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Finding aid for the  
Brian Weil archive, 1970-1996  
AG 175

Finding aid updated by Alexis Peregoy, 2018

## Brian Weil archive, 1970-1996

### AG 175

#### Creator

Weil, Brian (1954-1996)

#### Abstract

The Brian Weil archive, 1970-1996, contains materials made or collected by photographer Brian Weil (1954-1996) which document his career. Included in the collection are exhibition labels, transparencies, and photographic prints from Weil's AIDS series.

#### Quantity/ Extent

60 linear feet

#### Language of Materials

English

#### Biographical/ Historical Note

Brian Weil (1954-1996) was a photographer who devoted much of his career to documenting life on society's margins and helped found New York City's first needle exchange program. Born in Chicago, Weil attended Columbia College and began taking photographs as a teenager. He lived for nearly a year with Hasidic Jews while photographing them in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, and spent weeks with officers of the Miami Police Department for a series on homicides. Other photographic subjects included workers in sex clubs, bondage, the AIDS pandemic, sexual orientation and transgender individuals. Weil first exhibited his work at Artists Space in Manhattan in 1980. Since 1988, he had taught at the International Center of Photography, which also organized an exhibition of his AIDS photographs in 1991. The exhibition, which traveled to more than a dozen venues in the United States and Europe, was also the subject of the book, *Every 17 Seconds* (Aperture, 1992).

#### Scope and Content Note

The collection is divided into three series: Papers, Audiovisual Materials, and Photographic Materials. The **Papers series** includes correspondence, exhibit files, publications and publication materials, appointment books, a video transcript, and miscellaneous materials. The **Audiovisual Materials series** contains various videotapes, audiocassette tapes, and filmstrips. Of particular interest are an interview with Weil and "Brian Weil: The AIDS Photographs," a VHS tape concerning the exhibition of his AIDS photographs organized by the International Center of Photography. The **Photographic**

**Materials series** includes contact sheets, negatives, slides, transparencies, and photographs by Weil.

### **Arrangement**

[Series 1: Papers, n.d., 1980-1996](#)

[Series 2: Audiovisual Materials, n.d., 1991-1994](#)

[Series 3: Photographic Materials, n.d., 1970-1989](#)

### **Names and Subject Terms**

Weil, Brian [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500081785>]

AIDS (disease) and the arts [<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh92006266.html>]

Documentary photography [<http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300134547>]

Social documentary photography [<http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300386099>]

Needle exchange programs [<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh92006702.html>]

### **Restrictions**

#### **Conditions Governing Access**

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

#### **Conditions Governing Use**

Copyright held by Kenneth C. Weil.

It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission from the copyright owner (which could be the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates or literary executors) prior to any copyright-protected uses of the collection.

The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

### **Provenance**

CCP received the collection in 1999.

### **Preferred Citation**

Brian Weil archive, 1970-1996. AG 175. Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

## Processing Information

Finding aid updated by Madison Reynolds in 2014 and again by Alexis Peregoy in 2018.

## Container List

### Series 1: Papers, n.d., 1980-1996

Extent: 10 boxes.

Box	Folder
1	Correspondence, exhibition announcements, other materials, 1980-1991
2	Exhibition announcements, periodicals, book dummy, misc., 1991-1994
3	Appointment Books, 1988-1992
4	Book pages, undated
5	Exhibition labels: AIDS exhibition, undated
6	Exhibition labels, undated
13	Video transcript, undated
14	Publications: Aids Treatment News, 1991-1995; GMHC Treatment Issues, 1994-1995
42	Publication materials, prints, portfolio materials, undated
43	Correspondence, exhibition files, publications, 1989-1996 and undated

### Series 2: Audiovisual Materials, n.d., 1991-1994

Extent: 8 boxes.

Box	Folder
7	Act-Up Wash. Tom Cun. #5 43121 [cassette is labeled Lori (D)] (45 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Act-Up Demo. NYC Tom Cun. 43121 [cassette is labeled, Time code from H8 Orig.] (33 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Dr. Dean TC #2 45295 (33 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Hairstyle TC#3 \$B29B (35 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Has TC #3B 42305 (11 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Has TC #3A 42305 (62 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Has TC #4A 42305 (62 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Has TC #4B 42305 (0 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Jamie TC #5 45295 (21 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated Kathy/Nancy TC #1 45295 (45 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated L.A. TC#6 45295 (38 minutes) [DVD in AG175:11], U-Matic videocassette, undated Lori (A) (60 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated

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Lori (B) (55 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated  
Lori (C) (59 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated  
Lori (D) (59 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated  
Nancy TC #4 45295 (52 min), U-Matic videocassette, undated  
Unidentified #1 with note "provided stock too short" (6 min), VHS,  
undated  
Unidentified #2 with note "stills dupe" (50 min), VHS, undated  
Unlabeled #1 [blank tape], VHS, undated  
Unlabeled #2 (60 min), VHS, undated  
Unlabeled #3 (120 min), VHS, undated  
(A) [commercial pornographic tape; not duplicated], VHS, undated  
Aaron (B) [empty case], VHS, undated  
Aaron (C) [empty case], VHS, undated  
Aaron (D) [empty case], VHS, undated  
ADRI (PR) (3 min), VHS, undated  
Christene (24 min), VHS, undated  
Don Frank (edit) (6 min), VHS, undated  
Don Frank (33 min), VHS, undated  
Dr. Dean (32 min), VHS, undated  
Faces Wheelchair (A) (53 min), VHS, undated  
Faces (B) (50 min), VHS, undated  
Faces (C) (52 min), VHS, undated  
Fire Bees (45 min), VHS, undated  
Fire Bees (TC) (48 min), VHS, undated  
Freaks LD (57 min), VHS, undated  
Gender FND (A) (61 min), VHS, undated  
Gender FND Wedding (B) (57 min), VHS, undated  
Gender FND Wedding (C) (38 min), VHS, undated  
Glenda/Linda (cut) (9 min), VHS, undated  
Holli (C) Select roll (22 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Jamie (21 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Kathy/Nancy (65 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Ken Silver (A) (63 min), VHS, undated  
Ken Silver (B) (12 min), VHS, undated  
Ken Silver WD (stock) (34 min), VHS, undated  
Ken Silver (edit) (11 min), VHS, undated  
Lori Select Long (28 min), VHS, undated  
Lori (A) (59 min), VHS, undated  
Lori (B) (56 min), VHS, undated  
Lori (Holli) (C) (61 min), VHS, undated  
Lori (D) (32 min), VHS, undated

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Lori Pre-Op (E) (52 min), VHS, undated  
Lori Post-Op (F) (16 min), VHS, undated  
Maria (94 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Nancy (60 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Sharon Nancy or Nancy Sharon (51 min), VHS, undated, [DVD in  
AG175:11]  
Robert/Jay (22 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Robert/Jay (30 min), VHS, undated  
SABA TC (60 min), VHS, undated  
Sharon Ann (18 min), VHS, undated  
Shrang (24 min), VHS, undated  
Sherry (A) (22 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Sherry (B) (23 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Sherrie (C) (34 minutes), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
SRS (11 min), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
SRS (dupe), (11 min), VHS, undated  
SRS I (61 min), VHS, undated  
SRS II (54 min), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Susan A-B Select Roll (45 minutes); portions are audio only, VHS,  
undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Susan A (58 min), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Susan C (33 min), VHS, undated  
Susan C-D (select) (26 min), VHS, undated  
Susan Funeral (D) (31 min), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Susan (edit) (25 min), VHS, undated  
Susan Lori (Wisc.) Select (21 min), VHS, undated  
Susan Post-Op (E) (32 min), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]  
Tina (48 min), VHS, undated  
Tom Cun. (A) (63 min), VHS, undated  
Tom Cun. (B) (34 min), VHS, undated  
Tom (INTV #1) (75 min), VHS, undated  
Tom (INTV #2) (117 min), VHS, undated  
Tom (HH) (50 min), VHS, undated  
Tom Mem WD (48 min), VHS, undated  
Tom Mem (Master) (15 min), VHS, undated  
8mm films (3 inch reels), undated, unlabeled [fifty films]  
2 DVD reference copies with reel chapter points and reel selection menus  
Act-Up NYC (dupe) (33 min), VHS, undated  
Act-Up NYC TC (35 min), VHS, undated  
Act-Up St Louis (71 min), VHS, undated  
Act Up Wash WD Tom Cun. (46 min), VHS, undated

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“Every 17 Seconds: A Global Perspective on the AIDS Crisis” / original name was “Brian Weil: The AIDS Photographs Spring 1991/Courtesy of ICP (30 min), VHS, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]

Dallas Songs “Texas T” (18 min), VHS, undated

“Hidden Legacies: New York City Gay Men’s Chorus & Windy City Gay Chorus, Chicago, June 1993” (48 minutes), VHS, undated

Petits Cine: The East Village (work-in-progress) (12 min), VHS, undated

Pump Up the Volume (109 min), VHS, undated

Upstate Flowers (18 min), VHS, undated

Brian Weil: AIDS lecture (65 min), VHS, undated

DVD duplicates, 2013-2014

DAT- Digital Audio Tapes, undated, (51 minutes), two oral histories, audio from other audio or video in collection, [CD in AG175:11]

71153 (5 min), camcorder cassette, undated

ADRI – PR 3-1992 (40 min), camcorder cassette

Billy Car (10 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Dr. Krystyn Dean (33 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Don Frank Donata (32 minutes), camcorder cassette, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]

Faces (St Louis) III 6-1992 (52 min), camcorder cassette

Faces (St. Louis #1) 6-1992 (53 min), camcorder cassette

Faces (St. Louis #2) 6-1992 (55 min), camcorder cassette

Jim press conference (36 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Ken Silver 4-1992 [video failing] (72 min) camcorder cassette

