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Guide to the

Rudy Grillo sound recordings

1970-1989

MssCol 1248

Compiled by Donald Mennerich; machine readable finding aid created by FAKER.

Summary

Creator: Grillo, Rudy

Title: Rudy Grillo sound recordings

Date: 1970-1989

Size: 60 cassettes

Source: Donated by Rudy Grillo, August 5, 1992

Abstract: The Rudy Grillo Sound Recordings consist of 56 audiotapes and papers relating to Grillo's work as a producer for WBAI-FM, a listener-supported radio station in New York City.

Conditions Governing Use: No reproduction of sound recordings permitted Rudy Grillo retains any non-tangible rights he may hold in the material

Preferred citation: Rudy Grillo sound recordings, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Compiled by Donald Mennerich; machine readable finding aid created by FAKER.

Related Materials:

Gay Activists Alliance Records. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

Creator History

Rudy Grillo was a producer of radio programs for WBAI-FM in New York City. In 1980 Grillo was promoted to the position of Program Director of WBAI's Gay Men's Department, which he held until its dissolution in 1982.

Scope and Content Note

The Rudy Grillo Sound Recordings consist chiefly of audiotapes of *Gay Rap* and other gay radio programs broadcast on WBAI, 1970-1989. Most were produced by WBAI or its sister stations in the Pacifica radio network. The programs cover such topics as gay and lesbian rights, activism, celebrations, music, and celebrity interviews. Included also are recordings Grillo made at Gay Activist Alliance meetings and events, 1971-1973, miscellaneous recordings on gay issues and a small amount of correspondence and paper related to his work as a radio producer at WBAI.

Key Terms

Subjects

Alternative radio broadcasting -- United States
Gay liberation movement -- United States
Gay rights -- United States
Homosexuality and music -- United States
Lesbians -- United States
Radio programs for gays -- United States

Occupations

Radio producers and directors

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Sound recordings

Names

Crisp, Quentin
Grillo, Rudy
Little Richard, 1932-
Praunheim, Rosa von, 1942-
Gay Activists Alliance
Pacifica Radio
WBAI Radio (New York, N.Y.)

Container List

Series I. Sound Recordings 1970-1989

A. WBAI Radio Broadcasts 1974-1989

1. *Gay Rap* 1977-1985

Gay Rap was the weekly one-hour program produced by WBAI's Gay Men's department which aired from the mid- 1970s until 1985. Grillo produced these shows and often participated in the programs. The series is arranged chronologically.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 02772-02773 | Gay Politics 1977 Oct. 27-28 (2 sound cassettes (150 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Rudy Grillo, "Mama" Jean DeVente, Frank Richter, David Wynyard, Greg Gazis, Hot Peaches (Ian McKay), Ken Sherrill, Lee Solomon, participants. |
| 02770-02771 | Excerpts - Poetry, Songs, Phone Calls 1977 Nov. 18 (2 sound cassettes (150 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Selections from Hot Peaches (Ian McKay), "The Priest and the Acolyte," "What makes a Man." Fund raising. Greg Gazis, David Wynyard, Frank Richter, Minette, McKay, participants. |
| 02758 | What is the Gay Community? 1977 Dec. 30 (1 sound cassette (120 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Discussion on the state of the New York gay community. Channel 9 news report on Ed Koch's executive order banning government discrimination based on sexual orientation. Comments by Jean DeVente, songs by Hot Peaches. Taped 12/26/77. Frank Richter, David Wynyard, Greg Gazis, hosts; Ian McKay, Rudy Grillo, DeVente, participants. |
| 02760 | Interview with Charles Pitts 1978 Mar. 31 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Charles Pitts recounts details of a brutal beating he received on Greenwich Village street. The discussion includes listener phone calls. David Wynyard, host. |
| 02763 | Lesbians - Sid Smith 1979 June 6, 1979 July 11 (2 sound cassettes (120 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Rudy Grillo and Sid Smith discuss relations between gay men and lesbians. |
| 02774-02778 | <i>Gay Moments in Straight Music</i> 1979 July 25, 1979 Sep. 19, 1979 Dec. 26, 1980 Mar. 20, 1980 Nov. 19 (5 sound cassettes (330 min.) : analog, stereo.)
A five part series exploring the role of gay men and lesbians in popular song. Playlists available in papers box 1, folder 3. Rudy Grillo, host, producer. |
| 02761 | Interview with Bebe 1979 Sep. 26 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Interview with Bebe on the subject of transvestism. Rudy Grillo, host, producer. |
| 02765-02766 | Politics of Sexual Assassination 1979 Oct. 6 (2 sound cassettes (120 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Documentary on the murder of George Moscone and Harvey Milk in San Francisco. Produced by the Fruit Punch Collective, Berkeley, CA |
| 02734 | National March on Washington, wrap-up 1979 Oct. 17 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, October 14, 1979. Discussion with <i>Gay Rap</i> crew: Isaac Jackson, David Wynyard, Sidney Smith, Fred Goldhaber, Rudy Grillo, Brian Williams. Featuring Brandy Moore. Gay Radio Collective (Greg Gordon, Lucia Chapelle, Bruce Pennington, Amie Sands, Jock Church, Art Eriton, David Wynyard, Teddy Swanson, David Myers, Phil Bogen, Joan Spray), production. produced at KPFK Pacifica Radio (Los Angeles). |
| 02762 | Laugh and be Gay 1979, Oct. 24 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Various television bits dealing with homosexuality in a comical way. Included are clips from All in the Family. Material added for 12/31/86 broadcast (The Brothers Butch). Humor on recordings by and about gays - Lenny Bruce, Danny Kaye, Bea Lillie and others. Rudy Grillo, host, producer. |

