

Pride History Group Oral History Interview with Ludo McFerran

Interviewer: Digby Duncan

Date: 19/10/2008

Location of interview: Bronte, NSW

Reason for interview: Lesbian Social Life, 1960s-1980s

Restrictions: N/A



Time	Summary	Keywords
00:30	Women's Warehouse, 1979, Organised Cabaret monthly, well attended, Robyn Archer, women's event, 5 story warehouse in Haymarket, first floor music coop, dozen women's bands	Women's Warehouse; Monthly music cabaret
02:50	Sexuality fluidity, queer	Queer;
03:15	Women only space, not separatist	
05:00	Dances, cabaret, Robyn Archer, open space and open to any performances, no quality control, dances on bottom floor	Robyn Archer;
06:50	'Stray Dags' band, LM saxophonist, all female all lesbian band,	Stray Dags;
07:25	Frock Rock, Sydney Town Hall, state government, Rock Around the World SBS, lesbians in the music industry, lyrics lesbian content	Frock Rock Rock Around the World; SBS
08:57	scandals around use of blackface, self-defense exhibitions – really bad taste	
10:10	Dags song called Self-Attack, first single, first female produced rock single, went to the top of the independent charts, reputation as sadomasochist band, loss of control over contact	Stray Dags; Self-Attack
11:30	Venues played at included Sydney Town Hall, Manning Bar at Sydney University for four years, Stella's at Sussex Hotel in Sussex Street – supporter of women's movement, lesbian haunt, played regularly in bottom bar, crowded bar	Sydney Town Hall Manning Bar; Sydney University; Sussex Hotel;
13:05	Songs about relationship break ups, living on the dole, punk era	
14:35	Toured Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Adelaide	
14:45	Band members: Chris Burke (Drums), Celeste Howden (Bass) played with Stiletto in Melbourne and Circus Oz in Sydney and then Dags, Mystery Carnage (Singer and Percussion), LM, Cathy Sport (Mixer), Tina Harris (Lead Guitar)	Chris Burke; Celeste; Stiletto; Circus Oz; Stray Dags; Mystery Carnage; Cathy Sport; Tina Harris;
16:10	Warehouse, Cabaret, first time played as a 5 piece	Women's Warehouse;
17:10	Large band following, Sydney was the place to be for women/lesbians, politically and culturally lots happening, great social scene, band tapped into that environment.	
18:45	Fan mail - Tina and Mystery	
19:00	Arrived from England in 1976, arrived with Australian partner Sabina, found it depressing, been active in lesbian feminist movement in the UK, University of Canterbury (Kent), organised	Canterbury UK; Women's

	first National Lesbian Conference, British women's movement "demands" included child care, at the conference demanded end to all discrimination against lesbians and right to self-defined sexuality, took to national conference, Fraser in power in Australia, Women's liberation conference in Sydney, everyone depressed, left Sydney and went bush, returned 1978 and Sydney taking off. Women's bands, Sheila.	Liberation Movement; Sheila;
22:30	List of women's bands/music, 1980s great period for original women's music, Cathy Sports documentary	Original music; Cathy Sports;
24:50	Came to Australia as England in decline and weather bad. Australia sounded interesting, politics. Thoughts on Australian women, strong opinionated.	
26:15	Born 1952, came out as lesbian 1971, realised lesbian when 18 years old, went to university in the South after growing up in the North.	
26:50	Radical group of students, friends with Gay boy, Gay Liberation in London office, helped us with coming out, living on campus, 'gay' badges, complaints about homosexual badges on campus, diversity on campus	
29:10	Vic Triole, met through hockey, presence on campus, marching, terrifying.	hockey; march
30:20	Back in England for the first Mardi Gras.	
31:00	Australian Women's movement, full of lesbians, the warehouse for example open to women not just lesbians, inclusive space for women.	Women's movement;
32:40	Refuge movements, working with heterosexual women, trust	Refuges;
33:10	Political based work, 30 years in domestic and family violence area	
33:25	Discrimination in workplace as a lesbian, Jillaroo work with men, have not experienced discrimination even in outback, many lesbians in her field, working women.	Jillaroo;
35:34	Health system discrimination, cancer, relationship questions, HRT, nurses lesbian, partner Maggi	
37:30	Early influences as a child: Dusty Springfield	Dusty Springfield;
39:55	National Union of Students in England, lesbian representative on the NUS Women's Committee, wrote article for distribution amongst student body, work censored and claimed as typos.	National Union of Students (UK);