

Activist Archiving: The Transgender Archives

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Please support the work of the Transgender Archives!

<http://transgenderarchives.ca>

<http://uvic.ca/transchair>



University
of Victoria

Why do we need archives?

“The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history.”
George Orwell

“Study the past if you would define the future.”
Confucius

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Activist Archiving

- Archives are never neutral
- Archivists manage what gets preserved
- Archivists influence understanding materials
- LGBT archives are mostly Gay and some Lesbian
- Funding is scarce and constantly being squeezed

<http://transgenderarchives.ca>
<http://uvic.ca/transchair>

World's Largest Transgender Archives

- Housed at the University of Victoria, BC, Canada
- Focus on trans activism & research
- <http://transgenderarchives.uvic.ca>



<http://transgenderarchives.ca>
<http://uvic.ca/transchair>

The Transgender Archives



<http://transgenderarchives.ca>
<http://uvic.ca/transchair>

What's in the Transgender Archives

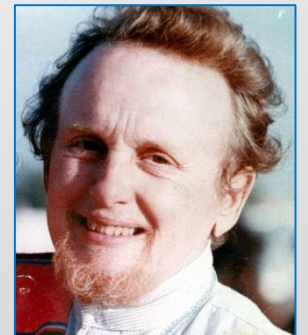
- 320 linear feet/98 m (the length of a football field)
 - Books
 - Newsletters & Magazines from 18 countries
 - Pamphlets
 - Newspaper clippings files
 - Fantasy fiction
 - Organizational records
 - Personal papers
 - Court cases
 - Audio recordings
 - Movies
 - Photographs
 - Erotica
 - Original art works
 - Ephemera



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Largest Collections in the Transgender Archives

- Rikki Swin Collections
 - Virginia Prince
 - Ari Kane & Fantasia Fair
 - Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Betty Ann Lind & International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE)
- Reed Erickson & Erickson Educational Foundation
- Ken Dollarhide Fantasy Fiction
- University of Ulster Trans-Gender Archive
- General Library Acquisitions



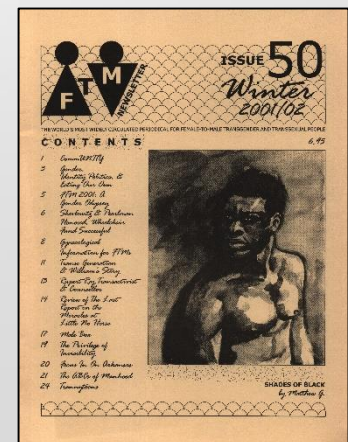
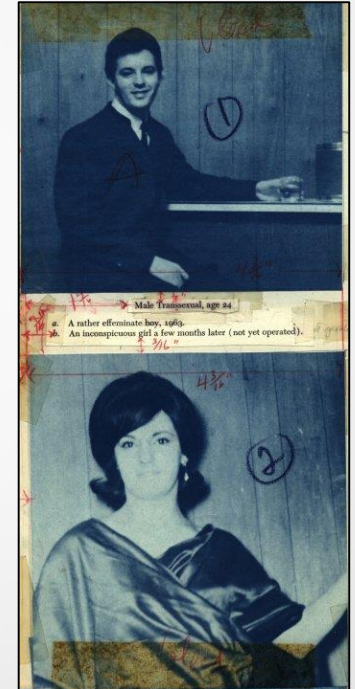
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Rikki Swin Collections



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- Hundreds of books
- Original photos for *Transsexual Phenomenon*
- 482 different newsletters and periodicals
 - Transgenderist Support Organization of Queensland
 - Belfast Butterfly Club
 - Educational TV Channel Newsletter, San Francisco
 - Gendys Journal, London
 - Hawaii Transgender Outreach (HTGO) Newsletter
 - Asian TS Club
 - Hose & Heels
 - Long Island Femme Expression
 - The Seahorse Society, New South Wales
 - New Men and Women of Minnesota
 - TV Gyde
 - Triple T News
 - Willy Boy
 - And many more....



