Finding Aid to the Ed Menerth Papers Coll2014.050

Michael C. Oliveira
Processing this collection has been funded by a generous grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90007
(213) 821-2771
askone@usc.edu
**Language of Material:** English

**Contributing Institution:** ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

**Title:** Ed Menerth papers

**creator:** Menerth, Ed (Edward Franklin)

**Identifier/Call Number:** Coll2014.050

**Physical Description:** 2.0 Linear Feet, 1 archives box, 2 archives cartons.

**Date (inclusive):** 1942-1998

**Abstract:** Photographs, coded notes on erotic films, correspondence, and diaries, 1942-1998 of acting and vocal coach, Ed Menerth. Menerth attended Pennsylvania State University and was an acting coach at the University of Miami. He continued his acting and vocal coaching in West Hollywood, California, where he was a literary agent for Dale Garrick International.

**Language of Material:** English

**Arrangement**
The materials Menerth collected and placed in numbered binders precede his papers and photographs arranged in chronological order.

**Series 1: Binders**

**Series 2: Papers and photographs**

**Biographical Note**
One of Menerth's diaries lists his home address as Mountainside, New Jersey which corresponds to the issuing state of his Social Security number. He served in the United States Army Signal Corp in 1944. He earned his master's degree from Pennsylvania State University and by 1953 worked in the drama department at the University of Miami. In 1971 his book, *Singing in style: A guide to performance techniques of vocal literature from the Middle Ages to the present day* was published. By the mid-1970s he had relocated to West Hollywood, California, where he continued his acting and voice coaching. During this time he also was a literary agent with the Dale Garrick International Agency. And in the mid-to-late 1970s he reviewed books and motion pictures for *Drummer* magazine, using the pseudonym Ed Franklin. Menerth died in 2001.

**Sources:**


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

**Conditions Governing Use**
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the ONE Archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives at USC Libraries as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**
The Ed Menerth papers were a gift of the attorney for estate of Ed Menerth in 2001.

**Other Finding Aids**


Reflections on Directing a Thespian Show by Ed Menerth, 1952. Penn State Thespians Records (1409), Penn State University Archives, Special Collections Library, Pennsylvania State University.

**Preferred Citation**

**Processing Information**
Collection processed by Robert Graves, Patrick Mansfield and Michael C. Oliveira, August 2014.

**Scope and Content**
The collection, 1942-1998, primarily consists of headshots, coded notes on erotic videos, and Polaroids of nude actors. The collection also includes limited correspondence, personal photographs, and two multi-year diaries.

**Separated Materials**
Seperated to ONE catalog collection:
1992 KW Enterprises Bondage Products Catalog.
RoB Amsterdam catalog, copyright 1988.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Diaries
Gays -- Correspondence
Photographs
Gay erotic photography
Menerth, Ed (Edward Franklin)

**Binders 1977-1998**
Physical Description: 1.2 Linear Feet
Scope and Content
The series consists of the contents of three-ring binders, primarily actors’ headshots, Menerth’s coded notes on erotic videos, and Polaroids of nude actors.

**Box 1, folder 1-24**
**Binder documents 1977-1998**
Physical Description: 24 Files

**Papers and Photographs 1942-1993**
Physical Description: 0.8 Linear Feet
Scope and Content
The series contains two four-year diaries, personal photographs, correspondence, actors’ headshots, and erotic photography.

**Box 2, folder 1**
**Diaries 1942-1946, 1949-1953**
**Box 2, Folder 2**
**Personal photographs 1944-1979**
Scope and Content
The personal photographs folder contain a photographic print of Tennessee Williams with Menerth.

**Box 2, Folder 5**
**Correspondence 1972-1992**
**Box 2, Folder 6-17**
**Headshots (actors) 1974-1977, undated**
Scope and Contents
Includes photographs of Neil Breen, Jesse Will Deane (Jason Dewitt), Frank Halstead, Jason Hewison, Kevin James, Michael Kearns (Grant Tracy Saxon), Tye Lamont, David Miller, John Millious, William Quinn, Bob Reynolds, Gary Schneider, and Jan Michael Vincent.

**Box 3, folder 1-2**
**Erotic photographs 1955-1993, undated**
Physical Description: 2 Files
negatives, contact sheets, photographic prints, and slides
Scope and Content
Includes images of James (Mike), Lance (David Reis), Mandingo, Chris Allen, the Christy Twins (Dyer Twins), Trenton Comeaux, Duff Paxton, Randy Ranger (Randy Grossnickle), and Clyde Dayton Wallace.
Box 3, Folder 3-7  **Palace of Pleasure (Marathon Films) 1980**  
Physical Description: 5 folders, negatives, contact sheets, photographic prints, and slides  
Scope and Content  
Includes scene stills from the *Palace of Pleasures* including *The Boxer, the Trainer, the Biker* with Jason Onassis, Ted Adams, and Vic Bruno; *Fooling Around* with Jeremy Scott and David Scott; *Hot Tubs* with Shaun Victors and Jon Conrad; *Lifeguard and Surfers* with J.W. King and Tim Christy; *Tenderfoot and the Cowboy* with Jack Wrangler and Jim Rodgers.

Box 3, folder 8  **Katharsis 1987-1988**  
Scope and Content  
The folder consists of the publications of Katharsis (Daytona Beach, Florida), a fantasy magazine that focuses on physical and/or mental abuse of men.

Box 3, folder 9  **Applications (slaves) 1990-1991**  
Scope and Content  
The folder consists of applications to serve as a slave. Attached to one of the applications is a check from Menerth to the applicant.

Box 2, Folder 4  **Programs 1954-1975**  
Scope and Content  
The personal photographs folder contain photographic prints of Menerth with Ted Shawn and Menerth with Tennessee Williams.

Box 3  **Headshots and publicity stills undated**  
Physical Description: 20 Photographic Prints  
Scope and Content  
Includes images of models represented by Dale Garrick International Agency and others including David Dybstra, Tom Fielding, Tom & Steve Fern, Bod Fuller, James Houghton, Don Johnson, Rick Juarez, Jim Mahoney, Michael Monroe, John Mooney, Bruce Morgan, Sonny Padilla, Junior, Jon Pearson, Eric Thompson, and Gary Toy.

Box 2, Folder 3  **Signed photographs 1950s-1984**  
Scope and Content  
The folder contains signed photographic prints and notes of thanks to Menerth.