



THE STATE OF TRANS BIPOC ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

March 28th, 2025

PANELISTS

Lou McCarthy, The LGBT Community Center
K.J. Rawson, Digital Transgender Archive
Raegan Swanson, The ArQuives
Lara Wilson, Transgender Archives @ UVic



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GRANT OVERVIEW



"Y'all Better Quiet Down": Trans BIPOC Digitization Initiative

10-archives collaboration led by the DTA to digitize a wide range of materials documenting transgender, gender non-conforming (GNC), and gender-expansive Black and Indigenous people of color (BIPOC)

DIGITAL RESOURCES

- ~20,500 pages of mixed archival materials
- ~600 images
- 22 audiovisual items

OUTCOMES

LEARNING RESOURCES

- 4-episode podcast
- 8-part video series
- Lesson plans

www.digitaltransgenderarchive.net



Transgender Archives @ UVic

<https://www.uvic.ca/transgenderarchives/>

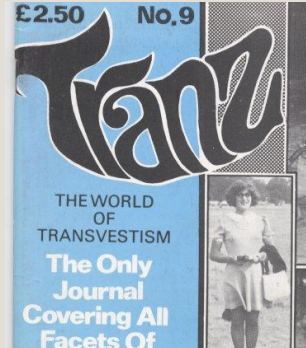
Formally launched in 2011, the Transgender Archives is a collaboration between Dr. Aaron Devor and the University of Victoria Libraries. Founded by Dr. Devor, the acquisition focus is rare print and archival materials related to early activists, community leaders, and researchers who have contributed to the betterment of Trans+ people.

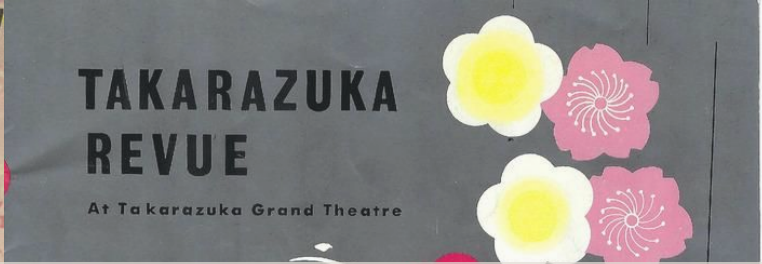
Located in Special Collections & University Archives.



Major Fonds and Collections @ UVic

- ❖ Rikki Swin Institute collection
- ❖ University of Ulster / TGA collection
- ❖ Reed Erickson & Erickson Educational Foundation funds
- ❖ Aiyyana Maracle fonds
- ❖ Red Jordan Arobateau fonds and monographs





Contributions to CLIR grant

- ❖ Red Jordan Arobateau fonds:
 - selection of self published books
 - publication ephemera
 - a-v materials
- ❖ Three Japanese serials from the Rikki Swin collection *FTM Japan, Queen, and the Takarazuka Revue Script Collection*
- ❖ 1982 Kathoey novel *Thang-Sai-Thee-Sam (The Third Pathway)* by Kiratree Chanar

宝塚歌劇

1968 / The Red-Haired Girl
Splendid Lover

The Center Archive

gaycenter.org/archives

The LGBT Community Center National History Archive is a community-based archive that collects, preserves, and makes available to the public the documentation of LGBTQ+ lives and organizations centered in and around New York.



The ArQuives

arquives.ca

The ArQuives was established to aid in the recovery and preservation of 2SLGBTQIA+ histories. Its mandate is to: Acquire, preserve, organize, and give public access to information and materials in any medium, by and about 2SLGBTQIA+ people, primarily produced in or concerning Canada.

THE ARQUIVES

Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives

Rupert Raj

Early Childhood



Professional career



Community organizing



Other Collections

Limitations

1. Restrictions
2. Size
3. Type of materials

THE **AR**QUIVES

Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives

CONVERSATION

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How do you respond to the hypervisibility of certain figures, such as Marsha and Sylvia, while others remain invisible?



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In what ways does resource scarcity affect the ability to collect and make accessible trans BIPOC histories?

How do you respond to the hypervisibility of certain figures, such as Marsha and Sylvia, while others remain invisible?

What role does digitization play in your stewardship of trans BIPOC collections?



NEXT STEPS

Moving forward, what steps are you taking to improve trans BIPOC archival collections?



Q&A



Thank You

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