February 2016

Here at ONE Archives we have been working on exciting projects for 2016. A new year means new programs for you all to enjoy!

Immerse yourself in the Los Angeles nightclub Fuck! and its historical legacy at our new exhibition Fuck! Loss, desire, pleasure, co-curated by Toro Castaño and Lucia Fabio. Learn about a space where HIV/AIDS activism, transgressive performances, and body modification united a community and pushed boundaries.

Enjoy the warm weather with music, dance lessons, community, and the celebration of love at Grand Park’s Proud Love this Saturday, February 13. While in Downtown, visit the ONE Archives booth at this year’s Print Matter’s LA Book Fair this weekend, February 13-14.

Learn about Pawel Leszkowics, a visiting Senior Fulbright Scholar researching at ONE Archives, and his exciting project on queer art and politics including his lecture on Queer Art Curating in Europe next week Tuesday, February 16.
That same week, join ONE’s Curatorial Assistant Toro Castaño on Wednesday, February 17 as he moderates an insightful dialogue at SKIN: Un-Panel Conversation and on Saturday, February 20 in an engaging conversation with artist Devan Shimoyama and his recent exhibition Devan Shimoyama | Salomón Huerta.

For more information about events, our new exhibition, and news read below.

We hope to see you soon!

With love,
ONE Archives

Remembering Jeanne Córdova
July 18, 1948 - January 10, 2016

We are deeply saddened by the loss of pioneering journalist, author, lesbian activist, entrepreneur and our dear friend Jeanne Córdova, who passed away on Sunday January 10, 2016. The entire ONE family sends our condolences to Lynn Ballen and Jeanne's family and friends.

Jeanne Córdova was born on July 18, 1948 in Bremerhaven, Germany. In the 1950s, the family immigrated to New York and eventually relocated to Southern California. As a child, she attended Catholic school in West Covina and, in 1966, entered the Immaculate Heart of Mary convent in Santa Barbara, California. While she was a postulant, she began questioning her sexuality and subsequently became dissatisfied with the Catholic Church. She left the convent a year later, going on to earn Bachelor's and Master's degrees in social work from the University of California, at Los Angeles (UCLA).

In 1970, Córdova began her activist career by joining and, soon after, becoming President of the Los Angeles chapter of the lesbian rights organization, Daughters of Bilitis (DOB). ... Read more about Jeanne Córdova and her numerous contributions to the LGBTQ community here.
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To sign up today click here.

FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure

January 29, 2016 - March 19, 2016

Friday, January 29 - Saturday, March 19, 2016

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives
The nightclub known as FUCK! ran from the Summer of 1989 until Spring 1993, when it was raided by the Los Angeles Police Department’s Vice Division. First hosted by Basgo’s Disco in Silver Lake, FUCK! constituted a gritty liminal space oppositional to both the neighborhood’s largely men-only leather bars as well as the clean-cut bars of West Hollywood. At FUCK! the modified, pierced, and tattooed body was front and center. Scarring, mummification, and piercing were staples at FUCK!, confronting fears of contagion while revealing the temporality of the body during the height of the AIDS crisis. Performances at FUCK! were both transgressive and theatrical, pushing the limits of what the performer’s body (and audience) could endure with a spirit of play.

Collective rage about governmental indifference to AIDS manifested an urgency and intensity that pushed the boundaries of art, performance, and community at FUCK! A response to the unacknowledged trauma from the sudden and continual loss of largely young men and artists, FUCK! brought together a highly diverse spectrum of sexualities and people-punks, outcasts, and the art-damaged-to dance and perform to the soundtrack of industrial music. FUCK! was a key site of the alternative art and performance scene in Los Angeles at the time, blurring nightlife, performance, and activism. The club popularized a S&M, piercing, and body-modification-informed aesthetic (now prevalent in mainstream popular culture) that influenced artists of the time and the present, and that only recently has begun to be recognized.

FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure resurrects FUCK!’s historical legacy, placing archival material related to the club in relation to works by contemporary artists whose practices align with emergent themes of the club. Historical photographs, flyers, and objects from FUCK! punctuate the club’s importance as a space of community, friendship, and playful experimentation. The exhibition includes candid snapshots and ephemera from the club, documentation of FUCK!’s intervention in the 1991 Christopher Street West pride parade, and documentation related to the LAPD raid on FUCK! in April 1993, among other highlighted events.