Series I. Sound Recordings (cont.)
A. WBAI Radio Broadcasts (cont.)
1. Gay Rap (cont.)

- 02780 **Life Through Lavender Lenses** 1980 Jan. 30 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Reviews of Bent Letters of Oscar Wilde. Rudy Grillo, host, producer.
- 02738 **Gayjavu** 1980 Feb. 6 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Lesbian and gay history and songs. Produced by Pacifica Radio (KPFK) California 06/27/79.
- 02735 **Rosa von Praunheim** 1980 Feb. 20 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Interview with Rosa von Praunheim -- Calendar of events. Isaac Jackson, host; Dennis Coleman, announcer.
- 02739 **Off Air Monthly** 1980 Apr. 2 (2 sound cassettes (120 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Speech at a Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights meeting (David Thorstad) -- Money money (Rudy Grillo). David Wynyard, Fred Goldhaber, Thorstad, Grillo, hosts.
- 02767-02769 **It's De-Lovely, Cole Porter Special** 1980 June 9 (3 sound cassettes (180 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Birthday tribute to Cole Porter. His words and music with brief biographical notes based on Cole Porter, a biography by Charles Schwartz, 1977. Rudy Grillo, host, producer.
- 02759 **Minette: Recollections of a Part-Time Lady** 1980 July 23 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
This is an interview with female impersonator Minette. Songs and piano. Minette discusses his life experiences and his book edited by Steven Watson and Ray Dobbins. Rudy Grillo, host, producer.
- 02779 **S & M Discussion** 1980 Sep. 27 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Discussion and music about sadomasochism. Produced by the Fruit Punch Collective at KPFM. Guests: Janus Society
- 02740 **New York City Gay Men's Chorus** 1980 Dec. 19 (2 sound cassettes (120 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Christmas concert recorded at Cooper Union's Great Hall. Rudy Grillo, producer; Dennis Coleman, technical assistance; Natalie Budelis, Sidney Smith, Dennis Coleman, Field recording crew.
- 02748 **This Time Broadway** 1981 May 27 (2 sound cassettes (120 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Concert by the New York City Gay Men's Chorus recorded live on 03/22/81 at Bond International Casino (disco). Paul Kowal, Rudy Grillo, producer; S.J. Allyn, engineer; Dennis Coleman, technical assistant.
- 02729 **Off Air Monthly** 1981 Aug. 2 (1 sound cassette (60 min.))
News wrap-up. House of Representatives strikes down a sexual assault law.
- 02744 **Off Air Monthly** 1981 Aug. 5 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
News wrap-up on gay and lesbian issues. Interview with John Zeh "Wormy Apple". David Wynyard, Wayne Sunday, Fred Goldhaber, Rudy Grillo, hosts.
- 02743 **In New York and Gay in the 1950s** 1981 Nov. 18 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Examination of gay life in the 1950s and before the gay movement. A mix of history, memories, and music. Jean DeVente recalls Riis Park Beach. Intro and ending by Lyn Samuels. Rudy Grillo, writer, producer; DeVente, participant.
- 02742 **WBAI 25th anniversary, final Gay Rap show** 1985 Jan. 30 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Final *Gay Rap* broadcast on 01/30/85 before the change of title to the *Gay Show*. Clips from vintage gay programs. Interview with Randy Wicker. Discussion on making homosexuality a political issue. Excerpts from "Little Mary Sunshine," a 1959 off-Broadway musical. Randy Wicker, Charles Pitts, Pete Wilson, Baird Searles, Frank Richter, Rudy Grillo, R. Paul Martin, participants
2. Other WBAI Broadcasts 1974-1989
- 02737 **Gay Pride** (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Discussion about the plans for Gay Pride '74. Featuring members of Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee. "Mama" Jean Devente, Sue Spaulding, Rudy Grillo, John Pascarella, participants.

