60 images in this format.
<i>History of the collection</i>	The collection was gathered between 1962 and 1963 and was acquired by the museum in 1996.
<i>Online Database</i>	
<i>Web page</i>	
<i>Bibliography</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biocca, E. 1965. <i>Viaggio tra gli Indi</i>, 4 vol. Roma: Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche.• Blasetti, A., M.L. Magnoni. 2008. <i>Yanoáma viaggio fra gli Indi</i>. Camerino: Quaderni del Museo UNICAM e Halley editrice.

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