

Guide to the Lisbet Tellefsen Papers

GEN MSS 1431



by Beinecke staff; encoded by Leigh Golden and Rebecca Smith

2013

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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 1431

CREATOR: Tellefsen, Lisbet, 1961-

TITLE: Lisbet Tellefsen papers

DATES: circa 1980 - 2008

BULK DATES: 1988-1994

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 7.67 linear feet (8 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists of material created and collected by Lisbet Tellefsen. Many of the materials center around the creation of *Aché*, which was first issued in 1989 as a journal and existed as a collective in the Bay Area until 1994. The rest of the materials generally relate to allied groups and other events that Tellefsen participated in and helped to organize, such as the National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference's Video Project.

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

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.tellefsen>.

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.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Bolerium Books in 2012.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 8 (floppy disks): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies of electronic files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The Lisbet Tellefsen Papers 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

Lisbet Tellefsen Papers. 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, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

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 and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Separated Materials

An additional two boxes of printed materials arrived with the collection and have been cataloged separately. Those materials can be found by searching ORBIS for the phrase: "From the Lisbet Tellefsen papers".

Lisbet Tellefsen

Lisbet Tellefsen, political activist, feminist, and community organizer, is a Bay Area native. Tellefsen co-founded the journal *Aché*, along with Pippa Fleming, and she has worked as an editor, recording engineer, and producer, receiving a number of awards for her service to the lesbian and gay community.

Aché : a free publication for black lesbians.

The journal *Aché* was co-founded by Lisbet Tellefsen and Pippa Fleming in 1989. The organization was originally headquartered in Albany, California. The publication utilized a few variant subtitles throughout its lifetime (1989-1993), including "A journal for lesbians of African descent," and it was distributed to subscribers in eight different countries.

In addition to Tellefsen and Fleming, there were many other collaborators who helped to run Aché until the time that it was dissolved officially, in 1994, as a non-profit organization. In 1990, the Aché leadership was listed as:

DeeAnne Davis
Reatha Fowler
Winn Gilmore
Rebecca Hall
Amana Johnson
Teri Lethridge
Lisbet Tellefsen
Janet Wallace
Skye Ward
Jean Wesinger
Erica Wilson

See [Aché material](#) (box 3, folder 143) for a full narrative overview of the group.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of material created and collected by Lisbet Tellefsen. Many of the materials center around the creation of *Aché*, which was first issued in 1989 as a journal and existed as a collective in the Bay Area until 1994. The rest of the materials generally relate to allied groups and other events that Tellefsen participated in and helped to organize, such as the National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference's Video Project.

Arrangement

Arranged roughly in the order received.

Collection Contents

May 2012 Acquisition

b. 1, f. 1-2	Aché correspondence received	undated
b. 1, f. 3-4	Artwork for Aché and event leaflets	circa 1990-1995
b. 1, f. 5	Personal artwork and artwork for Aché	circa 1990-1995
b. 1, f. 6	Correspondence - Barbara Smith - Kitchen Table Press	circa 1992-1994
b. 1, f. 7	Correspondence - Essex Hemphill	circa 1993
b. 1, f. 8	Correspondence - Audre Lorde	circa 1989
b. 1, f. 9	Aché miscellaneous correspondence	1990-1991
b. 1, f. 10-11	ULOAH: United Lesbians of African Heritage	circa 1991-1999
b. 1, f. 12	The first black lesbian conference	circa 1980
b. 1, f. 13-15	National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference	circa 1988-1997
b. 1, f. 16	National Coalition of Black Gays	circa 1985-1986
b. 1, f. 17	National Association of Black and White Men Together	1994
b. 1, f. 18	Shango Project: National Archives for Black Lesbians and Gay Men, Bloomington, Indiana <i>1 printed email</i>	1994 June 27
b. 1, f. 19	Nia Collective: Lesbians of African descent Includes photographs	1989-1991, 2002
b. 1, f. 20	Lesbian Herstory Archives	circa 1996-1999
b. 1, f. 21	GLHS: Gay Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California	1991-1998
b. 1, f. 22	Gay Out Productions	1995
b. 1, f. 23	GMAD: Gay Men of African Descent	1996
b. 1, f. 24	Black Women's Health Project	1988-1993
b. 1, f. 25	Bayblag: Bay Area Black Lesbians + Gays	undated
b. 1, f. 26	AAGLCA: African-American Gay + Lesbian Cultural Alliance	circa 1991
b. 1, f. 27	Black Gay Lesbian Leadership forum/conference	circa 1991-2008
b. 1, f. 28	Kitchen Table Press	circa 1988
b. 1, f. 29	LGADDA: Lesbians Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action	circa 1992-1994
b. 1, f. 30	LAGADU/HABARI - Lesbians and Gays of African Descent United	1993
b. 1, f. 31	Latina Lesbian organizations	1997

