

# Guide to the Jesse Deane Papers and Photographs

GEN MSS 1588



by Jessica Tai

March 2020

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
Jesse Deane .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	5
Collection Contents .....	6
Series I: Photographs, circa 1940s-2000s .....	6
Series II: Audiovisual material, 1958-1992 .....	8
Series III: Correspondence, 1951-2009 .....	10
Series IV: Personal papers, 1961-2001 .....	11
Personal papers, 1961-2001 .....	11
Objects, undated .....	11
Series V: Printed material, 1950-2013 .....	13
Selected Search Terms .....	15

---

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 1588

**CREATOR:** Deane, Jesse

**TITLE:** Jesse Deane papers and photographs

**DATES:** 1940–2013

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 23.75 linear feet (50 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Jesse Deane papers and photographs contains correspondence, photographs, negatives, film, videocassettes, printed material, personal papers, artwork and other material by or relating to physique model, photographer, and gay pornographic actor Jesse Deane. Of note is a photographic album and slides that document Fire Island, N.Y. in the 1960s.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.deane>

---

## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.deane>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.        box  
        item barcode

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Bolerium Books on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2013.

---

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Boxes 30-37 (audiovisual material): Restricted fragile material. Consult Access Services for further information.

---

## Conditions Governing Use

The Jesse Deane papers and photographs is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

---

## Preferred Citation

Jesse Deane papers and photographs. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

---

## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection or revisions in arrangement and description.

---

## Jesse Deane

Jesse Deane (born Richmond, Virginia, 1938) was born Robert Allen Reed and grew up in Starksville, Missouri. Deane was a physique model, photographer, and gay pornographic actor. Deane studied acting at the James Dean Memorial School of Fine Arts in Fairmont, Indiana before moving to New York City, where from 1956-1960 he appeared in off-Broadways productions, including a role in *Eddie Fay*, directed by Nils L. Cruz at the New Village Theatre. In 1965, he was both a photographer and model for *Butch* magazine, an early gay publication. Deane starred in the 1970 film *Sticks and Stones*, which provides a representation of gay culture on Fire Island in the 1960s. Deane died on January 6, 2014.

---

## Scope and Contents

The Jesse Deane papers and photographs contains correspondence, photographs, negatives, film, videocassettes, printed material, personal papers, artwork and other material by or relating to physique model, photographer, and gay pornographic actor Jesse Deane. Of note is a photographic album and slides that document Fire Island, N.Y. in the 1960s.

## **Arrangement**

Organized into five series: I. Photographs, circa 1940s-2000s. II. Audiovisual, 1958-1992. III. Correspondence, 1951 - 2009. IV. Personal papers, 1961-2001. V. Printed material, 1950 - 2013.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Photographs, circa 1940s-2000s

13.75 linear feet (29 boxes)

This series includes photographic prints, slides, and negatives.

Personal photographs depict Deane's friends, family, and pets, as well as many images of Deane. Personal photographs also document Deane's travels to New York City, his time living in San Francisco, and attendance at Gay Pride Parades. Also included is an album of photographs, as well as slides, that Deane took on Fire Island, N.Y.

Professional photographs relate to Deane's career as a pornographic actor and physique model, and includes images of other models.

Photographs of Jesse Deane include nude modeling and pornographic images of Deane.

Some photographs and negatives have adhered together. Use caution while handling and do not attempt to separate.

Material in this series is arranged by subject, and further arranged chronologically. Negatives and slides are located at the end of the series.

b. 1	Photographs: personal 8 Folders	circa 1940s-2001, undated
b. 2	Photographs: personal 9 Folders	circa 1940s-2000s
b. 3	Photographs: personal 9 Folders	circa 1950s-2000s
b. 4	Photographs: personal 7 Folders	circa 1960s-2000s
b. 5	Photographs: personal 7 Folders	circa 1980s
b. 6	Photographs: personal 7 Folders	1984-1987, undated
b. 7	Photographs: personal 4 Folders	1984-1985, undated
b. 8	Photographs: personal 8 Folders	1985-1986
b. 9	<a href="#">Photograph album: Fire Island</a> This album contains postcards, black and white and color photographs documenting beach scenes, portraits, and social events on Fire Island, NY. The album includes an invitation and photographs from the Beardsley Black and White Ball.	circa 1967-1969
b. 10	Photographs: professional 9 Folders	circa 1950s-1970s, undated

