June LGBTQ History Programs Highlight Historic Pride Footage, Pride Leaders Fred Lopez and Carolyn Wysinger, and the Doodler Serial Killer

San Francisco — The program series for June 2021 sponsored by the GLBT Historical Society will highlight historic film footage from the society’s archives documenting San Francisco’s Pride celebrations, a discussion with SF Pride’s Executive Director Fred Lopez and Board President Carolyn Wysinger, and the history of the Doodler serial killer who targeted gay men in San Francisco in the mid-1970s. All events take place online; registration is required for access to the video link. For more information, visit www.glbthistory.org.

Mighty Reels
Pride Footage Through the Years
Friday, June 4
6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m. PDT
Online program
Admission: free, $5 suggested donation

In the first event of our new program series “Mighty Reels,” we’ll be screening a selection of video footage of San Francisco Pride celebrations from years past, drawn from the GLBT Historical Society’s archives. The footage allows us to trace the evolution of Pride over the past half-century, bearing witness to the annual display of joy, performance art, social commentary and community-building. Historian and GLBT Historical Society founding member Gerard Koskovich will lead a conversation interpreting and exploring the clips after the screening. Koskovich was also the co-curator of the society’s 2020 exhibition about the first decade of Pride, Labor of Love: The Birth of San Francisco Pride.

Highlighting home movies, drag performances, amateur documentaries, and interviews with queer history-makers, “Mighty Reels” is a quarterly program series that provides an intimate look at the LGBTQ past straight from the camera lens. Each program in the series features a screening of footage from the archives, followed by a discussion with historians, community members and activists on the significance of these images. More information is available at https://bit.ly/3xhtoqn. Tickets are available at https://bit.ly/2QMdwLJ.

Queer Culture Club
Talking SF Pride With Fred Lopez & Carolyn Wysinger
GLBT Historical Society executive director Terry Beswick will interview the leaders behind San Francisco Pride, Board President Carolyn Wysinger and Executive Director Fred Lopez. Managing this huge event every year is always an enormous undertaking, and Lopez and Wysinger will discuss how they are steering Pride celebrations in the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is the June installment of “Queer Culture Club,” our monthly series each second Thursday that focuses on LGBTQ people who are defining the queer culture of yesterday, today and tomorrow. Each month, Beswick interviews queer culture-makers, including authors, playwrights, historians, activists, artists and archivists, to learn about their work, process, inspirations, hopes and dreams. More information is available at https://bit.ly/3dKuHGJ. Tickets are available at https://bit.ly/3avW8li.

Panel Discussion
The Doodler: A Closer Look at the Story Behind the Podcast
Friday, June 18
6:00–7:30 p.m. PDT
Online program
Admission: free; $5 suggested donation

Nearly 50 years ago, a monster terrorized San Francisco’s gay community. He was coined “the Doodler” and is believed to have killed as many people as the Zodiac Killer, possibly more, and yet never achieved the same notoriety. Even as the LGBTQ movement roared to life in the city, the Doodler haunted its queer nightlife scene in 1974 and 1975. Plagued by complicated evidence, a frightened public, and hesitation from victims’ friends and associates—who feared involvement would out them to family and employers—the investigation went cold, and the killer was never caught. At this event, San Francisco Chronicle journalist and podcast host Kevin Fagan sits down with LGBTQ-rights activist Tom Ammiano and others involved in the case to discuss his eight-part podcast and story series, and reflect on how the Doodler got away with murder in a tumultuous era. More information is available at https://bit.ly/3gxMKlj. Tickets are available at https://bit.ly/3tKJzue.

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ABOUT THE GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The GLBT Historical Society is a public history center and archives that collects, preserves and interprets the history of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and the communities that support them. Founded in 1985, the society maintains one of the world’s largest collections of LGBTQ historical materials. For more information, visit www.glbthistory.org.
GRAPHICS

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Mighty Reels 6/4


Queer Culture Club 6/10

Headshots of Fred Lopez and Carolyn Wysinger, courtesy of same.

Panel Discussion 6/18
The Doodler podcast artwork courtesy of the San Francisco Chronicle and uglyduckling films. Headshot of Kevin Fagan courtesy of the San Francisco Chronicle.