Silvia Kohan papers

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Silvia Kohan papers  
Dates: 1948-2007  
Collection Number: 2008-46  
Creator/Collector:  
Extent: 2 linear feet (1 carton, 2 boxes)  
Repository: GLBT Historical Society  
San Francisco, California 94103  
Abstract: The Silvia Kohan papers document the life and musical career of this Argentinian-Jewish lesbian singer and songwriter and contains journals; scrapbooks; correspondence and e-mails; photographs that date back to her childhood; music and lyrics; publicity materials; DVDs and audio recordings of her music, materials from her memorial; and costumes.  
Language of Material: English  
Access  
Collection is open for research. Funding for processing this collection was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).  
Publication Rights  
Copyright has been transferred to the GLBT Historical Society.  
Preferred Citation  
Silvia Kohan papers. GLBT Historical Society  
Acquisition Information  
Scope and Content of Collection  
The Silvia Kohan papers document the life and musical career of this Argentinian-Jewish lesbian singer and songwriter. Kohan (1948-2003) was known for her big voice, flamboyant costumes and showy stage presence. Her family emigrated from Argentina in 1957 when she was ten years old, and she learned English by singing show tunes. Starting in 1965, she toured Europe, Asia and the U.S. with “Up With People.” Kohan was also a lead performer in the Venice Free Theatre in Los Angeles. Her only commercial album, “Finally Real,” was produced by George Winston and released in 1984. Her best known original song was called “Fat Girl Blues.” The collection contains journals; scrapbooks; correspondence and e-mails; photographs that date back to her childhood; music and lyrics; publicity materials; DVDs and audio recordings of her music, performances, and life; materials from her memorial; and costumes. The photographs are unsorted, but Kohan’s sister, Feliza, has identified many of them.  
Indexing Terms  
Lesbians  
Jewish people  
Music  
Latinx people  

Silvia Kohan Container List