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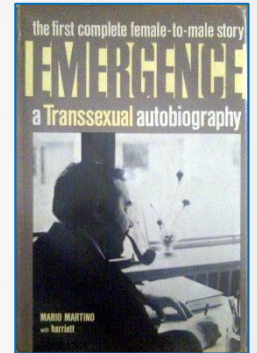


Rikki Swin Collections

- Audio & video tapes
 - Audio-taped professional conferences
 - Television and radio shows on TG topics
- Book masters (e.g.)
 - Canary Conn, *Canary: The Story of a Transsexual* (1974)
 - Mario Martino, *Emergence: A Transsexual Autobiography* (1977)
 - Deborah Feinbloom, *Transvestites and Transsexuals: Mixed Views* (1976)
 - Susan Brownmiller, *Femininity* (1984)
- Photo albums
- RSI Transperson Survey 2002
- Records of the RSI



1974



1977



L: D'Eon Resort

R: Hose & Heels Club

Early 1960s

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Fantasia Fair

- Week-long Trans event each October in Provincetown, MA
- Started in 1974 by Ari Kane and Betty Ann Lind
- The oldest and longest-running event of its kind
- Records of the Fair 1974-2001
 - Correspondence, programs, registration records, audio tapes, photographs, newsletters, advertisers, financial records, evaluations, press coverage
 - Videotaped Fantasia Fair awards banquets, fashion shows, follies, speakers' presentations, how-to videos



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Ariadne Kane (1936 -)

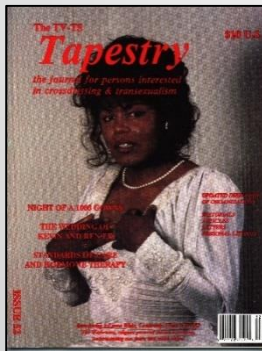
- Extensive public speaking and educational work on behalf of crossdressers and transsexuals
- Founder Human Outreach Institute, 1975
“to inform and educate mental health professionals, the public at large, and the transgender community.”
- One of the founders of Fantasia Fair, 1974
 - Continued as a leader until 1998 (24 yrs)
- Founder Theseus Counselling Services
- Founder *Journal of Gender Studies*
- Personal papers, correspondence, news clippings, periodicals, counselling records, pamphlets, conference papers, photos



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International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE)

- Founded by Merissa Sherrill Lynn (1942-)
 - Mission: "overcoming the intolerance of transvestitism and transsexualism brought about by widespread ignorance."
 - Sponsored large conventions 1987-2010
 - Published 115 issues of *Tapestry* magazine, 1979-2009
- Betty Ann Lind (1931-1998)
 - Original board member of IFGE. Served to the early 1990's
 - Board member Fantasia Fair & Fair Coordinator 1987-1991.



Diana. 1988



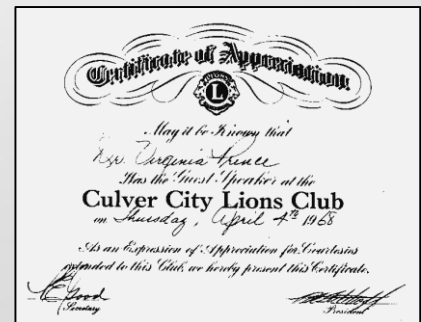
Elaine 1989



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Virginia Prince (1913-2009)

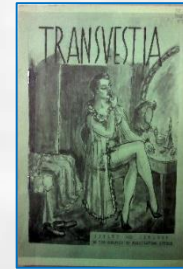
- A founder of modern transgender activism
- Became public face of crossdressing
 - 1961. convicted of sending obscene material through the mail. On probation, Prince was liable to be imprisoned if caught cross-dressed. Given permission for public cross-dressing for educational purposes.
- Coined the term "transgenderist"



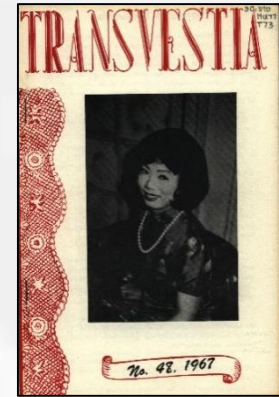
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Virginia Prince (1913-2009)

- 1960 started *Transvestia*
 - 111 issues 1960-1986
- 1961 started crossdressers' club Heels & Hose Club, which became Foundation for Full Personality Expression (FPE or Phi Pi Epsilon), which became Tri-Ess (The Society for the Second Self)
- Awards, trophies, photos, correspondence, articles, news clippings
- Chevalier Publications
 - *The Transvestite and His Wife* (1967)
 - *How To Be a Woman Though Male* (1971)
 - *Understanding Crossdressing* (1987)
 - And others



1960



1967



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Reed Erickson (1917-1992)

