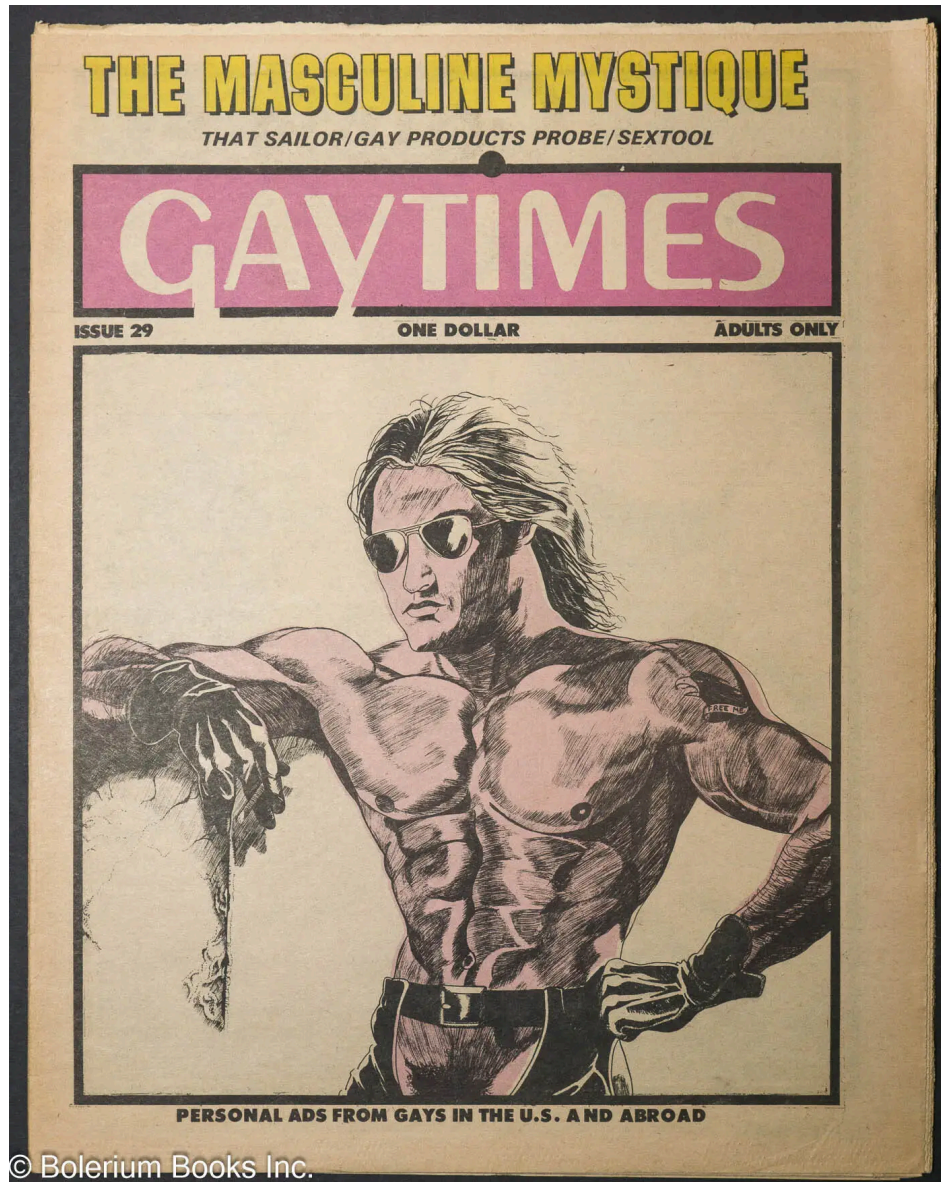




BOLERIUM BOOKS Est. 1981

2141 Mission St #300 San Francisco, CA 94110 415-863-6353

September 2026



ROUGH TRADE

Thirty-three Acts of Public Indecency

A Bolerium Folsom Street Fair Special

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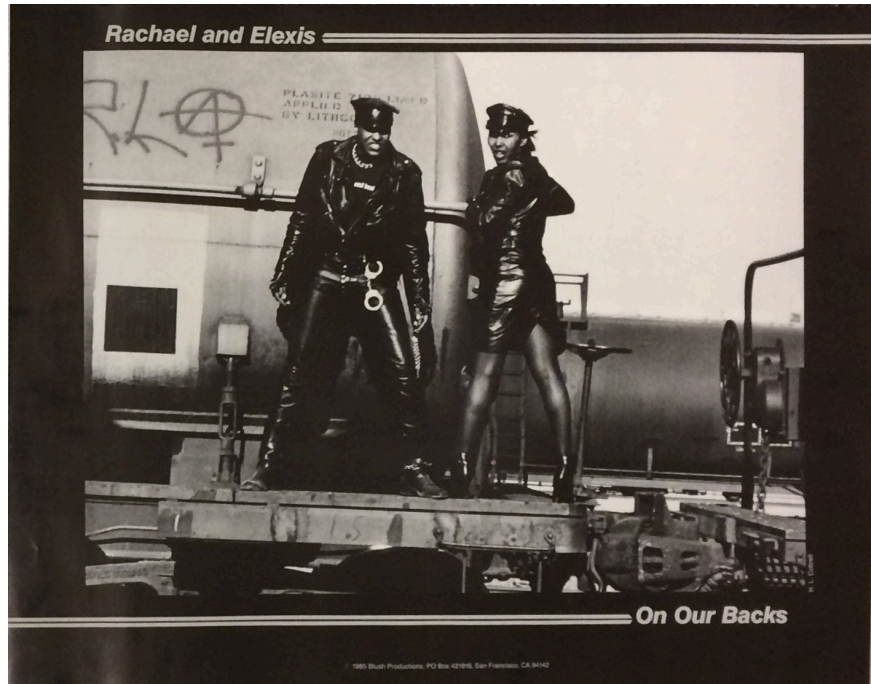
Stop me if you've heard this one, but a lesbian porn poster, a prison exercise pamphlet, and plans for global orgasm walk into a rare-book catalog . . . Sex can organize. People find each other. Make art, start clubs, argue politics, invent new gods when the old ones won't have them. Then cops show up. Somebody prints a flyer. And, before you know it, there's an S/M activist group—or a church with a glory hole. Bolerium has been dealing in this kind of trouble since 1981. Some of it is right here in this booth. The rest can be summoned from our store right by on Mission Street. See something you like? We can pull it, hold it, ship it, or arrange a visit. Happy Folsom!

Your humble cataloger,
Matthew A. Jonassaint

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I. “AMERICA, WHEN
WILL YOU TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES?”

Self-invention. The body as art.



1. Rachael and Elexis / On Our Backs [poster]

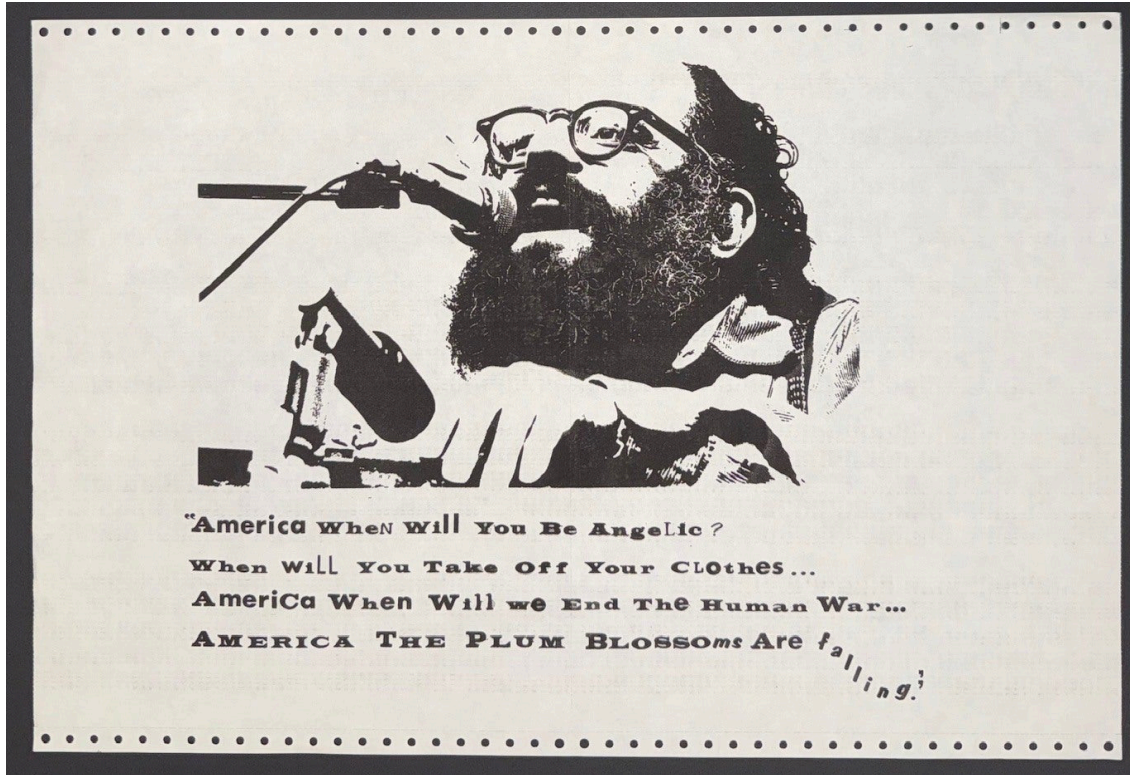
San Francisco: Blush Productions, 1985. A 22-by-17-inch poster in very good condition, featuring a photograph by H. L. Cottrell.

(Inventory No. 243647)

Founded in San Francisco in 1984, *On Our Backs* announced itself as “entertainment for the adventurous lesbian.” Its title was a deliberate answer to the feminist newspaper *off our backs*, whose opposition to pornography the magazine’s founders found suffocating.

A note on historical context from Gayle Rubin: “In September of 1981, Samois, the first known lesbian feminist SM organization, held the first known Ms. Leather contest, at a lesbian bar in Oakland, CA. The winner was Rachael, pictured in this poster, along with her friend, Elexis. After the contest, local photographer Honey Lee Cottrell did a shoot with Rachel and Elexis. These photos were the cover and feature story in *On Our Backs*, volume 2 number 1, summer 1985. Two of the images from that shoot were also included in the anthology of lesbian erotic photography edited by Susie Bright and Jill Posener, *Nothing but the Girl* (1996).”

