

The Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives

**Digitization + Access: Four Case Studies
from Art and Media Collections**

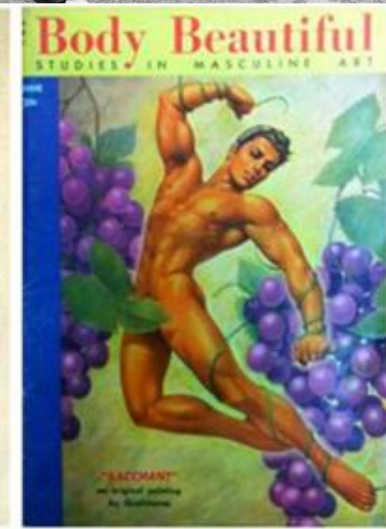
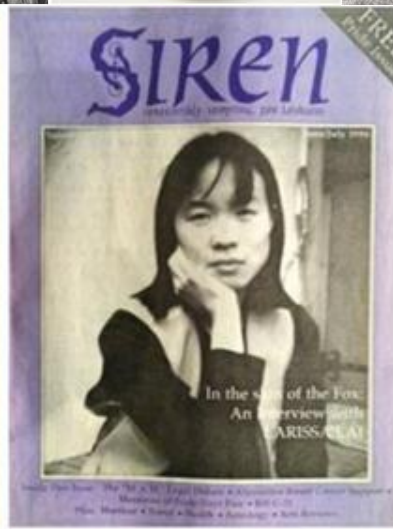
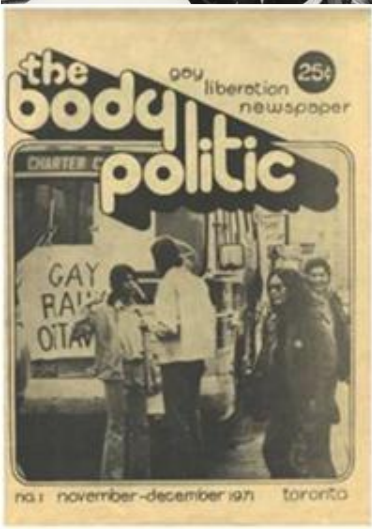
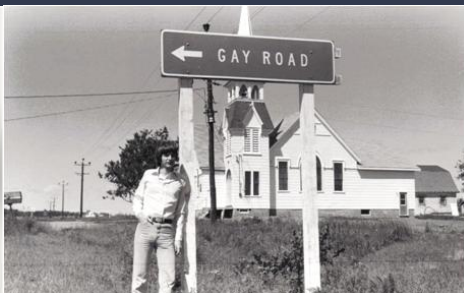
**Raegan Swanson
Executive Director**

CLGA
CANADIAN
LESBIAN + GAY
ARCHIVES

In 1973, The Body Politic collective founded the **Canadian Gay Liberation Movement Archives**

The Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives (CLGA) is the largest independent LGBTQ2+ archives in the world. With a focus on Canadian LGBTQ2+ content, the CLGA acquires, preserves, and provides public access to information and archival materials in any medium.

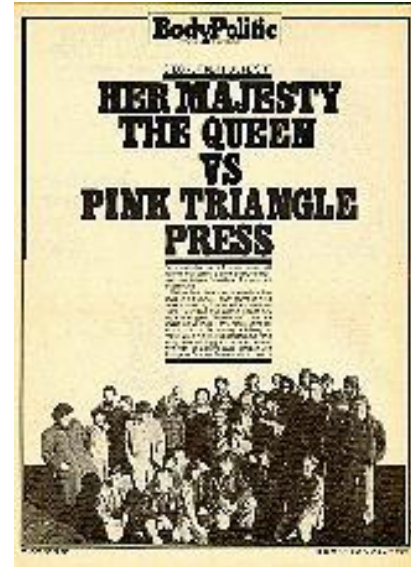
The collection



Independence

Dec 30, 1977 – Police raid *The Body Politic* offices taking away 12 boxes of material including CGA materials.

