
Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore Papers

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San Francisco Public Library. James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center

San Francisco Public Library

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2016

Descriptive Summary

Title: Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore Papers

Dates: 1990-2011 (bulk 1996-2011)

Collection Number: GLC 110

Creator/Collector: Sycamore, Mattilda Bernstein.

Extent: 3 cubic feet, 1 oversized flat box, 1 map folder

Repository: San Francisco Public Library. James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center
San Francisco, California 94102

Abstract: Mattilda is a writer and activist concerned with various issues within the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities. The major subjects include assimilation, gender, identity, and politics. The collection contains manuscripts, 'zines, published articles and books, photographs and audiovisual materials.

Language of Material: English

Access

The collection is available for use during San Francisco History Center hours.

Publication Rights

Copyright retained by Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore.

Preferred Citation

Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore Papers. San Francisco Public Library. James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center

Acquisition Information

Donated by Mattilda, a.k.a. Matt Bernstein Sycamore in three accessions, 2010, 2011, and 2012.

Biography/Administrative History

Mattilda has been known by various names throughout his life: born Matt Goldstein, published under Matt Bernstein Sycamore, Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore, and just Mattilda, Mattilda was editor of his high school yearbook, the literary magazine, is an avid diarist and writer, and has been involved with activism for GLBT issues, AIDS, and politics. He has lived in a variety of cities including New York and San Francisco. He was involved with ACT UP and was the co-founder of "Gay Shame" with one other person. Mattilda is the author of "The End of San Francisco" (2013) and the editor of five anthologies: "Tricks and Treats: Sex Workers Write About Their Clients" (2000); "That's Revolting: Queer Strategies for Resisting Assimilation" (2004); "Nobody Passes: Rejecting the Rules of Gender and Conformity" (2006); "Dangerous Families: Queer Writing on Surviving" (2004); "Why Are Faggots So Afraid of Faggots? Flaming Challenges to Masculinity, Objectification, and the Desire to Conform" (2012).

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection is roughly grouped into series: Manuscripts and Writing; Subject Files; 'Zines; Photographs; Yearbook; Diaries / Journals; Books and Magazines; Audiovisual Materials; and, Realia. Roughly half is heavily drafts of The End of San Francisco and the submitted and edited drafts and correspondence for the anthology Why Are Faggots So Afraid of Faggots? It also contains a number of 'zines, such as Gay Shame and Swallow Your Pride, which Mattilda produced, articles and reviews written by Mattilda, and several published interviews of Mattilda.

Indexing Terms

Assimilation (Sociology).

Conformity.

Gays--Identity.

Gender Identity.

Masculinity.

Sycamore, Mattilda Bernstein--Archives.

Zines.

[Collection inventory](#)