\$60



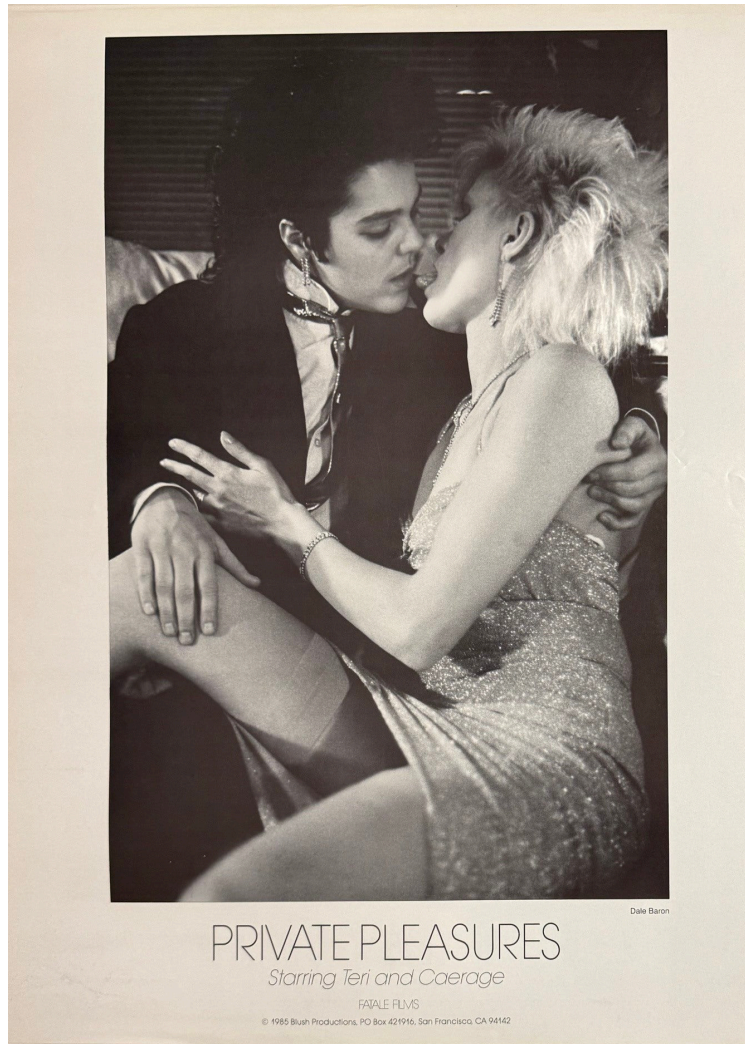
2. "America..." [poster]

[Ginsberg, Allen]. [Berkeley]: [Political Poster Workshop at the University of California, Berkeley], [1970]. A 22-by-15-inch silkscreened image on the back of two connected sheets of used computer paper, with a portrait of Ginsberg above four lines from his poem "America."

(#195350)

In May 1970, after the invasion of Cambodia and the killings at Kent State, students turned Berkeley's Wurster Hall into a poster factory. Under the guidance of Chicano artist Malaquías Montoya, the Political Poster Workshop brought together artists and untrained volunteers. They pulled whatever paper they could find, hung the wet posters from clotheslines, and spread them across the community. During its brief existence, the workshop produced roughly 50,000 impressions. Most products of the workshop are scarce. This is one of the nicest examples we've ever seen. Here they reproduce one of the most famous poems by Allen Ginsberg, who already knew what happens when queer art gets under the State's skin: the San Francisco obscenity trial over his *Howl*.

SOLD!



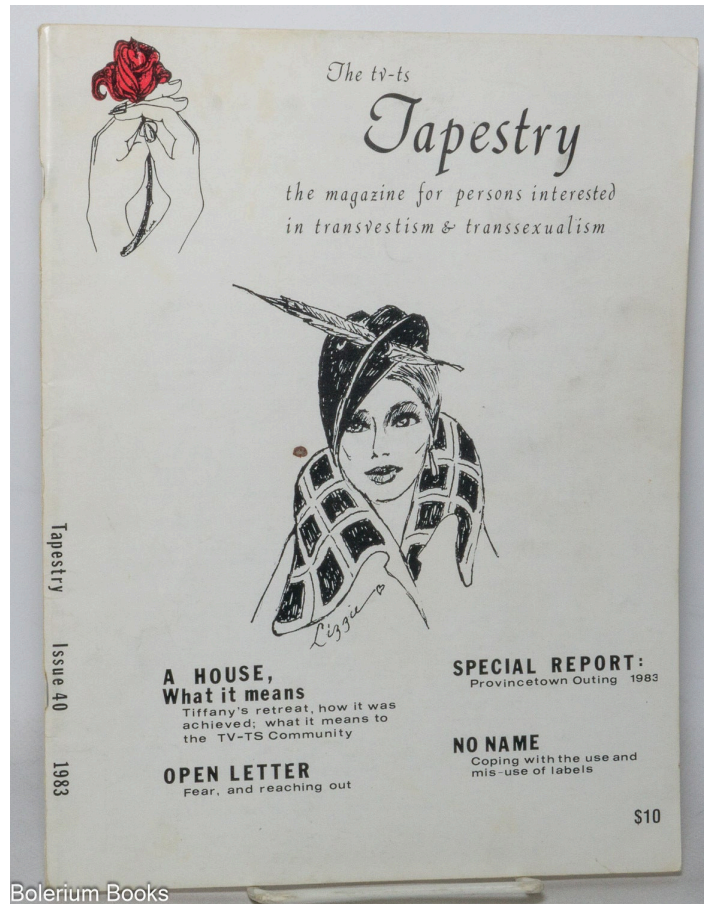
3. Private Pleasures [poster]

San Francisco: Blush Productions, 1985. A 17-by-22-inch poster in very good condition.

(#243649)

On Our Backs publisher Nan Kinney and editor Debi Sundahl moved into filmmaking through Fatale Video, giving lesbian performers and producers more control. *Private Pleasures* became the first lesbian pornographic film accepted by the Frameline Film Festival, at a time when such content was routinely staged for straight men.

\$60



4. TV-TS Tapestry [several issues]

Wayland, Massachusetts: Tiffany Club and the International Foundation for Gender Education, 1983-1987. Ten issues: nos. 39-46 and 50-51. Each measures 8.5 by 11 inches and ranges from 52 to 148 pages, illustrated with cartoons and black-and-white photographs in pictorial color wraps. No. 41 has covers split at the spine but is otherwise good; nos. 50 and 51 are in good condition; the remaining issues are very good.

Cross-dressers, transsexual people, and others living outside conventional gender categories used *TV-TS Tapestry* to tell stories, argue terminology, and find community. During this run the magazine became simply *The Tapestry*; that issue also contains an article on an incarcerated and preoperative transsexual.

INQUIRE FOR PRICE!



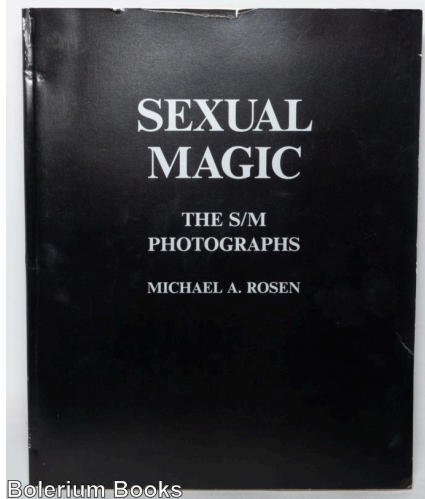
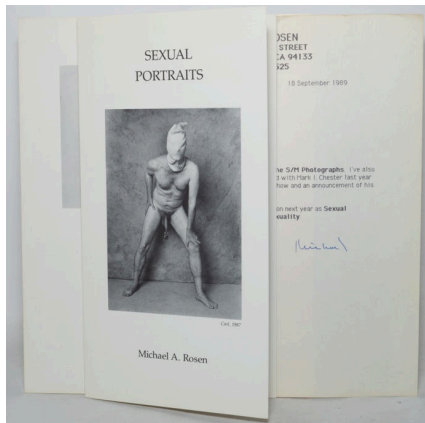
5. Poster 1

Minneapolis: DSI Sales, [1960s]. A 22-by-34-inch poster in very good condition, one of a series depicting nude models. There is no text on the front; the publisher and series number are identified on the back.

(#265877)

Directory Services, Inc. sold queer erotica from Minneapolis until the federal government raided it in 1967 and dragged its founders into court. The government lost: the judge recognized sexual minorities had speech rights too. The company's magazines can still be found but its large posters are considerably scarcer, as clearly they were meant to be hung...

\$300



Bolterium Books

6. Sexual Magic: The S/M Photographs [signed letter laid in]

Rosen, Michael A., with an introduction by the photographer, text by the participants and an afterword by Mark I. Chester. San Francisco: Shaynew Press, 1986. First edition. 71 pages, measuring 9 by 11 inches. A monograph of explicit black-and-white photographs covering various fetishes, bound in glossy black wrappers. Edgeworn, but otherwise in very good condition. Laid in are a typed letter to David Basham, the late publisher of a guide to San Francisco galleries, signed "Michael" by Rosen; a Shaynew Press release; a photocopied review; and two brochures.

(#230566)

A lot of photography treats S/M practitioners as specimens from the Planet Kink. Here, Rosen did something better—their own accounts accompany the bondage, fetish gear, and power in these photographs. This copy also retains part of the book's original social life: Rosen's signed letter to a San Francisco arts publisher, publicity material, a review, and brochures from an exhibition with Mark I. Chester.

\$60

7. Forbidden Photographs [with] Charles Gatewood Photographs: The Body & Beyond [two books, inscribed and signed]

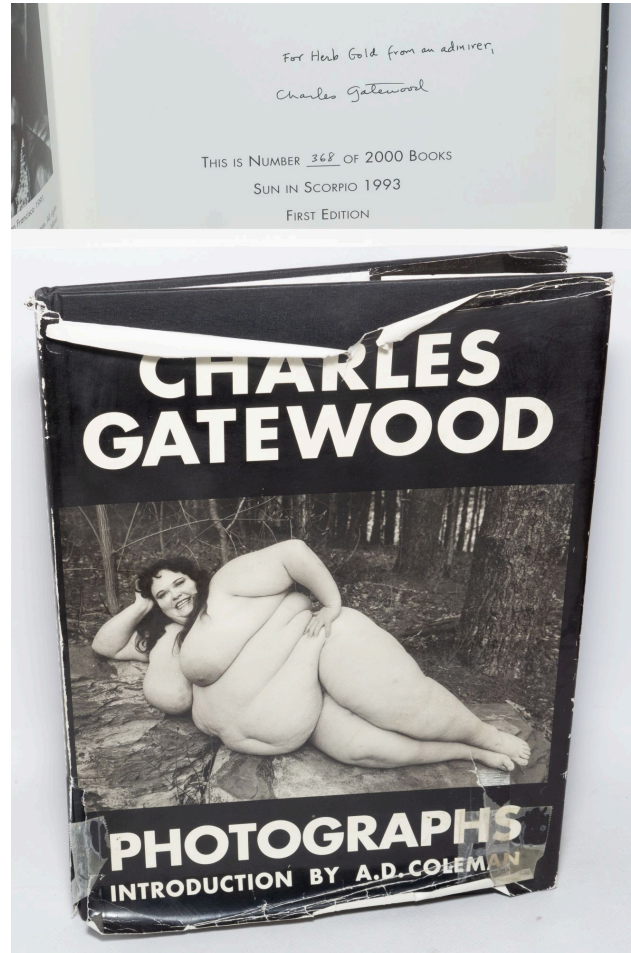
*Gatewood, Charles, with introductions by R. Crumb and A. D. Coleman; Herbert Gold association copies. San Francisco: Flash Publications, 1993 and 1995. Two unpaginated hardcover monographs measuring 9.25 by 12.25 inches, illustrated with glossy, explicit black-and-white photographs. Limited editions numbered 368 of 2,000 and 51 of 2,000. Good in black cloth boards and unclipped but heavily worn and torn dust jackets; the jacket of *The Body & Beyond* has tape repairs. Both copies bear personal inscriptions to Herbert Gold, signed on the limitation or title pages.*

