

Press Release

For Immediate Release From June 10th –September 30th, 2010

Public and Press Contact: Melorra Green/415-922-1995

Sargent Johnson Gallery Presents

We Were There

June 10th through September 30th 2010

Opening Reception: June 10, 2010, 6-9 PM

We Were There is an exhibit exploring the lesbian response to the early AIDS epidemic among gay men - an untold, pivotal part of LGBT history. Through archival photos, official documents and records, ephemera and original art, the exhibit explores the heroism, fear and - not to be forgotten – love, that emerged during the epidemic. *We Were There* is located on the 3rd floor in our gallery space, “Activism Alley”.

On opening night, accompanying the exhibit will be a short documentary also titled, *We Were There*, that highlights the original stories of the women who stood by and took care of their gay friends - as allies, family, caregivers and co-activists.

Exhibition Co-Curated By: Tamara Loewenstein and Melonie Green

Documentary By: Emmanuelle Antolin/Co-produced by Susan Maiorana/Cinematography by Michael Epple

We Were There (documentary screening)

Buriel Clay Theater

7pm, \$5 (No one turned away due to lack of funds)

Followed by a Panel Discussion

Moderated by Andrea Shorter, Equality California

African American Art and Culture Complex

Background:

The African American Art and Culture Complex (AAACC) is a community based 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts and cultural organization. Our mission is to nurture and facilitate the empowerment of our community through Afro-centric artistic and cultural expression, mediums, education and programming. The AAACC is dedicated to inspiring children and youth to serve as agents of change, cultivating their leadership skills and fostering a commitment to community service and activism. In addition,

the AAACC is dedicated to encouraging, supporting, and promoting the work of young aspiring Bay Area artists. We also strive to develop partnerships with organizations that are similarly committed to our mission driven objectives.

Admission: Free and open to the public. Donations Accepted. Free Parking.

762 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

www.aaacc.org

Gallery Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 12 - 5pm

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