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Melissa Ann Merry Collection, 1983 – 1996, bulk 1990 – 1995

Accession Number: 97-11

Fonds/Provenance:

Series Number:

Title: **Melissa Ann Merry Collection**

Date Range: 1983 – 1996, bulk 1990 – 1995

Extent: 2 linear feet (2 boxes)

Location: B1G (Row B, Bay 1, Shelf G)

Collection History:

Melissa Ann Merry, born in Canton, Ohio in 1963, was bisexual activist and performer in Chicago during the late 1980s and 1990s. She was the regional representative of BiNet, a co-founding member and group advisor of BiChicago, a co-founding member of the Bisexual Political Action Committee (BiPac) and a member of Queer Nation Chicago and Coalition Against Bashing. She also co-chaired the Illinois chapter of the 1993 March on Washington and co-chaired the Illinois chapter and acted as the Bisexual Constituency representative to the National Steering committee of the 1994 Stonewall 25 commemoration.

Custodial History:

[No accession information available.]

Scope and Content:

The collection contains both papers and physical objects and memorabilia, such as t-shirts, stickers, pins, nametags, photographs, and audiovisual cassettes, from the 1993 March on Washington, the 1994 Stonewall 25 commemoration, and with general bisexual or broader LGBT themes. Her papers contain organizational notes, press releases, photographs, fliers, newsletters, and endorsements from elected officials, organizations and individuals.

Arrangement:

Box 1 contains physical objects and memorabilia grouped by item type. Box 2 are papers organized by subject and organization, and subdivided by year when necessary.

Series:

- 1 Stickers | Undated
- 2 Pins | Undated
- 3 LGBT-Themed T-Shirts | Undated
- 4 Nametags | 1993 – 1994
- 5 Stonewall 25 International March & Rally Memorabilia | June 26, 1994
- 6 “Because It’s Our Country Too – DC in ‘93” Dog Tag
- 7 Audio Cassette – Colin J. Williams Interview, WLS Radio, Chicago, IL | February 11, 1994
- 8 Compact Video Cassette – BiNet USA Meeting, NGLTF Practice, Fritz Klein/Victor Raymon | Undated
- 9 3 ½ Floppy Diskettes | Undated
- 10 Photographs | 1991 – 1994
- 11 United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights Booklet | 1988
- 12 Melissa Merry Resume | [1994?]
- 13 Correspondence and “Bi Politics, CNN-Style” by Loraine Hutchins | Undated and 1992 – 1995
- 14 Correspondence, Email and Internet Discussion Groups/Mailing Lists | 1991 – 1995
- 15 Notebooks | 1992 – 1995
- 16 BiNet USA | 1990 – 1995
- 17 National Bisexual Conference Program | June 20 – 24, 1990
- 18 National Women’s Music Festival Programs | 1992 – 1993
- 19 NGLTF Creating Change Conference | 1992 – 1994
- 20 NGLTF Fight the Right Action Kit | 1993
- 21 March on Washington | 1993
- 22 National Conference Celebrating Bisexuality Packet and Miscellaneous Articles | 1992 -1993
- 23 Stonewall 25, National and Illinois Chapter |1991 – 1994, bulk 1993 – 1994

- 24 Building an Anti-Racist Community within the Bisexual Community Workshop at International Conference Celebrating Bisexuality | 1989 – 1994
- 25 Bi Goods Catalog | 1993
- 26 *Dual Attraction: Understanding Bisexuality* Book Promotional Materials, 1994
- 27 Certificates of Special Recognition for Bisexual Visibility and Support, 1994
- 28 Mailing Lists | Undated and 1991 – 1995
- 29 Fliers and Miscellaneous | Undated and 1990 – 1995
- 30 Position Papers, Manifestos, Etc. | Undated and 1992 – 1994
- 31 Assorted Clippings | Undated and 1963 – 1994
- 32 Miscellaneous Unsorted Material: BiPAC, Chicago Bi-Net, Bi-Friendly Chicago, North American Bisexual Network, Bi Out Day, Etc. | Undated and 1988 – 1994
- 33 *Bi-Net News*, Seattle Bisexual Women’s Network | December 15, 1992 – Summer 1996
- 34 *North Bi Northwest*, Seattle Bisexual Women’s Network | June/July 1991 – April/May 1994
- 35 Boston Bisexual Women’s Network Newsletter | 1985 – 1994
- 36 *Valley Women’s Voice* and *Valley Bisexual Network Newsletter* and Notes, University of Massachusetts, Amherst | September 1983 – April 1990
- 37 International Directory of Bisexual Groups | 1992 – 1994
- 38 *The Bisexual Resource Guide*, edited by Robyn Ochs | 1995
- 39 Newsletters and Publications, Assorted | 1988 – 1994