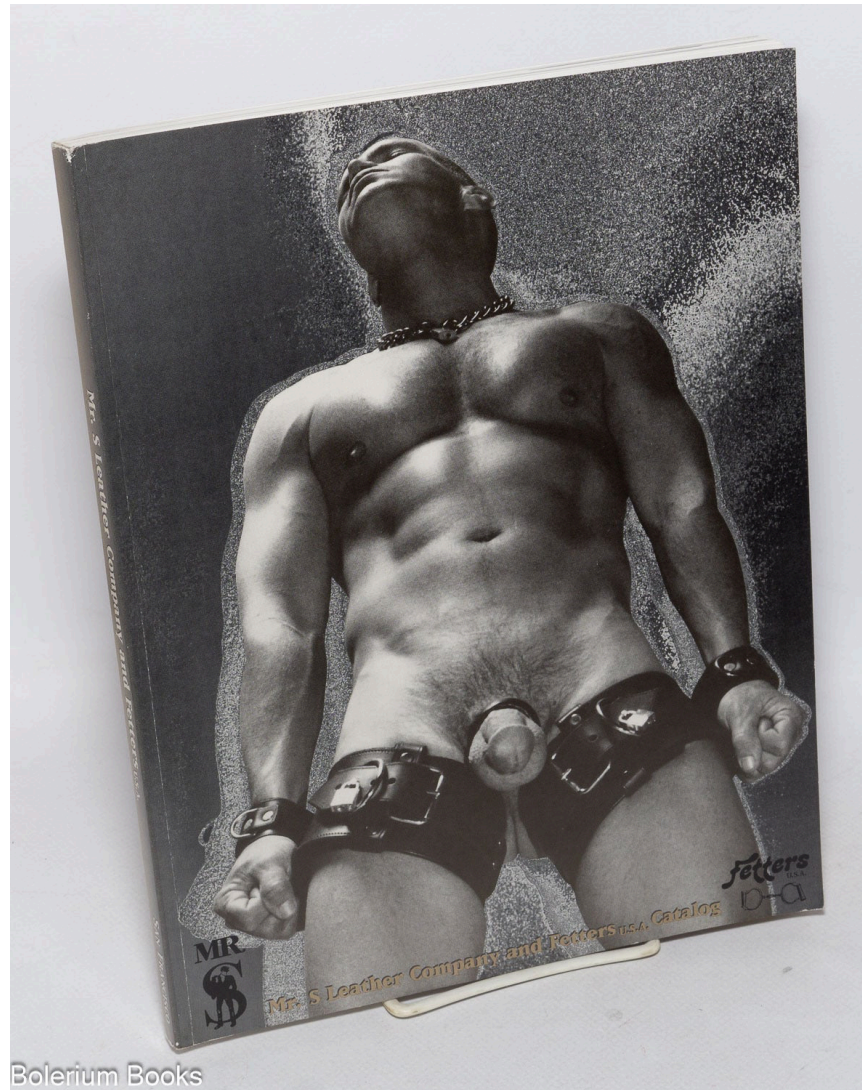
(#321099)

Tattoos, piercing, leather, ritual, performance and consensual extremity appear here. Not as medical curiosities nor as shock material, but as a living sexual underground.

Forbidden Photographs is a reissue of the 1981 edition. The fifty photographs in *The Body & Beyond* are drawn from Gatewood's earlier books.

\$200





8. Mr. S Leather Company & Fetters U.S.A. Catalog

Hunter, Richard. San Francisco: Mr. S Leather Company, September 1, 1995. 224p, 8.5x11 inches, profusely illustrated with black-and-white photographs of nude and seminude male models in fetish gear, together with sex toys and other products, prices, descriptions and order forms. Very good in explicit pictorial wrappers.

(#321791)

At 224 pages, this is less a disposable sales catalog than a fairly complete map of what San Francisco shops were selling, and what the leather culture wanted, in 1995. It is also one of those commercial objects that becomes historical by accident—nobody printed it as an archive.

\$150

II. “THE SHOCKING PINK LIFE”

Drag, punk, performance, nightlife.



**9. Hibiscus and Angel Jack Present “Femme Fatale”:
The Shocking Pink Life of Jayne Champagne [poster]**

San Francisco: Montgomery Playhouse, 1976. Poster. 17.5 x 22.5 inches. Pink field with a photograph of the cast in drag; text announces Hibiscus and Angel Jack’s return from their European tour. Very good, with untrimmed edges and a white margin on three sides.

(#241248)

Hibiscus, a founding member of the Cockettes, departed in 1971 with several other members to form the Angels of Light. This show featured original music by Ann Harris and co-starred Java, Sugar, Mr. Greece, Eloise, and ChiChi.

\$100



10. Sammy Lee Presents Les Girls Theatre Restaurant: World Famous All-Male Revue [souvenir menu]

Holderness, Peter, photography. Sydney, Australia: Sammy Lee, [1960s]. Tri-fold, six-panel menu, 6 x 9.5 inches. The interior presents a menu offering \$2 T-bone steaks and \$9 French champagne; the exterior features a wraparound black-and-white photograph of Les Girls and two smaller photographs, including one of customers seated at tables. Very good.

(#333604)

The club began as Lee Gordon's Jewel Box Revue Club and was likely Australia's first drag club. Its star was Carlotta—the blonde performer held aloft in the cover photograph—a transgender woman who later appeared on the television series *Number 96*. The revue's cast included both trans women and men performing in drag.

\$250

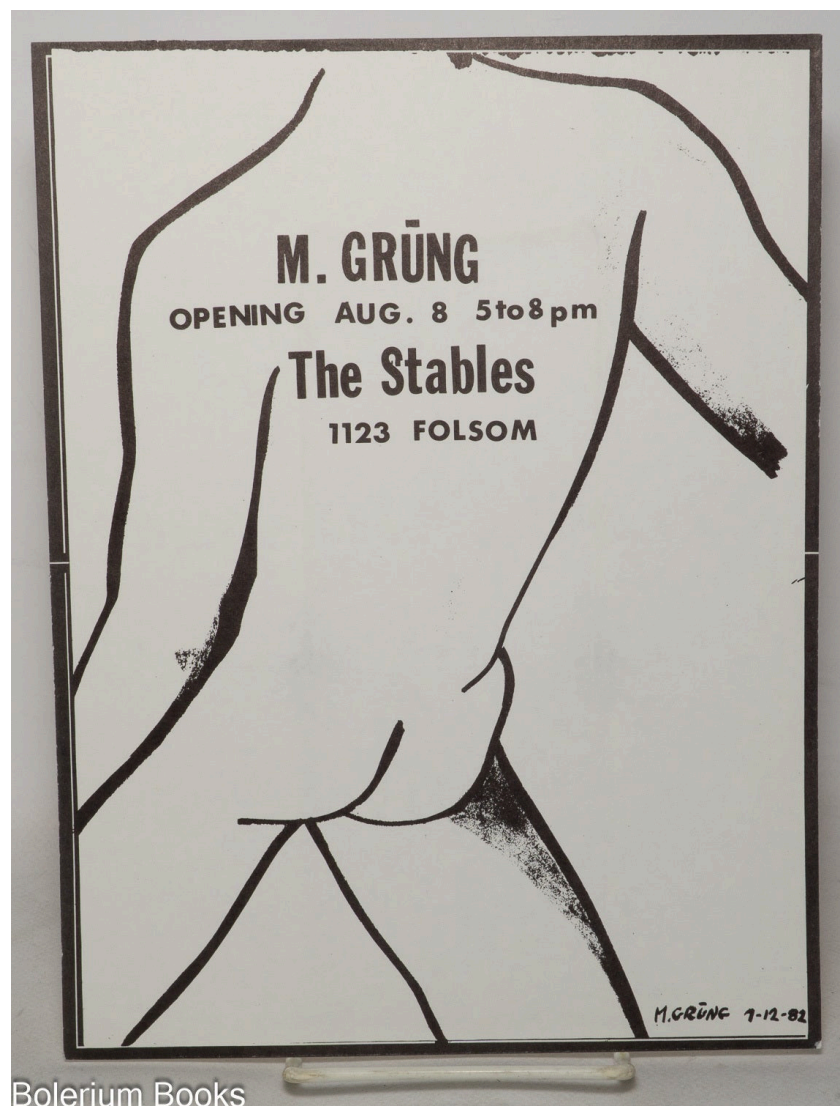
II. M. Grung: Opening August 8 at the Stables [handbill]

[N.p.]: [n.p.], [1982]. 8.5 x 11 inches, with an erotic illustration and a blank verso. Very good.

(#347673)

The Stables was a prominent San Francisco leather bar. During the 1970s, the location became Wellsprings Reunion, a front for the Tribal Thumb collective associated with the kidnapping of Patty Hearst. The site is now occupied by the Stud. History doesn't always turn out straight...

\$35



12. Thirteen Different Posters From The Box

San Francisco, 1990s. Thirteen posters in various sizes, most undated; the dated examples fall between 1992 and 1998. One poster is fold-creased; otherwise very good.

(#335773)

Longtime Bay Area DJ and promoter Page Hodel founded the Box after working at Amelia's, the Bay Brick, Oasis, Club X, the I-Beam and other Bay Area clubs. For eleven years it drew a notably multicultural mixture of gay and straight women and men.

Photographer Chloe Atkins documented patrons as they arrived, capturing the club's fashions and atmosphere; these photographs are what appear on many posters. Everyone entering the club had a brief chance of becoming its face.

