

## **Inventory of the Song of the Loon Collection**

**(#2003-35)**

*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:** Song of the Loon collection

**Collection Number:** 2003-35

**Physical Description:** 3.75 linear feet (3 cartons)

**Creator:** Creators of *Song of the Loon*

**Date (inclusive):** Circa 1970-1998

**Language of Material:** English

**Abstract:** *Song of the Loon* (1970), based on the 1966 novel of the same name, was one of the first feature films created by and for gay men. The collection contains the original positive and negative 35mm and 16mm prints of the film, videotapes, financial records, promotional materials, a copy of the screenplay, and Polaroid snapshots, including candid photos of the cast on set.

**Preferred Citation:**

[Identification of item], Song of the Loon Collection (#2003-35), 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. Funding for processing the original donation of the collection was provided by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR).

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 Finding aids are themselves historical documents; they reflect the moment in which they were written and often reflect the terms that subjects used for themselves.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:** *Song of the Loon* (1970), based on the 1966 novel of the same name, was one of the first feature films created by and for gay men. Richard Amory wrote both the novel and the screenplay, and Shan V. Sayles – owner of several gay male theaters, including San Francisco's Nob Hill Cinema – produced the film.

**Scope and Content:** The collection contains the original positive and negative 35mm and 16mm prints of the film, videotapes, financial records, promotional materials, a copy of the screenplay, and Polaroid snapshots, including candid photos of the cast on set. Researchers should note that some materials are housed at the Outfest Legacy Project at the UCLA Film and Television Archive.

**Indexing Terms:**

Gay men

Motion pictures

**Container Listing**

Cartons 1-2 contain prints/negatives of the film and 2 ¾" videotapes. Carton 3 includes candid photographs; flyers, posters, advertisements and other publicity materials, such as a press book and publicity photos; a screenplay; employment and theater contracts; articles about the making of *Song of the Loon*; and the 1998 Something Weird release of *Song of the Loon*.

There is also a U-Matic video featuring footage from the hardcore pornographic film *Boys in Chains*, circa late 1960s, and VHS tapes from BFP Video's Duo series from the 1990s.