

Shhhhh!

The Newsletter-Within-a-Newsletter of the National Transgender Library & Archive



Virginia Prince Donates *Transvestia* nos. 4-100

Dr. Virginia Prince has donated a complete set (except for nos. 1-3) of *Transvestia*, a magazine she published from about 1958 until 1978. *Transvestia* was the first magazine ever produced for heterosexual crossdressers. Virginia published 100 issues, battling postal authorities and hostile takeover attempts (long before Oliver Stone's *Wall Street*).

Virginia's contributions to the transgender community took many forms in addition to her publication of *Transvestia*. She is the founder of FPE and a co-founder of The Society for the Second Self. She has published a number of professional articles about crossdressing, and she remains intellectually and physically active.

We are proud to have *Transvestia* as a cornerstone of our collection.

n.b. We picked up two pairs of Virginia's shoes at the Texas "T" party in February. In fifty years, we expect to have them under glass in a museum.

Dr. Harry Benjamin's Book Donated by Sister Mary Elizabeth

Sister Mary Elizabeth has kindly promised to send us an autographed copy of Dr. Harry Benjamin's *The Transsexual Phenomenon*.

Dr. Benjamin was one of the first physicians to treat transsexual people in the United States. In 1966, he published *The Transsexual Phenomenon*, the first serious book about transsexualism—save only for Georgina Turtle's 1963 *Over the Sex Border*, a little-known British book which we have not seen, but would love to locate.

Some Recent Acquisitions

Bogdan, Robert. (1974). *Being different: The autobiography of Jane Fry*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Judd, Ralph. (1988). *Origins of crossdressing: A history of performance en travesti*. Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation: Clayton Univ.

Kroker, Arthur, & Kroker, Marilouise. (1993). *The last sex: Feminism and outlaw bodies*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Pollack, Rachel. (1994, May). *Doom Patrol*, 68. New York: DC Comics.

Thompson, C.J.S. (1974). *The mysteries of sex*. New York: Causeway Books.

Wolf, Naomi. (1994). *Fire with Fire: The new female power and how it will change the 21st century*. New York: Random House.



Featured Holding: 1952 Mme. Arthur's Program Booklet

Mademoiselle Arthur's and Le Carrousel were Paris night clubs which featured famous performers like Tony April (later April Ashley), Coccinelle, Bambi, and Capucine (at about the same time that Christine Jorgensen made her trip to Denmark).

The 1952 program from Mme. Arthur's features all of these performers except Tony April. It features full-page black-and-white photos of more than 25 female impersonators.

Many of the performers were not really female impersonators, but transsexual women. Coccinelle (see above) had sex reassignment surgery with Dr. Georges Burou in Casablanca in the early 1950's.

The National Transgender Library and Archive is open by appointment.

We are actively soliciting material.

*Please contact us at
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