\$250





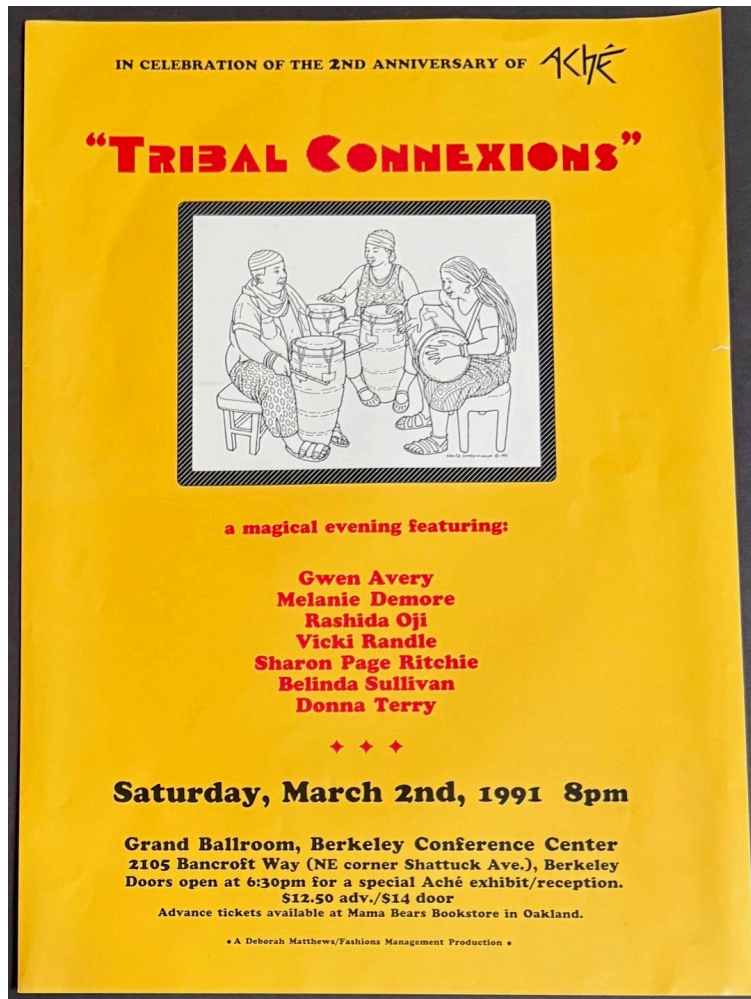
13. Nocturnal Dream Shows presents ... the fabulous John Rothermel in the spotlight of das K baret / Black Moonlight [poster]

San Francisco: Nocturnal Dream Shows, 1972. 11x17 inch poster, faint handling wear, very good, featuring a photo of Rothermel in drag by Wren de Antonio.

(#241251)

John Rothermel, formerly of the Cockettes, performed *Black Moonlight* as a one-woman cabaret at the Palace. Wren de Antonio photographed him in drag & Todd Trexler designed the poster. The Palace's midnight stage was a home for drag, underground film, and more. Rothermel of course looks entirely prepared for the hour.

\$250



**14. In Celebration of the Second Anniversary of Aché:
Tribal Connexions [poster]**

Berkeley: Aché, 1991. 11 x 17 inches, with a graphic of three women drumming. Very good.

(#344018)

The Bay Area Black lesbian journal Aché did more than publish. It organized performances and workshops. For their second anniversary, they celebrated at Mama Bears in Oakland with Gwen Avery, Melanie DeMore, Rashida Oji, Vicki Randle, Sharon Page Ritchie, Belinda Sullivan, and Donna Terry.

\$75



15. Les Nichelettes 1974 [calendar poster]

San Francisco: *Les Nichelettes*, [1973]. 20 x 30 inches, illustrated with black-and-white photographs of the troupe in costume and performance, surrounding a small 1974 calendar. Pinholes at the corners; otherwise very good.

(#297209)

Formed in 1972 by women involved in experimental theater at San Francisco State, *Les Nichelettes* began as vaudevillian cheerleaders at the People's Nickelodeon. They soon became a feminist satirical performance troupe. Their bawdy musical theater and public provocations included appearing at the Condor—dressed as Girl Scouts adorned with plastic breasts. But ultimately, this calendar's captions say more about them than your humbler cataloger can...

\$95

III. “NOT EVERYONE WANTS TO BE A SOLDIER”

Sex as politics, sex as community.



16. Leather/Levi Lexicon [broken run of 36 issues]

San Francisco: Forest Publications, 1990-1999. Thirty-six issues, various pagination, 8.5x11 inches. Newsletters containing photographs, illustrations, advertisements, news, services, and event listings. Some wear; otherwise good.

(#350151)

Published for San Francisco's gay leather community, the *Leather/Levi Lexicon* combined news, photographs, personal ads, business listings, services and an extensive calendar of events. Advertising maps the bars, clubs, organizations and small businesses that kept the scene connected. This broken run covers nearly a decade.

\$75

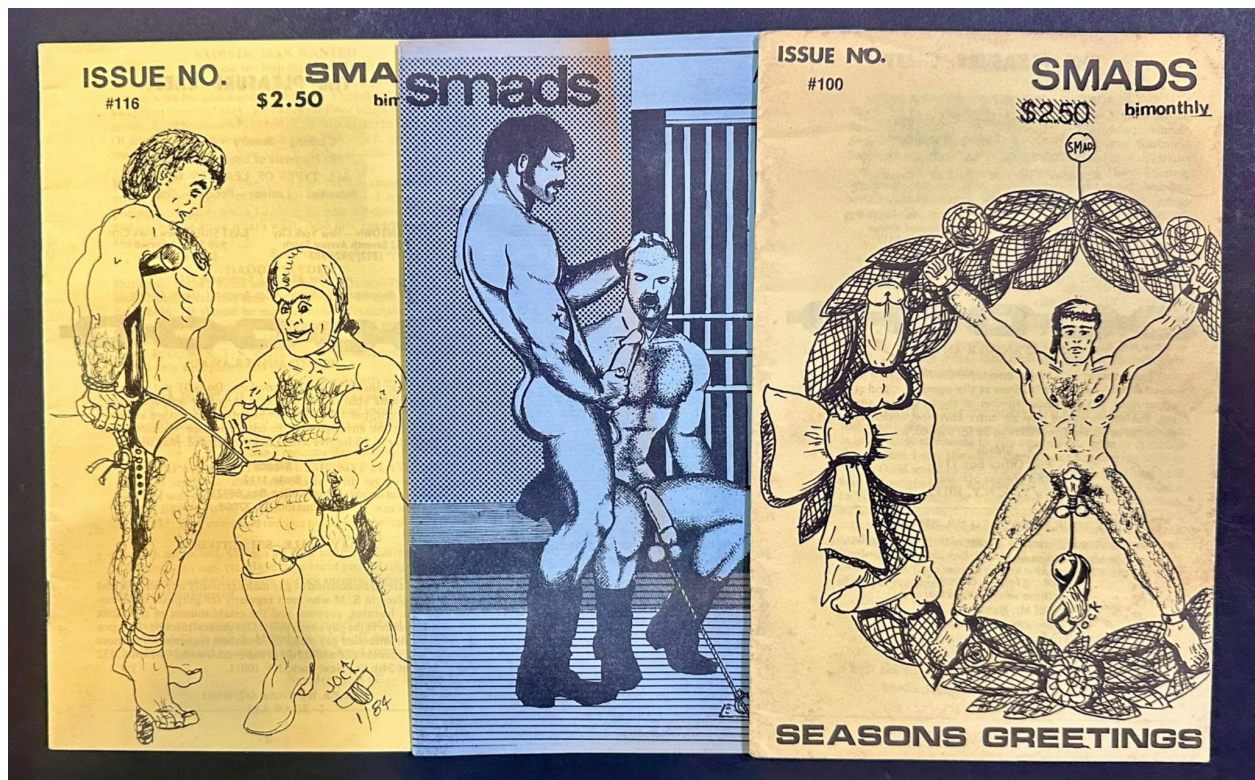
17. SMads [3 issue broken run]

West Hollywood: SMads, 1978-1984. Three issues: August 1978; number 100, November 1981; and number 116, July 1984. Each 24 pages, 5.5x8.5 inches, illustrated with kinky drawings by Jock and issued as a staplebound digest. The 1978 issue has toned covers but is otherwise good; number 100 has light staining and wear; number 116 is very good.

(#351598)

Before online profiles, making the right connection required patience & postage. *SMads* published illustrated personal advertisements from gay men seeking S/M partners. The ads range from broad statements of interest to detailed descriptions of particular practices and arrangements, accompanied by drawings by Jock.

SOLD!





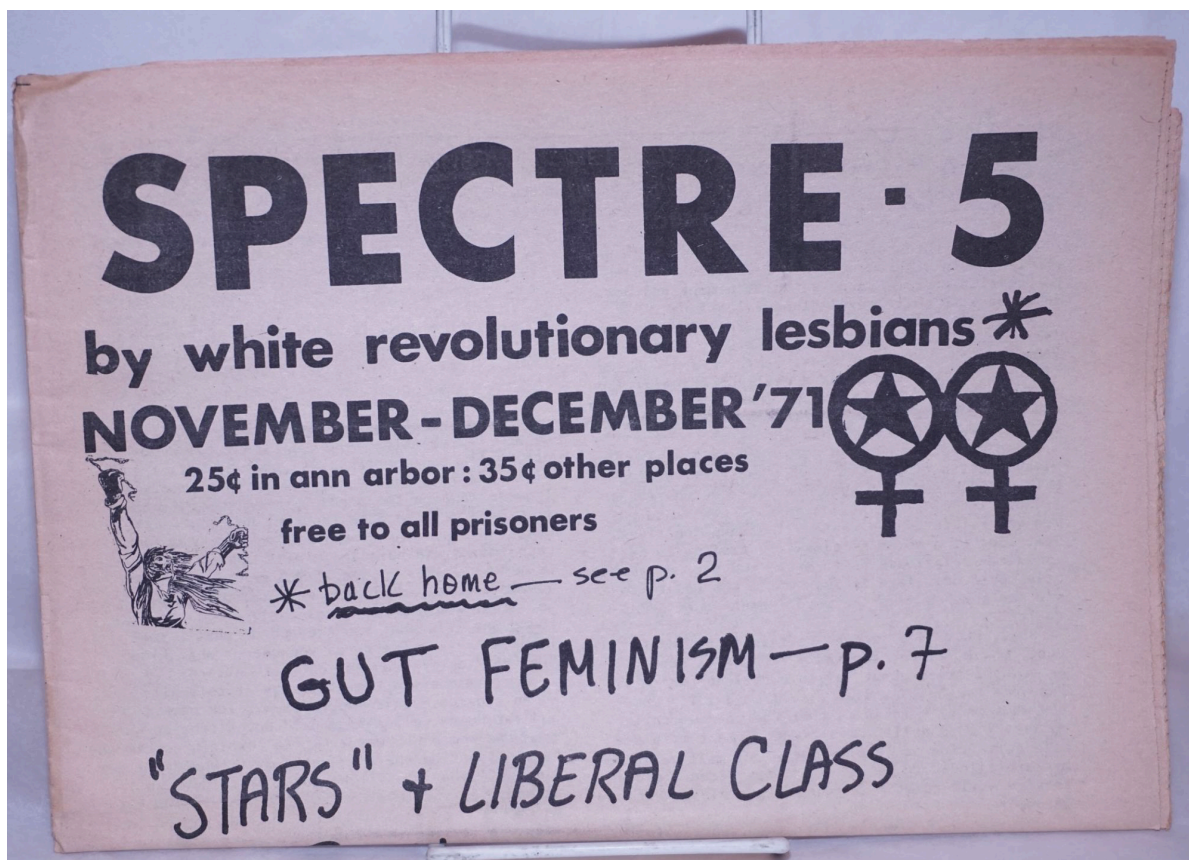
18. Newslink: The Newsletter of Gay Male S/M Activists [7 issue run]

New York: Gay Male S/M Activists, 1996-2004. Seven digest-size issues, 5.5x8.5 inches, ranging from 24 to 36 pages, with articles, advertisements, reviews, resources, photographs, and artwork. Includes numbers 37, 40-43, 53, and 60. Very good.