Contemporary works include Jordan Eagles’ Blood Illuminations, a room-sized projection of blood from nine gay men collected in protest of the FDA ban on blood from men who have sex with men; Siobhan Hebron’s Chemoglam series, interrogating culturally accepted representations of female beauty and the sociocultural aspects of illness; Young Joon Kwak’s artist book Aggregate Body, which abstracts the messy corporeality of the body by playing with gender, pain, and pleasure; Dominic Quagliozzi’s Bodies Are Not Archival, highlighting the temporality
of the body; and a performance by Daphne Von Rey, which makes use of the artist's own corpus as a medium through piercing and body modification to explore her experience as a HIV+ transwoman.

FUCK! cannot be recalled without accessing nostalgia, excitement, and for most, the profound loss of close and familial friendships. This exhibition is an invitation to future researchers to utilize information collected through oral documentation so as to further theorize the importance of FUCK! We would like to thank Kelly B., Race Bannon, Richard Benzing, Carla Bozulich, Michelle Carr, Bud Cockerham, Clay Cross, Teri Geary, Stephen Holman, Paul King, Pigpen, Frankie MacTavish, Sweet P., Mike Pierce, Rush Riddle, Sheree Rose, Bhaskar Sarkar, Steak, Stuart Swezey, Bud Thomas, Valerie Vaughan, Ruth Villasenor, and all those who have contributed not only their time and energy, but also their personal items, tales, and insights to assist in retelling this history.

Please note that part of this exhibition is installed around the second story mezzanine and is only accessible via stairs.

For more information about FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure visit our exhibition page here.

FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure is co-curated by Toro Castaño, Curatorial Assistant at the ONE Archives Foundation, and independent curator Lucia Fabio. Support provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.


PROUD Love at Grand Park Saturday, 02/13/2016

Saturday, February 13, 2016, 12-5pm
Grand Park’s Performance Lawn and Olive Court
200 North Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Love comes in all shapes, sizes, ages and backgrounds - especially in a diverse place like Los Angeles. Join ONE Archives at Grand Park's PROUD Love and kick off Valentine's Day weekend with a free dance party celebrating the LGBTQ and ally community. Enjoy your day at the park with photo booths, DJs, an open dance floor, and lessons in square dancing and line dancing encourages everyone to share space and feel some Valentine sweetness in the park.

The PROUD Series celebrates LA’s LGBTQ experiences, creating a place and space for connecting while breathing some fresh air. Love in Grand Park is expressed beyond romantic love - it’s between a parent and a child; between brothers, sisters and cousins; friends and classmates, between colleagues, and across all colors of the rainbow. PROUD Love is about all these relationships that teach us patience, acceptance, and give us support.

For more information about PROUD Love visit the event page here. RSVP to the event via Facebook here.

Printed Matter's LA Art Book Fair
Saturday, 02/13/2016 - Sunday, 02/14/2016
The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA
152 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Saturday February 13, 11am-7pm
Sunday February 14, 11am-6pm
Admission is free and open to the public

Join ONE Archives at this year’s Printed Matter's LA Art Book Fair, a unique event for artists’ books, art catalogs, monographs, periodicals, and zines presented by over 250 international presses, booksellers, antiquarians, artists, and independent publishers.

Printed Matter's LA Art Book Fair is the companion fair to Printed Matter's NY Art Book Fair, held every fall in New York. This year's fair features SPAIN FOCUS Curated by Libros Mutantes & La Casa Encendida. Supported by Acción Cultural Española A/CE.
Roski Talks: Paweł Leszkowski, Queer Art Curating in Europe

Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 6-8pm
Graduate Fine Arts Building (IFT) University Park Campus
3001 S Flower Street at 30th
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Paweł Leszkowicz (b. 1970) is a Polish art historian and art curator. He works as a lecturer and researcher at the Department of History of Art, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, and lectures at the University of Fine Arts in Poznań. He is a member of International Association of Art Critics.

Leszkowicz studied art history, gender studies and journalism at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Courtauld Institute of Art in London; and he was a Fulbright scholar at New School University in New York. In 2000, he defended his doctoral dissertation on Helen Chadwick at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

Leszkowicz is an LGBT rights activist. Together with his partner Tomasz Kitliński he took part in Poland’s lesbian and gay visibility campaigns Let Them See Us and Equal in Europe. He is a member of Poland’s Green Party.

RSVP to the event via Facebook here.

