

Archives General Research Guide

TOPIC: Radical Faeries

This list is a sampling of collections addressing radical faeries; it is not intended to be comprehensive but rather as a series of starting points for research both within and outside the GLBT Historical Society archives. Additional suggestions are welcome and can be emailed to reference@glbthistory.org.

GLBTHS Archival Holdings

1. ORGANIZATIONAL AND PERSONAL RECORDS:

Stanley Fish papers

dates: 1978 - 1990

This collection contains journals, personal notes and subject files from activist and PWA Stephen Fish (1948-1991). Fish was also a co-chair of Black and White Men Together and one of the founders of People with Immune Systems Disorder. He was active in ACT-UP, Stop AIDS Now or Else and was involved with the Radical Faeries.

Robin White papers (#1993-26)

dates: 1987 - 1994

The Robin White papers contain materials related to the Radical Faeries and Nomenus, the Radical Faerie land trust. Robin White was a member of the local Santa Cruz Coordinating Council of Nomenus. The collection includes Nomenus By-Laws, meeting minutes and correspondence from San Francisco, Santa Fe, Santa Cruz and Wolf Creek Councils of Nomenus, planning notes for Radical Faerie gatherings, Radical Faerie ephemera, a thesis, 'Who Are the Radical Faeries, and notes related to Walter 'Butterfly' Blumoff. The FaeriesStock '92 Directory is restricted.

Finding aid:

http://www.glbthistory.org/research/FA/glbths_1993_26_RobinWhite_FA.pdf

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Will Roscoe papers and Gay American Indians records (#1987-04)

dates: 1970 - 2007

This collection contains papers from scholar and activist Will Roscoe and records from Gay American Indians (GAI), the first gay American Indian liberation organization, founded in July 1975. Roscoe was project coordinator of the GAI History Project and his research on the berdache, or two spirit-tradition has been widely published. He was also involved in efforts that led to the founding of Nomenus, a non-profit religious group that operates a retreat center for Radical Faeries and their friends in Oregon.

Finding aid:

http://www.glbthistory.org/research/FA/glbths_1987_04_WillRoscoe_FA.pdf

Jerry Zientara collection (#2006-39)

dates: 1980 - 1986

This collection contains various audio cassettes, textiles, and literary journals from Jerry Zientara who was involved with Radical Faeries, SF Jacks, and other groups, and is a librarian at the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality. T-shirts include Ritch St. Baths, Rubbermen, SF Jacks, and Billy Club. The collection also contains 23 audio cassettes including Astro-Speak programs and Spiritual Gathering for Radical Faeries events. Additionally, there are 6 copies of NOH Quarterly Magazine, Vol.1 Num.1-2; Vol.II Num.2-4, Vol. III Num.I.

Walter 'Butterfly' Blumoff papers (#1991-22)

dates: 1954 - 1991

The collection consists of correspondence, organizational files and working notes, directories, photographs, slides, negatives, home movies, and memorabilia related to photographer and Radical Faerie Walter 'Butterfly' Blumoff (1941-1991). The bulk of the collection consists of his photographic work. Most materials relate to Blumoff's activities with the Gay Community Services Center in L.A. in the early 1970's, his involvement with the Radical Faerie Movement throughout the 1980's, and his attraction to and involvement with young men and teenage boys. The bulk of the material is from the early 1970's to the late 1980's, though some earlier photographs and memorabilia are also included. The collection is arranged in six series: Biographical Material, Correspondence, Activities and Interests, Photographs, Slides, and Movies and Audio Recordings.

Finding aid: <http://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt4489q9vf/>

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David Iris Cameron Strachan papers (#2005-12)

dates: Circa 1986 - 2005

Collection documents the life and political activities of David Iris Cameron Strachan. Strachan had Klinefelter Syndrome and was active in organizations working for improved public understanding of the syndrome and intersex issues more broadly. He was also a member of the Radical Faeries. The collection consists of subject files and includes materials on intersex and gender issues, Klinefelter Syndrome and Associate, the Intersex Society of North America, the San Francisco Human Rights Commission's Intersex Task Force and other organizations Strachan was involved with. There is a wide range of materials, including correspondence and e-mails, publications, reports, research files, newsletters, newsclippings and a few photographs.

Ben Gardiner papers (#2006-10)

dates: 1970s - 1980s

This collection contains personal papers, ephemera, news clippings and photos related to life community activist and Radical Faerie Benjamin Gardiner. Gardiner (1921-2010) was active in the LGBT and recovery communities. He was one of the founders of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, and the collection includes records from the organization, circa 1979-1981. There is also a bullhorn, a faerie robe that lights up and audiotapes. The collection is currently unprocessed.

Bradley Rose papers (#1996-49)

dates: 1973 - 1996

The Bradley Rose papers contain materials related to the life and work of the bookseller, writer and community activist. Rose, who was born in 1957, died of AIDS in 1996. He co-founded 'VORTEX: A Journal of New Vision' with his partner of 16 years, scholar and activist, Will Roscoe. Rose was also founding director of Nomenus, a radical fairy organization. The bulk of the collection contains Rose's journals from 1973 to 1996. It also includes his slide show on the life of prominent German art historian J.J. Winckelmann, as well as a videotape, 'Winckelmann in Italy', notebooks with his research and writings on a variety of subjects, including astrology and music, and his unfinished historical novel based on Winckelmann's life, and a complete run of the chapbook series he published, 'A Radical Fairy's Seedbed,' which included essays by Harry Hay and John Burnside. The colored tabs in Rose's journals mark notations from Roscoe. 'VORTEX' is available in the Periodical Collection.

