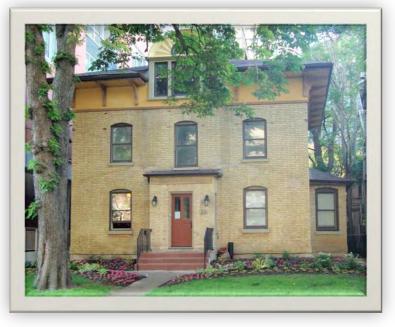


Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans and Queer Women In the Archives

What is the CLGA?

The Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives (CLGA) is the largest independent LGBTQ+ archives in the world. With a focus on Canadian content, the CLGA acquires, preserves and provides public access to information and archival materials in any medium.

By collecting and caring for important historical records, personal papers, unpublished documents, publications, audio-visual material, works of art, photographs, posters, and other artifacts, the CLGA is a trusted guardian of LGBTQ+ histories now and for generations to come.



Snapshots in Time & Place

- The presentation includes spotlights from the CLGA's collections.
- As a result these only paint a small part of the picture.
- From specific points in time and place.
- We endeavour to show a diversity of experiences, but please note they do not tell the story of all LBTQ+ Canadian Women.

Two-Spirit Women



2nd Edition

•Canada being on First People's territories, we should first mention Two-Spirit women.

•Many Nations before colonization had roles for LGBTQ+ people that was very culturally specific.

•A modern way to address these varying roles is the term Two-Spirit.

•We have a number of books, vertical files, and documents on Two-Spirits, including this guide by the 2 Spirited People of the First Nations and the Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy.

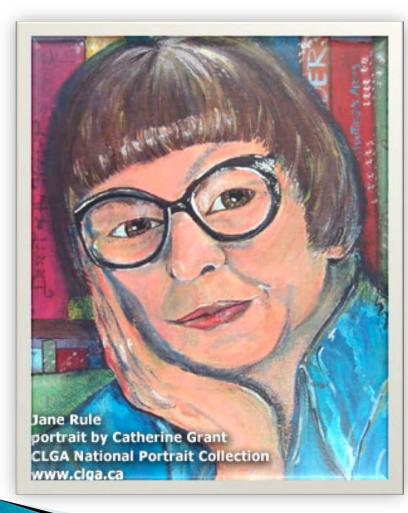
Lesbians Making History

•Project created in the 1980s to document the lives of lesbian and gay women who lived in the 1950s, 1960s, & 1970s.



•Composed of eight oral history interviews with six different women.

"The Only Lesbian in Canada"



•A member of our National Portrait Collection, Jane Rule was a famous author who lived from 1931 - 2007.

•Her first novel "Desert of the Heart" (1964) was well acclaimed after 22 rejections for the lesbian content before homosexuality was decriminalized.

•She became a major gay rights advocate and became dubbed by the media as "The only lesbian in Canada."

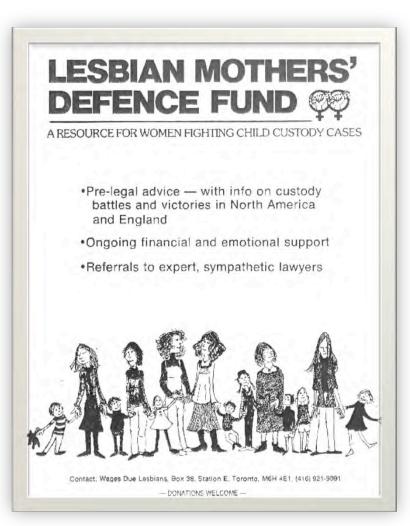
•The CLGA houses her books, some personal notes, videos of her work and, audio interviews with her.

Lesbian Mothers' Defence Fund

•Organization set up in 1978 for lesbians to fight for custody for their children.

•Women frequently had their children taken away after divorcing their husbands as lesbians were considered "unfit parents."

•LMDF lasted until 1987, the CLGA holds their newsletter, news articles about them and more.



Canadian Women's Movement Archives



THE CANADIAN WOMEN'S

MOVEMENT ARCHIVES was founded in 1977 to collect material from the contemporary (post 1960) Canadian women's movement Collective members and volunteers of the CWMA are feminist activists creating an independent community based archives, research and resource centre. The CWMA would like to be a part of a national network of women's archives. To this end, we encourage and support the establishment of regional women's archives. We endeavour to offer services in French and English.



· records from over 2,000 women's groups, coalitions, conferences, demonstrations and cultural events from across Canada. · over 750 different feminist periodicals, newspapers, newsletters and magazine · substantial collections of lesbian material. · sound recordings, posters, buttons, photographs, slides, banners and tchirte

As Canadian feminists we need ou own Archives: · because it acts as our collective

тетогу · to provide resource material for activists and researchers · to celebrate our history and our achievements

How you can help.

. The CWMA does not receive core funding and relies on donations for financial support. As a registered nonprofit, charitable organization, the CWMA provides receipts for income tax purposes · We are also happy to accept

donations or bequests of material. Flyers, newsletters, periodicals, minutes of meetings and correspondence are important records of feminist activities.