b. 1, f. 32	Black Lesbian Gay Weekend (D.C.)	1994
b. 1, f. 33	Film - miscellaneous files	circa 1993-1994
b. 1, f. 34	Film - Michelle Parkerson	circa 1983-1988
b. 1, f. 35	Film - Pratibha Parmar [A Place of Rage]	1991-1992
b. 1, f. 36	Film - Sweet Sugar Rage	undated
b. 1, f. 37	Film - Tiny Ruby, international sweethearts of rhythm	circa 1990
b. 1, f. 38-39	Film - Marlon Riggs	circa 1991-1994
b. 1, f. 40	Film - Alice Walker	circa 1993
b. 1, f. 41-43	Pomo Afro Homos Gay theatre troupe from San Francisco	circa 1991-1997
b. 2, f. 44	Audre's Memorial Includes a flyer for a memorial held in honor of Audre Lorde on November 29, 1992, at Modern Times Bookstore in San Francisco.	circa 1992
b. 2, f. 45	4 Big Girls Performance troupe from Seattle Includes a script for "Bigger than a Bread Box"	1993
b. 2, f. 46	Artists (performers) press/packets - ASE Drumming Circle	undated
b. 2, f. 47	Artists (performers) press/packets - Gwen Avery	undated
b. 2, f. 48	Aftists (performers) press/packets - BOA/Brat Pack	undated
b. 2, f. 49	Artists (performers) press/packets - Casselberry Dupré	undated
b. 2, f. 50	Aftists (performers) press/packets - Rachel Bagby [removed from red folder]	undated
b. 2, f. 51	Artists (performers) press/packets - India Cooke	circa 1991
b. 2, f. 52	Artists (performers) press/packets - Blackberri	undated
b. 2, f. 53	Artists (performers) press/packets - Wayne Corbitt	1992
b. 2, f. 54	Artists (performers) press/packets - Melanie DeMore	circa 1993
b. 2, f. 55	Artists (performers) press/packets - Laura Love	1993
b. 2, f. 56	Artists (performers) press/packets - Deidre McCalla	undated
b. 2, f. 57	Artists (perfomers) press/packets - Rashida Oji	undated
b. 2, f. 58	Artists (performers) press/packets - Randle, Vicki	circa 1993
b. 2, f. 59	Artists (performers) press/packets - Toshi Reagon	1992
b. 2, f. 60	Artists (performers) press/packets - Redwood	circa 1993-1994
b. 2, f. 61	Artists (performers) press/packets - Root Wymn	circa 1994-1995

