Mark Thompson Collection

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2020
Descriptive Summary

Title: Mark Thompson Collection

Dates: 1987-2008

Collection Number: gtu 2011-11-01

Creator/Collector: Thompson, Mark (1952-2016) The Advocate

Extent: 3.5 linear feet (3 record boxes, 1 5" box, 1 2" flat box)

Repository: Graduate Theological Union

Abstract: Mark Thompson (1952-August 9, 2016) wrote and edited several influential queer books, including the trilogy Gay Spirit, Gay Soul, and Gay Body. His other books include The Fire in the Moonlight: Stories from the Radical Faeries; Leatherfolk: Radical Sex, People, Politics, and Practice; and Long Road to Freedom: The Advocate History of the Gay and Lesbian Movement. The collection consists of photographs and working files for Mark Thompson’s book Gay Soul, publicity and drafts of Gay Spirit and an oral history.

Language of Material: English

Access

Collection is open to the public.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Mark Thompson Collection. Graduate Theological Union

Acquisition Information

“The Mark Thompson Collection” belongs to the larger archival collection of The Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion (CLGS) at Pacific School of Religion, a member school of The Graduate Theological Union. Materials received in November 2011. The GTU Archives is the designated repository.

Biography/Administrative History

Mark Thompson (1952-August 9, 2016) was born and raised on the Monterrey Peninsula. He attended San Francisco State, where he was a founding member of the Bay Area-wide Gay Students Coalition. He joined The Advocate as writer-editor in the mid-1970s and remained there for several decades. His books on gay culture included the trilogy Gay Spirit, Gay Soul, and Gay Body as well as the books The Fire in the Moonlight: Stories from the Radical Faeries; Leatherfolk: Radical Sex, People, Politics, and Practice; and Long Road to Freedom: The Advocate History of the Gay and Lesbian Movement. He died a year after his companion and husband, Malcolm Boyd, an Episcopal priest and one of the most influential gay figures in religion, passed away.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection includes photographs and working files on Thompson’s book Gay Soul: drafts, reviews, publicity and interviews on Gay Spirit: exhibition materials for several photography shows; and an oral history from 1994. Additional photographs from the Fellow Travelers exhibition are stored at CLGS.

Indexing Terms

Gay men -- United States -- Biography
Gay men -- United States -- Psychology
Gay men -- Religious life -- United States
Spiritual life -- United States
Gay Liberation Movement — United States — History
Thompson, Mark (1952-2016)
Boyd, Malcolm (1923-2015)
The Advocate
Los Angeles, Calif
San Francisco, Calif
Journalist
Photographer

Mark Thompson inventory