Song of the Loon collection

Finding aid created by Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society staff using RecordEXPRESS
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society
657 Mission Street, #300
San Francisco, California 94105
(415) 777-5455
reference@glbthistory.org
http://www.glbthistory.org/
2015
Descriptive Summary
Title: Song of the Loon collection
Dates: 1966-1998
Collection Number: 2003-35
Creator/Collector: Sayles, Shan V.
Extent: 3 cartons (3 linear feet)
Repository: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society
San Francisco, California 94105
Abstract: This collection contains materials related to “Song of the Loon,” one of the first feature films made by and for gay men. The collection contains the original positive and negative 35mm and 16mm prints of the film, videotapes, financial records, promotional materials, a copy of the screenplay, and Polaroid snapshots.
Language of Material: English
Access
Collection is open for research. Funding for processing this collection was provided by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR).
Preferred Citation
Song of the Loon collection. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society
Acquisition Information
Gift of Shan V. Sayles in July 2003.
Scope and Content of Collection
This collection contains materials related to “Song of the Loon,” one of the first feature films made by and for gay men. Released in 1970, it was based on the popular 1966 novel of the same name by Richard Amory, who also wrote the screenplay. Shan V. Sayles, owner of several gay male theaters including San Francisco's Nob Hill Cinema, produced the film. Publicity material called the “Song of the Loon” a romantic all-male saga of the Old West. The collection contains the original positive and negative 35mm and 16mm prints of the film, videotapes, financial records, promotional materials, a copy of the screenplay, and Polaroid snapshots, including pictures of the cast goofing around on the set. Researchers should note that some materials are housed at the Outfest Legacy Project at the UCLA Film and Television Archive. Cartons 1-2 contain prints/negatives of the film and 2 ¾” videotapes. Carton 3 includes candid photographs; flyers, posters, advertisements and other publicity materials, such as a press book and publicity photos; a screenplay; employment and theater contracts; articles about the “making of” “Song of the Loon”; a copy of the novel; and the 1998 Something Weird release of “Song of the Loon.” There is also a Umatic video featuring footage from the hardcore pornographic film, “Boys in Chains, circa late 1960s; and VHS tapes from BFP Video’s “Duo Series” from the 1990s.
Indexing Terms
Song of the loon (Motion picture)
Male homosexuality in motion pictures.