SKIN: Un-Panel Conversation

Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 7-9pm
Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027

Join artists and community leaders for a lively conversation that explores racial identity moderated by ONE Archives’ Toro Castaño.

Participants include:
Glenna Avila, CalArts CAP Program Director
Leonardo Bravo, Artist and Founder of Big City Forum,
SKIN addresses issues that have been increasingly prominent since the 2008 presidential election of Barack Obama. It was the first time that an African American had run for President and won. The election symbolized strides thought to have been made in race relations, yet it also revealed ruptures in the "skin" that binds us as Americans, and ultimately, as people. During the last year, events in Ferguson, Baltimore, Cleveland, Chicago, New York City, Prairie View, Charleston, Oakland, and Southern California have revealed chasms in the issues of race and identity.

RSVP to the event via Facebook here.

Artist Talk with Devan Shimoyama and Toro Castaño Saturday, 02/20/2016

Saturday, February 20, 2016, 4pm
Samuel Freeman Gallery
2639 S La Cienega Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Join ONE Archives Foundation’s Curatorial Assistant Toro Castaño in a conversation with Devan Shimoyama, as they discuss the Shimoyama’s overlying practice and first exhibition with Samuel Freeman. The talk will mark the conclusion of the exhibition DEVAN SHIMOYAMA | SALOMÓN HUERTA.

Castaño theorizes and writes about identity formation and the intersection of race and representation in contemporary art practice. Recent works include an essay looking at representational strategies of artists, Salomón Huerta and Devan Shimoyama. Huerta is an established Latino artist and Shimoyama is an emerging black queer artist. To learn more and read Castaño's essay click here.

RSVP to the event via Facebook here.

ONE in the Headlines

January 26, 2016
Hyperallergic: ArtRx LA

January 20, 2016
Tell Me, David: The Drag Divide
At the Archives: Paweł Leszkowicz

Here at ONE Archives, we have the pleasure of hosting visiting Senior Fulbright Scholar, Pawel Leszkowicz. You may remember him from his lecture Art Versus Homophobia in December or you may see him delving into our collections here at the archives.

Leszkowicz is an art historian, academic lecturer and freelance curator specializing in contemporary art and LGBTQ studies. He is researching at ONE Archives for his current project - Queer Subjectivity, Community, and Artistic Expression: An Art Historical, Archival, and Curatorial Study of LGBTQ Art and Politics in California, that deals with the relationship between queer art and politics on the West Coast of the U.S.


Image: Courtesy of Pawel Leszkowics

Out and About
FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure opening reception(s)

It was perhaps serendipitous that the opening on Friday, January 29 coincided with the two day conference Live Artists Live: Performance Art and the Archive, given the centrality of the human body and extreme performance at the club known as FUCK!. The soft opening was well attended largely by scholars with an interest in performance as well as major figures like Ulay accompanied by widely read theorist Amelia Jones, known for her work elaborating a queer, anti-racist, feminist history and theory.

A lively and colorful crowd of 150 attended the formal opening on Saturday, January 30. Some 25 years later, the story of community, loss, and desire still holds a strong affective charge. Key figures from the club reconnected with participants, some having been separated for decades. Dancer Frankie MacTavish a FUCK! original almost from the inception, saw the institutional performance debut of his mentee, performance artist, Daphne Von Rey. Von Rey took over ONE's reading room and screened a dreamy agglomeration of a 7 minute film with autobiographical elements relating to her experience of being transgender and HIV+. She emerged in a diaphanous white dress and for nearly two hours viewers could have an intimate interaction with the artist, in which they instructed Von Rey to insert or remove a needle into her body.
Night on Broadway

Downtown Los Angeles is filled with history. On January 30, ONE Archives had the opportunity to celebrate the reviving of Broadway. Among the dancing, singing, food, and miming, ONE Archives shared historical magazines and stories of pivotal artists in the performing arts. Night on Broadway participants engaged in LGBTQ history materials and happily shared their lived histories of gay LA.

Images: (Top) Daphne Von Rey performing Saturday at ONE Archives as part of the opening for FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure. Photograph from daphnevonrey via Instagram. (Bottom) ONE Archives magazine stand at Night on Broadway, 30 January 2016.

Make A Difference Now!
Please support the many activities at ONE in your philanthropy. Show us your love with a gift to preserve the past and ensure the future of LGBTQ histories. DONATE NOW

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries and the ONE Archives Foundation
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