b. 2, f. 62	Artists (performers) press/packets - Anna Deavere Smith	1993–1995
b. 2, f. 63	Artists (performers) press/packets - Belinda Sullivan	circa 1989-1993
b. 2, f. 64	Submissions - Erotica submissions	undated
b. 2, f. 65	Submissions - Book/film reviews/art critique	undated
b. 2, f. 66	Submissions - Health, spirituality	undated
b. 2, f. 67	Submissions - Poetry submissions	undated
b. 2, f. 68	Submissions - Miscellaneous	undated
b. 2, f. 69	Submissios - Artist statements	undated
b. 2, f. 70	Submissions - Bulletin board	undated
b. 2, f. 71	Submissions - Other publications calls for submissions	undated
b. 2, f. 72	Submissions - Contributions by Black Gay Men	circa 1990
b. 2, f. 73	Submissions - Terri L. Jewell	1990–1995
b. 2, f. 74	Film resources	circa 1993-1999
b. 2, f. 75	Film resources - film/video	1991–1994
b. 2, f. 76	Film resources - Daughters of the Dust	1992
b. 2, f. 77	Film resources - Shari Frilot/mix	1994
b. 2, f. 78	Film resources - Miscellaneous press packet materials [empty]	
b. 2, f. 79	Film resources - Third World newsreel	undated
b. 2, f. 80	Film Resources - LOC/WOC film resources	1991–1996
b. 2, f. 81	Film resources - Margaret Daniel	circa 1991-1994
b. 2, f. 82	Karen Williams, comedian Clippings	circa 1994
b. 2, f. 83	<p>"Thing" T-shirt and postcard</p> <p>The text "THING / she knows who she is" is printed on the front of the T-shirt. The postcard is by THING publishing, titled "bubblehead por.trit" by Lee Kay, and it features a drawing of RuPaul on the front.</p>	undated
	Photographic prints	
b. 2, f. 84	Assorted photos, some with ID [identification], of Aché staff	undated
b. 2, f. 85	Photos of board retreat	circa 1990
b. 2, f. 86	Aché staff at Lisbet's house 1 photographic print	1990
b. 2, f. 87	Aché journal committee	undated

Photographic prints (continued)

b. 2, f. 88	Photos for Aché's 1st anniversary event poster Four photographic prints of Rachel Bagby and Diane Ferlatte.	undated
b. 2, f. 89	Audre Lorde Memorial - @ Modern Times Bookstore, S.F.	1992 November 29
b. 2, f. 90	Essex Hemphill @ The Woman's Bldg, SF	1992 June 13
b. 2, f. 91	Women's Institute	1992 February
b. 2, f. 92	A Drag King Thang @ La Pena, Berkeley	1992 October 28
b. 2, f. 93	Aché buttons <i>5 items</i>	undated
b. 2, f. 94	Pippa Anne Fleming	undated
b. 2, f. 95	Lisbet Tellefsen	undated
b. 2, f. 96-97	Origins of Aché - early notes	undated
b. 2, f. 98-100	Subscription forms/mailling lists	undated
b. 2, f. 101-105	Aché financial records, including receipts and bills	circa 1989-1992
b. 3, f. 106-110	Aché financial records, including receipts	circa 1989-1992
b. 3, f. 111	Aché checkbooks <i>2 items</i>	1991-1992
b. 3, f. 112	Checkbooks, receipts, notebook, etc.	circa 1989-1993
b. 3, f. 113	Event income	undated
b. 3, f. 114	Merchandise/T-shirt sales	undated
b. 3, f. 115	Aché subscriptions	undated
b. 3, f. 116	Aché receipts	1990
b. 3, f. 117	Aché files	1991-1992
b. 3, f. 118	Bookstore sales	undated
b. 3, f. 119	Aché office	undated
b. 3, f. 120	Ad package	undated
b. 3, f. 121	Mailing lists / subscribers	undated
b. 3, f. 122	Office phone logs	undated
b. 3, f. 123	Office insurance package	1991
b. 3, f. 124	Aché events / flyers [removed from binder]	undated
b. 3, f. 125	Luna Institute: National Black Lesbian Conference	undated
b. 3, f. 126	Kenya Briggs	undated