b. 11	Photographs: professional <i>3 Folders</i>	1965–1967, undated
b. 12	Photographs: professional <i>15 Folders</i>	1966–1967, undated
b. 13	Photographs: professional <i>4 Folders</i> Includes four photographic albums.	undated
b. 14	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>9 Folders</i>	1963, 1987, 2000 September 29, undated
b. 15	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>10 Folders</i>	1969, 1985, undated
b. 16	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>9 Folders</i>	1976, 1981, undated
b. 17	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>9 Folders</i>	1984–1987, undated
b. 18	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>7 Folders</i>	1985–2000, undated
b. 19	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>9 Folders</i>	1985 July, 2000 September 20, undated
b. 20	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>7 Folders</i>	1985, undated
b. 21	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>4 Folders</i>	1992–2000, undated
b. 22	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>5 Folders</i>	1999, undated
b. 23	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>9 Folders</i>	2000 September 29
b. 24	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>8 Folders</i>	undated
b. 25	Photographs: Jesse Deane <i>4 Folders</i>	undated
b. 26	Negatives <i>8 Folders</i> Negatives document personal and family photographs, and professional images including Deane's physique modelling and pornographic images.	circa 1950s–2000s, undated
b. 26	Fire Island slides	1966–1969
b. 27–29	Slides Slides depict pornographic images and physique models. Images also include travel and other personal photographs.	circa 1960s–1980s

**Series II: Audiovisual material, 1958-1992***3.33 linear feet (8 boxes)*

This series contains 8mm film reels and videocassettes that include commercial films that Deane starred in, such as *Sticks and Stones*, as well as non-commercial films.

Material in this series is arranged by format.

b. 30	8mm film reels <i>8 Film Reels (8mm)</i> Includes hand labelled titles, "Just F.I.," "David Carter," "Bob Reed c/o James Dean Foundation," and "Waverly." Commercial titles include "Laurel and Hardy," and "Lawrence of Arabia." Untitled films are also included.  Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies of film may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	circa 1958, undated
b. 31	8mm film reels <i>5 Film Reels (8mm)</i> Includes hand labeled titles, "Cowboy," and "Young Blood Parts 1 + 2." Untitled films are also included.  Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies of film may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 32	8mm film reels <i>6 Film Reels (8mm)</i> Includes hand labeled title, "Home with Mom." Untitled films are also included.  Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies of film may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 33	8mm film reels <i>9 Film Reels (8mm)</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies of film may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 34	<i>LA Plays Itself</i> videocassette <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i> This videocassette is commercial. It has not been digitized. Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1972
b. 34, ■■■■ 39002137214640	<i>Leather Narcissus: Plus One</i> videocassette <i>1 Videocassette (VHS) 00:48:32 Duration (HH:MM:SS.mmm)</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 34, ■■■■ 39002137133634	"MST3K: The She-Creature", Gay parade '96 videocassette <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 35, ■■■■ 39002137133618	Pat Oleszko videocassette <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1992



b. 35	Pick Up videocassette <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 36	<i>Sticks and Stones</i> videocassettes <i>3 Videocassettes (VHS)</i> This is a commercial videotape. It has not been digitized. Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	1970
b. 37, ■■■■ 39002137133600	Untitled videocassette <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated
b. 37, ■■■■ 39002137133626	Untitled videocassette <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.	undated

**Series III: Correspondence, 1951–2009***1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)*

This series contains personal correspondence including greeting cards, postcards, and letters. Also includes professional correspondence related to Deane's career as a model.

Material in this series is arranged chronologically.

b. 38	Correspondence	1951–1966
b. 39	Correspondence	1961–2000
b. 40	Correspondence	circa 1981-2000s

**Series IV: Personal papers, 1961-2001**

This series contains personal papers including artwork, financial records, military records, and movie scripts. Objects in this series include a stamp from Cherry Grove, Fire Island, and promotional material from *Dick, A Film* by Jo Menell.

