

Guide to the Out West Collection

New Mexico Museum of Art Library and Archives

Box 115

Dates: 1998-1999
Language: English

Related Materials

The New Mexico Museum of Art library has a copy of the Out West exhibition catalog by Plan B Evolving Arts [Call number 709.7908664 OUT 1999] as well as artist biographical files for curator Harmony Hammond and artists Gay Block, Carlotta Boettcher, Geoff Laurence, Herbert Lotz, Sharon Stewart, Barbara Zusman, Delmas Howe, Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie and Chuck Ramirez.

Several of the artists in the Out West exhibition are included in the permanent art collection of the New Mexico Museum of Art.

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Introduction

The recent emergence of a particular genre of exhibition in which "hot-button" social-moral issues as opposed to purely aesthetic considerations, are the primary focus, was foreshadowed in the Munich show in 1937 titled (in German) Degenerate Art. Nazi sympathizers, dubbed the works "depraved."

In the Fall of the year 1999, an exhibition titled Out West, curated by Harmony Hammond, [herein HH], was presented at Plan B. Evolving Arts, exhibit space located on Old Pecos Trail in Santa Fe. It ran from September to October 24, 1999. It was among the first (if not the first) sexually-oriented exhibitions ever mounted in Santa Fe.

Ms. Hammond brought together the works of 41 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and "two-spirited" (LGBT) artists from New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas which achieved what a columnist called "a truly invigorating diversity of ideas and expression."¹

The papers accumulated by Ms. Hammond connected with this exhibition comprise this Collection, and are assembled under the following headings.

Section I. The Exhibition

- A. Notices and announcements of forth-coming exhibition.
- B. The exhibition, September 3 to October 22, 1999.
- C. News clippings and articles about the exhibition.

Section II. Photos, Slides, Miscellaneous

- A. Photos of post-opening party.
- B. Slides (35mm.) of selected works at exhibition.
- C. Miscellaneous

¹ "Two-spirited" is explicated by Lynn Cline in an article in Pasatiempo (*infra*) as "embraced by people who see their sexual identity and cultural background as interlinked," and reject "gay" and "lesbian" because the words reflect an Anglo heritage. [Folder 23, of Section I, *infra*.]

Section I : The Exhibition

A. Notices and announcements

1. Circa January 1999. Flyer pink. Call for art for prospective exhibition, all media, sizes, etc.
Exhibiting artists to receive honoraria.
Show to open on September 3 and close on October 22, 1999.
Footnote. Funding coming from National Gay & Lesbian Funding Partnership through Santa Fe Community Foundation.
2. Leaflet, n.d. Describing The Lesbian & Gay Community Funding Partnership. One page, three-folded.
Sets forth objectives and use of funds raised.
3. Periodical, clipping. Blatt. Fall 1998. Call For Art. Photocopy.
Seeking art by LGBTT [see Introduction] for exhibition to be held at Plan B Evolving Arts [PBEA] in the Fall of 1999. HH Curator.
4. Circa August 1999. Press release. PBEA. Introducing exhibition at Plan B of stereotypes of LGBTT visual art for abovestated period.
List of contributing artists.
Purpose stated: "to raise consciousness of lives, experiences, and visual culture of gay peoples ***in the Southwest."
5. Program, n.d. Queer Video. Out West. PBEA. One page fold-over. Compiled by Vikki Dempsey. Curated by HH. A video show, 2 hrs., 50 minutes.
Lists various features of video tapes to be projected on September 25-26, 1999 at PBEA.
6. Flyer, n.d. Out West. Queer Video. Advertising above video show.
Lists participating artists.
7. Postcard, n.d. Advertising exhibition (Sept. 3 to Oct. 24, 1999) and Benefit Party following opening featuring Mendez and Yon (infra).
8. Poster. Black and white. For post-opening benefit party for Out West on September 3; featuring Rumba of The Nacha Mendez Quartet and "Eclectic Grooves of DJ Yon [Hudson]. At Plan Bar B.