(#351597)

Published by Gay Male S/M activists, *Newslink* treated S/M as both a sexual practice and an organized community. These issues cover fisting, mummification, boots, dog training, dungeon demonstrations, AIDS, community safety, erotic art, Leatherfest and Folsom Street East. GMSMA provided instruction, resources, and a forum for discussing how the community could operate.

\$75



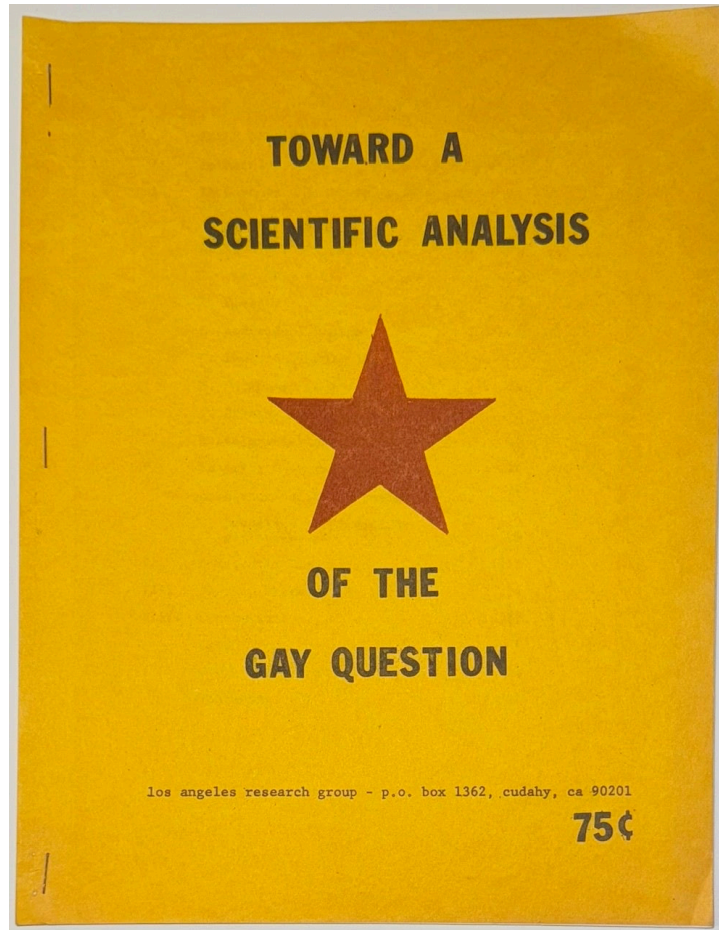
19. Spectre: White Revolutionary Lesbians, No. 5

Ann Arbor: Spectre, November-December 1971. Newspaper. 16 pages. Folded tabloid underground newspaper containing articles, opinion, poetry, prose, services, and resources. Very good.

(#260837)

Spectre described itself as “A Paper of Revolutionary Lesbians” written by revolutionary separatist white women. Only six issues were published. This one includes “Gut Feminism,” “Stars’ & Liberal Class Guilt” and a discussion of movement security, along with poetry, prose and community information. Its pages record some of the arguments over race, class, separatism, and leadership then dividing both the women’s movement and the Left.

SOLD!



20. Toward a Scientific Analysis of the Gay Question

Los Angeles Research Group. Cudahy, California: the Research Group, [1976?]. 41 pages. 8.5x11 inch staplebound pamphlet. Foxing along the right edge; otherwise very good.

(#332289)

Lesbian Marxist-Leninists wrote this pamphlet to confront the anti-gay positions of the October League, Revolutionary Union and other communist organizations. They also criticized gay liberation as politically insufficient. The language may seem foreboding but the argument's obvious: queer people are being asked to support a revolution that planned to reconsider their humanity afterwards, and they won't wait.

SOLD!

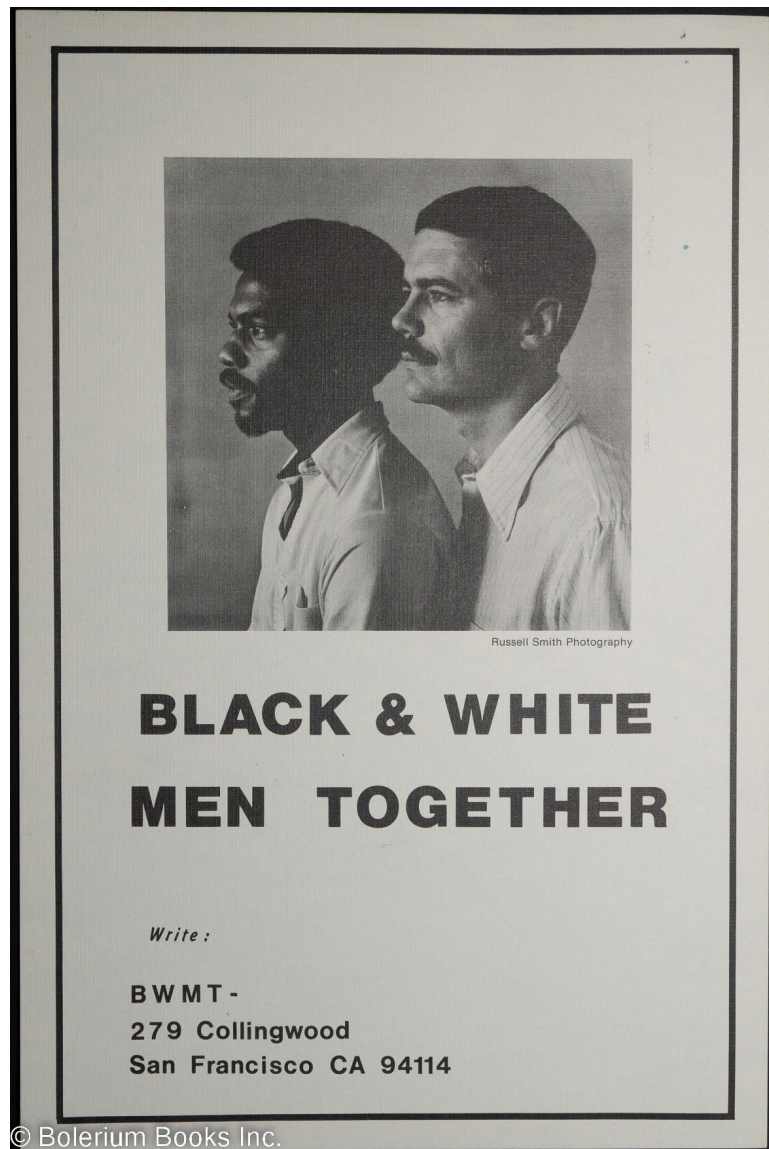
21. Black & White Men Together [poster]

Smith, Russell, photographer. San Francisco: BWMT, [no date]. Single sheet, 9.5 x 14.5 inches. Black-and-white photograph of a male couple in profile, with black text printed on stiff gray stock. Very good.

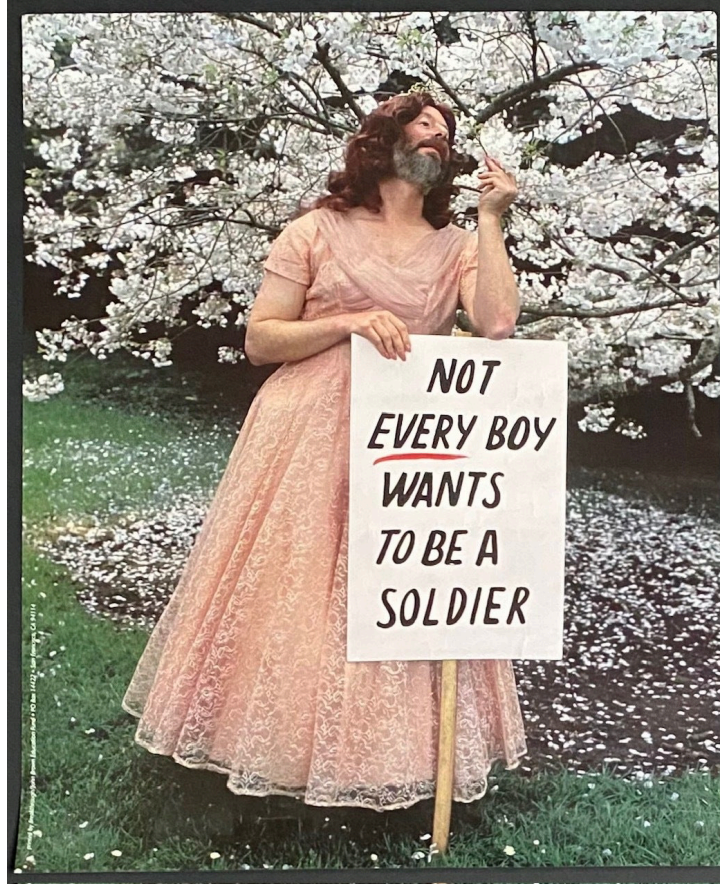
(#182540)

Founded around interracial desire and fellowship, Black and White Men Together also confronted racism within gay life and homophobia in the larger society.

\$35



© Bolerium Books Inc.



22. Not Every Boy Wants to Be a Soldier [poster]

San Francisco: Breakthrough / John Brown Education Fund, [1990s]. 16 x 20 inch poster. Color photograph of a bearded figure in a pink dress and tiara, gazing at cherry blossoms while holding a sign bearing the slogan. Very good.