Organized into two subseries: Personal papers, 1961 - 2001. Objects, undated.

	Personal papers	1961–2001
	This subseries contains Deanes' personal papers, including artwork, financial records, military records, movie scripts, notes, and writings.	
	Material is arranged alphabetically by folder title.	
b. 41	Artwork	undated
b. 41	Artwork (photocopies) <i>3 Folders</i>	undated
b. 41	Artwork and writings	undated
b. 41	The Concorde-Airport '79 cast and crew list	1979 July 15
b. 42	Ephemera	undated
b. 42	Financial records <i>2 Folders</i>	circa 1962-1999
b. 42	Military records	1961–1962
b. 42	Notes <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 42	Personal papers	1997–2001
b. 42	Script: Civil war	undated
b. 43	Serial: handbook of production information	1980 February 11
b. 43	Writing	undated
	Objects	undated
	Material in this subseries contains ephemera, including a stamp from Cherry Grove, Fire Island, and promotional material from <i>Dick, A Film</i> by Jo Menell.	
	Material is arranged alphabetically by folder title.	
b. 43	3D glasses	undated
b. 43	AA token	undated
b. 43	Camera filters	undated
b. 43	Balloons	undated
b. 43	Fortune telling cards	undated
b. 50	Hollywood Walk of Fame "Jesse Will Deane" novelty sign	circa 1989

## Objects (continued)

b. 44	Matchbooks	undated
b. 44	Patches	undated
b. 44	Playing cards	undated
b. 44	Stamp: "The Rack Cherry Grove, Fire Island, N.Y."	undated
b. 45	Parody Oscar statue	undated
b. 50	<i>Dick: A Film</i> by Jo Menell promotional calendar and t-shirt	1989

**Series V: Printed material, 1950–2013***1.5 linear feet (4 boxes)*

This series contains clippings, ephemera, playbills, travel brochures, and newspaper publications.

Material in this series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

b. 46 , 47	Blank greeting cards and postcards <i>2 Folders</i>	undated
b. 47	Clippings <i>4 Folders</i>	circa 1960s-2013, undated
b. 47-48	Ephemera <i>4 Folders</i>	circa 1960s-2000, undated
b. 48	Playbills	undated
b. 46	Pornographic clippings	undated
b. 46	Pornographic publications: The Boys in the Band, Grecian Guild Pictorial, and Male Nudist Review	circa 1960s
b. 46	Pornographic publications and printed material	circa 1960s
b. 46	Pornographic material (photocopies)	undated
b. 48	Publication: The Advocate	1975
b. 48	Publication: Bay Guardian	1988 June-July
b. 48	Publication: Cockeyed Confidential	1955
b. 48	Publication: Entertainment Today	1975 August 8
b. 48	Publication: Gay Power	1969
b. 48	Publication: Los Angeles Times	1970 October 18
b. 49	Publication: Jackson Daily News	1967 November 10
b. 49	Publication: The New York Post	1967-1970
b. 49	Publication: The New York Times	1969 November 2
b. 48	Publications: Pageant, Playbill, and Writer's Digest	1961-1975
b. 49	Publication: Playboy	1961 August
b. 49	Publication: San Francisco Examiner	1988 June 19
b. 49	Publication: Screw	1969
b. 49	Publication: Show Business	1968 February 3
b. 49	Publication: Spectator	1982

b. 49	Publication: Starkville Daily News	1960 October 29, 1967 November 10
b. 49	Publication: Stars and Stripes	1962
b. 49	Publication: Variety	1973 October 19
b. 49	Publication: The Village Voice	1970 January 8
b. 49	Sheet music	undated
b. 49	Travel brochures	circa 1950s-1970s
b. 49	<i>Queer Baby Names</i> by Matthew Rettenmund and Jaye Zimet	1996

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Gay community -- New York (State) -- Fire  
Island (Island)  
Gay men -- United States  
LGBTQ resource  
Pornography

### **Geographic Names**

Fire Island (N.Y. : Island)

### **Genres / Formats**

Audiovisual materials  
Photographs

### **Names**

Deane, Jesse