**B. The Exhibition
September 3 to October 24, 1999**

9. Catalog. Out West Exhibition. Bound with red cover. 112 pp. Illustrated.
 - = Essay. Either/Other/Both. By Zane Fischer,
Executive Director, PBEA.
 - = Essay. Camping Out In The Southwest.
By Harmony Hammond.
 - = Artists with brief autobiographic sketch opposite picture of their
respective work on exhibition. Some photographs, others
paintings and installations.
 - = Selected Art Exhibitions.
 - = Selected Exhibition Sites.
 - = Additional Sources.
10. List of artists (41) with addresses, etc. Four pp.
11. List of work or works by each artist. Seven pp.

C. News clippings, articles

12. The Santa Fe Community Foundation NEWS. Fall 1998. Pgs. 1, 5-6.
Photocopy.
 - Lists Lesbian and Gay projects receiving Foundation grants totaling
\$10,000. Includes Out West, \$10,000.
13. Periodical. Blatt. Vol. 99, Issue 5. September/October 1999.
 - Letter. From Zane Fischer, Executive Director. Pg. 2.
 - Description of events for Out West. Pg. 8.
14. News magazine. Santa Fe Reporter. September 1-7, 1999. Article. A Western
Outing. By Dennis Jarrett. Pg. 30.
 - Describes activities of Out West and other organizations.
15. News Magazine. Pasatiempo. September 3-9, 1999. Article. Rendering Gender.
By Lynn Cline. Pgs. 36-37. Illustrated. Photocopy.
 - Describes Out West exhibition, among other related topics.

16. News magazine. The magazine September 1999. Pg. 36. Photocopy.
Reproduction of exhibition announcement; photo of front postcard
[Folder 7].
17. Newspaper clipping. Albuquerque Journal North. September 9, 1999. Section,
The Arts. Article. Sexual Identity Comes Out in Out West Exhibition. By
MaLin Wilson-Powell. Pg. 4.
Reviews exhibition.
Photo [digital composite] of a school portrait of a young boy and Jon
Benet Ramsey.
18. News Magazine. THE magazine. Vol. VII, Number IV. Letter to editor from
Geoff Laurence, Santa Fe.
Response to letter from Miriam Salmon regarding his painting, *Tefillin*.
[See Catalog, Folder 9]: Both letters reproduced in letter page.
19. News magazine. THE magazine. October 1999. Article. Critical Reflections.
Out West. By David Clemmer. Pg. 55.
Reviews philosophy behind HH's curatorial objectives in mounting the
show.
Photo of several of the installations.
20. News magazine. THE magazine. November 1999. Article. Tom Jennings[s]:
Out West. By Diane Armitage. Pg. 45. Photocopy.
Describes Jennings's installation, *Story Teller*. [Catalog, Folder 9.]
21. Periodical. Blatt. November /December 1999. Letter from Zane Fischer,
Executive Director, to Friends and Members. [No page number shown.]
Photocopy.
Thanking them for support during the year. Passing reference to Out
West.
22. Periodical, Blatt. November/December 1999. Notice from PBEA [?] on behalf of
Out West to the Community. Unsigned. Pg. 11.
Thanking them for support.
Lists contributors who funded cost of the catalog.
23. News magazine. THE magazine. December 1999. Letter to editor. From HH.
Thanks David Clemmer for his "sensitive review
of Out West.
Clarifies concept of "Two Spirited." Term is used by Native
Americans instead of "gay" or "lesbians" to include "both
a sexual and Native racial or cultural identity***." [But see
Footnote to Introduction at page ii, supra.]

Section II : Photos, Slides and Miscellaneous

A. Photos of post-opening party.

- 1.** Photos (14), color. 4x5 $\frac{3}{4}$. Of party guests; some of exhibits.
Explanatory notes [some erroneous on reverse sides.

B. 35mm. slides of selected works.

- 2.** Color slides (73), 35 mm., of works displayed by 39 of 41 artists exhibiting.
[Missing: James Magee; Barbara Zisman.]
Each slide has explanatory comments in margins.

C. Miscellaneous.

- 3.** Letter. 7-10-98: Santa Fe Community Foundation [Andrew Beckerman and Sarah Barber, Co-Chair] to HH.
Reports that HH received grants of \$5,000. for 1998, and \$5,000. for 1999.