Canadian Women's Movement Archives P.O. Box 128 Station P Toronto, Ont. M5S 2S7 (416) 597-8865

Français au verso

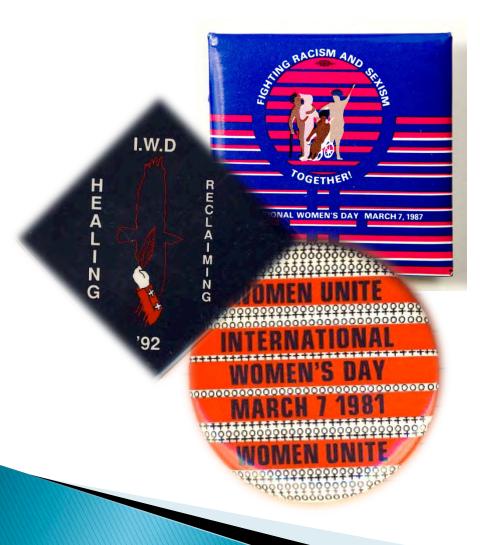
•Formed in 1977 as a feminist archives in Toronto.

•A lot of back and forth between the two organizations and many LBTQ+ women went to the CWMA instead of the CLGA.

•Organization closed in 1991 and in 1992 all the records were donated to the University of Ottawa libraries.

•The CLGA however, has vertical files on the CWMA as well as microfilmed periodicals from them

International Women's Day



•International Women's Day which started in 1911, and become popular in North America starting in 1977.

•By the early 1980s it became a major community building space for Canadian lesbians and bi women.

•Many LBTQ+ women's groups have marched and held events on International Women's Day.

•Shown are a few of the IWD buttons from our collections.

Zami

•Zami was a group for queer people of Caribbean descent that was formed in 1984 and was active into the 1990s.

•The group became a major support and social setting for those who felt racism in gay communities and, homophobia in their Caribbean communities.

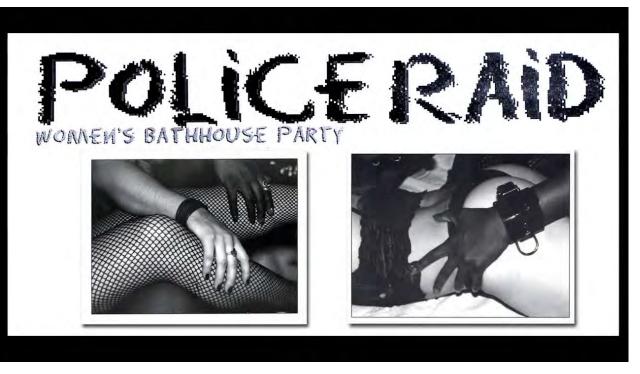
•Shown is an Xtra article talking about how Zami and the Lesbians of Colour (LOC) were creating their own spaces that were Queer People of Colourcentric.



Pussy Palace

•Pussy Palace was started in 1998 as a way of providing a safe place for queer women to have sex and be educated on sexual health.

•lt became an event night at the Club Toronto.



•In 2000 Police raided Pussy palace which led to subsequent court cases.

•By 2005 the Police were mandated to provide comprehensive LGBTQ training and put policies surround the treatment of trans people.

Women in Leather

•The leatherdyke community has made a major impact on the LBTQ women's community in Canada.

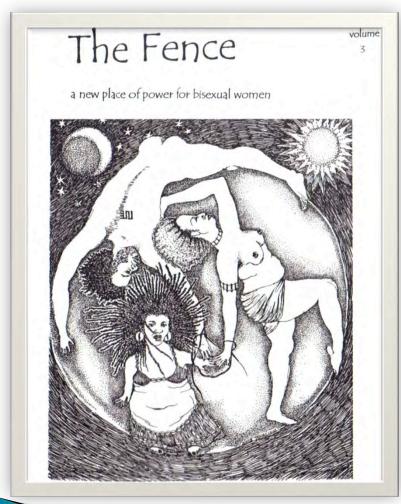
•We have many items from groups like:

- Ms. Leather Toronto
 International Ms. Leather
 Unholy Harvest
 Amazon's Bike Club
- •And more...

•Shown are a few of books addressing the Women and leather.



Sitting on the Fence



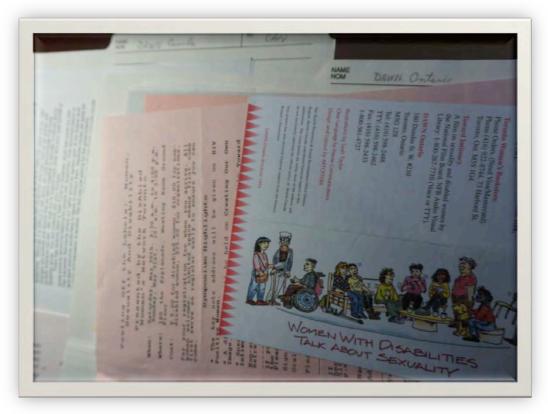
•A magazine for bisexual women.

