Finding aid to the Rick Herold Photographs and Papers, 1959-2011
Coll2013-025

Jeff Snapp
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ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
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URL: http://one.usc.edu
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
Title: Rick Herold photographs and papers
creator: Herold, Rick (Richard)
Identifier/Call Number: Coll2013-025
Physical Description: 4.2 Linear Feet1 archive carton, 2 clamshell binders, 1 flat archive box
Date (inclusive): 1959-2011
Abstract: Photographs and papers by and about professional artist, author, and teacher Rick Herold. Herold used a variety of media and techniques including painting, reverse painting on plastic, neon, sculpture, performance art, and tattooing. Many of his works dealt with the relationship of the erotic and the spiritual.

Acquisition
Donated by Rick Herold on July 9, 2011.

Biographical/Historical note
Richard (Rick) Herold was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1941, served in the Navy, and attended the Academie Julian in Paris, St. John's University in Minnesota, Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). In California, he launched an art magazine while studying architectural arts at Otis and was the official Los Angeles County portrait painter from 1968-1970. Herold worked as a teacher at Pierce College and Los Angeles Junior Colleges before turning the Zephyr Theatre into a studio and center for art happenings, theater, and Esalen group events.

A published author of erotica including The Naked Artist, Rick Herold is best known as a professional artist. His work has been shown at many venues including the Orlando and Molly Barnes galleries in Los Angeles, the Zara Gallery in San Francisco, and in museum collections in Missouri, Colorado, and Oregon. Rick Herold used a variety of media and techniques including painting, reverse painting on plastic, neon, sculpture and tattooing. His artworks commonly dealt with the relationship of the erotic and the spiritual, drawing upon his interests in theology, fine art, Asian mandalas, and East Indian Tantric tankas. Herold was also interested in tribal and folk art which he incorporated into his tattoo designs and paintings. His work in tattoo art was documented in Tattoo, a film collaboration with Michael McCullough.

On his website (http://rickherold.com/, accessed in 2013), Herold discusses notable events in his artistic career, including a commission by Bob Hope to create Stations of the Cross in Cleveland, and his thirty-year retrospective exhibition at the ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives in 2003.

Scope and Contents
Photographic prints, negatives, 35mm slides, Herold-designed notecards and calendar, an advance copy of The Naked Artist (a book illustrated and written by Herold), assorted periodicals with Herold interviews, reviews, gallery ephemera, promotional materials, and papers documenting Rick Herold's history as an artist.

Processing Information
Collection processed by Jeff Snapp, 2013.

Related Materials
Rick Herold artworks catalogued in the ONE art collection
ART2381 Bob Ekert [Enamel on Plexiglas]
ART2198 Unknown (buttocks of nude male hunched over) [Ink on paper]
ART2043 Male Nude [Painting - acrylic on vinyl mounted on canvas]
ART2064 Abstract Fold [Painting - acrylic on plexiglas]
9AR0002 Samson DeBre [Painting on Plexiglass]
ART2142 John Parker (aka Buddah John) [Painting on Plexiglass box]

Separated Materials note
Posters separated into the ONE poster collection
Molly Barnes Gallery, "In the Garden of Earthly Delights"
Orlando Gallery, "Portrait Paintings Revealing Human Auras & Astral Colors" (signed copy)

Preferred Citation
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**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Gay artists
Gay erotic literature
Gay erotic art
Performance art -- United States
Gays -- Exhibitions
Homosexuality and art -- United States -- California
Herold, Rick (Richard)

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**Rick Herold collection 1959-2011**
Arrangement
This collection is arranged in alphabetical order.

- **Box 1, Folder 1**
  - Art announcements undated

- **Box 1, Folder 2**
  - Art announcement cards undated

- **Box 1, Folder 3**
  - Art reviews 1970-2001

- **Box 1, Folder 4**
  - Art statements by Rick Herold, his resume, and an untitled drawing 1976-2008

- **Box 1, Folder 5**
  - Articles about Rick Herold 1969-2011

- **Box 1, Folder 6**
  - Artistic activities (other than painting) undated

- **Box 1, Folder 7**
  - Group show announcements 1959-1996

**Photographs**

- **Box 2, Folder 4**
  - Abstract art undated
    Physical Description: [133 35mm slides]

- **Box 2, Folder 2**
  - Art undated
    Physical Description: [3 contact sheets; 134 negative strips]

- **Box 3, Folder 1**
  - Art undated
    Physical Description: [189 35mm slides, 2 transparencies]

- **Box 2, Folder 1**
  - Devine Decadence Party undated
    Physical Description: [12 contact sheet pages; 72 negative strips]

- **Box 3, Folder 2**
  - Paintings undated
    Physical Description: [129 photographic prints; 10 transparencies]

- **Box 2, Folder 3**
  - Rick Herold and gardens undated
    Physical Description: [13 photographic prints]

- **Box 4, Folder 1**
  - Rick Herold with paintings undated
    Physical Description: [14 oversized photographic prints]
    Scope and contents
    Portraits of Rick Herold that appear in magazine articles as well as a poster for his Molly Barnes exhibition.
Box 4, Folder 2  
**Steve Katz photographs of Rick Herold and Dale Matlock 1974**  
Physical Description: [2 oversized photographic prints]

Box 1, Folder 8  
**Publications 1959-2010**  
Scope and Contents  
Includes an advance copy of Rick Herold's "The Naked Artist" and the Otis Art Institute "Image" volumes 1, 2, and 4.

Box 1, Folder 9  
**Stationary and calendar circa 2011**