

one

News From ONE Archives at the USC Libraries and the ONE Archives Foundation

March 2016

Next Friday, March 11, join author **Kirk Frederick** at the launch of *Write That Down: The Comedy of Male Actress Charles Pierce*, hosted by ONE Archive's board member **Chris Freeman**. Enjoy laughs and memories of drag legend Charles Pierce.

Our current exhibition *FUCK! Loss, pleasure, desire* will be on view through March 19. Archival materials related to *FUCK!* will remain on view through July 31, 2016. ONE has two upcoming exhibitions next month: *Cock, Paper, Scissors*, an exhibition on queer collage, opens in West Hollywood's Plummer Park on April 2; and *M. Lamar: Funeral Doom Spiritual* opens at ONE Archives on April 15 with a performance at USC on April 16.

Read more about our events and news for this month below!

IN THIS ISSUE

Remembering
Robert Gino Ross

Write That Down
Book Launch

On View: *FUCK! Loss,
pleasure desire*

Upcoming: *Cock,
Paper, Scissors*

Upcoming: *M. Lamar:
Funeral Death
Spiritual*

Avatar Club 33rd
Anniversary
Celebration

Out and About



DONATE
TO ONE
NOW

Remembering Robert Gino Ross

January 29, 1926 -
January 31, 2016

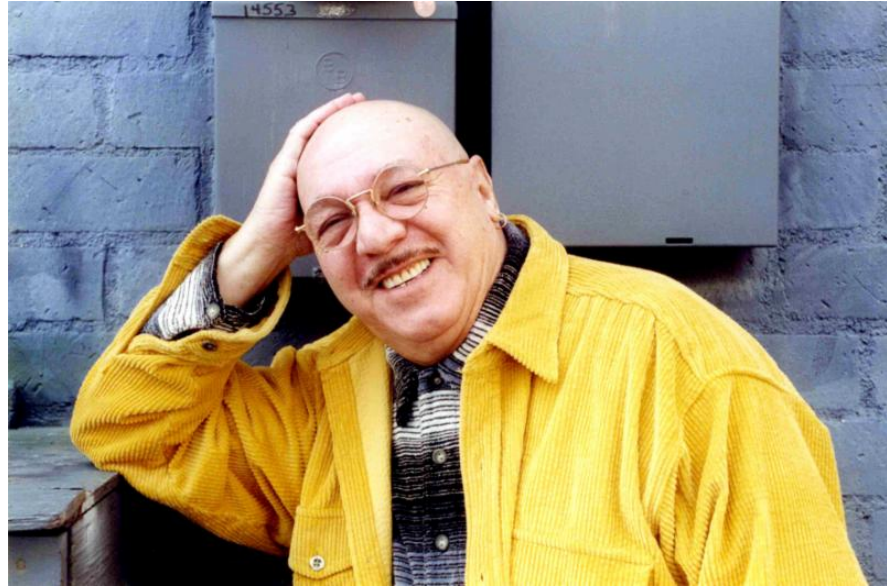


We are truly saddened by the loss of performing artist Robert Gino Ross, who passed away on January 31, 2016. The entire ONE family sends our condolences to Robert's family.

Robert was born on January 29, 1926 in Indiana and was one of nine children. In the 1950s, Robert moved to the San Fernando Valley. While working as a dance instructor at Arthur Murray Dance Studios Robert met Philip Orlando, who became his life partner. Together, Philip and Robert opened the Orlando Dance Studio in 1958 where they sold local artists' works. They became known for the gallery's commitment to local talent, supporting female artists, and performance artist. The gallery embraced new

media and supported controversial themes with diverse exhibitions of techniques, media, and objects including assemblage, body art, collage, conceptual art, construction, copy art, finish-fetish, furniture, mail art, microfiche, mixed-media, op art, performance art, photography, pop art, process art, sound art, video art, xerography, and 3M imaging, with Art Deco, ethnic, folk, indigenous, tribal, African and Pre-Columbian arts.

