



STEPHAN D. MICHAEL PAPERS

Coll2008-045

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Descriptive Summary

Title

Stephan D. Michael Papers

Creator

Michael, Stephan D., 1960-1994

Extent

Number of containers: 3 archive cartons + 2 oversize flat archive cartons
Linear feet: 3.6 linear feet

Date

1960 – 1994 (bulk 1990 – 1994)

Repository

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

Abstract

Diaries, correspondence, legal papers, medical records, financial records, textiles, memorabilia, audiotapes, scrapbooks, photographs, notes and miscellaneous typescripts of Stephan D. Michael, who documented the last years of his life before dying of AIDS in 1994, at the age of 34. The materials document Michael's childhood in Japan; his relationship with his estranged family as well as past lovers; his financial troubles relating to his medical bills; and his final years attending the University of Washington while dealing with the circumstances of his HIV-positive status.



Administrative Information

Access

The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.

Publication Rights

Researchers wishing to publish material must obtain permission in writing from ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives as the physical owner of the material. Note that permission to publish does not constitute copyright clearance. ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives can grant copyright clearance only for those materials for which we hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain copyright clearance for all other materials from the copyright holder(s).

Preferred Citation

Box #, folder #, Stephan D. Michael Papers, Coll2008-045, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

Indexing Terms

This collection is indexed under the following terms:

- AIDS (Disease)
- Diaries
- Gay men
- Michael, Stephan D., 1960-1994

Acquisitions Information

Gift of Jane May, April 7, 1994.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Loni Shibuyama, June 27, 2008.

Separated Material

The following book has been transferred to the ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives library collection: Tony Kushner, *Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches*, 1993.

Biography

Stephen Michael Emily was born in Missouri on June 25, 1960, the son of Donald, a Lutheran missionary, and Jean Emily. In the early 1960s, the family moved to Japan, where Stephen was raised until the age of 14. The family returned to the United States and lived in San Francisco, where Stephen eventually attended San Francisco State University and the Academy of Art College. By the 1980s, Stephen's relationship with his family was strained, and he legally changed his name to Stephan Michael in 1981. He continued to live in San Francisco where he worked in various retail jobs.

By the 1990s, Stephan Michael contracted the HIV virus. Having never earned a college degree, he moved to Seattle, Washington, where he attended the University of Washington and lived with his partner, Eric Phillips. Throughout the rest of his life—with the support of Phillips and a woman named Jane May (whom he refers to as "Aunt")—he attended college classes while living with the circumstances of his HIV-positive status. In December 1993, he received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Washington. Less than a year later, Stephan Michael died of AIDS on November 2, 1994 in Seattle.

Scope and Content and Container List

This collection contains diaries, scrapbooks, correspondence, legal papers, financial records, medical records, textiles, memorabilia, audiotapes and miscellaneous material from Stephan D. Michael. The bulk of the material documents the final five years of his life (1989 – 1994), during which he attended the University of Washington while living with the effects of his HIV-positive status. The collection is divided into two series: (1) Personal Papers and (2) Memorabilia, Textiles and Miscellaneous Material.

Series 1. Personal Papers.

Dates: 1970 – 1994.

Extent: 2.3 linear feet.

This series comprises correspondence, date books, diaries, scrapbooks, legal papers, medical records, financial records, photographic negatives and miscellaneous material. Each of the scrapbooks contains notes, correspondence, clippings, drawings, typescripts and photographs, with some photographs dating back to Michael's childhood. Notably, this series includes diaries documenting Michael's daily battle with AIDS; correspondence with Jane May and with his lover, Eric Phillips; Michael's petition to file for bankruptcy (1990), which includes medical bills for his AIDS treatment; and Michael's Last Will and Testament.

Box Folder/Item

1	1-4	Correspondence, 1991 – 1993
1	1	General, 1991 – 1992.
1	2	May, Jane, 1992 – 1993.
1	3	Phillips, Eric, 1992.
1	4	Postcards, 1993 – 1994.
2	1-2	Date Books, 1992 – 1993
2	1	1992.
2	2	1993.
2	3-5	Diaries, 1990 – 1994
2	3	“Bauhaus”, 1992 – 1993.
2	4	“The Dream Journal”, 1990.
2	5	“Melody of Life”, 1993 – 1994.
1	5	German 341: Franz Kafka, University of Washington, Fall Quarter 1992.
1	6	Income Tax Return Material, 1986 – 1992.
1	7	Information About AIDS, Undated.
1	8	Last Will and Testament for Stephan Michael, 1992 – 1994.
1	9	Medical Examiner / Coroner's Register Forms, 1991.
1	10	Petition for Bankruptcy and Related Material, 1990.
3	1-2	
4	1-2	Scrapbooks
3	1	“Alaska Airlines / Vienna Noise Choir”, 1991 – 1993.
4	1	“Born-Again Pagan”, circa 1970 – 1994 [Oversize]



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4	2	“Queerify America”, 1993 – 1994 [Oversize].
3	2	“Vienna Noise Choir”, 1989 – 1993.
1	11	Stephan Michael v. Mark Cross, Inc. Charge of Discrimination and Related Material, 1990 – 1991.
1	12	Photographic Negatives, Undated.

Series 2. Memorabilia, Textiles and Miscellaneous Material

Dates: circa 1960 – 1993.

Extent: 1.3 linear feet.

This series comprises books, an amulet, audiotapes, a keychain, a handkerchief, a baptismal suit and a stuffed animal bear with sewn patches and other memorabilia. Some of these items are memorabilia from Japan, where Michael grew up, and from Korea, where Jane May resided in the 1990s.

Box Folder/Item

5	1	Amulet, Undated.
5	2	Baptismal Suit and Blanket, Lutheran Church Clergy Family, circa 1960.
5	3	Handkerchief from Japan, Undated.
2	6	[Japanese language book], Undated.
5	4	Keychain from Korea, Undated.
3	3-5	Michael Channeling Audiotapes [3 audiocassettes], 1991 – 1993.
5	5	Stuffed Animal (Bear) with Patches, 1971.