- Erickson Education Foundation. 1964-1984
 - Founded & funded by Erickson
 - Mission: "to provide assistance and support in areas where human potential was limited by adverse physical, mental or social conditions, or where the scope of research was too new, controversial or imaginative to receive traditionally oriented support."
 - Homophile organization ONE Inc.
 - Transsexualism
 - INTL conferences became WPATH
 - Research funding
 - Publications, films, TV, radio, speakers
 - New Age movements
 - Dolphin communication
 - Dream research
 - 1st edition of *A Course in Miracles* (1976)



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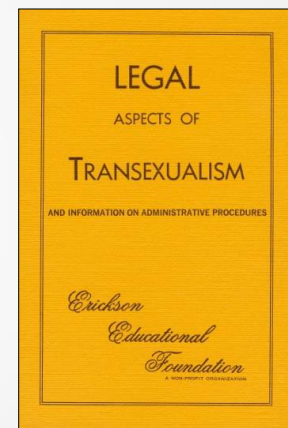
Reed Erickson (1917-1992)

45 banker's boxes

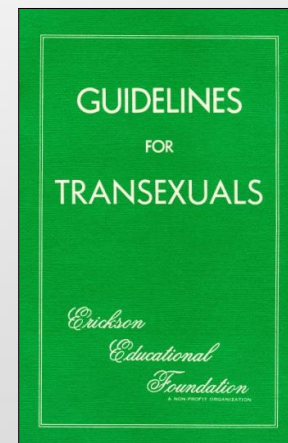
- Newsletters 1967-1976, 1983
- Pamphlets 1969-1974
 - *An Outline of Medical Management of the Transsexual* (1971)
 - *Information for the Family of the Transsexual and Children with Gender Identity Disturbances* (1971)
 - *Religious Aspects of Transsexualism* (1971)
 - *Legal Aspects of Transsexualism* (1971)
 - *Information on Transsexualism for Law Enforcement Officers* (1973)
 - *Counseling the Transsexual: Five Conversations with Professionals in Transsexual Therapy* (1973)
 - *Guidelines for Transsexuals* (1974)
- Correspondence, Newspaper clippings, Funding applications and records, Court records, Personal papers, Photos, Ephemera



1972



1971



1974

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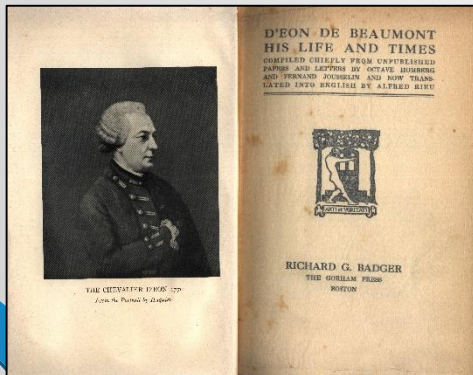
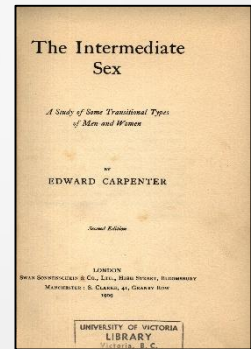
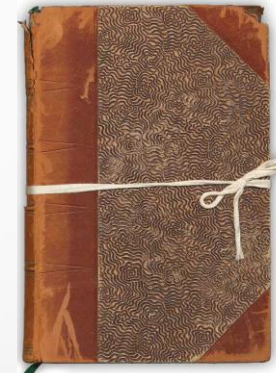
University of Ulster Trans-Gender Archive (1986-2013)



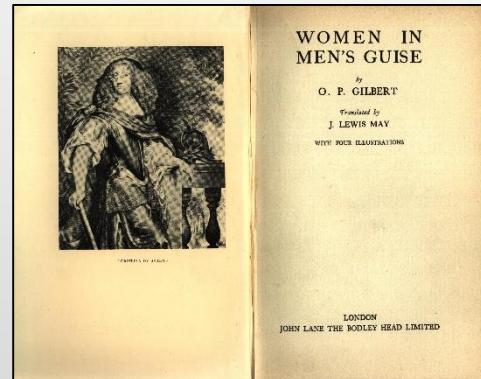
- Collected & donated by Richard Ekins
- 100 linear feet / 30 m
- 30+ years of UK & EU history
 - 100+ years of books
 - Pamphlets
 - 5 boxes of Newspaper clippings files
 - ...& more