Robert Gino Ross' generosity and his support for the arts will always be remembered and appreciated in our community.



Images from Orlando Gallery Records, Collection 2013.038, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at USC Libraries, University of Southern California.

Write That Down Book Launch

Friday, 3/11/2016

Friday, March 11, 2016, 7-9pm

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Find location, hours, and parking information for ONE Archives [here](#).

Admission is free.

A suggested donation of \$50 to the ONE Archives Foundation includes a discussion,

presentation, refreshments, and a complimentary copy of the book, signed by author, Kirk Frederick.

Reception, 7pm

Presentation, 7:30pm

Book signing and gathering through 9pm

Join author **Kirk Frederick** and host/interviewer **Chris Freeman** for a discussion of *Write That Down: The Comedy of Male Actress Charles Pierce*, a slide/video presentation on Charles Pierce, plus wine and hors d'oeuvres.

Charles Pierce created raucously uncanny impressions of legends Bette Davis, Mae West, and Katharine Hepburn, among other movie stars. He called himself a "Male Actress," and his 40-year career included hundreds of engagements worldwide. Frederick has captured the essence of Pierce's comic genius by recounting his hilarious material, most of which Pierce wrote himself, or improvised. On the occasions when his adlibs generated exuberant audience response, Pierce would call out to Frederick backstage to "write that down." Frederick did.

Please RSVP at askone@onearchives.org or call **213.821.2771**.
For more information about the book visit the Facebook page [here](#).

FUCK! Loss, pleasure, desire

**January 29 -
March 19, 2016**



Full exhibition on view January 29 - March 19, 2016

Partially on view through July 31, 2016

Please note that the archival materials related to FUCK! that will remain on view are installed around the second story mezzanine and are only accessible via stairs.

ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Find location, hours, and parking information for ONE Archives [here](#).

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.

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.

Find more information on *FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure* [here](#).

