Jeff Hagedorn Papers

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Jeff Hagedorn Papers

Collection number: Coll2008-006

ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives
Los Angeles, California

Processed by:
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Jeff Hagedorn papers
Dates: 1979-1995
Collection number: Coll2008-006
Creator: Hagedorn, Jeff, 1957-1995
Collection Size: 2 records boxes, 1 oversize box, 1 shoebox.3.8 linear feet.
Repository: ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives.
Los Angeles, California 90007

Abstract: Scripts, journals, correspondence, flyers, programs, press releases, reviews, research materials, photographic negatives, publicity stills, and other materials, 1979 to 1995, relating to playwright Jeff Hagedorn, his production company, SYZYGY, and his internationally produced theatrical works and video productions.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.

Publication Rights

Researchers wishing to publish materials must obtain permission in writing from ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives as the physical owner. Researchers must also obtain clearance from the holder(s) of any copyrights in the materials. Note that ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives can grant copyright clearance only for those materials for which we hold the copyright. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain copyright clearance for all other materials directly from the copyright holder(s).

Preferred Citation

Box #, folder #, Jeff Hagedorn Papers, Coll2008-006, ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.

Acquisition Information

Collection created from materials from box 104-54; materials found in the Jeff Hagedorn, One, and SYZYGY subject files; the Jeff Hagedorn file in the Performing Arts Collection (Coll2007-016), and the Gay and Lesbian Drama Scripts Collection (Coll2008-003).

Processing Information
Collection processed from box 104-54; materials found in the Jeff Hagedorn, One, and SYZYGY subject files; the Jeff Hagedorn file in the Performing Arts Collection (Coll2007-016), and the Gay and Lesbian Drama Scripts Collection (Coll2008-003), by Michael C. Oliveira, April 3, 2008.

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Biography
Jeff Hagedorn was born in Milwaukee, and attended Ripon College and the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater. He also took courses at Marquette, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and United States International University, San Diego. While he initially focused on directing, he soon realized his calling as a playwright. After relocating to Chicago, he became a founding member and resident playwright for the Lionheart Gay Theatre. In 1983, his play, One, became the first publicly produced theatrical work concerning AIDS. Hagedorn provided the play to AIDS organizations across the country as a fundraiser, and in the early years of the crisis benefit performances raised more than $50,000. He also formed a production company, SYZYGY, that went on to revive Chicago’s pub theater movement with quick witted plays such as The Layman’s Guide to Safe Sex. Hagedorn continued to craft seminal AIDS plays as the crisis progressed, from the desperate search for medication in Crusaders, to the challenges of testing in High Risk Romance, and “safe sex” in Should Have Been A Love Play. SYZYGY actors in Chicago performed a marathon of 11 his theatrical pieces in 12 days in 1988.

In a search for greater opportunities, Hagedorn moved to Los Angeles, continuing his community theater work through Celebration Theatre and his production company, SYZYGY. Hagedorn’s theatrical productions were performed in over 32 cities in the United States, and internationally in Edinburgh, Manchester, and Berlin; in addition, he produced and distributed gay themed videos for a gay audience, including Jerker and Dream Man.

Hagedorn dedicated the last years of his life to preservation of gay and lesbian history, organizing the subject files and updating the database of the International Gay and Lesbian Archives, now ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Hagedorn collection consists of three series: (1) Writings, (2) Personal papers, and (3) SYZYGY records. The first series contains scripts, flyers, programs, publicity stills, and reviews, and other materials relating to Hagedorn’s stage and video productions of theatrical works. The second series contains his resume, biographical information, correspondence, journals, and professional portfolio. The third series consists primarily of the correspondence of Hagedorn’s production company, SYZYGY.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Hagedorn, Jeff, 1957-1995
Jacobson, Tom
Kuntze, Tilly S., 1952-
McGregor, Proctor Keith, 1949-
Thomas, Colin, 1952-
Tradup, Troy, 1962-
Gay dramatists
Gay theater
Homosexuality and theater
Homosexuality in the theater

Series 1: Writings circa 1981-1994
Physical Description: 2.5 linear feet.
Series Scope and Content
This series contains scripts, flyers, programs, publicity stills, and reviews, and other materials relating to hagedorn’s stage and video productions of theatrical works.

Box 1 : 1 ; 2 : 27  Annesplay 1981-1988
Physical Description: 2 folders.