Jan 5, 1978 – Charges are laid against *Pink Triangle Press* including Ken Popert, Ed Jackson, and Gerald Hannon.

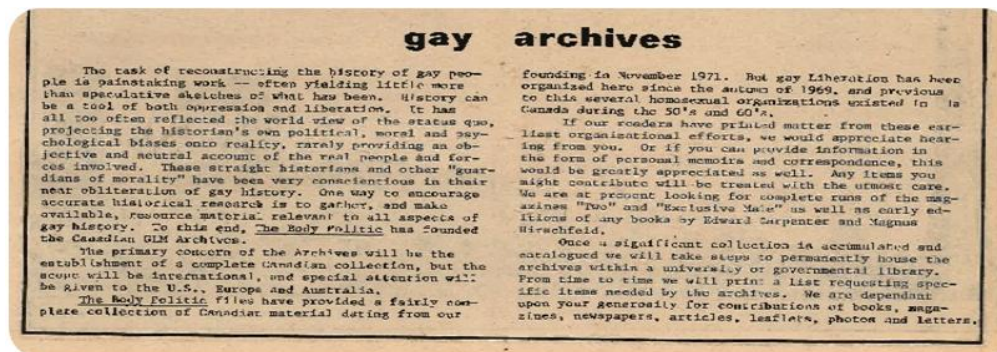


Independence

1979 – Members of the CGA decide to separate from *Pink Triangle Press*.

1980 – Canadian Gay Archives incorporates.

1981 – After a legal challenge the CGA is granted charitable status.