(#182214)

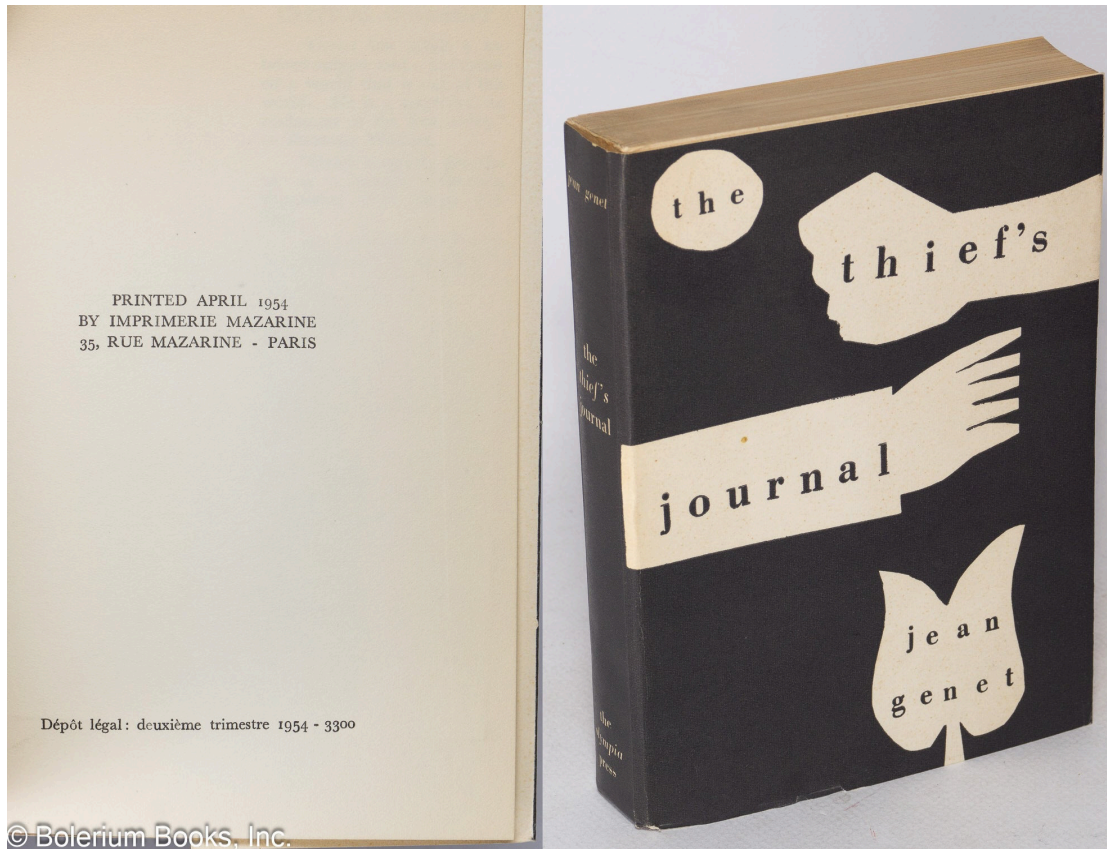
During the early-1990s debate over gay military service, equality was often framed as the right to wear the uniform. This poster shows another kind of manhood.

Issued by the Queer Caucus of the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, which began as an above-ground support organization for the Weather Underground. A similar image appeared in a 1991 issue of *Breakthrough*, Prairie Fire's political journal. Inkworx's archive states that the poster was distributed at the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation.

\$150

IV. “IF THIS MAKES US OUTLAWS...”

Against prisons, police, facism.



23. The Thief's Journal

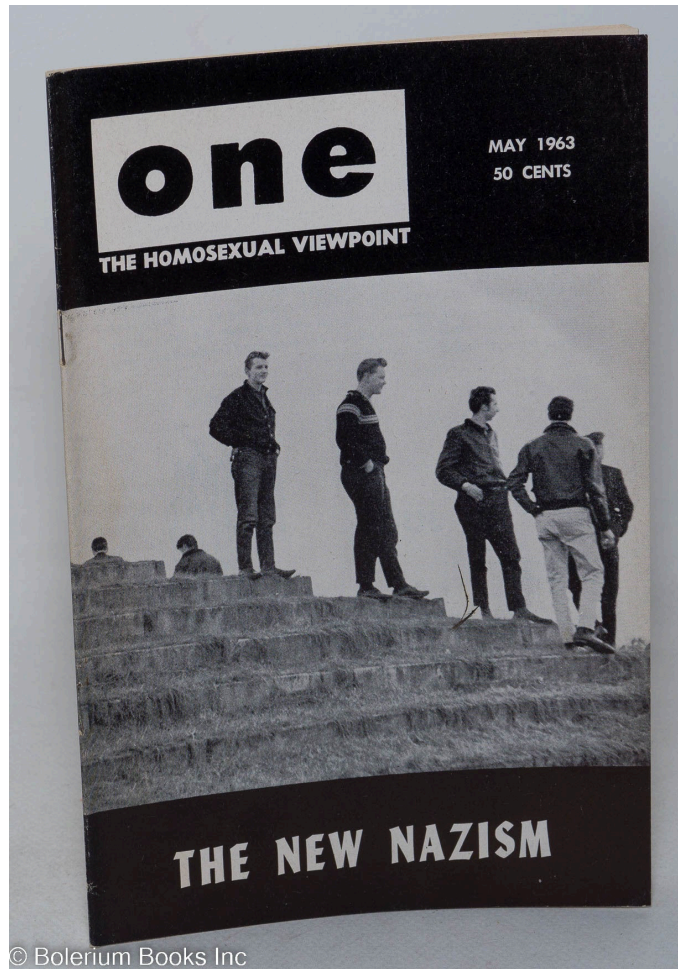
Genet, Jean; foreword by Jean-Paul Sartre; translated from the French by Bernard Frechtman. Paris: Olympia Press, 1954. 291 pages. Very good first edition and first English-language printing, a paperback original. The jacket has a three-inch split at the spine on the rear panel.

(#313078)

Jean Genet was a thief, hustler, and prisoner before becoming one of France's most celebrated writers. In *The Thief's Journal*, he turns his life among sailors, criminals, and male prostitutes into erotic myth & moral code. In Genet's world, there is a haunted beauty to the men society has condemned. There is no coming-out narrative, and no respectable redemption waiting at the end.

This is the first edition in English, published in Paris when the book could not be legally imported into Britain or the United States. The jacket carries praise from Sartre, Richard Wright and Janet Flanner—like literature of the day was smuggling Genet across the border.

\$175



24. ONE Magazine: "The New Nazism"

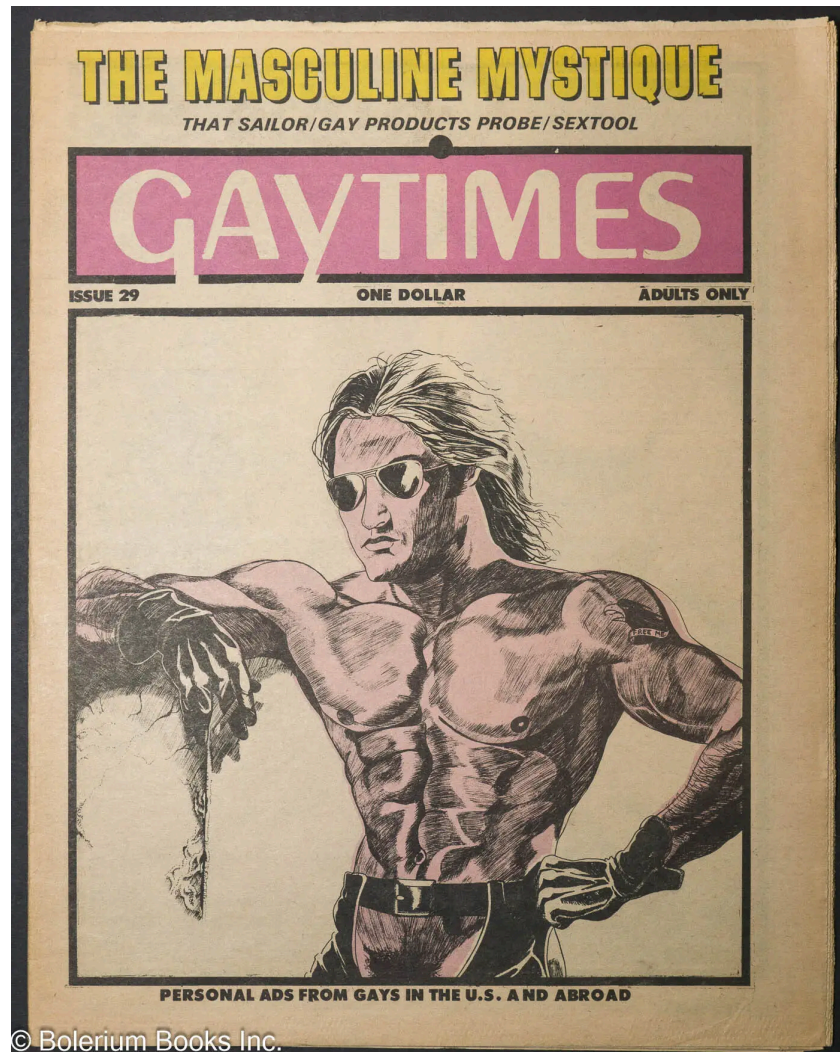
Slater, Don, Richard Conger, and others, editors. Los Angeles: ONE, Inc., May 1963. Volume 11, number 5. 32 pages including covers, 5.5 x 8.5 inches. Fiction, articles, poetry, and services in a staplebound pictorial digest. Very good.

(#249715)

After the U.S. Post Office declared an earlier issue obscene and refused to deliver it, *ONE* magazine fought the case to the Supreme Court, and won a victory for gay publishing and freedom of the mails.

James F. Kearful's cover article examines fascism not as a finished European episode but as a force visible in American police departments, churches and campaigns against homosexuals in New York and Miami.

SOLD!



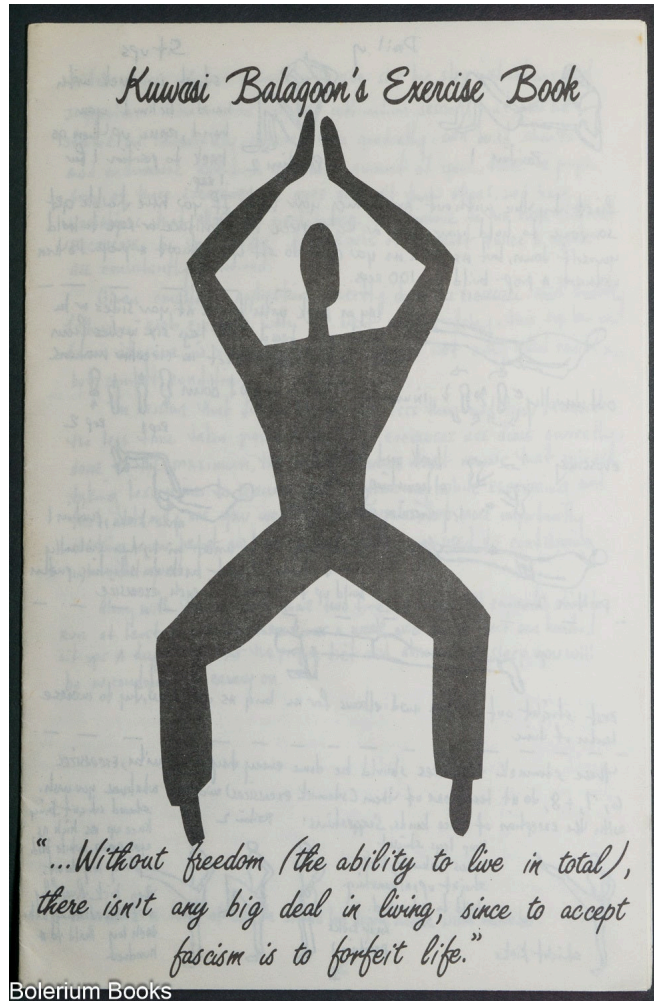
25. Gaytimes, No. 29: The Masculine Mystique

Mann, Klaus, and Kurt Tucholsky. Hamburg: Frühlings Erwachen, 1981. 16 pages. German text, printed throughout in red on gray stock and bound in stapled pictorial red-and-gray wrappers. Minor pen marks and a split at the spine fold. Textreihe 1.

