

Green Thursday Interviews Reference for Chapt. 4

Elaine Noble was making election history. A Democrat, she was elected to represent a Boston district in the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1974, when no out lesbian (or gay man) had held a state-level office. It wasn't an easy feat to accomplish. "I was elected in a largely Irish Catholic town." Noble won a second term in the House in 1976, and she was part of the first gay and lesbian delegation to visit the White House (during Jimmy Carter's presidency), but her experience in politics left her drained emotionally. In addition to being the target of bomb threats and vandalism, she was spit on by constituents and had excrement left on her desk. There was a strain on her relationship with writer Rita Mae Brown, and the women parted company in 1976.

Janice Epp, *Museum of Erotic Art* manager. ... the opening of the *museum* in March, 1973, in downtown *San Francisco*.

Reverend **Alvin Allison "Al" Carmines, Jr.** (July 25, 1936 – August 9, 2005) was a key figure in the expansion of Off-Off-Broadway theatre in the 1960s.

His 1973 musical *The Faggot* was a succès d'estime which transferred from the Judson Memorial Church to the Truck and Warehouse Theatre and ran for 203 performances.

Carmines was born in Hampton, Virginia. Although his musical talent appeared early, he decided to enter the ministry, attending Swarthmore College, majoring in English and philosophy, and then Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, earning a bachelor of divinity in 1961 and a master of sacred theology in 1963.

Carmines was hired by Howard Moody as an assistant minister at Judson Memorial Church on Washington Square Park, New York, to found a theater in the sanctuary of the Greenwich Village church in conjunction with playwright Robert Nichols. He began composing in 1962 and acted as well. His Bible study group grew into the Rauschenbusch Memorial United Church of Christ, with Carmines as pastor.

Carmines taught at Union Theological Seminary and received the Vernon Rice Award for his performance and the Drama Desk Award for Lyrics and Music and was awarded the Obie award for Life Time Achievements.

Carmines is perhaps best remembered in the church for the hymn "Many Gifts, One Spirit" #114 in the United Methodist Hymnal. He was commissioned by the United Methodist Women to write this hymn for their General Assembly in 1974.

Carmines' musicals reflected his eclectic interests, including:

- Abraham Lincoln,
- Christmas,

- Gertrude Stein,
- Aristophanes,
- Winnie the Pooh,
- gay relationships, and
- St. Joan.

Carmines' Judson Poets' Theater, with other burgeoning theatres Café Cino, La MaMa E.T.C. and Theatre Genesis were experimental and vibrant challenges to the commercialization and conformity of Off Broadway and Broadway houses.

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In 1977, he had a cerebral aneurysm that required months of therapy. He underwent surgery a second time in 1985, which only then cured his crippling headaches. He died in St. Vincent's Hospital in New York, survived by his partner Paul Rounsaville.

Carmines found as much spiritual meaning in the theater as the church: "If you want to know how to live, go to church. If you want to know how your life is in its deepest roots, go to the theater."

Theatre credits

- *What Happened* (1963) - composer; a setting for the works of Gertrude Stein
- *Home Movies/Softly Consider the Nearness* (1964) - composer, actor
- *Patter for a Soft Shoe Dance* (1964) - composer
- *Sing Ho for a Bear* (1966) - composer, actor (as Winnie the Pooh)
- *Gorilla Queen* (1967) - composer, lyricist
- *San Francisco's Burning* (1967) - composer
- *Song of Songs* - composer; a cantata based on the Bible
- *The Sayings of Mao Tse-tung* (1968) - composer; another cantata
- *In Circles* (1968) - composer, actor
- *Peace* (1969) - composer; an adaptation from Aristophanes
- *Christmas Rappings* (from 1969) - lyrics, music, actor, director; annual Xmas show held at Judson Memorial Church, and eventually taped for a television special
- *Promenade* (1969) - composer, musical director
- *The Urban Crisis* (1969) - composer, lyricist; a "secular oratorio"
- *About Time* (1970) - composer; another oratorio
- *W.C.* (1971) - composer, lyricist; a musical based on the life of W. C. Fields, which starred Mickey Rooney and Bernadette Peters but closed out-of-town
- *The Journey of Snow White* (1971) - composer, lyricist
- *The Duel* (1972); composer, lyricist; an opera based on the lives of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr
- *Joan* (1972) - librettist, composer, lyricist, actor, director
- *A Look at the Fifties* (1972) - composer, lyricist;
- *Wanted* (1972) - composer;

- "The Making of Americans" (1972 - composer and performer, text by Gertrude Stein adapted by Leon Katz, Directed by Lawrence Kornfeld
- *The Faggot* (1973) - composer, lyricist, director, actor
- *Listen to me* (1974) - composer; another Gertrude Stein adaptation
- "A Manoir" (1977) composer, text by Gertrude Stein, directed by Lawrence Kornfeld
- "Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights" (1979) composer, text by Gertrude Stein, directed by Lawrence Kornfeld, starring Jeff Weiss
- *T.S. Eliot: Midwinter Vigil(ante)* (1981) - composer, lyricist, director; last show at Judson Church
- *Romance Language* (1984) - actor (as Walt Whitman)
- *The Making of Americans* (1985) - composer & lyricist, libretto by Leon Katz
- *The Comedy of Errors* (1992) - actor (as Duke/Balthazar)
- Máslova

(1989) - inspired by the Leo Tolstoy novel, *Resurrection*—composer, co-lyricist with David Boles, book by David Boles^[1]

- *Martyrs and Lullabies* (1996) - an opera featuring Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Gertrude Stein, and Bessie Smith.

