



**FINDING AID TO
THE COLLECTION ON BELLE HANCOFF,
1968-2011**

**Purdue University Libraries
Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections
Research Center
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West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2058
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Processed by: Kristin Leaman, January 30, 2012

Descriptive Summary

Creator Information	Hancoff, Belle
Title	<i>Collection on Belle Hancoff</i>
Collection Identifier	MSP 103
Date Span	1968-2011
Abstract	This collection documents Belle Hancoff's two LSD sessions guided by Walter Pahnke along with the help of Helen Bonny, as well as Pahnke's discussion of Belle Hancoff's battle with cancer in a letter to Lewis Hancoff. Stephen Hancoff discusses his mother's illness in a response to Alexander Zaitchik's article "Flashback! Psychedelic Research Returns," and he also mentions his relationship to William Richards and Stanislav Grof.
Extent	1 folder
Finding Aid Author	Kristin Leaman, 2012
Languages	English
Repository	Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

Administrative Information

Location Information:	ASC
Access Restrictions:	Collection is open for research.
Acquisition Information:	Donated by Stephen Hancoff, December 21, 2011
Accession Number:	20111221
Preferred Citation:	MSP 103, Collection on Belle Hancoff, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections
Copyright Notice:	Copyright restrictions may apply.
Related Materials Information:	William Richards Collection of Walter Pahnke papers

Subjects and Genres

Persons

Hancoff, Belle
Hancoff, Lewis
Hancoff, Stephen
Pahnke, Walter

Topics

Cancer--Psychological aspects
Death – Psychological aspects
Hallucinogenic drugs – therapeutic use
Hallucinogenic drugs – therapeutic use – history
LSD (Drug) – therapeutic use
LSD (Drug) – therapeutic use – case studies
LSD (Drug) – therapeutic use – history
Psychedelic psychiatry
Psychedelic session reports
Psychedelics – therapeutic use

Genre Types

Article
Correspondence
Experience reports
Research notes

Collection Description

Scope

The Collection on Belle Hancoff (1968-2011; 1 folder) contains copies of typed and written notes of Belle Hancoff's two LSD sessions under the guidance of Walter Pahnke and music therapist, Helen Bonny. It also includes a letter from Walter Pahnke to Belle's son, Lewis Hancoff, about Belle's prognosis. The collection also includes written recollections by Belle's other son, Stephen Hancoff, primarily in response to Alexander Zaitchik's article "Flashback! Psychedelic Research Returns" on Salon.com, which is also in the collection.

Arrangement

The materials have been arranged in chronological order.

Descriptive Rules

Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd Edition / Describing Archives: A Content Standard

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

1 Folder

Item

1. Copy of notes from Belle Hancoff's first LSD session with Walter Pahnke, 1968
2. Copy of notes from Belle Hancoff's second LSD session with Walter Pahnke, 1969
3. Copy of letter from Walter Pahnke to Belle's son, Lewis Hancoff, 1969
4. Reflections by Belle's son, Stephen Hancoff, in response to Alexander Zaitchik's article "Flashback! Psychedelic Research Returns," 2011
5. Stephen Hancoff's addendum to his response to Zaitchik's article, 2011
6. "Flashback! Psychedelic Research Returns," article by Alexander Zaitchik on *Salon.com*