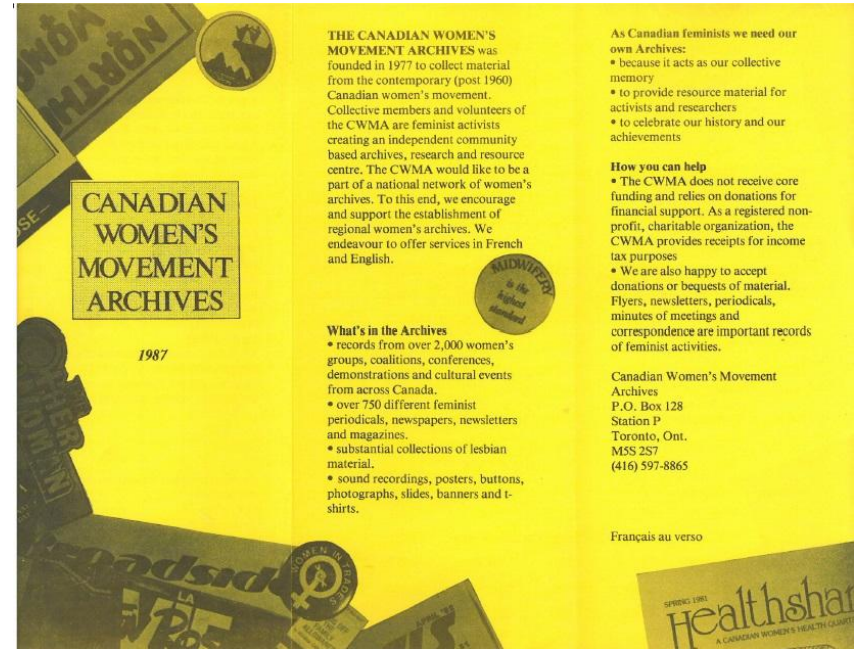


History

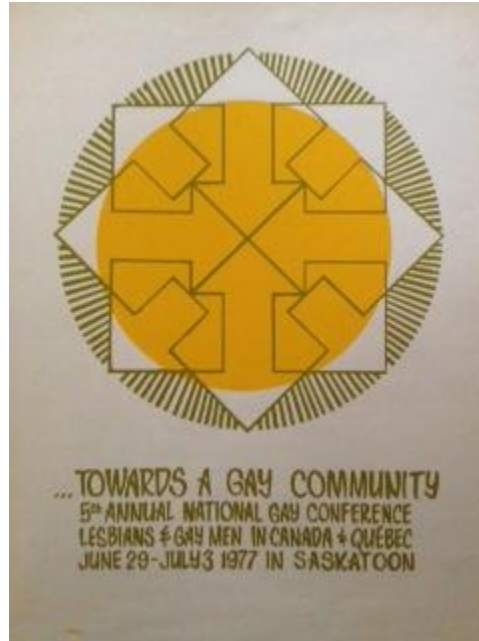
1992 – *The Canadian Women's Movement Archives* closed.

1992 – The collective was dissolved in favour of a 9 person board of directors.

1993 – CGA renamed to *Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives*.



incomplete collections = incomplete history



Tools: OMKEA



KEEPING OUR
STORIES ALIVE

CLGA HOME

DIGITAL COLLECTION

ITEMS

EXHIBITS

ABOUT



Welcome to the CLGA's digital collections. Explore highlights from the world's largest independent collection of LGBTQ+ documentary heritage. Meet the people, places and organizations that have made a difference for LGBTQ+ Canada. Discover more in person at the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives at 34 Isabella Street in Toronto, Ontario.

SEARCH

TYPE HERE AND PRESS ENTER



Tools: partnerships

LGBTQ HISTORY | **Digital Collaboratory**

Connecting scholars, activists, and archives across Canada and the U.S. to produce a collaborative, digital history hub for gay, lesbian, queer, and trans* oral histories.

Scholars in Residence Digital
Collections Lab

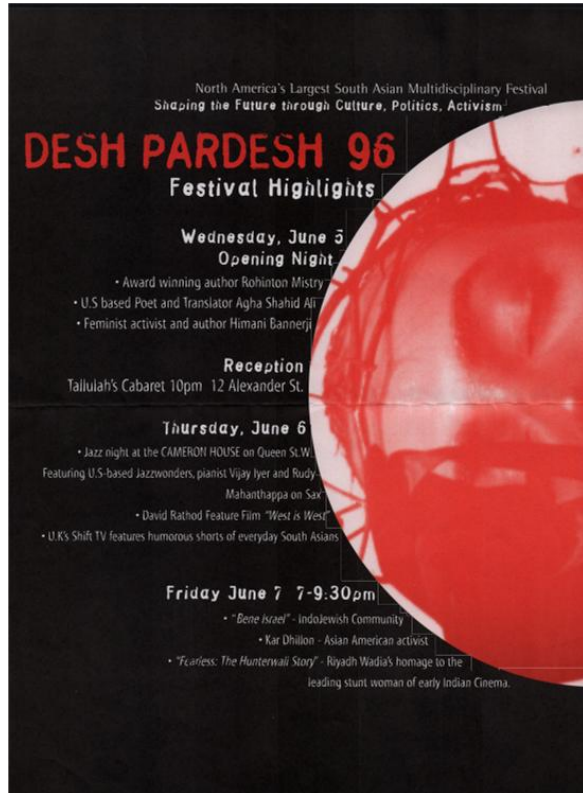
Not a Place on the Map Desh Pardesh
Oral History Project

Mirha-Soleil Ross Archives

SRS Activism in Ontario

Foolscap Project

Desh Pardesh in collab with SAVAC

A poster for the Desh Pardesh 96 festival. The background is black with a large, stylized red globe on the right side. The text is white and red. At the top, it says "North America's Largest South Asian Multidisciplinary Festival" and "Shaping the Future through Culture, Politics, Activism". Below that, "DESH PARDESH 96" is written in large red letters, followed by "Festival Highlights" in white. The poster lists events for Wednesday, June 5 (Opening Night), Thursday, June 6, and Friday, June 7 (7-9:30pm).

