

K Patrick Sumner and Mott-Ly Punk Rock and Underground Zine Collection, 1981-1995
0466 0.5 cubic feet

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri-Research Center, Kansas City](http://www.shsofmo-kc.org). If you would like more information, please contact us at shsofmo-kc@umsystem.edu.

INTRODUCTION

The collection primarily contains single issue zines assembled by Mott-Ly and Patrick Sumner. The zines showcase primitive collage and provide information regarding the local 1980s youth scene.

DONOR INFORMATION

The collection was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Patrick Sumner on 7/14/2003 (KA1239). The bulk of the collection was gathered by Mott-Ly.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mott-Ly, the notorious punk rocker, cranky eccentric and conceptual artist / sculptor, was in several bands and a primary motivator of the Kansas City scene. Born Lee Tisdale on December 19, 1962 in Lincoln, Nebraska, Mott-Ly was a 1986 graduate of the Kansas City Art Institute. He exhibited work primarily in Lincoln and Kansas City, including a "Retrospective" of nearly one hundred pieces at the *Greenlease Gallery* at Rockhurst University in 2005 and "Aftermath, New Outside the Box Works" at the *Pi Gallery*, both in Kansas City. In 2002, Mott-Ly opened *MoMO* gallery in the East Crossroads where he displayed the work of new, struggling and underexposed artists and musicians, whose works were often on the gritty edge.

In the late 1980s, Mott-Ly started, with Archer Prewitt, the band *Mudhead*, for which he was the lead vocalist. In the 1990s he hosted the show "Susan" at KKFI radio in Kansas City. Mott-Ly fought constantly for social justice and harbored all, animals as well as humans, who sought refuge in his space. Mott-Ly died May 30, 2007. His untimely death culminated in a festive and reverential tribute march attended by hundreds of friends and fellow travelers.

As a youth, Patrick Sumner was involved in the Kansas City punk rock scene and met Mott-Ly, then a student at the Kansas City Art Institute, in 1983. Sumner was also involved in political activism during the Reagan period, when punk and politics intertwined. In 1987, while writing a history of the punk scene, Sumner persuaded Mott-Ly that his extensive collection of punk-era zines and ephemera would best serve future generations by being archived.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection primarily consists of single issue zines assembled by Mott-Ly and Patrick Sumner. The zines showcase primitive collage and provide information regarding the local 1980s youth scene. The zines are arranged with local zines first, then zines from around the United States that Sumner received by mail, and lastly, two magazines with

articles on the history of punk rock. Folder level descriptions are included in the inventory.

RELATED COLLECTIONS

A collection of correspondence, notes, printed materials, and reports concerning the Kansas City Youth Political Collective, a 1980s era Penn Valley Community College left-leaning political organization, can be found in the *Kansas City Youth Political Collective Collection (K0304)*.

The personal papers of Kansas City social and political activist Patrick Walker Sumner can be found in the *Patrick Walker Sumner Papers (K1120)*.

PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; box number; folder number; *Patrick Sumner and Mott-Ly Punk Rock and Underground Zine Collection (K0466)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

INVENTORY

- f. 1 *Bullet*, 1981-1982
A Lawrence zine that includes national acts such as R.E.M. performing locally and a list of contributors that include Bill Rich, owner of the Outhouse venue, producer of the Micronotz, and William Boroughs associate.
- f. 2 *Misery*, 1982
Includes political rants against the Reagan administration, primitive collage, poetry, show reviews and local events.
- f. 3 *Blur*, 1982-1983
Lawrence zine of Mike Blur, a must see for Lawrence scene history. Mike Blur is a holder of the region's largest collection of show flyer ephemera and has acted as scene archivist.
- f. 4 *The Gizmosis*, 1982-1984
Includes interviews, calendar of events, Husker Du with the Tunnel Dogs, Minor Threat with Choke and the Micronotz, Circle Jerk interview with drawing of Johnny Sic and the Embarrassment. This zine is the single most comprehensive source on the old school scene in the collection.
- f. 5 *The Rebel Waltz*, 1982
Includes coverage of the 47th and Troost scene, Music Box shows and original art prints by Archer Prewitt, who is now an internationally known comic strip and comic book illustrator and rock and roll sensation.
- f. 6 *A.M.P.*, 1983
Includes show announcements and reviews, primitive collage, and comics. A.M.P. is replete with suicide references that were a

