
Finding aid prepared by Lizzie Hernandez and Kyle Morgan
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ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
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**Title:** Michael Shere papers  
**Identifier/Call Number:** Coll2014.015  
**Contributing Institution:** ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California  
**Language of Material:** English  
**Physical Description:** 3.9 linear feet. 2 archive boxes + 1 archive carton + 1 flat archive box  
**Date (inclusive):** 1971-1994  
**Abstract:** This collection consists of Michael Shere's written works and personal papers, 1971-1994. Michael Shere worked as a theatrical performer, script writer, set and sound designer, and composer for 25 years. He also was an activist for the LGBT community, including for AIDS organizations such as Artists Confronting AIDS and the AIDS Service Center.  
**creator:** Shere, Michael, 1943-1994  

**Conditions Governing Use**  
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**Conditions Governing Access**  
The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.  

**Biography**  
A resident of Pasadena, California, Michael Shere was involved in the theatrical world as a performer, script writer, set and sound designer, and composer for 25 years. He was also involved in staging movie premiers for Universal Studios, Columbia Pictures, and events for the music industry. Shere was a writer of short stories, novels, and poems. In addition, he was a board member of GLAAD and a member of the Purple Circuit promoting LGBT theater. He was also involved in AIDS organizations such as Artists Confronting AIDS and the AIDS Service Center. Shere was born on January 4, 1943, and passed away on August 28, 1994, from AIDS-related complications.  

**Acquisition**  
Date and method of donation unknown.  

**Scope and Contents**  
This collection consists of Michael Shere's written works and personal papers, 1971-1994. The collection includes his scripts, novels, short stories, and poems. Shere's theatrical work is documented through his sound and set design notes and layouts, as well as musical pieces. Shere's medical records, spiritual papers, greeting cards, correspondence, address books, and daily planners are also included.  

**Preferred Citation**  

**Processing Information**  
Collection processed by Lizzie Hernandez and Phyllis Rudzitis, March 2014.  

**Separated Materials note**  
Separation to ONE Archives library  
Project 10 handbook  
Shock Value by John Waters, 1981  
Separation to ONE Archives periodical collection  
Aware, Winter 1990  
Being Alive, September 1989  
Female fyi, September 1994  
Happenings, v.7, no.7, September 1986  
 NAMES project magazine, undated  
Perspective, no.7, November 1989  
Sexvibe, August 1994  
HIV/AIDS subject files materials separated to ONE Archives AIDS History Project Collection
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Gay authors--United States--20th century
Gay dramatists
Gay men's writings, American
Gay theater
Musical theater
Scripts (documents)

Michael Shere papers 1971-1994
Arrangement
This collection is arranged in alphabetical order.

Box 1, Folder 1  
Addicted to George script by Shere 1992

Box 1, Folder 2-4  
Address book and contacts 1971-1994, undated

Box 1, Folder 5  

Box 1, Folder 6-8  
Appointment books 1987-1994

Box 4, Folder 1  
Award certificates 1990

Box 1, Folder 9  
Clippings 1987-1993

Box 1, Folder 10  
Correspondence and notes 1908, 1989-1993

Box 1, Folder 11  
The Country Girl 1991

Box 1, Folder 12  
Creative writing 1978, 1992-1993

Box 1, Folder 13  
Dog Plays 1991-1992

Box 1, Folder 14  
Film festivals 1989-1992

Box 1, Folder 15  
Financial and tax records 1986-1994

Box 1, Folder 16  

Box 4, Folder 77  
Forman Brown Revue leather folder undated

Box 1, Folder 17  
Hale, Bill, papers 1982-1991

Box 1, Folder 18  
Hunger strike 1989

Box 1, Folder 19  
I've Got Things to Do for the Rest of my Life script by Shere 1991

Box 1, Folder 20  
Legal and medical papers 1985-1994

Box 1, Folder 21-22  
Maurice: a novel script undated

Box 1, Folder 23  
Scope and Contents
Includes event fliers, event programs, clippings, poems, and a menu.

Box 1, Folder 24  
Memorials 1987-1993

Box 1, Folder 25  
Memorials and obituaries for Michael Shere 1994

Box 2, Folder 2  
"Music" short story and sheet music undated

Box 2, Folder 3  
Next in Line 1992

Box 2, Folder 4-6  
Notepads of Shere writings and notes undated

Box 2, Folder 7  
Notebooks of Shere writings and notes undated

Box 2, Folder 8-9  
Outing of Tommy Morgan 1991

Box 2, Folder 10  
Performing arts administrative records 1989-1992

Box 2, Folder 11-14  
Pluck and Luck Musical 1989

Box 2, Folder 15  
Present Laughter 1990

Box 2, Folder 16  
Project files 1985-1992
Scope and Contents
Includes grant writing seminar materials, a background summary of Oscar Wilde, and a Pasadena Public Library centennial time capsule inventory from 1986.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 2, Folder 17</th>
<th>Resumes 1980-1984, undated</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 18</td>
<td>Rough Crossing 1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 19</td>
<td>Set and sound design materials 1988-1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2, Folder 20</td>
<td>Songs for Elsa undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 1-6</td>
<td>Scripts 1986-1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 7</td>
<td>Spirituality and self-discovery materials 1985-1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 8</td>
<td>Subject files primarily on gay and writing topics 1982-1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 9</td>
<td>Theater fliers and programs 1987-1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 2-5</td>
<td>Photographic prints undated, 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comprises 14 black-and-white theater performance images, 6 black-and-white and color personal images of events, 7 black-and-white headshots, and 15 black-and-white theater rehearsal images.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4, Folder 8</th>
<th>Pointer Sisters plaque honoring Shere undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 6</td>
<td>Posters, spirituality and theater related undated</td>
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</tbody>
</table>