North America's Largest South Asian Multidisciplinary Festival
Shaping the Future through Culture, Politics, Activism

DESH PARDESH 96

Festival Highlights

Wednesday, June 5
Opening Night

- Award winning author Rohinton Mistry
- U.S based Poet and Translator Agha Shahid Ali
- Feminist activist and author Himani Bannerji

Reception
Tallulah's Cabaret 10pm 12 Alexander St.

Thursday, June 6

- Jazz night at the CAMERON HOUSE on Queen St.W.
- Featuring U.S-based Jazzwonders, pianist Vijay Iyer and Rudy Mahanthappa on Sax
- David Rathod Feature Film "West is West"
- U.K's Shift TV features humorous shorts of everyday South Asians

Friday June 7 7-9:30pm

- "Bene Israel" - IndoJewish Community
- Kar Dhillon - Asian American activist
- "Fearless: The Hunterwali Story" - Riyadh Wadia's homage to the leading stunt woman of early Indian Cinema.

Desh Pardesh was a South Asian arts festival that was held between the years 1988 and 2001. It began under the name Salaam Toronto in collaboration with the Khush collective — an organization for gay men of South Asian background.

NOT A PLACE ON THE MAP: DESH PARDESH, 1988-2001

INTRODUCTION SOCIO-POLITICAL BACKGROUND LISTEN TO THE INTERVIEWS

DESH PARDESH 1988-1989 DESH PARDESH 1990 DESH PARDESH 1991 DESH PARDESH 1993-1994

DESH PARDESH 1995 DESH PARDESH 1996 DESH PARDESH 1997-1999 DESH PARDESH 2000-2001

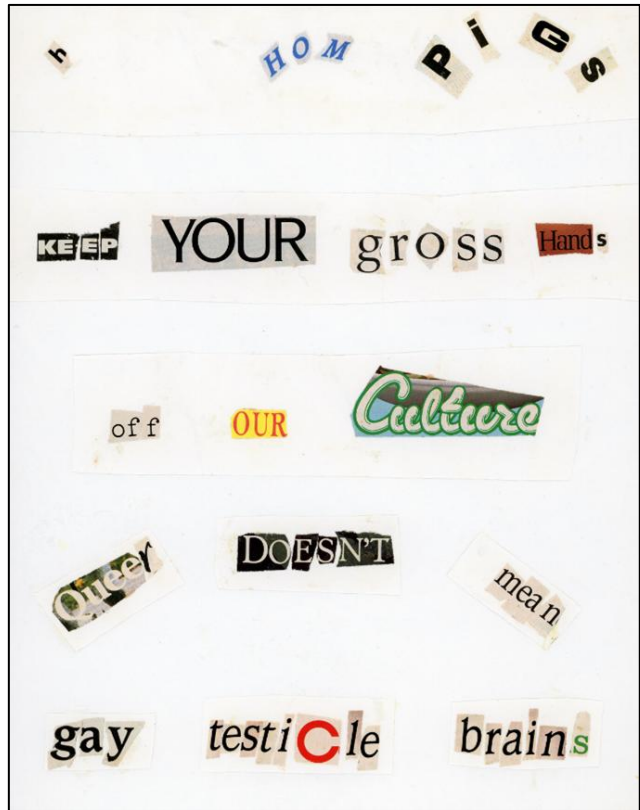
LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

INTRODUCTION



Desh Pardesh was a South Asian arts festival that was held between the years 1988 and 2001. It began under the name Salaam Toronto in collaboration with the Khush collective — an organization for gay men of South Asian background. We have collaborated with the Canadian and Lesbian Gay Archives (CLGA), the South Asian Visual Arts Centre (SAVAC) and the LGBTQ Oral History Digital Collaboratory to compile an oral history of this festival. Our findings are presented below. These oral history interviews with artists and organizers involved in the festival were created by the South Asian Visual Arts Centre in 2016.