Container List:

BOX 1

Series/File List:

0. Finding Aid

1. Stickers

1. March on Washington ‘93 bumper sticker
2. Bisexual-themed stickers
3. Queer Nation and miscellaneous LGBT-themed stickers
4. Crackel Barrel protest stickers
5. Miscellaneous stickers

2. Pins

1. Bisexual-themed pins
 2. LGBT-themed pins
 3. LGBT-themed pins
 4. LGBT-themed and miscellaneous pins
 - 3. LGBT-Themed T-Shirts**
 - 4. Nametags**
 1. NGLTF Creating Change '94 Nametag and Pin
 2. Stonewall 25 International March & Rally
 - 5. Stonewall 25 International March & Rally Memorabilia, June 26, 1994**
 1. Handkerchiefs
 2. Baseball Cap
 3. Woven Bracelet
 4. Red Ribbon
 5. Key Chain
 - 6. "Because It's Our Country Too – DC in '93" Dog Tag**
 - 7. Audio Cassette – Colin J. Williams Interview, WLS Radio, Chicago, IL, February 11, 1994**
 - 8. Compact Video Cassette – BiNet USA Meeting, NGLTF Practice, Fritz Klein/Victor Raymond, Undated**
 - 9. 3 ½ Floppy Diskettes**
 - 10. Photographs**
 1. Robyn Ochs, Bisexual/Lesbian Women Discussion and Evening Presentation, University of Chicago, Undated
 2. Bisexual group at March on Washington, 1993
 3. BiNET/National Conference Celebrating Bisexuality, Washington, DC, April 24, 1993
 4. Safe Sex Panel and Poetry Reading/Bi Gathering at NGLTF, North Carolina, [1994?]
 5. Loraine Hutchins, Linda Bubon, Mel Merry, Discussion, [1991?]
 6. Bisexuals at Pride Rally – Chicago [1993?]
 7. Coalition Against Bashing
 8. Graffiti, San Francisco, November 1991
 9. Joan Jett Blakk at Pro-Choice Rally
 10. Stonewall 25 Organizing and Events, Atlanta, GA, 1994, Pride Chicago, IL, 1994
 - 11. United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights Booklet, 1988**
- BOX 2
- 12. Melissa Merry Resume, [1994?]**
 - 13. Correspondence and "Bi Politics, CNN-Style" by Loraine Hutchins, Undated and 1991 – 1995**
 - 14. Correspondence, Email and Internet Discussion Groups/Mailing Lists, 1991 – 1995**
 - 15. Notebooks, 1992 – 1995**
 1. First AGLI Meeting, November 15, 1995
 2. Miscellaneous, 1992 – 1993
 3. Stonewall 25 and Miscellaneous, 1993
 - 16. BiNet USA**
 1. Miscellaneous Materials and News Articles, 1990 – 1995
 2. Annual Meeting Conference Packet, July 21 – 23, 1995
 - 17. National Bisexual Conference Program, June 20 – 24, 1990**
 - 18. National Women's Music Festival Programs, 1992 – 1993**
 - 19. NGLTF Creating Change Conference**

