

## Inventory of the Deke Nihilson Papers

(#1999-78)

*Note: This document is a preliminary inventory, not a completed finding aid. The collection is surveyed but not processed, and its organization and composition are subject to change. This inventory is intended to help researchers better understand the general scope and content of the collection.*

**Repository:** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society

**Collection Title:** Deke Nihilson papers

**Collection Number:** 1999-78

**Physical Description:** 5 linear feet (four cartons, one oversize folder)

**Creator:** Deke Nihilson

**Date (inclusive):** 1985-1993

**Language of Material:** English

**Abstract:** Deke Nihilson (1968-), also known as Daniel Frontino Elash, is a musician, filmmaker, labor organizer, and zine editor best known for *Homocore*, which he edited along with Tom Jennings. The collection contains flyers; ephemera from other anarchist and queer political and cultural events, including punk shows, poetry readings, ACT UP protests, and workers' rights benefits; correspondence regarding the zine *Three Dollar Bill*; production materials from the "Riot Gear" issue of *Homocore*, which covered the Riot Grrl movement; and news clippings about Nihilson.

**Preferred Citation:**

[Identification of item], Deke Nihilson papers (#1999-78), The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society.

**Conditions Governing Access:**

Collection is open for research.

**Publication Rights:**

For the status of the rights to this material, please contact the GLBT Historical Society archives.

**Acquisition Information:**

For this material's acquisition information, please contact the GLBT Historical Society archives.

**Processing Information:**

Inventory created by Isaac Fellman, based on a preliminary survey completed by Marjorie Bryer in 2011.

This inventory uses terminology for LGBTQ people that was in current use at the time of its creation. Descriptive language for queer identities evolves quickly and some of these terms may now be dated or even offensive. Finding aids are themselves historical documents; they reflect the moment in which they were written and often reflect the terms that subjects used for themselves. Please contact the GLBT Historical Society Archivist with questions or comments.

**Biographical/Organizational History Note:** Deke Nihilson (1968-), also known as Daniel Frontino Elash, is a musician, filmmaker, labor organizer, and zine editor best known for *Homocore*, which he edited along with Tom Jennings. *Homocore* was one of the earliest queercore zines and was instrumental in the expansion of the queer punk scene. Nihilson and his collaborators produced seven issues between 1988 and 1991, and organized a series of punk shows that helped popularize the queercore scene on the West Coast. This collection also contains materials related to Nihilson and Clay Cadic's zine *Three Dollar Bill*.

**Scope and Content:** The collection contains flyers; ephemera from other anarchist and queer political and cultural events, including punk shows, poetry readings, ACT UP protests, and workers' rights benefits; correspondence regarding *Three Dollar Bill*; production materials from the "Riot Gear" issue of *Homocore*, which covered the Riot Grrl movement; and news clippings about Nihilson. There is also a t-shirt and some audiotapes.

**Indexing Terms:**

Gay men  
Music  
Labor  
Feminism

**Container Listing****Carton 1:**

Pride at Work t-shirt

Two homemade books/zines by Dan Nord, circa 1988, one of them called *Hot Spunk*

Audiotapes: Javaman compilation; Paul Bonomo, "Songs from My Right Hand," 1990; RuPaul on Tommy Boy Records (promotional), "Supermodel" and "House of Love," 1992

Hogwild poster—benefit for ACT UP

Publications, including *Fifth Estate*, 1991, *Enema*, 1994, *The Flames of Terpsichore*, 1985.

Event flyers for poetry readings, punk benefits, Homocore Presents, circa 1992

Out-- Newsletter of Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention

Flyers from Rathaus Kitchen, circa 1992

Flyers for political actions

*Three Dollar Bill* (Three Dollar Bill), circa 1992

Zine, flyers, manifesto from Felt (Florida), 1996, including *Fascism* and *An Incorrect Political Memoir* by Daniel Brandt

Union of Time Thieves Local #00—SF zine

More flyers, Homocore Presents events, alternative papers, including *Ultra Violet* (another name for *Out*)

**Carton 2:**

Flyers for events and zines, including *Three Dollar Bill*, *Extra Cheese*; may also be some correspondence to Nihilson regarding *Three Dollar Bill*

Templates for flyers, logos, stickers for “Riot Gear” (third issue of *Three Dollar Bill*, which covered the Riot Grrl movement)

Materials regarding *Flying Bitch Sisters*, *Three Dollar Bill*, including zines they traded for, e.g. *Body Memories: Radical Perspectives on Child Sexual Abuse*

Ephemera from various events (some are Homocore-related)

Ephemera regarding HIV/AIDS, health care

There are more zines (queer, anarchist, punk) and flyers for events (political and cultural) throughout. Some folders contain correspondence to Deke as editor of “Riot Gear” (with submission) or submissions/mail to Deke (or Clay) at *Three Dollar Bill* (e.g. Homemade audiotape), circa 1992-1993

**Carton 3:**

Zines and ephemera related to queer and/or punk and/or anarchist cultural and political activities, circa 1991

Issues of *Three Dollar Bill*

**Carton 4:**

Loose materials, including flyers and zines

**Oversize Folder:**

Posters—Homocore, activism, AIDS, poster by Greta, Other Cinema, Luke Breckon, circa 1987-1994