

Pride History Group Oral History Interview with David Urquhart

Interviewer: John Witte

Date: 30 September 2011

Location of interview: Camperdown

Reason for interview: Photography shows and later activism

Restrictions: None



Time	Summary	Keywords
	TAPE 4	
00030	Recap of time at Sydney College of the Arts and his post grad work. An examination of male sexuality from early 20 th century.	
00350	Following on from that – involved in Mardi Gras, gay liberation and choir, caravan embassy outside Neville Wran's house. All leads up to gay law reform in 1984.	
00520	At the same time creating a visual record of what was going on – photographs – with 40 B&W photos going to the State Library of NSW.	photography
00625	Involved in various photography exhibitions	
00735	Images Gallery, Glebe – had a couple of shows there in 1982 and 1983. His small book from this work was acquired by the National Gallery.	Images Gallery Glebe
00940	1984 – 'Before and After Mapplethorpe' at La Trobe Uni, Victoria, with Fabian Lo Schiavo also giving a blessing. Some confrontation with some of the students. 1985 – ArtSpace Group Show – photo dramas. David's entry was about men having sex with men, but all suggestive, no men in the photos. Enjoyed the experience very much.	La Trobe Uni Mapplethorpe, Fabian Lo Schiavo ArtSpace
01530	1986 – audio-visual 'Broad circular movements' with David Abello at Leichhardt Town Hall. Part of a larger event called Axminster and Underfelt. They were booed by the lesbians – but found that rather satisfying. Not a mercantile kind of guy, so not interested in commercial gallery scene and the solo exhibition. Preferred group shows.	Photography shows
01925	1992 – 'Pix Botanica' at Stills Gallery (which was a solo show) – and sold a few photos. A review of the show on an ABC Arts show done by Peter Ross.	Stills Gallery Pix Botanica
02205	1993 – Role Over exhibition. His photos were all of David Abello. The captions were all different ways in which men had described/labelled their 'partners'.	Role Over
02430	James Harvey Gallery – had several shows there.	James Harvey Gallery
02510	1994 – Out Art (part of the MG Festival); Out with Pride (Stonewall 25 Exhibition) – co-curated at Bear Gallery, King St. Newtown. Included lots of ephemera. Then a great long gap – stopped photographing. Was travelling, working for ACON, PLWHA.	Out Art Out with Pride
03130	How he got back into art.	Don't Look Gallery Dulwich Hill

	<p>Don't Look Gallery in Dulwich Hill – an artists' run gallery. Checked out an exhibition there and met three people there: Frank Jones, Alexis Armitage and Matt Rochford.</p> <p>David was doing Zines at the time – had taken along one of them: Trash n Fashion – about the rag trade. Had a quote on the cover from Trent Nathan (went to school with Trent), pretending to slum it a bit: "You don't have to be rich to get quality. You can dig out things like a little cashmere jumper from Vinnies and then darn the holes. Or you can buy a mohair rug in a little funny corner shop. Though Hermes is always nice of course and having a quid does help".</p> <p>He describes the contents of the Zines.</p>	<p>Zines</p> <p>Trent Nathan</p>
04000	The zines were not a money-making endeavour. He became involved in the Dulwich Hill 2203 Collective.	2203 Collective
04210	<p>Discussion of the term 'queer'</p> <p>Doesn't see himself as 'gay' – rather 'homosexual' or 'queer'</p> <p>Does not see himself as part of the 'gay community' whatever that means.</p> <p>Not part of the commercial scene. Rather part of the queer art community. Queer Space in Enmore.</p>	<p>Queer</p> <p>Queer Space Enmore</p>
04700	Describes the queer scene and events in Newtown; and different aspects of the notion of 'queer' versus gay and where one finds community.	
05420	<p>Marriage – David wants to start a new campaign to make marriage compulsory for everybody who has been in a relationship for more than a month.</p> <p>Actually opposed to marriage. Questions equality.</p>	Marriage
05720	People in long term loving relationships negatively affected.	
05820	<p>Ageing – Council on the Ageing, Minister Mark Butler consulting with age groups. In response to Report of the Productivity Commission into Aged Care, with aim to overhaul everything. Particularly important for gay people and those facing institutional care – where two thirds of these are run by faith-based organisations.</p> <p>David concerned about exemptions under Discrimination legislation for religious organizations - these should be dropped. It needed to be said and the Minister did not look happy about this.</p> <p>The issue of bonds is another issue for gay and lesbian folk and others in the acronym.</p>	Aged care
10240	David quips: we have an acronym not a community.	