(#293135)

Under the cover line “The Masculine Mystique,” this issue combines erotic photography and personal ads with features on sailors, gay products, and sexual equipment. Like many gay men’s magazines of the period, it functioned simultaneously as pornography, consumer guide, and a means of finding other men.

\$35



26. Kuwasi Balagoon's Exercise Book

[Balagoon, *Kuwasi*]. New York: Resistance, [1980s]. 10 pages. 5.5x8.5 inch pamphlet. Very good.

(#349148)

Exercise routines devised by Black Liberation Army militant & anarchist Kuwasi Balagoon during his imprisonment. The pamphlet reproduces his handwritten instructions and sketches for exercises that could be performed within the close confines of a prison cell. Its rear cover states that Balagoon was being held at Rockland County Jail. He died from an AIDS-related illness in 1986, at the age of thirty-nine.

SOLD!

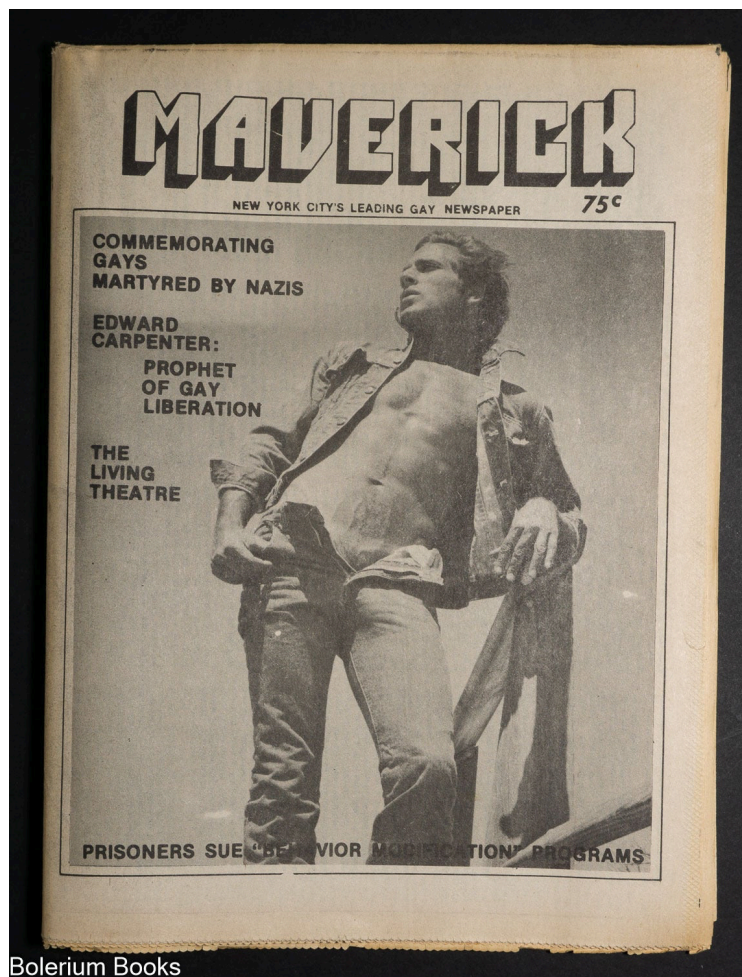
27. Maverick: Commemorating Gays Martyred by Nazis

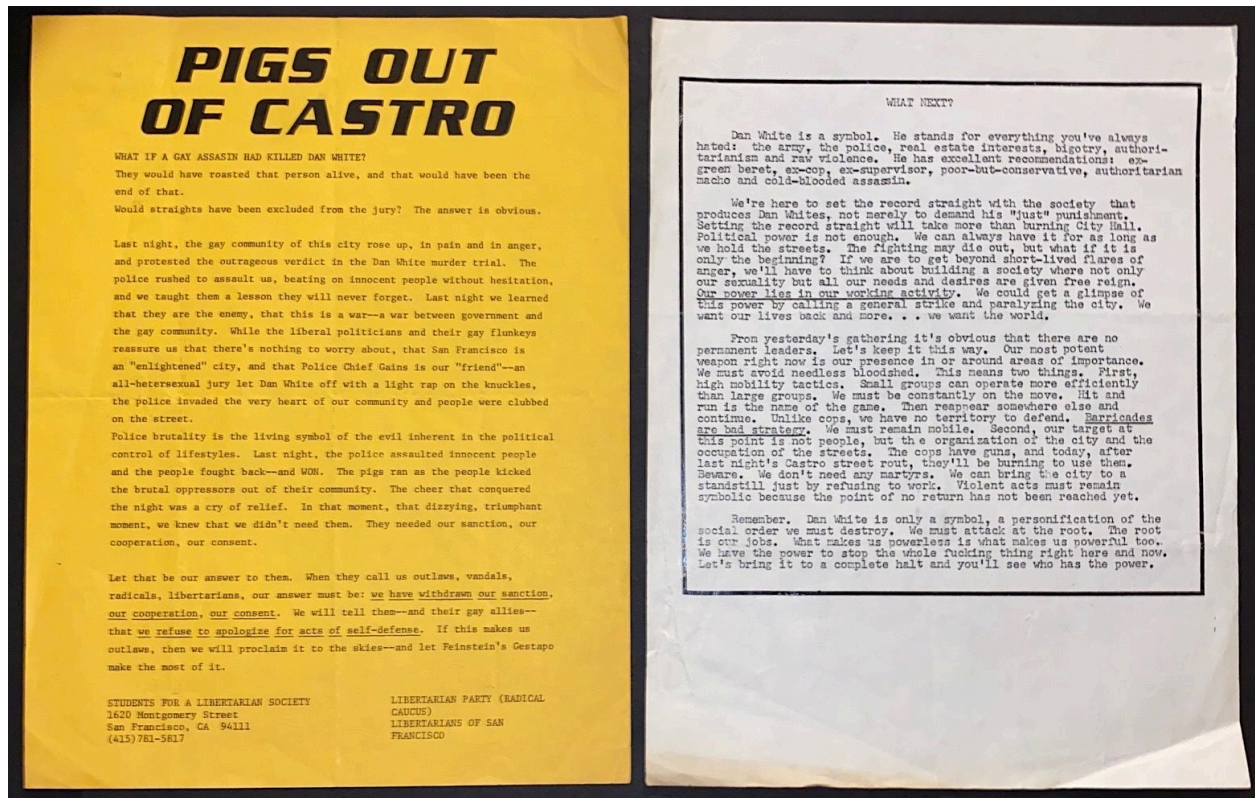
Navan, Joe, editor, with Rip Colt, Target Studios, Wallace Hamilton, Randy Wicker, Mikhail F. M. Itkin, the Living Theatre, and others. New York: Hudson House Entertainment, October 1, 1975. Volume 1, number 7. 32 pages. Folded tabloid newspaper on newsprint, with news, reviews, events, advertisements, and photographs. Very good.

(#324500)

In 1975, the Nazi persecution of homosexuals was still rarely addressed in mainstream historical accounts. This issue commemorates homosexuals murdered under Nazism. It also contains gay news, theater, political commentary, erotic art, and advertisements.

SOLD!





28. Pigs Out of Castro [two handbills]

San Francisco: Students for a Libertarian Society and the Radical Caucus of the Libertarian Party, [1979]. Two 8.5 x 11 inch flyers, "Pigs Out of Castro" and "What's Next?" Lightly fold-creased. The first includes the issuing organization's contact information; the second was issued anonymously.

(#309127)

These handbills were distributed after the White Night riots: the civil disturbance which followed the lenient verdict given to Dan White for the murders of Harvey Milk and George Moscone.

After protesters fought police outside City Hall, officers entered the Castro, beating people in the streets and attacking a gay bar. "Pigs Out of Castro" refuses demands that the gay community apologize for resisting. "What's Next?" discusses mobility, leaderless organization, and a general refusal to work.

\$150

V. “SEX CAN DESTROY EVIL”

Pagan warriors, holy cocks, queer Christs.

29. Faerie Fire:

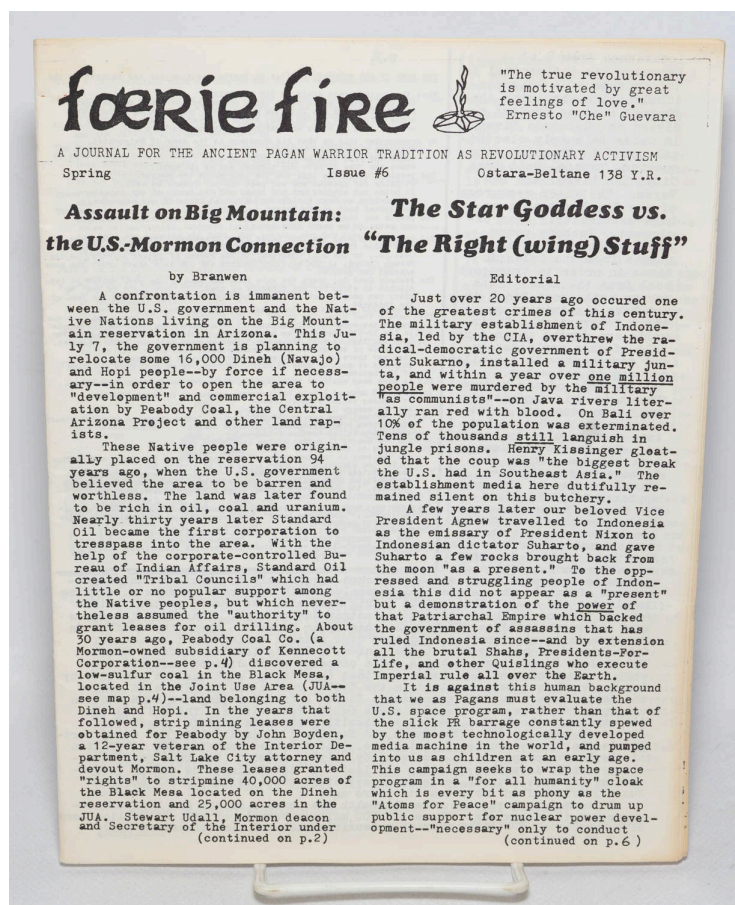
A Journal for the Ancient Pagan Warrior Tradition, No. 6