Finding aid:

http://www.glbthistory.org/research/FA/glbths_1996_49_BradleyRose_FA.pdf

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Black and White Men Together records (#1991-04)

dates: 1980 - 1994

These records document the history and political, social and cultural work of Black and White Men Together (BWMT) San Francisco Bay Area, the National Association of Black and White Men Together and Bay Area HIV Support and Educational Services, as well as that of two affiliated organizations, the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention and Men of All Colors Together Greater Bay Area (MACT GBA). There are also materials from local and international chapters of BWMT, photographs and subject files.

Finding aid: <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8pn968r>

Relevant Materials within Black and White Men Together collection:
- Folder 22: Radical Faeries, 1990

2. PERIODICALS COLLECTION:

Title: Northwoods Radical Faeries and Friends

Type: Zine

Organization: Kawashaway Sanctuary

Holdings: one issue (Autumn 1991); one issue (winter 1991/1992)

Title: Draghead

Type: Magazine Alternate

Subtitle: A Radical Faeriedom and Fey Arts

Holdings: #4 (Spr 1993), #5 (Fall 1993)

Title: Faerie Dish Rag

Type: Magazine

Alternate Title: FDR

Organization: Faerie Dish Rag

Holdings: vol. 1 #7 (Aug/Spt 1991), #9 (Dec 1991), #11 (May 1992); vol. 2 #2 (Mar 1993) - #7 (Spt 1994); vol. 3 #1 (Feb 1995) - #4 (Feb 1996); vol. 4 #1 (Feb 1997), vol. 4 #2 (May 1997)

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Title: Faerie Gram
Holdings: 6/1/1994

Title: Zuni Mountain News
Type: Newsletter
Alternate Title: Gnomad

Subtitle: Mountain Faerie Eyewitness|One Planet, Many Paths, Other Worlds|The uncommon voice of the mountain faerie

Organization: Zuni Mountain Sanctuary (ZMS)

Holdings: 1996/1997: Fall/Wint; 1998: Win/Spr, Sum, Sum/Fall, Fall, ; 1999: Wint, Sum, Fall; 2000: Wint, Sum; 2000/2001: Wint; 2001: Spr, Sum, Fall

Title: Faerie Tales
Type: Zine
Holdings: vol. 1 #1 (Feb 1993) - vol. 1 #3 (April 1993)

Title: Radical Faerie
Type: Zine
Subtitle: newsletter

3. ORAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS:

Arthur Evans interviewed by Roland Schembari 4/3/1998

Events: Stonewall Riots, Briggs Initiative, March on Washington People: Arthur Bell, John Lindsay (New York Mayor), Dick Cavett, Harvey Milk, Harry Hay
Processes/themes: witchcraft, education, childhood, family heritage, ethnicity, Christianity, religion, aging, race, zaps, gay male gender roles, counterculture, AIDS, writing, literature Places: Brown University, Greenwich Village, Manhattan, Haight-Ashbury, Castro neighborhood Groups: Gay Liberation Front (GLF), Gay Activists Alliance (GAA), Bay Area Gay Liberation (BAGL), Radical Faeries.

4. EPHEMERA:

San Francisco LGBT Groups Ephemera Collection (GRP EPH)

68 boxes (33 Linear feet)

Consists of ephemera pertaining to groups affiliated with San Francisco's LGBT community. The bulk of the material is from the late 1970s through the 1990s, with the homophile groups of the 1960s represented as well. Groups include: community service centers; governmental organizations; various social groups and clubs; musical groups,

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choirs and bands; theatrical companies and performance groups; dance troupes; literary groups and non-profit publishers; scholarly associations; universities, colleges, institutes and schools; student and youth groups; religious and spiritual centers; motorcycle clubs; sports teams; communes, cooperatives and collectives; political parties; business and

neighborhood associations; legal aid centers; clinics and hospitals; leather groups. Most of the materials are related to the prominent national political and social events and movements of their time, primarily the Gay Liberation Movement, the Gay Rights Movement, and the AIDS crisis. Types of ephemera represented include: announcements, fliers, postcards, invitations, theatrical playbills, brochures, direct mail, conference schedules, booklets, guides, directories, letterheads, business cards, meeting minutes, correspondence, and magazine and newspaper clippings.

Finding aid: <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt687036vt>

Radical Faeries:

General circa 1979-1999, undated

Nomenus circa 1987-1994, undated

Outside Resources

1. WEBSITES AND ONLINE MATERIALS

Bonck, J. H. "Radical Faeries." *GLBTQ: An encyclopedia of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer culture*, 2015. GLBTQ Archives. Web.

http://www.glbthistory.org/ssh/radical_faeries_S.pdf

"Organization: Radical Faeries," *The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Religious Archives Network*. Collections Catalog. Web.

<http://lgbtran.org/CollectionsCatalog.aspx?TID=2&KID=45>

2. PRINTED MATERIALS

Connor, Randy P. *Blossom of Bone: Reclaiming the Connections between Homoeroticism and the Sacred*. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1993

Evans, Arthur. *Witchcraft and the Gay Counterculture*. Boston: Fag Rag Books, 1978

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Hay, Harry. *Radically Gay: Gay Liberation in the Words of Its Founder*. Boston: Beacon, 1996

Rose, Bradley, ed. *A Radical Fairy's Seedbed: The Collected Series*. San Francisco: Vortex/Nomenus, 1997

Timmons, Stuart. *The Trouble with Harry Hay: Founder of the Modern Gay Movement*. Boston: Alyson, 1990

Walker, Mitch. *Men Loving Men: A Gay Sex Guide and Consciousness Book*. San Francisco: Gay Sunshine Press, 1985

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