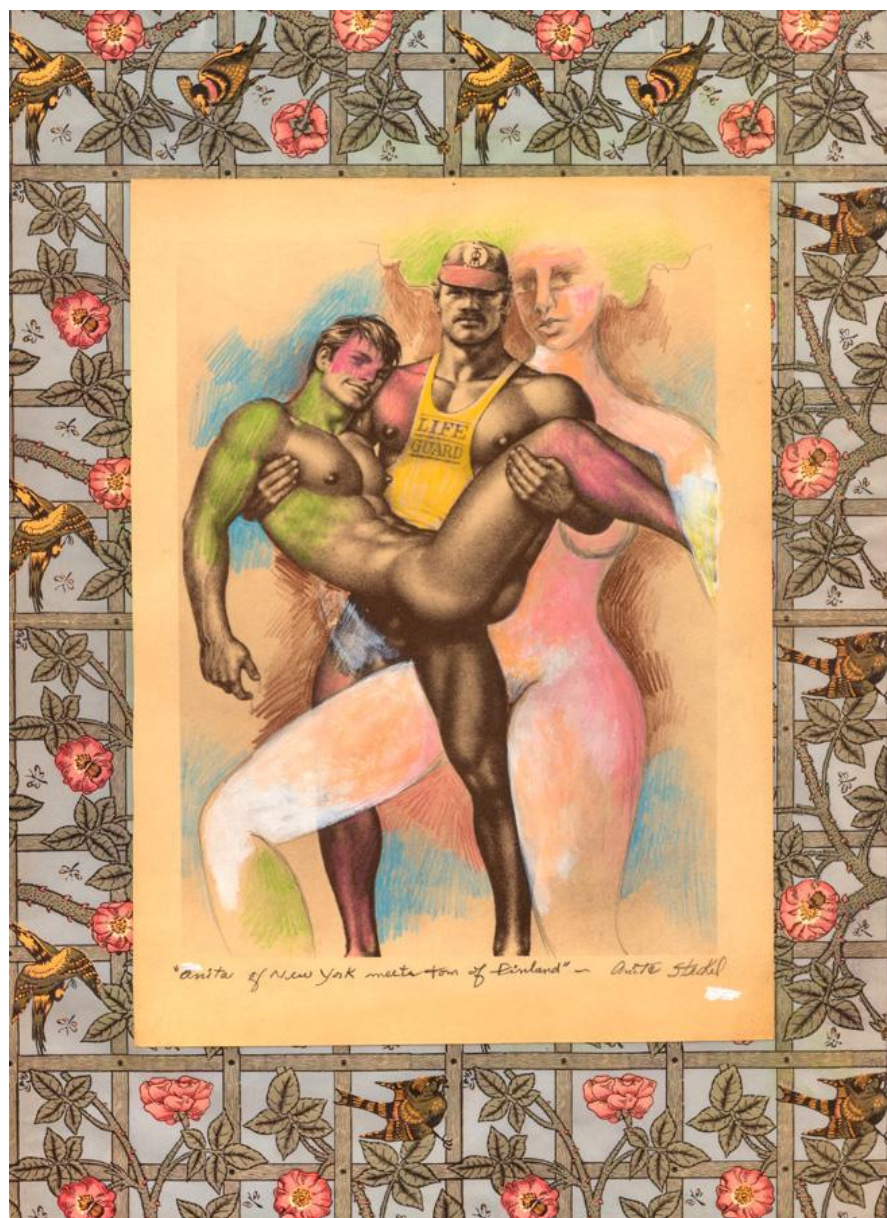


FUCK! Loss, desire, pleasure is co-curated by Toro Castaño, Curatorial Assistant at the ONE Archives Foundation, and independent curator Lucia Fabio. Support is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

Images: (Top) Sheree Rose, *CLUB FUCK* at the Christopher Street Pride Parade, 1991. Bob Flanagan and Sheree Rose Collection. ONE Archives at the USC Libraries. (Bottom) Young Joon Kwak, *Detail of Aggregate Body*, 2014. Artist book (edition of 100, 3 artist proofs), 20 x 20 x ½ inches. Courtesy of the artist.

Cock, Paper, Scissors

**April 2 -
July 10, 2016**



April 2 - July 10, 2016

Plummer Park, Long Hall
1200 North Vista Street
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Exhibition hours: Thursday-Sunday, 1-5pm; Closed Monday-Wednesday
Find location, hours, and parking information for this off-site exhibition [here](#).

Opening reception: Saturday, April 2, 2016, 6-9pm
RSVP on Facebook [here](#).

Cock, Paper, Scissors brings together works by an intergenerational group of fifteen queer artists who explore the collaged page or the scrapbook with diverse, erotically inclined tactics. The exhibition draws from both archival collections and contemporary practices, focusing on how these artists reuse the pieces of print culture for worldmaking projects ranging from the era of gay liberation to the present.

Cock, Paper, Scissors places special focus on the work of four rarely exhibited artists that produced collages for personal pleasure drawn from the collections at ONE Archives at the USC Libraries and the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art. While *Cock, Paper, Scissors* is undoubtedly a celebration of the numerous uses of gay male pornography, the inclusion of historical and contemporary feminist collage practices seeks to address gay male phallocentrism with feminist critique and lesbian power.

Artists in *Cock, Paper, Scissors* include: Graphic Albums Collection, West End Collection, Steve Blevins, Enrique Castrejon, Mary Beth Edelson, Kate Huh & L.J. Roberts, Glenn Ligon, Marlene McCarty, Jonathan Molina-Garcia, Olaf Odegaard, Anita Steckel, Ingo Swann, Suzanne Wright, and Jade Yumang.

Find more information on *Cock, Paper, Scissors* [here](#).



Cock, Paper, Scissors is organized by David Evans Frantz, Curator at ONE Archives at the USC Libraries; Lucas Hilderbrand, Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies and Director of Visual Studies at UC Irvine; and Kayleigh Perkov, Ph.D. Candidate in Visual Studies at UC Irvine.