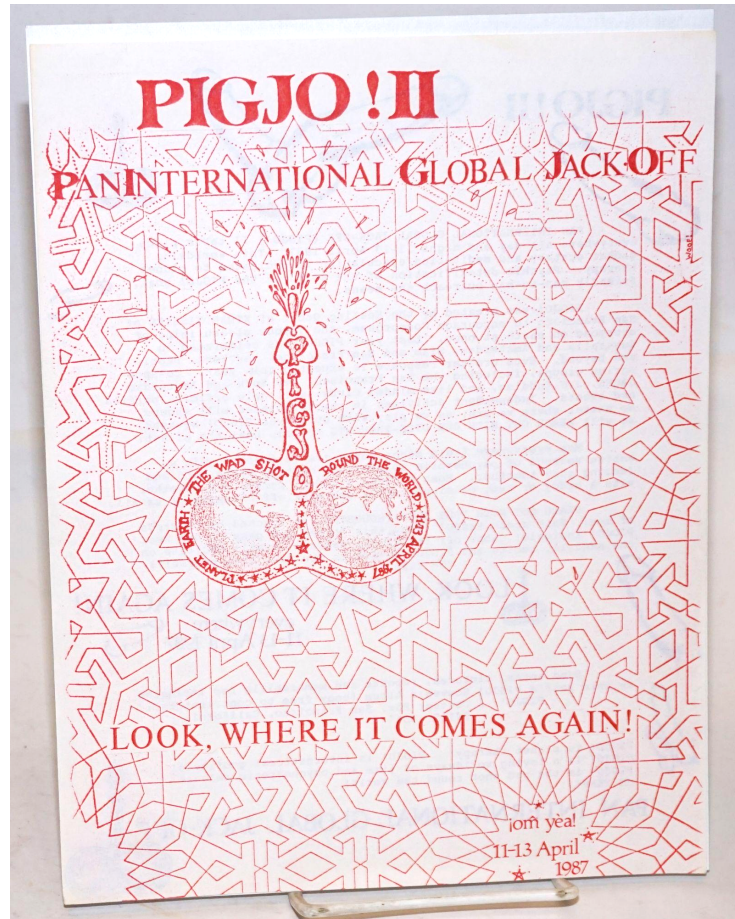
New York: Pagansword, 1987. 20 pages. Unbound magazine measuring 8.5x11 inches; faint toning to the front cover, otherwise very good.

(#328526)

Faerie Fire came for more than lighting candles and playing with crystals. They wanted pagans back in the revolutionary movements. This issue barrels along from lesbian and gay liberation through Celtic history, the American Indian Movement, and the struggle at Big Mountain. The cover calls it a "Mormon land grab," a blunt name for the web of influence surrounding Mormon attorney John Boyden, who represented the Hopi Tribe while also working for Peabody Coal. Twenty pages of sex, spirit, and the land.

\$100





30. PIGJO II: Pan International Global Jack-Off

San Francisco: PIGJO, 1987. 8.5x11 inch flyer, printed both sides, very good, graphic motif depicts two earths as testicles appended to an ejaculating phallus. Four paragraphs of text on verso, plus various slogans. NOTE: we have two versions, one side red and the other blue, or one side red and other black.

(#183645)

“Psychic detoxification of the world is the PIGJO! goal, friendly man-to-man outreach the means. PIGJO! was created by the Healing Order of Kthar Sissies of San Francisco to encourage Cosmorgasm, the joyous pleasuring of everyone on earth at once...”

Group masturbation parties were one of the sex-positive responses to the AIDS crisis. The current incarnation of PIGJO is SF Jacks, which still holds events to celebrate the birthday of Ludwig Zamenhof—inventor of Esperanto.

\$45

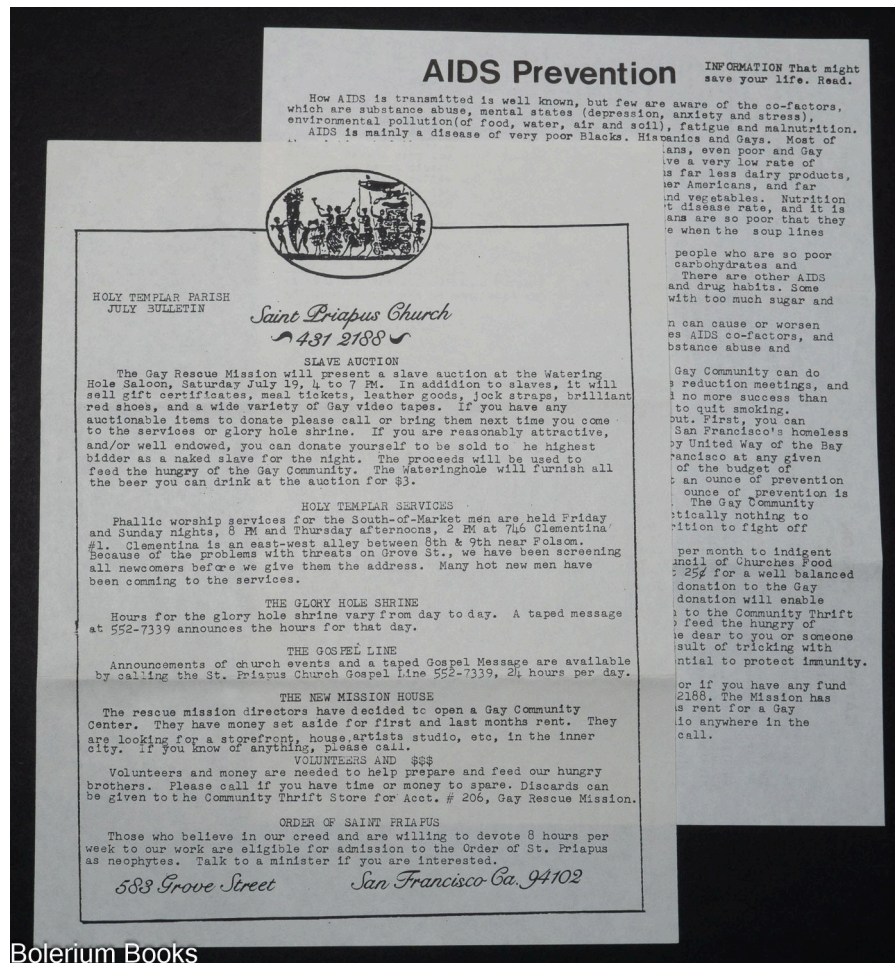
31. St. Priapus Church Ephemera [two items]

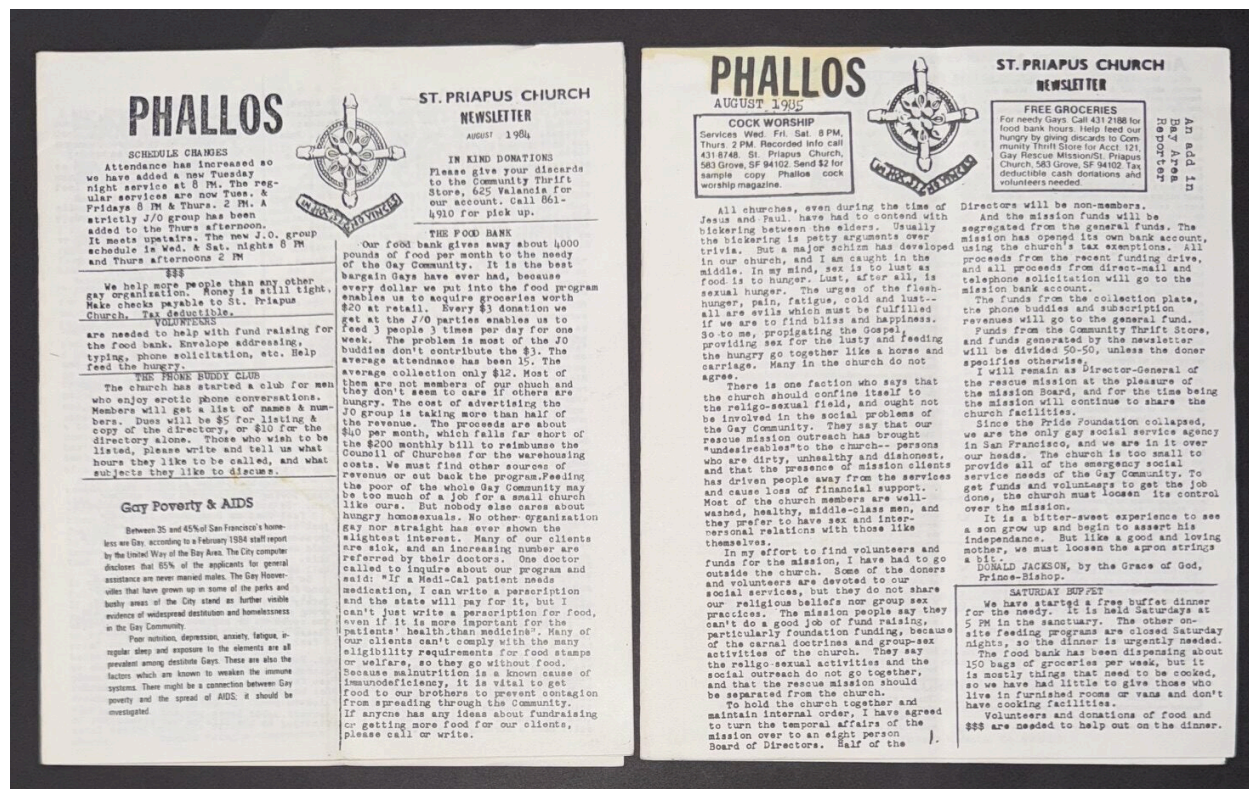
[N.p.]: [n.p.], 1986. Two sheets measuring 8.5 x 11 inches, both with trifold creasing; one has a blank verso. Very good.

(#348024)

The Church of St. Priapus practiced phallic worship through ritual sex, masturbation and a glory-hole shrine. One bulletin advertises a slave auction and describes the church's mission house. The other discusses AIDS prevention and the Gay Rescue Mission, reflecting the church's increasing involvement with gay men facing illness, poverty, and homelessness.

\$95





32. Phallos [two issues]

San Francisco: St. Priapus Church, 1984-1985. Two twelve-page issues of the newsletter, each measuring 7 x 8.5 inches, with vertical creases from mailing; the later issue has some staining to its final pages. Issues present are August 1984 and August 1985.

(#348028)

Operating under the slogan "Sex can destroy evil," the church treated the phallos as an object of Dionysian worship and concluded its services with collective masturbation. Reverend Donald Jackson's newsletters combine theology and church administration with a revealing debate over whether its sexual ministry could coexist with outreach to homeless and impoverished gay men. The 1985 issue also reprints an extensive interview titled "Church of the Flying Cock."

\$175

33. Every 10th Jesus Is A QUEER [signed poster]

Handel, Eric, artist. Los Angeles: [ca. 1990]. Poster measuring 23 x 35 inches, based on William-Adolphe Bouguereau's painting Sainte Famille (The Holy Family). Signed by Handel at the lower right. Fine.

(#303617)

Your humble cataloger ends here with a bit of blasphemy. Commissioned for Queer Nation & signed by the artist, Eric Handel's poster places its slogan over a reproduction of Bouguereau's *Sainte Famille*. Instead of waiting for Christianity to make room for queer people, the image puts queerness right in the Holy Family. Can I get an amen to that?

\$250