Series I. Sound Recordings (cont.)

A. WBAI Radio Broadcasts (cont.)

2. Other WBAI Broadcasts (cont.)

- 02736 **Quentin Crisp** 1979 Feb. 02 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Interviews with Quentin Crisp by "The Laughing Cavalier" and Jessica Schuman.
- 02733-02734 **National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights** 1979 Oct. 14 (2 sound cassettes (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Rally, speeches and songs. Rudy Grillo in New York and David Wynyard in D.C. Also includes WBAI news report Individuals: Eleanor Smeal (President of NOW), Betty Santoro (Lesbian Feminist Federation), Charles Law (Director of the Institute Research of Texas Southern University), Kate Millett (Feminist, activist, writer), Troy Perry (Metropolitan community church), Sky Rose (Lesbian from gay youth), Florence Kennedy (Attorney), Steve Alt (activist from New York, member of the organizing committee of the march), Leonard Matlovich, Representative Ted Weiss (Co-sponsor of House Resolution 2074). Entertainment: Meg Christian, Holly Near, Tod Robinson, Linda Trillary, Mary Watkins, Robin Tyler (lesbian comic), Allen Ginsberg, and others. Gay Radio Collective (Greg Gordon, Lucia Chapelle, Bruce Pennington, Amie Sands, Jock Church, Art Eriton, David Wynyard, Teddy Swanson, David Myers, Phil Bogen, Joan Spray), production. Produced at KPFF, Pacifica Radio (Los Angeles)
- 02726 **Child Abuse in the Gay Community** 1980 Feb. 13 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Sidney Smith discusses child pornography and NAMBLA. Telephone interview with Bob Berdith, a member of NAMBLA, discussing child pornography and "witch hunts." Smith, producer, interviewer; Berdith, interviewee; Rudy Grillo, Dennis Coleman, contributors.
- 02728 **Gay Pride Day coverage and Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee** 1980 July 02 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Carlos Mondragon makes a speech on behalf of the Gay Atheist group in N.Y. about gay rights and the fight against religion. Fred Goldhaber introduces a presentation by Rainbow, a Native American man. Mondragon, Goldhaber, Rainbow, David Wynyard, Wayne Sunday, David Thorstad, Isaac Jackson, participants.
- 02725 **The Lesbian Radio Show** 1980 July 8 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Rose Jordan discusses a play with a lesbian theme. Discussion about rallies, marches and events concerning the lesbian community. Jordan, host; Denny Covello, Katherine Davenport, participants.
- 02755 **Gay Day** 1980 Aug. 27 (1 sound cassette (120 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Panel discussion on the legal aspects of relationships between boys and older men. Rudy Grillo, host, producer.
- 02757 **Gay Day** 1980 Aug. 27 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Reading of poems by gay authors and music. Dennis Coleman, speaker; Rudy Grillo, producer, host.
- 02756 **Gay Day** 1980 Aug. 27 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Poetry and music about Walt Whitman. First radio performance by the New York City Gay Men's Chorus. Recorded on Sept. 13, 1980 at WBAI. Featuring works by Orson Welles and Joan Baez. Rudy Grillo, producer, host; Gary Miller, Don Moschberger, Tom Bradley, guests; Fruit Punch Collective, production.
- 02727 **Interview with Little Richard** 1981 Aug. 26 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Side 1. David Fraken interviews Little Richard and Bumps Blackwell regarding allegations that Little Richard is "antigay." Little Richard talks about growing up in the south being "feminine" looking and Black. Little Richard discusses religion and how he found God. -- Side 2. Discussion about Little Richard by musicians Sylvestre & Keith Barrow David Wynyard, host.
- 02745 ***The Making of La Cage aux Folles: the musical*** 1983 Oct. 30 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Documentary featuring the songs "Anything goes," "We are what we are," "A little more mascara," "With you in my arms," "I am what I am," and others. Paul Lazarus, Jerry Herman, Harvey Fierstein, Arthur Laurents, participants.
- 02741 **Stonewall Remembered, 20th anniversary** 1989 June 17 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Documentary of the Stonewall riots. Interviews with gay movement pioneers and veterans. David Isay, producer; Joan Nestle, Randy Wicker, Jean DeVente, Sylvia Rivera, participants.

Series I. Sound Recordings (cont.)