- recurring theme in those days and was a symbolic response to suburban banality and adolescent angst.
- f. 7 *Issue*, 1983-1985
Includes six editions of a zine that, along with Gizmosis, is a trove of scene data. A one-sheet zine entitled *The Front Page*, circa 1984, is a piece of bonus ephemera stuck in one of the issues.
- f. 8 *Radioactive Waste*, 1983-1984
Includes a comic cell of the infamous flag stealing incident at the V.F.W. Hall in which kids from outside the regular scene stole war memorabilia that belonged to some members of the Hall. This had severely negative repercussions for the scene, as the Hall was the scene's focal point and primary venue of operation in that era. Also includes *Minor Threat*, *Circle Jerks*, *Micronotz*, and an interview with Choke.
- f. 9 *Clubfoot*, *Corn Rage*, *Denial of Right*, 133, ca. 1984
These complex art zines, or person zines, of Mott-Ly contain KCAI, punk scene and other rants and raves by this local legend. The later zines follow Mott to Lincoln, Nebraska, and his take on its cultural extrusions.
- f. 10 *Front Page*, 1984
- f. 11 *National Priorities*, 1984
Covering the Lawrence and Kansas City scenes. Includes *HuskerDu*, *Orange Doe-Nuts*, *Micronotz*, and anti-Reagan collage. Bonus ephemeral letter from Zero (Lisa) Kelly to Mott.
- f. 12 *Room 101*, 1984-1985
Includes show reviews, an interview with Henry Rollins and ephemeral 3D glasses in issue number 7.
- f. 13 *Stupid*, 1984
Includes review of the William Burroughs performance and the John Giorno Band show at the V.F.W. Hall (31st and Walnut, Kansas City, Mo.). Also contains an interview with the *Micronotz* and comics Poster Tim.
- f. 14 *Java*, 1985
Includes interviews, poetry, and rant.
- f. 15 *Disorientation: KU from Anarchy to Zen*, 1987
Includes political rant and religious fringe.
- f. 16 *Psychedelic Disease*, 1987
This latter day scene era publication includes reprints of show fliers, anti-Reagan rant, and primitive collage.
- f. 17 *Son-O-Gizmosis*, 1987-1988
Includes contributor list, party report, V.F.W. show report, early history of KKFI Radio and reprints of show fliers. Has reviews of *Sin City Disciples*, *Mudhead*, *Bangtails*, and *Psycho-Welders*.
- f. 18 *Youth Quake*, ca. 1987?
Includes kitsch, homoeroticism, rant, and primitive collage.

- f. 19 *Discomfit*, 1988
Includes seminal history of the Kansas City punk scene from 1980-1984.
- f. 20 *Engine Summer*, 1988?
Circular that promoted an event in Volker Park. That show featured the Sin City Disciples, Psycho-Welders, Yard Apes, Mudhead, and Drowning Incident.
- f. 21 *Sid International*, 1988
A Springfield, MO fan club zine for Sid Vicious and Nancy Spungen.
- f. 22 *Flavor Pak*, 1994
Comics, rants, tattooing, feminism, and AIDS crisis.
- f. 23 *Rear Entry*, 1995
A poetry chapbook. A companion to the documentary of Lawrence alleys called "Rear Entry: An Examination of the Rear" by Patrick Sumner.
- f. 24 *Word Garage*, 1985
A poetry chapbook by S. Fowler.
- f. 25 *Maximum Rock N Roll*, 1986
A national zine.
- f. 26 Zines from around the U. S., c. 1986
Includes:
Letter from Notes from the Underground to Pat Sumner
Untune the Sky - Reno, Nevada
Alternative Info - New York City, 1986
Lively Arts - San Diego, California, 1986
Written Word - Towson, Maryland, March 1986
Damaged - Buckhill Falls, Pennsylvania, May 1986
We the People - Annandale, Virginia (ephemera letter inside to Patrick Sumner from editor)
Where Would We Be Without Plastic - Corvallis, Oregon
No Loitering - Edmond, Oklahoma, 1986
What is Anarchy - Gainesville, Florida, 1986
Shredded Slime - Baltimore, Maryland, 1986
- f. 27 Zines from around the U. S., c. 1986
Includes:
Pigs in a Blanket - Longmont, Colorado, 1986
I.R.K. - Kansas City, Kansas, 1986
Scream - Columbia, Missouri, August 1986
Local - Alaska (full blown magazine style full of punk stuff from all over Alaska)
Untitled (Orange, hand-stitched, pro-Sandinista / anti-imperialist zine)
Notes from the Underground - East Cambridge Massachusetts, 1986
The Merv Report - Nassau, New York, 1986
- f. 28 *The Note & Mass Magazine*, 1995

A retrospective article on Micronotz, and a reprint of “The History of Punk: KC 1982-1987” abridged by Patrick Sumner.

LOCATION NOTE

Materials in this collection are housed onsite.

SUBJECTS

Punk culture – Kansas – Lawrence
Punk culture – Missouri – Kansas City
Underground periodicals
Zines

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