Guide to the Los Angeles Rave Flyers Collection, 1990s-2000s

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Overview of the Collection

Collection Title: Los Angeles Rave Flyers Collection, 1990s-2000s
Dates: 1990-2000
Bulk Dates: 1990s-2000s
Identification: MS-0553
Physical Description: 0.79 linear ft
Repository: Special Collections & University Archives

Administrative History:
The 1990s opened up new doors for music. In contrast to the dour and anti-fashion ethos of grunge rock, the emerging rave scene celebrated bright colors, fun, and pleasure, fueled by electronic dance music and drugs, including LSD and, of course, Ecstasy. In Los Angeles, a capitol of entertainment home to large numbers of bored suburban teens, the rave scene exploded. Writing in 2001 for Spin magazine, David J. Prince and Todd C. Roberts described the L.A. warehouse scene, "a strange combination of post-punks, goths, homeboys, visiting Brits, and art school refugees" congregating to the sound of British acid house. In time the fashions and musical genres evolved, as did the scale of the raves, from small-scale underground events to massive festivals attended by tens of thousands of partiers.

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Counterculture--California--Los Angeles--Pictorial works
Raves (Parties)--California--Los Angeles--Pictorial Works

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Identification of item, box number, Los Angeles Rave Flyers Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, Library and Information Access, San Diego State University.

Related Materials:
Southern California Underground Music Collection

Scope and Contents:
A collection of 153 Los Angeles area rave flyers from the mid 1990s to the mid 2000s. Some of the biggest festivals and names are represented, such as Electric Daisy Carnival, DJ Doc Martin and DJ Quest, and the Baka Boyz. The flyers show the evolution of the scene from illegal house parties to professionally promoted events. The imagery is typical of the west
coast rave scene, including brightly colored flowers and cartoon characters.