b. 3, f. 127	Andrea Canaan	1993 June 2
b. 3, f. 128	Tobe Melora Correal	undated
b. 3, f. 129	Shari Harris	undated
b. 3, f. 130	Women of Color Organizations Projects: A National Directory	undated
b. 3, f. 131	Miscellaneous clippings, research info	undated
b. 3, f. 132	Aché rubber stamps <i>2 items</i>	undated
b. 3, f. 133	Earthlyn Manuel - Board of Directors	undated
b. 3, f. 134	Loose papers on incorporation	undated
b. 3, f. 135	Promo material	undated
b. 3, f. 136	Aché Press / Articles / Mentions	undated
b. 3, f. 137	Aché - IRS 501(c)3	undated
b. 3, f. 138	Aché tax materials for 1991	1991-1992
b. 3, f. 139	Aché material	1989, undated
b. 3, f. 140	Aché press / articles	undated
b. 3, f. 141	Stationery	undated
b. 3, f. 142	Aché website notes	undated
b. 3, f. 143	Aché material Contains two items: a narrative overview of Aché, prepared to seek funding from the Vanguard Foundation, which includes background history, goals and objectives, structure of the organization, as well as funding and financial information; and a "A Guide to Black Gay & Lesbian Video/Film" from the 1993 Sixth Annual National Black Gay & Lesbian Conference.	1990, 1993
b. 3, f. 144	Skye Ward / outreach coordinator - Resources / organization development	undated
b. 3, f. 145	Skye Ward	undated
b. 3, f. 146	Dissolution papers	1994 September
b. 3, f. 147	Federal tax exempt status	undated
b. 3, f. 148	Proposals - Office improvement project - Aché	undated
b. 3, f. 149	Proposals - Subscription improvement project	undated
b. 3, f. 150	Proposals - Individual donors project	undated
b. 3, f. 151	Proposals - Volunteers projects	undated
b. 3, f. 152	Grant info	undated
b. 3, f. 153	Grant info - Women's foundation	undated

b. 3, f. 154-155	Aché organization development, grants, board / meeting notes [removed from binder]	undated
b. 4, f. 156	International outreach/networking - South Africa - Glow letter	undated
b. 4, f. 157	International outreach/networking - Lanvola - LOC [Lesbians of Color] group from New Zealand	undated
b. 4, f. 158	International outreach / networking - Afro-German materials Photographs, postcards, and letters, including a typewritten letter to Tellefsen from Audre Lorde, written in Berlin and dated 5/13/90.	undated
b. 4, f. 159	International outreach / networking	undated
b. 4, f. 160	UK / England, WOC [Women of Color] / LOC [Lesbians of Color]	undated
b. 4, f. 161	UK / England, WOC / LOC - Black Lesbian Gay Centre (London)	undated
b. 4, f. 162	UK / England, WOC / LOC - England Black ♀'s ♂	undated
b. 4, f. 163	UK / England, WOC / LOC - Black Women's Network (London)	undated
b. 4, f. 164	Aché files	undated
b. 4, f. 165	Aché files from Jul/Aug. '90, vol. 2, no. 4	1990
b. 4, f. 166	Aché files from Oct/Nov. '91, vol. 3, no. 5	1991
b. 4, f. 167	Aché journal photos Three photographs: two duplicate prints feature photographer Jean Weisinger and musician Joy Gamble; the other photograph is of Rev. Afua Chinue Ifama.	undated
b. 4, f. 168	Aché editors / journal committee members - Skye Ward	undated
b. 4, f. 169	Aché editors / journal committee members - Winn Gilmore Including a computer printout copy of "The Dinner Guest."	undated
b. 4, f. 170	Aché editors / journal committee members - Debra K. Floyd	undated
b. 4, f. 171	Aché editors / journal committee members - DeeAnne Davis, editor Including three photographs of Davis.	undated
b. 4, f. 172	Aché editors / journal committee members - Blake C. Aarons, clippings	undated
b. 4, f. 173	Aché Puzzle Page by Lisbet <i>1 page</i> "See if you can find the last name of these 22 authors."	undated
b. 4, f. 174	Aché editors / journal committee members - Storme Webber	undated
b. 4, f. 175	Aché journal / income notes - Octavia Butler, clippings	undated
b. 4, f. 176	Aché journal committee / notes - Submissions / writings	undated
b. 4, f. 177	Aché journal committee / notes	undated
b. 4, f. 178	Aché journal committee / notes	undated