•Name is based off the stereotype that bisexuals are sitting on the fence and can not pick a side.

•The magazine addresses biphobia from both lesbians and straight communities.

•There are 10 versions from 2002 – 2013 of which the CLGA has copies 2 – 9.

DisAbled Women's Network (DAWN)



•DAWN was founded in 1985 to address the specific experiences of disabled women.

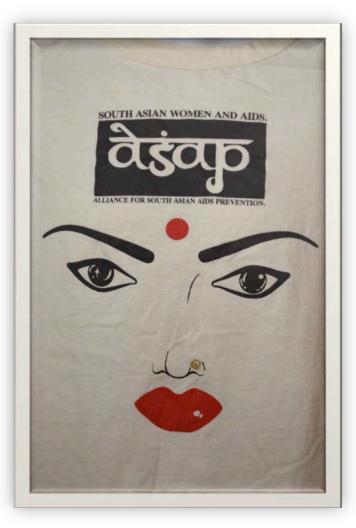
•One of the few groups to talk openly about sexuality and disability some of their files have made their way to our records.

•Pictured are the vertical files for DAWN Canada and DAWN Ontario including a newsletter about one of DAWN Ontario's conferences focusing on sexuality and disability.

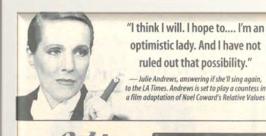
ASAAP

•The Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention created this t-shirt as a way of focusing on South Asian Women & AIDS.

•Other noteable documents on South Asian women include: Diva magazine and files on various South Asian women groups.



Counting Past 2



You gotta have nerve

Ifter two successful years, Counting Past Two, a festival of sexual artists, returns for its third go with the energetic ha-Soleil Ross at the helm. Subtitled Performance, Film, to, Spoken Word With Transexual Nerve, the festival feais the work of people who've had a sex change (as osed to people who play with gender in their art).

The been around for a long time," says Ross. "People RAUNCH. Christopher Lee and J Zapata's e been playing with gender forever. What's different and trans porno, Sex, Flesh And Blood, is just ortant about this festival is its focus on transexual one of the wilder offerings from Counting ts.... they often have little resources for ... or history of, Past Two.

ding art."

That said, limiting participation to TS artists hardly limits what gets shown. Ross points to the Canadian prere of Dandy Dust, a wild cyborg horror flick by Austrian Hans Scheirl with lots of fluid gender play. "It's not ordinary, boring gender fuck. You have to see this," she says with a laugh. "It's something." Dandy Dust is in the 3:30pm program on Sat, Oct 16. All the films are on Saturday at the 360 Club, Queen St W, costing \$5 per program.)

toss is keen on the range and quality of films and videos showing this year; a number are Canadian preres, including a new gothic-punk trans porno called Sex, Flesh And Blood by San Fran's Christopher Lee and pata. Ross calls it "raunchy" (shown in the 5:30pm program).

Ind there are three world premieres of Canadian shorts: Skoundx by Boyd Kodak, Still In The Can by Christina ig and Rupert Remembers by Xanthra Mackay (in the 1:45pm program).

While the fest continues to encourage new and emerging artists, Ross is especially excited over the appeare of Aiyanna Maracle, a Mohawk transexual lesbian from Vancouver. "To think that even in our own little ntry we have established TS artists [such as Maracle] with a significant body of work behind them." Winof the 1997 Canada Council John Hirsch Prize, Maracle is a theatre director, author and performer. On Fri, 15, she'll read from her forthcoming book Chronicle Of A Transformed Woman, using slide and video proions (at 8pm at University College, 15 King's College Circle; tix are \$5).

Seginning with workshops and ending with a cabaret, Counting Past Two runs from Wed, Oct 13 to 16. For

•Counting Past 2 was a trans arts festival that ran between 1997 - 2002.

•It was the first festival of it's type in Canada and was spearheaded by trans woman activist Mirah Soliel-Ross.

 It addressed the need for a transcentric space and was also one which trans women had major roles in it.

•The existence of Counting Past 2 inspired the creation of other festivals and an entire generation of trans artists.

•At the CLGA we have articles, posters, and videos from Counting Past 2.

Imaging Home

•Imaging Home was the CLGA's 2014 World Pride exhibition in partnership with Envisioning Global LGBT Right, looking at migration and world activism in particular in: Uganda, Kenya, Botswana, Jamaica, Guyana, Belize, Saint Lucia and India.

•As Canada is increasingly multicultural so is the queer women's communities that span across borders.

•Imaging home addressed the intersection of homophobia, racism, and migration.



Question & Answer



Keeping Our Stories Alive

- Visit Us:
 - 34 Isabella Street, Toronto ON
- Phone Us:
 416-777-2755
- Email Us:
 - <u>queeries@clga.ca</u>
 - jpichette@clga.ca