Guide to the Virginia Prince Papers, 1930-1980

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Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: Virginia Prince Papers
Dates: 1930-1980
Identification: SC/VP
Creator: Prince, Virginia, 1912-2009
Physical Description: 1.67 linear feet
Language of Materials: English
Repository: Special Collections

Abstract: Virginia Prince established, edited, and wrote for the magazine Transvestia. As editor and writer for Transvestia, Prince collected newspaper clippings, magazine articles, cartoons, and photographs on cross dressing that appeared in other print media outlets. The clippings date from the 1930s to 1970s. She subscribed to a news service which scanned a number of publications across the country, and sent clippings to her. The clippings file served as a resource for the magazine.

Biographical Information:
Virginia Prince was born a male on November 23, 1912, in Los Angeles. She began cross-dressing at about the age of twelve, at first using her mother's clothes. In 1939, she received a PhD in pharmacology from the University of California, San Francisco. As a research assistant and lecturer in pharmacology, Prince used the opportunity of access to the medical library to become acquainted with medical literature on transvestism.

By 1956, Prince began to develop her philosophy of transvestism and began her mission to educate the medical profession, transvestites themselves, and the rest of the world. This involved the development of the idea of 'femmophilia', or, love of the feminine. Prince preferred to call herself a femmophile (FP) rather than a transvestite. At the time little information was available in print, even in the medical literature, and most people's knowledge of transvestism was gleaned from newspapers such as the British People and News of the World.

In 1960, Prince established Transvestia, a magazine she also edited and wrote for. The magazine was published by Prince's Chevalier Publications, and was sold by subscription and through adult bookshops. Over the years Chevalier Publications also published transvestite fiction, some of it written by Prince herself. Prince continued her efforts on behalf of the transvestite and transgender communities until shortly before her death in 2009.

Access Terms
This collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Genre/Form of Material:
Paper records
Publications

Personal Name:
Ashley, April, 1935
Coccinelle, 1935
Cowell, Roberta, 1918
Jorgensen, Christine, 1926-1989
Rees, Tamara

Topical Term:
Transsexuals -- Press coverage
Transvestites -- Press coverage

Processing Information:
Tony Gardner

Conditions Governing Use:
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Conditions Governing Access:
The collection is open for research use.

**Preferred Citation:**
For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the [Citing Archival Materials](#) guide.

**Related Materials:**
This collection is a part of the [Vern and Bonnie Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender](#).

**Arrangement of Materials:**
Series I: People
Series II: Advertisements, Cartoons, and Newspaper Photographs
Series III: Dated News Clippings, 1930-1972
Series IV: Topical News Clippings

**Scope and Contents**
As editor and writer for *Transvestia*, Virginia Prince collected newspaper clippings, magazine articles, cartoons, and photographs on cross dressing that appeared in various print media outlets. The clippings date from the 1930s to 1970s, and served as a resource for the magazine.

The *Virginia Prince Papers* are arranged into five series. Series I, People, contains clippings about specific individuals, and is arranged alphabetically. Series II, Advertisements, Cartoons, and Newspaper Photographs, is arranged alphabetically by format or title. Series III, Dated News Clippings (1930-1972), is arranged chronologically. Series IV, Topical News Clippings, is arranged alphabetically by subject. Series V, News Clippings A-Z (1937-1972), is arranged alphabetically by publication title.

### Series I: People

| Box 1, Folder 1 | April Ashley |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | April Ashley |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Bambi (Jean Pierre Rene or Jean Pierre Pruvot) |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Gladys Bentley |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | John Breckinridge |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Coccinelle |
| Box 1, Folder 7 | Compton Cutridge (Softball) |
| Box 1, Folder 8 | Roberta Cowell |
| Box 1, Folder 9 | Roberta Cowell |
| Box 1, Folder 10 | Julie Desmond |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | Senorita Herrero |
| Box 1, Folder 12 | Christine Jorgensen, 1950s |
| Box 1, Folder 13 | Christine Jorgensen, 1950s |
| Box 1, Folder 14 | Christine Jorgensen (3 of 5), 1950s |
| Box 1, Folder 15 | Christine Jorgensen, 1950s |
| Box 1, Folder 16 | Christine Jorgensen, 1950s |
| Box 1, Folder 17 | Peter Kastner |
| Box 1, Folder 18 | Tizzie Lish |
| Box 1, Folder 19 | Frank Little |
| Box 1, Folder 20 | Arnold Lowman |
| Box 1, Folder 21 | Rev. William C. Mclmont |
| Box 1, Folder 22 | Charlotte McLeod (Charles McLeod) |
| Box 1, Folder 23 | Delisa Newton |
| Box 1, Folder 24 | Martha Olmos (Jorge Olmos) |
| Box 1, Folder 25 | Wilfred Pettitt |
| Box 1, Folder 26 | Michelle Marie Poulain (Michael Poulain) |
| Box 1, Folder 27 | Tamara Rees |
| Box 1, Folder 28 | Tamara Rees |
| Box 1, Folder 29 | George M. Sanchez |
Series I: People

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Box 1, Folder 31
Titanic (George Rodgers)

Box 1, Folder 32
Georgina Turtle (George Turtle)

Box 1, Folder 33
Alberto Vargas

Box 1, Folder 34
Dr. Hugh Young

Series II: Advertisements, Cartoons, and Photographs

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Archie Comic Strips

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Blondie Comic Strips

Box 1, Folder 38
Dick Tracy Comic Strips

Box 1, Folder 39
Mutt and Jeff Comic Strips

Box 1, Folder 40
Cartoons

Box 1, Folder 41
Cartoons

Box 1, Folder 42
"Mirror of Your Mind" Articles

Box 1, Folder 43
Newspaper Photographs

Box 1, Folder 44
Newspaper Photographs

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Newspaper Photographs

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Newspaper Photographs

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Newspaper Photographs

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Newspaper Photographs

Box 1, Folder 49
Newspaper Photographs

Box 1, Folder 50
Newspaper Photographs

Box 1, Folder 51
Newspaper Photographs

Series III: Dated News Clippings, 1930-1972

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Box 2, Folder 4
March 1947

Box 2, Folder 5
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Box 2, Folder 6
June 1947

Box 2, Folder 7
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Box 2, Folder 8
June 1948

Box 2, Folder 9
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Box 2, Folder 10
June 1949

Box 2, Folder 11
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Box 2, Folder 12
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Box 2, Folder 13
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Box 2, Folder 14
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Box 3, Folder 77  Largo Sentinel, 1955
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