b. 5, f. 179-181	Aché journal submissions	undated
b. 6, f. 182	Pages from Aché vol. 1, number 1	1989 February
	Aché layouts	
b. 6, f. 183	Volume 1, number 1	1989 February
b. 6, f. 184	Volume 1, number 2	1989 March
b. 6, f. 185	Volume 1, number 3	1989 April
b. 6, f. 186	Volume 1, number 4	1989 May
b. 6, f. 187	Volume 1, number 5 Though this layout cover lists the date as "April 1989," these materials are actually the layouts for the June issue.	1989 June
b. 6, f. 188	Volume 1, number 7	1999 August
b. 6, f. 189	Volume 1, number 8	1989 September
b. 6, f. 190	Volume 1, number 9	1989 October
b. 6, f. 191	Volume 1, number 10	1989 November
b. 6, f. 192	Volume 1, number 11	1989 December
b. 6, f. 193	Volume 2, number 1	1990 February
b. 6, f. 194	Volume 2, number 2	1990 March– 1990 April
b. 7, f. 195	Volume 2, number 3	1990 May–1990 June
b. 7, f. 196	Volume 2, number 4	1990 July–1990 August
b. 7, f. 197	Volume 2, number 5	1990 September– 1990 October
b. 7, f. 198	Volume 2, number 6	1990 November–1990 December
b. 7, f. 199	Volume 3, number 1	1991 February– 1991 March
b. 7, f. 200	Volume 3, number 4	1991 August– 1991 September
b. 7, f. 201	Volume 4, number 1	1992 February– 1992 March
b. 7, f. 202	Volume 4, number 2	1992 May–1992 June

b. 7, f. 203	Poster (for "Sisters of the Night," 1995 Halloween party) and cover art from Aché vol. 1, no. 1 cover (2 copies)	1989, 1995, undated
b. 7, f. 204	"Tribal Expressions" A Celebration of 2 Years of Aché, mock-ups	undated
b. 7, f. 205	"The Party" posters (3)	1990 June 30
b. 7, f. 206	"An evening with filmmaker Aarin Busch" posters (3)	undated
b. 7, f. 207	"Tribal Connexions" poster	1991 March 2
b. 7, f. 208	Miscellaneous Includes artwork for Aché layouts; photographs (two photographs of Rev. Afua Chinue Ifama, and one photograph of Imani Harrington); and additional manuscript pages.	undated
	Floppy disks Original computer disks are restricted and may only be seen with approval from the appropriate curator until the files have been imaged and reviewed. Contact Access Services for further information.	1989–1994
b. 8, f. 209	Aché stuff 7/94 1 3.5_floppy_disk	1994 July
b. 8	Ache Stuff 7/94 2012-genm-40-0001 1 3.5_floppy_disk 819200 bytes (819.20 Kilobytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)	
b. 8, f. 209	Aché grants, poetry, articles, calendars, etc. 1 3.5_floppy_disk	undated
b. 8	Ache- Grants, Poetry, Articles Calendars, etc. 2012-genm-40-0002 1 3.5_floppy_disk 819200 bytes (819.20 Kilobytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)	
b. 8, f. 209	Aché \$\$ books 1989, '90, '91, '92, '93 (Quicken 3.0) 1 3.5_floppy_disk	1989–1993
b. 8	Aché \$\$ Books 1989, '90, '91, '92, '93 (Quicken 3.0) 2012-genm-40-0003 1 3.5_floppy_disk 819200 bytes (819.20 Kilobytes. This reflects the size of the carrier media, but may not accurately reflect the extent of digital files available for research.)	

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.

Preferred Titles

Aché

Subjects

African American lesbians -- California -- San
Francisco Bay Area
Editors
Lesbian activists -- United States
LGBTQ resource
Periodicals -- Publishing -- United States

Genres / Formats

Born digital

Names

Fleming, Pippa
Lorde, Audre, 1934-1992
Tellefsen, Lisbet, 1961-

Corporate Body

National Black Gay & Lesbian Conference