Box 1 : 1  Documents 1981
Box 2 : 27  Photographs, publicity stills 1988
Box 1 : 2  Cinderella, script 1981
Box 1 : 3 ; 2 : 28 ; 3 : 1 (Oversize); 3 : 10 (Oversize)  Clowns in the Kitchen 1984-1993
Physical Description: 4 folders.

Box 1 : 3  Documents 1984-1993
Box 2 : 28  Photographs, publicity stills 1988-1992
Box 3 : 1  (Oversize)  Newspaper clippings 1988
Box 3 : 10  (Oversize)  Clippings 1988-1993

Box 1 : 4 ; 2 : 29 ; 3 : 2 ; 3 : 11 (Oversize)  Crusaders 1987-1993
Physical Description: 4 folders.

Box 1 : 4  Documents 1988-1993
Box 3 : 2  Clippings 1993
Box 3 : 11  (Oversize)  Newspaper clippings 1987
Box 3 : 2  Photographs of Hagedorn in Berlin 1993
Box 1 : 5 ; 3 : 12 (Oversize)  Face to Face on AIDS 1987-1988
Physical Description: 5 folders.

Box 1 : 6-7 ; 2 : 30 ; 3 : 3 (Oversize); 3 : 13 (Oversize)  High Risk Romance 1986-1987
Physical Description: 5 folders.

Box 1 : 11  How I Learned to Turn the Beat Around, Kiss a Man with a Moustache and Run a Four Minute Mile in Platform Shoes, script 1992
Box 1 : 9  Hymen, incomplete script drafts circa 1985
Box 1 : 10 ; 2 : 31 ; 3 : 4 (Oversize)  I Cover the Lockerroom 1988
Physical Description: 3 folders.

Box 1 : 10  Documents and script 1988
Box 2 : 31  Photographs, publicity stills 1988
Box 3 : 4  (Oversize)  Newspaper clippings 1988
Box 1 : 11 ; 2 : 32 ; 3 : 14 (Oversize)  In a Room with a Brass Bed 1984
Physical Description: 3 folders.

Box 1 : 11  Documents 1984
Box 2 : 32  Photographs, publicity stills 1984
Box 3 : 14  (Oversize)  Poster and clippings 1984
| Box 1 : 12 | **Laughing Out Loud**, correspondence 1985 |
| ; 3 : 5 (Oversize); 3 : 15 (Oversize) | Physical Description: 4 folders. |

| Box 1 : 13 | Documents and script 1987-1989 |
| Box 2 : 33 | Photographs, publicity stills 1987 |
| Box 3 : 5 (Oversize) | Newspaper clippings 1987-1989 |
| Box 3 : 15 (Oversize) | Clippings 1987 |

| Box 1 : 14-15 ; 2 : 34 ; 3 : 6 (Oversize); 3 : 16 (Oversize) | **One** 1983-1990 |
| Physical Description: 5 folders. |

| Box 1 : 14-15 | Documents and script 1983-1990 |
| Physical Description: 2 folders. |

| Box 2 : 34 | Photographs, publicity stills 1983 |
| Box 3 : 6 (Oversize) | Newspaper clippings 1983-1986 |
| Box 3 : 16 (Oversize) | Clippings 1983-1987 |

| Box 1 : 16 | **One at Ten**, documents 1993-1994 |
| Box 1 : 17 | **Other Women, Other Men**, script 1988 |
| Box 2 : 35 | **Poems to an Ex-Lover**, publicity stills 1983 |
| Box 1 : 18 ; 2 : 36 ; 3 : 7 (Oversize) | **Rhyme or Treason** 1987 |
| Physical Description: 3 folders. |

| Box 1 : 18 | Documents 1987 |
| Box 2 : 36 | Photographs, publicity stills 1987 |
| Box 3 : 7 (Oversize) | Newspaper clippings 1987 |
| Box 1 : 19-20 | **Should Have Been a Love Play**, draft manuscript, documents, scripts 1984 |
| Physical Description: 2 folders. |

| Box 1 : 21 ; 2 : 37 | **Should Have Been a Love Song** 1990-1993 |
| Physical Description: 2 folders. |

| Box 1 : 21 | Documents 1990-1993 |
| Box 2 : 37 | Photographs, publicity stills 1990 |
| Box 1 : 22 ; 2 : 38 ; 3 : 17 (Oversize) | **Some of Us Just Aren't that Weird** 1986-1991 |
| Physical Description: 3 folders. |

| Box 1 : 22 | Documents 1986-1991 |
| Box 2 : 38 | Photographs, publicity stills 1987 |
| Box 3 : 17 (Oversize) | Clippings 1987 |

| Box 1 : 23 | **Someone Just Like You**, promotional postcard 1990-1992 |
| Box 1 : 24 | **Songs of Faith**, documents and script 1988-1990 |
| Box 1 : 25 | **Sweet Sorrows**, reviews 1985 |
| Box 1 : 26 | **Waiting for the Blue Haired Child**, script circa 1985 |
| Box 1 : 28 | **Women in Power**, script 1980 |
| Box 1 : 29-31 | Unidentified circa 1985-circa 1990 |
| Physical Description: 3 folders. |
Series 1: Writings circa 1981-1994