Psychopathia Sexualis
von Krafft-Ebing. 1893

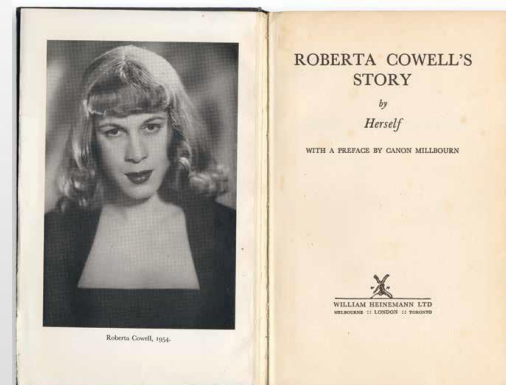
Edward Carpenter 1909



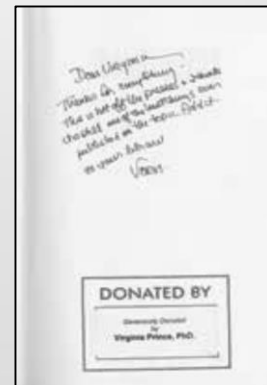
Richard Badger 1911



O. P. Gilbert 1932



Roberta Cowell 1954



1991

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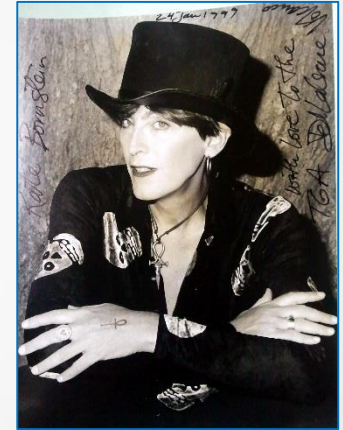


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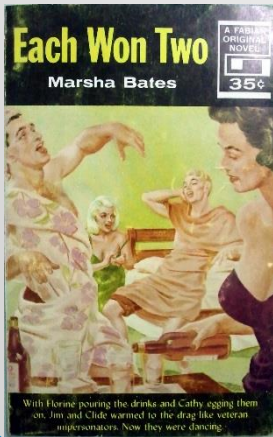
- Photographs
- Pulp fiction
- Erotica
- 350 periodicals from US, UK, EU, et al.
- Correspondence & personal papers



Tula / Caroline Cossey



Kate Bornstein
by Del LaGrace



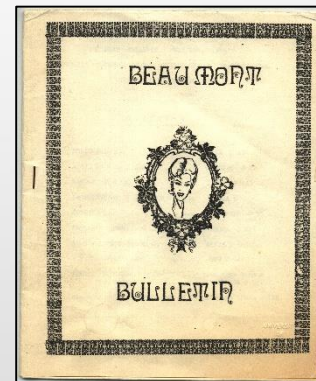
1959



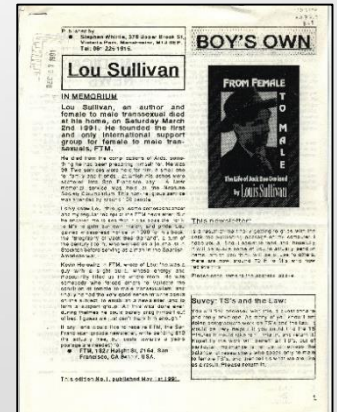
1983



International Chrysis



1970



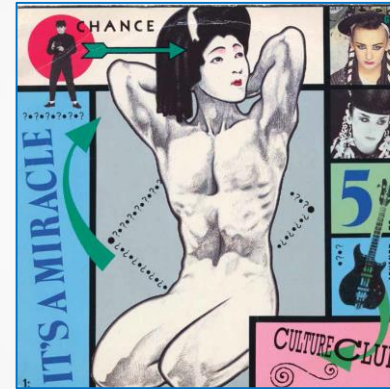
1991

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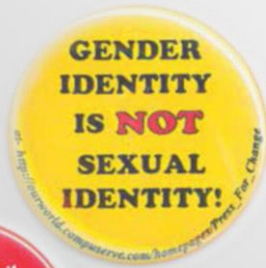
- 200+ audio recordings
- ~350 video recordings
- Original art works
- Ephemera



1983



1987



1914 to today



1936 to 1999



1970

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The Transgender Archives: Foundations for the Future



2015 Finalist
Lambda Literary Award



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