Support is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Additional support is provided by the City of West Hollywood through its Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission and the ONE Archives Foundation. Generous support for the catalogue to accompany this exhibition is provided by the Pasadena Art Alliance, the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, and the USC Libraries.



Images: (Top) Anita Steckel, Anita of New York Meets Tom of Finland, 2004/2005. Mixed media on book pages, 19.6 x 13.5 inches. Photo by Adam Reich. Courtesy Estate of Anita Steckel and the Suzanne Geiss Company, New York (Bottom) Olaf Odegaard, Title unknown, c. 1985. Mixed media collage. ONE Archives at the USC Libraries

**M. Lamar: Funeral Doom
Spiritual**

**April 15 -
July 31, 2016**



April 15 - July 31, 2016

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Find location, hours, and parking information for ONE Archives [here](#).

Opening reception: Friday, April 15, 2016, 7-9:30pm
RSVP on Facebook [here](#).

Performance of M. Lamar's "Funeral Doom Spiritual: For Male Soprano, Piano, and Electronics" at USC: Saturday, April 16, 2016, 7:30pm

More information on this performance [here](#).

Claudia Rankine recently wrote in the New York Times "the condition of black life is one of mourning." Indeed, if we believe the words of Anthony Paul Farley that "the motionless movement of death through slavery, segregation, and neo-segregation" is an ongoing funeral procession then how do we, the Negro undead, go on? And how have we kept on keeping on in this unending death spiral of the U.S. empire?

In *Funeral Doom Spiritual*, M. Lamar suggest that it is only with an intense awareness of this "motionless movement," carrying the coffins of the fallen "on our backs," that we can proceed. Taking place a century in the future, the exhibition focuses on a protagonist forever "carrying carrying carrying" these coffins. Drawing on Negro Spirituals that call for the end times, what Lamar calls Doom Spirituals, this installation at ONE Archives exhumes legacies of racial violence while longing for the forthcoming destruction of white supremacy.

M. Lamar: Funeral Doom Spiritual includes multichannel video, objects, still images, and sound. Within the context of the archives, this new installation by Lamar responds directly to the collection of Miles Everett, who photographed nude Black men for over 50 years as an enterprise of private obsession. Refuting Everett's Negrophilic fixation, the installation will include new video of Lamar shot in the archives at ONE, as well as a display of Everett's photographs that deny the fetishist's gaze.

Find more information on *M. Lamar: Funeral Doom Spiritual* [here](#).



M. Lamar: *Funeral Doom Spiritual* is organized by David Evans Frantz, Curator at ONE Archives at the USC Libraries. This exhibition is made possible, in part, by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs. Additional support is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the ONE Archives Foundation.



Image: (Top) M. Lamar, *Up From the Grave*, Still from *Funeral Doom Spiritual*, 2016. Digital video. Courtesy of the artist. (Bottom) M. Lamar, *Carrying Carrying Carrying*, Still from *Funeral Doom Spiritual*, 2016. Digital video. Courtesy of the artist

Donate to ONE with AmazonSmile

Donating to ONE just got easier! Next time you shop on Amazon.com, use [Amazon Smile](#) as your home page to make your purchase and the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase to ONE. Just select ONE as your non-profit of choice whenever you make purchases and Amazon Smiles does the rest!

To sign up today click [here](#).