1. Packet, November 13 – 15, 1992
2. Packet, Programs and Materials, November 12 – 14, 1993
3. Packet and Notes, November 9 – 14, 1994
- 20. NGLTF Fight the Right Action Kit, 1993**
- 21. March on Washington, 1993**
 1. Endorsements for the Chicago/Illinois Chapter of the March on Washington and for Transgender Inclusion in the March on Washington Demands, 1993
 2. Program Guide, 1993
 3. Events and Publications, 1993
 4. Miscellaneous Materials, 1993
- 22. National Conference Celebrating Bisexuality Packet, April 24, 1993 and Miscellaneous Articles, 1992**
- 23. Stonewall 25, National and Illinois Chapter, 1991 – 1994, bulk 1993 – 1994**
 1. U.S. Organizing & Outreach Kit, December 15, 1993
 2. Illinois Chapter Press Packet, 1994
 3. Illinois Chapter Endorsements, 1991 – 1994
 4. Miscellaneous Material, 1991 – 1994
- 24. Building an Anti-Racist Community within the Bisexual Community Workshop at International Conference Celebrating Bisexuality, June 25, 1994, 1989 – 1994**
- 25. Bi Goods Catalog, 1993**
- 26. *Dual Attraction: Understanding Bisexuality* Book Promotional Materials, 1994**
- 27. Certificates of Special Recognition for Bisexual Visibility and Support, 1994**
- 28. Mailing Lists, Undated and 1991 – 1995**
- 29. Fliers and Miscellaneous, Undated and 1990 – 1995**
- 30. Position Papers, Manifestos, Etc., Undated and 1992 – 1994**
- 31. Assorted Clippings, Undated and 1963 – 1994**
- 32. Miscellaneous Unsorted Material: BiPAC, Chicago Bi-Net, Bi-Friendly Chicago, NABN, Bi Out Day, Action Bi Women, Assorted Articles and Position Papers, 1988 – 1994**
- 33. *Bi-Net News*, Seattle Bisexual Women's Network, December 15, 1992 – Summer 1996, 9 issues**
- 34. *North Bi Northwest*, Seattle Bisexual Women's Network, June/July 1991 – April/May 1994, 16 issues**
- 35. Boston Bisexual Women's Network Newsletter, 1985 – 1994, 48 issues**
- 36. *Valley Women's Voice* and *Valley Bisexual Network Newsletter* and Notes, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, September 1983 – April 1990**
- 37. International Directory of Bisexual Groups, 1992 – 1994**
- 38. *The Bisexual Resource Guide*, edited by Robyn Ochs, 1995**
- 39. Newsletters and Publications, Assorted, 1988 - 1994**
 1. *Bi-Lines*, BiAtlanta, January 1994
 2. *Bisexual Centrist*, Washington, DC, 1992 – 1993
 3. *Biways*, Western Australian Bisexual Network, 1992
 4. *Bisexuality: News, Views and Networking*, California, 1988 – 1990
 5. *Bi-Way*, Long Beach, CA, 1993
 6. *BiAngles*, Poulsbo, WA, 1993
 7. *The Public Eye: A Publication of Political Research Associates*, 1993
 8. *BiFocus*, Philadelphia, PA, 1992

Separations:

ACT UP Chicago

Summer 1992

Anything That Moves

Issue #4, 1992

Issue #5, 1993

Issue #6, 1993

Issue #7, Spring 1994

Issue #8, Summer 1994

Bi Chicago News

Volume 2, Issue 1, January/February 1995

Bi-Lines, Action Bi Women, Chicago, IL

Winter 1989

Summer 1989

Spring 1990 (2 copies)

Summer 1990

Bi-Lines Newsletter (Bi? Shy? Why?, Madison, WI)

November/December 1992

February/March 1993

April/May 1993

The Bi Monthly Newsletter (The Champaign-Urbana Bisexual Network)

Volume 1, Issue 2, March 1992

Volume 1, Issue 4, May 1992

Volume 1, Issue 5, June 1992

Volume 1, Issue 7, August 1992

Volume 1, Issue 8, September 1992

Volume 1, Issue 9, October 1992 (2 copies)

Volume 2, Issue 1, December 1992/January 1993

Volume 2, Issue 2, February 1993

Volume 2, Issue 2, February 1993

Volume 2, Issue 3, March 1993

Volume 2, Issue 5, May 1993

Chicago Gay and Lesbian Pride Booklets

Together in Pride, 1991

Celebrations!, 1994

Chicago Tribune Magazine

February 7, 1993

March 28, 1993

Deneuve

Volume 4, Number 3. June 1994

Volume 5, Number 1, February 1995

Gay Chicago Magazine

Volume 16, Number 10, March 11, 1993

The Washington Post

Volume 116, Number 142, April 26, 1993

Restrictions:

No donor restriction. Standard restrictions apply (see G/H "Confidentiality Agreement" for archives use).

Related Fonds/Series:

None.

Subject Headings:

Bisexual men

Bisexual women

Bisexuality

Bisexuals

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