Awards and nominations

- 1964 Obie Award for Best Music - for *Home Movies/Softly Consider the Nearness*
- 1968 Drama Desk Award (Vernon Rice-Drama Desk Award) - the music from *In Circles*
- 1968 Obie Award for Best Musical - for *In Circles*
- 1969 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Music - for *Peace*
- 1974 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Lyrics - for *The Faggot*
- 1974 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Music - for *The Faggot*
- 2003 Robert Chesley Award for gay and lesbian Playwriting

Tape of Proceedings at

International Gay Rights Congress

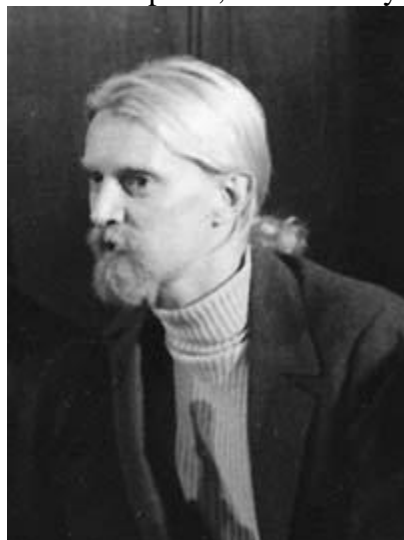
Date	1974-1975
Description	Material relating to the First International Gay Rights Congress, 18-22 December 1974 including: report on the congress; Gay Yuletide Song, 1974 Dutch Association for the Integration of Homosexuality reports; International Gay Right Congress Bookstall catalogue, 1974; congress notes on women's rights International Gay Right Congress, 1975 interim structure;

work of report: religion and homosexuality;
resolution presented by the workshop of homosexuals in
revolutionary politics;
draft proposals for aims of international lesbian women's conference
and international women's year;
leaflets and fliers
Report of Welfare Committee delegate to International Gay Rights
Congress, Edinburgh, 18-22 December 1975.

Access Status Open
Extent 1 file

Bruce Voeller

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Bruce Voeller

Bruce Raymond Voeller (May 12, 1934 – February 13, 1994) was a biologist and researcher, primarily in the field of AIDS.

Biography

Voeller was born in Minneapolis.^[1] When he was at school, he was assured by a school counselor that he was not homosexual, even though he had felt such feelings very early on. Voeller graduated with a bachelor's degree from Reed College in 1956. He was awarded a five-year fellowship to the Rockefeller Institute,^[1] and earned a Ph.D. in biology in 1961. He became an associate professor at the Institute in 1966. He wrote four books while there, as well as editing others' work, and writing numerous papers and articles. He married Kytja Scott Voeller,^[1] whom he met at graduate school, and they had three children.

He came out at the age of 29,^[1] and divorced from his wife in 1971. After becoming president of the New York Gay Activists Alliance, he decided it was not wide enough in its coverage. Therefore, with some friends, he founded the National Gay Task Force in October 1973, and was its director until 1978. The Task Force established affiliations with more than 2000 gay groups, and by 1978 had over 10,000 members. In 1977, the National Gay Task Force (now the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force) successfully initiated the first-ever meeting between the White House and more than a dozen gay and lesbian leaders. President Jimmy Carter's assistant, Midge Costanza, met with Task Force co-chairs and board members as well as representatives of gay and lesbian organizations for a briefing on critical policy issues affecting this constituency. The meeting marked the first time openly gay and lesbian leaders were welcomed at the White House and the first official discussion of gay and lesbian rights in the White House. Attendees at the White House meeting included: Frank Kameny, Myra Keddell, Charles Brydon, Ray Hartman, Betty Powell, William Kelley, Troy Perry, Jean O'Leary, Elaine Noble, George Raya and Pokey Anderson.^[4] He also founded the Mariposa Foundation, which specializes in sex research, and sexually transmitted diseases.^[5]

Before the 1980s, AIDS was known by various names, including GRIDD (Gay Related Immune Defense Disorder). Because this term was inaccurate, Voeller coined the term *acquired immune deficiency syndrome*. His partner was Richard Lucik, who was also his associate at Mariposa. Voeller died in 1994 of an AIDS related illness in California, at the age of 59.