Box 1 : 29-30  Manuscript drafts circa 1985
Physical Description: 2 folders.

Box 1 : 31  Typescript circa 1990

Series 2: Personal papers circa 1975-circa 1989
Physical Description: 0.9 linear foot.
Series Scope and Content
The series contains Hagedorn’s writing resume, biographical information, correspondence, a professional portfolio, personal journals, and a trophy from Gay Chicago Magazine. The biographical information consists of printed interviews and an obituary. The correspondence files include Hagedorn’s personal correspondence, his letters to the editor, interoffice memos from his employer regarding his sick time, faxes to his doctor, and party invitation created from magazine and newspaper clippings.

Box 1 : 32-33  Writing resume, newspaper clippings 1980-1989
Physical Description: 2 folders.

Box 1 : 34 ; 3 : 8 (Oversize) ; 3 : 19 (Oversize)  Biographical 1984-1995
Physical Description: 3 folders.

Box 1 : 34  Interviews, clippings, obituary 1987-1995
Newspaper clippings 1984-1988
Clippings 1987

Box 1 : 35-38 ; 3 : 18 (Oversize)  Correspondence 1986-1995
Physical Description: 5 folders.

Box 1 : 35-36  General correspondence 1987-1995
Physical Description: 2 folders.

Physical Description: 3 folders.

Box 2 : 39  Photographs (personal) circa 1975-1990
Box 2 : 2  Professional portfolio circa 1987
Box 2 : 3-18  Journals circa 1979-circa 1989
Physical Description: 16 journals.

Box 2 : 3  Mead, October 8 circa 1979
Box 2 : 4  January 31, 1981
Box 2 : 5  May 21, 1983
Box 2 : 6  January 14, 1984
Box 2 : 7  February 19, 1984
Box 2 : 8  December 26, 1985
Box 2 : 9  August 25, 1986
Box 2 : 10  August 26, 1986
Box 2 : 11  May 1, 1987
Box 2 : 12  December 29, 1987
Box 2 : 13  Cambridge notepad circa 1988
Box 2 : 14  October 13, 1988
Box 2 : 15  Cambridge steno circa 1989
Box 2 : 16  Data Com circa 1989
Box 2 : 17  April 20, 1989
Series 2: Personal papers circa 1975-circa 1989

Box 2 : 18  
June 11, 1989  
Trophy from *Gay Chicago Magazine* 1987

Box 4  

Series 3: *SYZYGY* records circa 1987-1993

- Physical Description: 0.5 linear foot.
- Series Scope and Content
  - His production company records consist of clippings and programs from a marathon performance of 15 of his theatrical works, correspondence, order slips for videos, and submissions of other's scripts for review in the *SYZYGY* newsletter.

**Marathon of Hagedorn's theatrical works 1988**

- Physical Description: 2 folders.

Box 2 : 19  
Clippings and documents 1988  
Newspaper clippings 1988

(Oversize)  
Box 2 : 20  
Correspondence 1990-1992

Box 2 : 40  
Headshots and actors' resumes 1990

Box 2 : 41-42  
Publicity stills circa 1990-1991  

- Physical Description: 2 folders.

Box 2 : 41  
*Jerker*, *Dream Man* 1991

Box 2 : 42  
Unknown performances circa 1990

Box 2 : 21  
Video tape order forms for *Should Have Been a Love Play*, *Jerker*, *Dream Man* 1991-1992

Script submissions 1988-1993

- Physical Description: 5 folders.

Box 2 : 22  
Jacobson, Tom, *Son of Othello* 1993

Box 2 : 23  
Kuntze, Till S., *I Can't See the Sky* 1988

Box 2 : 24  
McGregor, Proctor Keith, *Sand Dollar Cove* 1988

Box 2 : 25  

Box 2 : 26  
Tradup, Troy, *The Time at the End of This Time* 1993