B. Gay Activists Alliance 1971-1973

- 02752 **GAA General Meeting** 1971 Jan. 21 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Discussion on censuring GAA President Jim Owles over New York Times article from 01/17/1971. Arthur Bell, delegate at large; John Paul Hudson "no confidence" proposal; Arthur Evans followed by former treasurer Rich Wandel. Remarks by Flynn and Edward Sherman. Recorded by Rudy Grillo at the community room the Church of Holy Apostles. Television clip, *Dick Cavett Show* with esthetic realists. Merle Miller, Jim Owles, Morty Manford, Arthur Bell, participants
- 02753 **GAA General Meeting** 1971 Apr. 28 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Motion to investigate misuse of funds. Reports, proposals, discussions, votes. Mark Rubin (Chairman), Jim Owles (President), Barbara Gittings, Wayne Steinman, Eric Thorndale, Lee Brewster, John Paul Hudson, participants.
- 02751 **GAA Cabaret** 1973 Nov. 13 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Gay Activists Alliance cabaret recorded at the GAA Firehouse. A tribute to the Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee. Dennis Kilpatrick, announcer; "Mama" Jean DeVente, emcee; Jim Whiting, Meryl Sheppard, Paul Wagner, Alaina Reed, Nancy Parker, entertainers.
- 02752 **Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee Meeting** 1973 Nov. 13 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Discussion on the removal of Con Goodwin as chair, due to his controversial letter to Mayor Beame. Meeting held at the Church of the Beloved Disciple. Rex Martin, Jean DeVente, Terry Jones, John Ferra, Tom Ralieggh, Rudy Grillo, John Rash, Bebe, Scott Truesdell, Carole Johnson, Eric Nielsen, Sue Spalding, participants.
- C. Miscellaneous Sound Recordings 1970-1983
- 02750 **David Suskind Show** 1970 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Interviews and discussions on the David Suskind show about "Trash," an underground movie by Andy Warhol and members of Andy Warhol's "factory". Jackie Curtis, Taylor Mead, Holly Woodlawn, Brea Pecheur, Gerry Miller, Candy Carlilig, Paul Morrissey, Andrea Whips, Michael Sklar, Ondine, Tally Brown, participants.
- 02749 **David Suskind Show** 1973 Feb. 11 (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Interviews and discussions on the David Suskind show about homosexual marriages, male and female couples.
- 02730 **How Do Your Children Grow? / Out of the Closets** 1973 Nov. 3 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Side 1. Eda Leshan interviews Joe Arcoparo, a gay school teacher, and his parents. Arcoparo tells how he was treated by his superiors who knew he was homosexual. His parents discuss their feelings and their reaction to their son's coming out. Side 2. Recording of a television report about homosexuals and the gay rights movement. Bruce Voeller talks about homosexuals and the goals of the movement; Margaret Sloan, a lesbian, feminist, activist editor for *Ms.* magazine discusses the lesbian movement and lifestyle. Discussion of hostile interactions between police of the 6th precinct and the gay community. Bruce Voeller, Margaret Sloan, Dick Smith, Michael Miller, Paul Martin, Ginny Vida, Gay Activists Alliance, participants; Edward Newman, moderator.
- 02747 **Recalling the 1950s** 1977 Dec. 25 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
A conversation among friends recorded at Rudy Grillo's home on life in the 1950s for gays and lesbians. Good times and bad times. The popular bars, police harassment, fun and danger at Jacob Riis Park, gay bashing, sex, orgies and cruising, etc. Jean DeVente, Rudy Grillo, Tracy Childers, participants.
- 02731-02732 **National March on Washington** 1979 Oct. 14 (1 sound cassette (60 min.) : analog, stereo.)
A sound scrapbook which tells the story of National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian rights. Gay Radio Collective (Greg Gordon, Lucia Chapelle, Bruce Penington, Amie Sands, Jock Church, Art Eriton, David Winyard, Teddy Swanson, David Myers, Phil Bogen and Joan Spray, production. Produced at KPFF (Los Angeles)

Series I. Sound Recordings (cont.)

C. Miscellaneous Sound Recordings (cont.)

- 02746 **Miscellaneous clips** (1 sound cassette (90 min.) : analog, stereo.)
Side 1. Stockholm gay radio, Gay Liberation week on 9/79 in Sweden. English/Sweden news report, interviews, songs. Discussion on the gay movement in Sweden and how it differs from the movement in the U.S. -- Side 2. Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee protest, demonstration on 04/17/75 against parks department and others. Koch executive order to protect gays in city government; Jean DeVente remarks (WWOR-TV Ch.9 news); *Cruising* (movie) protest / demo. 07/25/79 WBAI news department; Arthur Bell makes a speech at Sheridan Square on the contents of the movie; City Council hearing, gay civil rights bill 02/23/83. Editorial - Rudy Grillo *Gay Rap* 06/17/81.