

IMPACT

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PASSAGES: LEATHER LEGEND AND LA&M CO-FOUNDER CHUCK RENSLOW (AUGUST 26, 1929-JUNE 29, 2017)

The Leather Archives & Museum staff and board of were saddened to hear of Chuck Renslow's passing. As LA&M's co-founder, Chuck gave deeply and worked with great passion for over 26 years to save the names and faces of Leather, kink, BDSM and fetish people, communities, and history, and he fought to ensure that Leatherfolk were the ones who would "tell" their own stories so that they might better understand and bring enhanced visibility to "Leather history." As LA&M's co-founder, longtime President and, most recently, Chairman of the Board, Chuck has left his mark throughout our institution and touched each of us very deeply. He is greatly missed by us all.



The Chicago
 **LGBT**
HALL OF FAME

LEATHER ARCHIVES & MUSEUM INDUCTED INTO THE CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME

While LA&M co-founder Chuck Renslow was part of the first inductee class in 1991, we are honored to announce that Leather Archives & Museum was selected as one of 14 of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame 2017 inductees. The Hall of Fame recognizes the achievements of LGBT Chicagoans, their contributions to the development of the city, and the help they have received from others for the city's LGBT residents and their allies. The Hall of Fame's annual induction ceremony will take place Wednesday, November 8th at the Chicago History Museum, and it is free to the public. For more information, please visit chicagolgbthalloffame.org.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: RICK STORER RESIGNS AS LA&M EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On June 11, 2017, long-time Executive Director Rick Storer left LA&M to pursue new opportunities. Jon Krongaard, President of the LA&M said, "When Rick called to share the news with me, I was very surprised. And while I am saddened by his leaving for a new role in the Chicago LGBTQ Community, I am also grateful for his 15 years of amazing service to the LA&M. Under his leadership, we have grown in ways very few thought possible. We are well positioned for what I know to be an exciting and vibrant future."

Rick Storer joined the Board of the Leather Archives & Museum in 2001 and joined the staff as Executive Director in 2002. During his tenure the organization saw growth in the size of the collection and its accessibility. Rick worked with the Board of Directors to successfully complete a capital campaign in 2004. His guidance and leadership over the past 15 years leave the LA&M poised to collect and provide access to Leather/kink/BDSM/fetish history and culture for years to come. "I am grateful for the privilege to have worked so closely with the amazing history at the LA&M. I am excited for the bright future of the Leather Archives," Rick added.

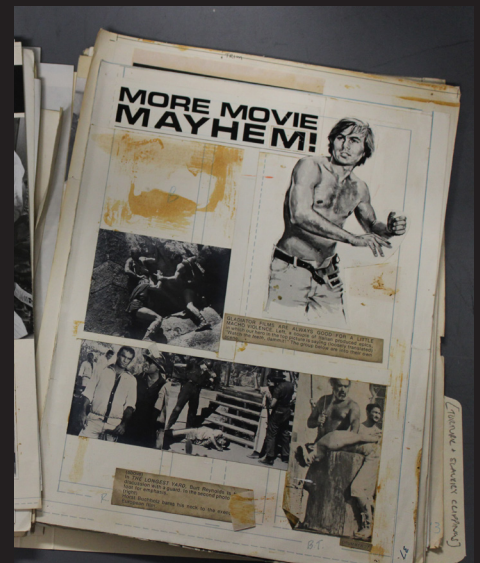


From the collections of the Leather Archives & Museum Chicago, IL



THE TONY DEBLASE COLLECTION AT LA&M

The Tony DeBlase Collection was acquired by the LA&M after DeBlase's death in 2001. An abridged inventory is now available on the LA&M website and the collection is accessible to researchers. It is a unique record of twenty years of dedicated work, life, and community service in Leather and BDSM. Measuring at over 55 linear feet, the collection includes DeBlase's extensive correspondence, records of Desmodus Inc. and the National Leather Association, and files related to other individuals and organizations engaged in gay and pansexual Leather community building in the 1980s and 1990s. You can access the Tony DeBlase Collection's inventory via the LA&M Archival Collections page (www.leatherarchives.org/archival.html).



"BY THE PEOPLE" WINS CINEKINK 2017 BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT AWARD

A new documentary about the Leather Archives & Museum won the Best Documentary Short award at the recent CineKink 2017 film festival in New York City, NY. While the film will continue to screen at festivals throughout the year, the LA&M is also making screening copies available to Leather /kink/BDSM/fetish community events.

"By The People: 25 Years of Community Archiving at the Leather Archives & Museum" is a 39 minute documentary short from High Moo Production. The film illustrates the rise of the LA&M from Chuck Renslow's basement to the professional institution it is today – all thanks to ongoing community efforts. Filmmaker Christina Court demonstrates how professional archiving and public display of alternative sex and culture are acts of activism and a path toward ending the stigma and shame that many in mainstream society often place on those with kinky inclinations.

For information regarding upcoming screenings, please visit leatherarchives.org/screenings.html. To schedule a screening, please contact LA&M.



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Your generous support of the LA&M allows digital access to our collections via:



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MATERIALKINK: EXPANDING BOUNDARIES, CREATING FIRSTS IN LA&M'S GUEST ARTIST GALLERY (G.A.G.)

Matter, desire, fantasy, and power exchange are simultaneously celebrated and examined through a gathering of 13 artists' works spanning painting, sculpture, mixed media, photography, video, textiles, and installation in LA&M's new G.A.G. exhibit, "MATERIALKINK," curated by José Santiago Pérez.

This exhibition—the first contemporary art exhibition at LA&M—aims to expand the boundaries of erotic art through contemporary explorations of the materialities that accompany and structure the lifeworlds of alternative sex. MATERIALKINK is the first show professionally curated at LA&M through a national open call that ended up yielding 120 submissions.

At MATERIALKINK's June 30th opening, LA&M experienced a record-breaking G.A.G. opening, with 115 attendees. More, in the exhibition's first month, MATERIALKINK has received online press from the Windy City Times and Choose Chicago; it was named one of the Top 5 art openings in Chicago by The Visualist; received enthusiastic support from the Chicago arts and culture community; and it's nearly doubled weekly museum visits!

MATERIALKINK curator José Santiago Pérez is not only LA&M's Patron Services Representative—he is a Chicago-based artist and independent curator with work presented throughout Chicago, Los Angeles, and Boston. Santiago Pérez received his MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

G.A.G.'s MATERIALKINK is on exhibit during open museum hours until January 14, 2018.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT 2016–2017 Members and Donors

