



Guide to the Mariette Pathy Allen Photographs and Papers, 1968-2003

Abstract

Documentary photographer based in New York City. Collection contains five portfolios of Allen's work, dating from the 1960s to 2003, totaling 131 color and black and white prints that document aspects of human sexuality, gender identity, the connections between people and art, and the social life of people in Philadelphia and New Jersey suburbs and beaches. The prints are arranged into these series: Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them; The Woman Who Lives Inside: Portraits of Men as Women; NJ/PA 1968; People and Art; and the Gender Frontier. A final series consists of a group of papers and publications by and about Allen. Acquired as part of the Archive of Documentary Arts.

Descriptive Summary

Collection Number RL.00028

Title Mariette Pathy Allen photographs and papers

Date 1968-2003

Creator Allen, Mariette Pathy

Extent 8.5 Linear Feet, Approximately 931 Items

Repository David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

Language Material in English

Series Quick Links

1. [Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them, 1978-1989](#)
2. [The Woman Who Lives Inside: Portraits of Men as Women](#)
3. [NJ/PA 1968, 1968](#)
4. [People and Art, 1968-2000](#)
5. [The Gender Frontier, 1992-2003](#)

6. Papers Series, 1968-2003

Collection Overview

Collection contains five portfolios of Allen's work, dating from the 1960s to 2003, totaling 131 prints that document aspects of human sexuality, gender identity, the connections between people and art, and the social life of people in Philadelphia and New Jersey suburbs and beaches. The first series, Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them contains eleven 15.5 x 23 inch color prints mounted on 24x31 inch mat board. These photographs are from the book of the same title published in 1990 that documents crossdressers in everyday life. The second series, The Woman Who Lives Inside: Portraits of Men as Women, is a portfolio of 16 gelatin silver and 15 color prints. The third is entitled NJ/PA 1968, containing 28 black and white, 16x20, gelatin silver prints. Images include people at the New Jersey beaches, east coast suburbs, and Philadelphia. A fourth series consists of 30 16x20 gelatin silver prints entitled People and Art, shot between 1968 and 2000. Photographs include artists at work, people looking at art, the Venice Biennale 1999, Paris, London, and Budapest. Finally, the fifth series consists of 31 color and black and white prints from Allen's 2004 book, The Gender Frontier, documenting transgender and transsexual people in relationships, at conferences and political rallies, and undergoing corrective surgeries. This series also includes many portraits of different transgender people. Two CD-Rs of Allen's images are also included in the Papers Series, which also houses printed materials, brochures, and articles that include photographs by Allen. Acquired as part of the Archive of Documentary Arts.

Restrictions on Access & Use

A majority of collections are stored off site and must be requested at least 48 business hours in advance for retrieval. [Contact Rubenstein Library staff](#) before visiting. [Read More »](#)

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection.

All or portions of this collection may be housed off-site in Duke University's Library Service Center. The library may require up to 48 hours to retrieve these materials for research use.

Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Contents of the Collection

1. Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them, 1978-1989

1 box

A portfolio of eleven 15.5x23 inch color dye photographs from the 1990 book *Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them* that documents crossdressers in everyday life.

Photographic prints (11 15.5x23 inch prints)

Box 1

2. The Woman Who Lives Inside: Portraits of Men as Women

2 boxes

A portfolio of 16 gelatin silver and 15 color prints.

Photographic prints and two matted exhibit panels with introduction and captions (16 silver prints)

Box 2

Photographic prints with one matted panel with captions (15 color prints)

Box 3

3. NJ/PA 1968, 1968

2 boxes

Twenty-eight black and white, 16x20, gelatin silver prints. Images include people at the New Jersey beaches, East Coast suburbs, and Philadelphia. A CD-ROM with images from this series is available in the Papers Series.

Photographic prints, with thumbnails printed on paper

Box 4-5

4. People and Art, 1968-2000

2 boxes

Thirty 16x20 gelatin silver prints of artists at work, people looking at art, the Venice Biennale 1999, Paris, London, and Budapest. A CD-ROM with images from this series is available in the Papers Series.

Photographic prints

Box 6-7

5. The Gender Frontier, 1992-2003

2 boxes

Twenty-one 16x20 gelatin silver prints and ten 16x20 digital color prints on Fujifilm Crystal Archive Paper and Fuji Color Paper from the Allen's book, *The Gender Frontier*, published in 2004. The images document the lives of transgender and transsexual people throughout the United States. Subjects include relationships, families, and political and cultural events such as the True Spirit Conference, Transgender Lobby Day, and the Gay Pride parade in New York City. Includes several color photographs documenting the corrective surgeries and transition of Tanya to Tony, including his chest reduction and phalloplasty. Photographs in this series are marked with Allen's captions and signature.

Photographic prints, black-and-white

Box 9

Photographic prints, color

Box 10

6. Papers Series, 1968-2003

3 boxes

Documentation of Allen's career including printed materials, brochures, articles, and clippings. Publications include photographs and writings by and about Allen and her career. There are also two CDs with digital images of Allen's portfolios entitled NJ/PA 1968 and People and Art.

Papers and CD-ROMs	Box 8
Papers	Box 11
Papers	Box 12

Historical Note

Documentary photographer based in New York City.

Subject Headings

- [Artists -- Portraits](#)
- [Allen, Mariette Pathy. Gender Frontier](#)
- [Allen, Mariette Pathy. Transformations](#)
- [Allen, Mariette Pathy](#)
- [Allen, Mariette Pathy](#)
- [Archive of Documentary Arts \(Duke University\)](#)
- [Black-and-white photographs](#)
- [Color photographs](#)
- [CD-ROMs](#)
- [Documentary Photography](#)
- [Documentary photographers](#)
- [Gender identity -- United States](#)
- [Gelatin silver prints](#)
- [New Jersey -- Social life and customs](#)
- [New Jersey -- Pictorial works](#)
- [Philadelphia \(Pa.\) -- Social life and customs](#)
- [Philadelphia \(Pa.\) -- Pictorial works](#)
- [Portrait photography](#)
- [Transvestites -- United States -- Portraits](#)
- [Transvestites -- United States -- Pictorial works](#)
- [Transsexuals -- United States -- Portraits](#)
- [Transsexuals -- United States -- Pictorial works](#)
- [Transgender people -- United States -- Portraits](#)
- [Transgender people -- United States -- Pictorial works](#)
- [Transgender people -- United States](#)

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Mariette Pathy Allen Photographs and Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

Provenance

The Mariette Pathy Allen Photographs and Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a purchase and gift from 2006-2010.

Processing Information

Processed by Karen Glynn, John Mayrose, May 2007; Meghan Lyon, March 2010

Encoded by John Mayrose, Paula Jeannet Mangiafico, and Meghan Lyon, February 2008 and February-March 2010.

Accessions 2006-0028, 2006-0133, 2007-0068, 2008-0121, and 2010-0039 were merged into one collection, described in this finding aid.