Avatar Club 33rd Anniversary Celebration

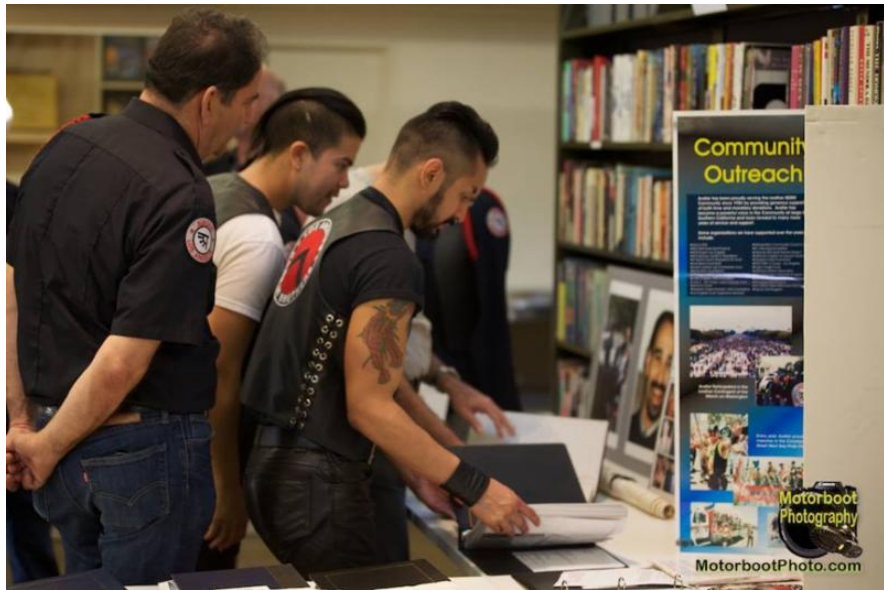


On Sunday, February 28th members of **Avatar Club Los Angeles, Inc.** held an event at ONE Archives, a little over a year ago the organization donated their records to ONE. At the event, members displayed photo albums, banners, and uniforms from their collection. **Thomas Trafelet** spoke about the archival collection and **Don Doyle**, the current president of Avatar generously presented a check to ONE to help cover the cost of processing their records.

Avatar archivist **David Taber** assembled and maintained an impressive collection of photographs, organizational records, banners, uniforms, and memorial displays that document the organization from its founding in 1983. Fifteen men gathered to form a consensual BDSM club. The organization would focus on training and education on how to play in a safe, sane, and consensual way. The origin of the organization's name, Avatar is Sanskrit for "descent." Avatar facilitates the dissemination of training and knowledge of safe, sane, and consensual BDSM practices to educate and broaden the community's knowledge of alternative sexual exploration. ONE Archives is grateful and humbled by Avatar's continued support, with special thanks to the membership for the event set-up and clean up. Avatar remains the last

active Los Angeles men's BDSM club having outlasted other BDSM organizations such as Sommandros and Trident.

ONE continues to document the full breadth of our community, if you have materials related to LGBTQ life and/or culture please contact us at askone@usc.edu or call us at 213.821.2771.



Images: (Top) Avatar Club Los Angeles' Donation Presentation to the One National Gay and Lesbian Archives. Don Doyle - President of Avatar with Jeffrey Erdman - Mr. Christopher Street West Leather 2015, ONE: Former President and Board Member. At Avatar's 33rd Anniversary Celebration, Sunday February 28, 2016. By Robert Green, Motorboot Photography. (Bottom) Avatar's 33rd Anniversary Celebration, Sunday February 28, 2016. By Robert Green, Motorboot Photography.

ONE in the Headlines

February 29, 2016
[KCET: Resurrecting an Expletive](#)

Out and About



Printed Matter's LA Art Book Fair

Books on books on books. Early February, ONE had the pleasure of joining hundreds of other artists at this year's LA Art Book Fair. Settled in the Friendly Fire portion of the fair, ONE's Curator David Evans Frantz, and ONE's Curatorial Assistant Toro Castaño talked with attendees about past exhibitions, history of our ephemera, and activism in art.



Images: (Top) MOTHER's Transgender Hirstory in 99 Objects and Stand Close Its Shorter Than You Think: A show on feminist rage publications also for sale at ONE Archives Los Angeles Art Book Fair booth. February 12-14, 2016. (Bottom) Allyson Mitchell's "I'm With Problematic" T-shirts, previously sold at in the KillJoy's Kastle lesbian gift shop, are at ONE Archives' Los Angeles Art Book Fair booth. February 12 - 14, 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**

one.usc.edu | onearchives.org | [213.821.2771](tel:213.821.2771)

909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007