Mirha-Soleil Ross & gendertrash



GENDERTRASH: TRANSEXUAL ZINE, 1993-1995

INTRO "TRANSSEXUAL SISTERHOOD IS POWERFUL": THE MAKING OF GENDERTRASH

BUTTONS AS ACTIVISM A NOTE ON TERMINOLOGY GENDERTRASH GALLERY

INTRO



1993 photograph of Xanthra Phillippa MacKay (left) and Mirha-Soleil Ross, the creators of *gendertrash*. Photo by Jennifer O'Connor.

GENDERTRASH

gendertrash is a zine/periodical "devoted to the issues & concerns of transsexuals." Its four issues were published by Mirha-Soleil Ross and Xanthra Phillippa MacKay in Toronto from 1993-1995.

[Click here to go to the interactive order form, where you can read full issues of *gendertrash* and look at buttons sold by genderpress.](#)

Click on the links at the top for more information on the history of *gendertrash* and related archival holdings in the Mirha-Soleil Ross fonds.

Digital collection by Sid Cunningham, Caleigh Inman, and MacKenzie Stewart.

Created in collaboration with the [LGBTQ Oral History Digital](#)

[Collaboratory](#). The Collaboratory is directed by Dr. Elspeth Brown and funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Intro

"Transsexual Sisterhood is Powerful":
The Making of Gendertrash →

Escondidos no more! & Myseum of Toronto



Neighbours

Saturday August 20th
Neighbours spices things up with a hot little Latin dish

with **Miss Gay Universe '93**

with special guests:
Karina
Sussy Krisash
Dee Dee

10:30 & 12:00
Isabella St. 960-1200



DRAG BEAUTY PAGEANT

MISS
LATIN AMERICA
Voces del Recuerdo -1991



Bar & Rest.: Voces del Recuerdo (384 College St.)
January 13th; 7:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Orchestra: "Fuerza Latina" Fee: \$10.00

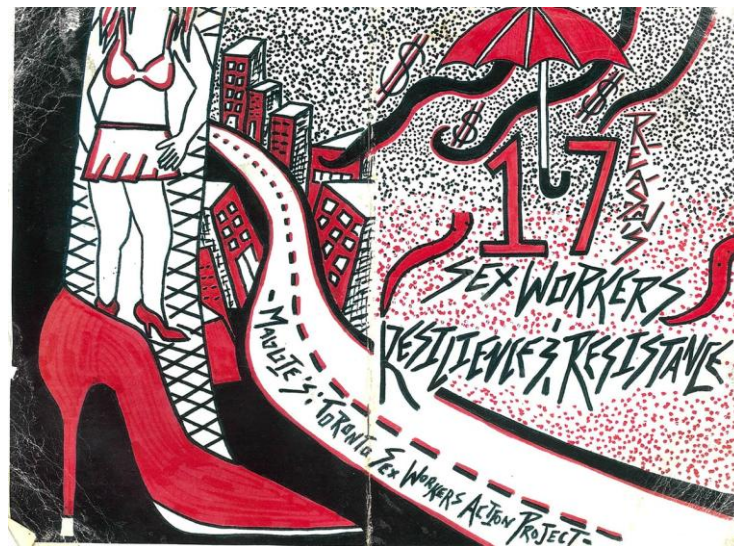
open, 7 days a week

Escondidos no more!



Database – Inmagic

- Grants from Pride and Remembrance Foundation
- Corporate Donation from TD Bank
- Hire new staff
- Project will go online March 2019



A hand drawn cover of the 2011 Sex Worker's Resilience and Resistance Zine, created by Maggie's: The Toronto Sex Workers Action Project.

What did we learn...

- Money will forever be the main issue for programming.
- Prioritising collections means hiring community members.
- Don't say you have time if you don't actually make time to do it.
- MOU's and project plans are key to keeping the project going. Make sure everyone knows their part.
- If the community members aren't involved from the start, it's not good community engagement.
- New deed of gift paperwork should include online content restrictions.

March 11, 2019

1. Name Change
2. Database will go online

Watch our website for more info.

Questions?

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clga.ca

[@clgarchives](https://twitter.com/clgarchives)