Finding Aid for the Max Ward Collection of Powerviolence Material, 1990s-early 2000s LSC.2345

Finding aid prepared by Kuhelika Ghosh, 2017
UCLA Library Special Collections
Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library
Box 951575
Los Angeles, CA, 90095-1575
(310) 825-4988
spec-coll@library.ucla.edu
Online finding aid last updated 16 January 2018.
Title: Max Ward Collection of Powerviolence material
Identifier/Call Number: LSC.2345
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 5.6 linear feet (10 boxes, 2 flat oversize boxes)
Date (inclusive): 1990s-early 2000s
Abstract: The collection documents the emergence of the Powerviolence music scene, a little known subgenre of hardcore punk, which was primarily active in the 1990s through the early 2000s. Materials consists of original fliers, posters, handbills, correspondence, photographs, stickers, zines, and patches collected by San Francisco Bay Area drummer, Max Ward.
Language of Materials: Materials are primarily in English with a small amount in Japanese.
Physical Location: Stored off-site at SRLF. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.
Creator: Ward, Max
Conditions Governing Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.
Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use
Property rights to the physical object belong to the UCLA Library Special Collections. Literary rights, including copyright, are retained by the creators and their heirs. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine who holds the copyright and pursue the copyright owner or his or her heir for permission to publish where The UC Regents do not hold the copyright.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Max Ward Collection of Powerviolence Material (Collection 2345). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library.
Provenance/Source of Acquisition
Purchase, Johnson Rare Books & Archives, 2017.
Processing Information
Processed by Kuhelika Ghosh in 2017 under the supervision of Courtney Dean in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT).
General note
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 8229204
Biography/History
Powerviolence is a subgenre of hardcore punk known for dissonant, fast, and short songs with constant tempo changes. It emerged in the early 1990s, primarily on the West Coast of the United States, with bands like Man is the Bastard, Spazz, and Capitalist Casualties. Some trace the origins of powerviolence back to late 1980s hardcore bands such as Siege and SSD. Many of the leading powerviolence bands had dissolved by the early 2000s but some continue to tour.
Max Ward, sometimes known as Hirax Max, was a San Francisco Bay Area drummer who played in the bands Spazz, Plutocracy, Capitalist Casualties, What Happens Next?, Bombs of Death, and Scholastic Deth[sic]. He was a major influence in the powerviolence scene. Ward was also the founder of 625 Thrashcore Records, which booked tours and released records for local, national, and international powerviolence bands. He produced the zine Mosh of Ass and contributed to the zine Maximumrocknroll. As of 2017, Ward is a professor of History at Middlebury College in Vermont.
Scope and Content
The collection consists of materials collected by drummer Max Ward related to the powerviolence scene from the 1990s to early 2000s. Includes original fliers, posters, handbills, correspondence, photographs, stickers, zines and patches, documenting the emergence of the scene in the San Francisco Bay Area through to when Ward moved to Japan in the early 2000s.
Organization and Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
Series 1: Correspondence, photographs, and zines, 1990s-early 2000s
Series 2: Fliers and stickers, 1990s-early 2000s
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Ward, Max -- Archives.
Hardcore (Music)
Punk culture--California--20th century
Zines

Box 1  
**Series 1: Correspondence, photographs and zines 1990s-early 2000s**
Scope and Content
Contains over 400 pieces of correspondence to Max Ward, much of which is written on the back of fliers, including notes from Tony Foresta of the band Municipal Waste and Michael Thorn of Inept; band photographs, including Capitalist Casualties live in Japan; and approximately 20 zines including *Inhuman Conditions*, *Scream*, *Fear No Love*, and *The Crass Menagerie*.

Boxes 2-12  
**Series 2: Fliers and stickers 1990s-early 2000s**
Scope and Content
Contains original fliers, posters, handbills, stickers, and patches from powerviolence bands in the 1990s. Some of the bands represented include Crossed Out, Capitalist Casualties, Plutocracy, Dystopia, Spazz, and others booked by Ward or his record label 625 Thrashcore. The majority of fliers are from California but the collection also includes fliers from Japan in both English and Japanese.