Kenny Silver (15 min) camcorder cassette, undated

Lori Post-Op (dupe) [blank tape], camcorder cassette, undated

Lori SRS II (dupe) [blank tape], camcorder cassette, undated

Lori (pre) Day One [blank tape], camcorder cassette, undated

SABA (A) Alissa (60 min), camcorder cassette, undated

S.F. (A) 2-1992 (20min), camcorder cassette

S.F. (B) (60 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Sharon/Nancy (51 minutes), camcorder cassette, undated, [DVD in AG175:11]

Sharron Sound [audio only] (36 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Sharron (TC) Stills (5 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Shrang Int. (dupe) [blank tape], camcorder cassette, undated

Slides (TS) (62 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Steve – Mary Bees Fire Upstate (45 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Susan SRS INTV (dupe) [blank tape], camcorder cassette, undated

SRS I (dupe) (61 min), camcorder cassette, undated

Tom Cunningham 3-1992 (93 min), camcorder cassette

- Tom (MEM) [silent, video only] (48 min), camcorder cassette, undated  
 Train/upstate car/St. Patrick's Day, 1992 (35 min), camcorder cassette  
 Upstate Flowers (15 min), camcorder cassette, undated  
 Flirtations 4-1992 [video failing] (53 min), camcorder cassette  
 Flirtation II/Act-Up St. Louis (49 min), camcorder cassette, undated  
 Act up Washington 10-11-1992/Train (46 min), camcorder cassette  
 Act-Up NYC 4-92 (32 minutes), camcorder cassette, [DVD in AG175:11]  
 43 "Brian Weil: The Aids Photographs," Photographers + Friends United  
     Against Aids, undated  
     Edited copy [1/2" VHS]  
     Unedited copy [1/2" VHS]  
     Teaching a group of high school students at the International Center of  
     Photography (5 minutes) [2 1/2" VHS]  
 12 Filmstrips [includes inventory], undated  
 10 Brian Weil, Photographer, interview with Claudia Gould, 1987, CD/MP3  
     audio  
 15 1992-1994 and undated [21 audiocassettes]  
 43 Brian Weil interviewed by D. Dalton, KHUF (PBS Vancouver, British  
     Columbia), 1992 December 1 [2 audiocassettes]  
 43 Brian Weil lecture, 1991 April 15 [audiocassette]

**Series 3: Photographic Materials, n.d., 1970-1989**

Extent: 29 boxes.

**Subseries 1: Contact Sheets, n.d., 1987**

Extent: 3 boxes.

Box    Folder

- 13                      Installation views, undated  
 21                      Miscellaneous, undated  
 22                      Hasidim series, 1987, undated

**Subseries 2: Negatives, n.d., 1973-1989**

Extent: 5 boxes.

Box    Folder

- 17                      Bullfighting, St. Charles and home, Boxers and Wrestlers, Deer Hunters,  
                             Gay Rodeo, Simple Folk with Horses, unidentified, undated, 35  
                             mm and 2 ¼  
 18                      AIDS, undated, 35 mm  
 19                      Unidentified, undated, 2 ¼  
 22                      Hasidim series, 1987 and undated



45 1973-1989, 35mm

Subseries 3: Photographic Prints, n.d., 1970-1975, 1987

Extent: 19 boxes.

Box	Folder
23	"Miscellaneous early prints, some mounted," undated
24	"Miscellaneous prints, 16x20," undated
25	"Sex pictures, 20x24," undated
26	"Extra prints," undated
27	AIDS project, "Safe Sex, Chicago, IL, 1987," and [African American man on sofa] [2 rolled prints]
28-30	"Early work, 11x14, some mounted," undated
31-32	"Extra prints, 8x10, 1970-1973"
33	"Extra prints, 8x10, 1974"
34	"Early work, 8x10, 1973-1975"
35	"Extra prints, early work, 16x20," undated
36	"Early work, miscellaneous prints, 16x20," undated
37	Black-and-white prints: AIDS, Boxers and Wrestlers, Murder, Sex, and exhibition installation views, undated
38	"Miscellaneous prints," undated
39	"Extra prints," undated
40	"Miscellaneous prints," undated
41	"Prints from <i>Every 17 Seconds</i> ," undated

Subseries 4: Slides, n.d.

Extent: 3 boxes.

Box	Folder
13	Photographers, undated
13	AIDS, undated
16	Catalog cards with single slides as identifiers, undated
44	Sex and miscellaneous from other projects, undated, 35mm

Subseries 5: Transparencies, n.d.

Extent: 2 boxes.

Box	Folder
20	Bullfighting, Sex, Murder, Simple Folk with Horses, Deer Hunters, Gay Rodeo, portraits, AIDS, exhibition installation views, undated, small format black-and-white
44	Boxers and Wrestlers, Sex, AIDS, exhibition installation views, undated, 4x5 black-and-white