



ONCE IN A BLUE MOON PRODUCTIONS RECORDS

Coll2009-011

Contact Information

One National Gay & Lesbian Archives
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007
Phone: (213) 741-0094
Fax: (213) 741-0220
E-mail: askone@onearchives.org

Processed by

Mor Fleisher-Leach

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Descriptive Summary

Title

Once In A Blue Moon Productions Records

Creator

Unknown

Extent

Number of containers: 1 archival carton
Linear feet: 0.4 linear foot

Date

1976-1980

Repository

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

Abstract

The bulk of this collection contains correspondence, financial records and printed ephemera documenting the activities of Once In A Blue Moon Productions, a production company and women's collective located in Los Angeles, California. The materials document Blue Moon's activities and operations from 1977 to 1980. Information about musicians who collaborated with Blue Moon—Woody Simmons, Joanna Cazden, Willie Tyson, Julie James, and Alix Dobkin—is included in the form of typed biographies, clippings, and correspondence.



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 #, Once In A Blue Moon Productions Records, Coll2009-011, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

Indexing Terms

This collection is indexed under the following terms:

- Concerts.
- Feminist music.
- Lesbian musicians.
- Music.
- Women's music.
- Women musicians--United States.
- Women singers--United States.

Acquisitions Information

Date and method of acquisition unknown. Materials found in the Lesbian Legacy Collection Subject Files.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Mor Fleisher-Leach, September 8, 2009.

Administrative History

Once In A Blue Moon Productions was founded in 1977 by a group of women—Patt Riese, Susan Rowe, Carol Leamy, Barbara Allen and Lesley Mallgraves—who had worked together on the Women On Wheels L.A. series of 1977.

Blue Moon was L.A.'s only feminist collective production company of its time. Barbara Allen describes it as an alternative production company with the goal of spreading women's culture by presenting and supporting feminist performers. The organization put on concerts with feminist musicians such as Woody Simmons, Alix Dobkin, and Julie James. By doing this, Blue Moon's founders hoped to develop an alternative to the dominant capitalistic system they regarded as defining and separating people according to class, sex, race and age in order to insure the power of the elite.

The women behind Blue Moon felt that the capitalistic system separated and isolated the feminist community; and they actively worked to counter such affects by unifying women through benefit concerts, activism and outreach. They were committed to the eradication of sexism and the widespread effects that it had on all women's lives.

Blue Moon's founders desired to use women's culture as a means of combating the patriarchal system. By doing so, women would be able to advance politically, socially and economically. Within the organization, each woman had equal power and responsibility and all jobs paid the same regardless of job title.

As often as possible, the women of Blue Moon attempted to use services from other women's businesses and hoped to make an exclusive practice of this. Collaborators include Olivia Records, Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW), Wise Women Enterprises, and Redwood Records.

At Once In A Blue Moon events no woman was turned away due to lack of funds. Childcare was always available and leaflet tables were provided so that the organization could continue its outreach. Blue Moon's founders also hoped to take as many of their productions as possible inside prisons so that all women would have equal access to the spirit and support of the feminist movement.

Once In A Blue Moon Productions appears to have ceased operations around 1980.

Sources:

Allen, Barbara. *Once In A Blue Moon Production*. Production's Press. Santa Monica, CA (December 9, 1977).

Box 1, folder 1, Once In A Blue Moon Productions Records, Coll2009-011, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.



Scope and Content and Container List

The bulk of this collection contains correspondence, financial records and printed ephemera documenting the activities of Once In A Blue Moon Productions, a production company and women's collective located in Los Angeles, California, from 1977 to 1980. The correspondence items consist of handwritten and typed letters from and to Once In A Blue Moon. The content of these letters relates to benefit concerts and artists supported by Blue Moon, as well as the day-to-day activities of the organization. The financial records outline the organization's spending from 1977 to 1980; they include budgets, receipts, bank statements, and check stubs. Printed ephemera consist of fliers, posters and two mockups of the Willie Tyson, Kay Gardener and Alive, and An Evening with Good-time Music concerts held between 1977 and 1980. Information about musicians who collaborated with Blue Moon—Woody Simmons, Joanna Cazden, Willie Tyson, Julie James, and Alix Dobkin—is included in the form of typed biographies, clippings, and correspondence. A negative of a photograph of Willie Tyson—used for the Willie Tyson, Kay Gardener and Alive concert—is included as well.

Box Folder

1	1	Organization Files, nd
1	2	Agreement Forms, nd
1	3	Auditoriums, 1979, nd
1	4	Biographies -- Musicians, nd
1	5	Clipping, 1977-1978
1	6	Callaborators Files, 1976-1979
1	7	Concert File, nd
1	8	Contacts, nd
1	9	Correspondence, 1976-1980, nd
1	10-11	Financial records -- Budgets, Receipts, Bank Statements, and Check Stubs
1	10	Folder 1, 1977-1980
1	11	Folder 2, 1977-1978
1	12	Letterhead, nd
1	13	Printed Ephemera -- Fliers, Posters, and Mockups, 1976-1980
1	14	Productions Agreements -- Wise Women Enterprises, 1977
1	15	Production Notes and Guidelines, nd
1	16	Resolution -- Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW), 1977
1	17	Willie Tyson Negative and Fliers, nd