

Reference Number: **2015.0052**
 Collection/Series Title: **O'CONNOR, MAUREEN**

Creator	O'Connor, Maureen
Creator's Activity/Occupation	Feminists
Creator's Historical Note	
<p>Maureen O'Connor was born and raised in inner urban Melbourne and came out as lesbian at age seventeen. An active member of several unions, she had various jobs, including as a Storeman and Packer, an Owner-Driver and a Public Servant in the Department of Housing and Construction. A member of the Lesbian Festival 1990 and 1992 organising groups, O'Connor devised the ticketing system for the program of events and was involved in the overall running of the LesFests. She joined the Women's Circus Techies for their first show in 1991 and was a technician for all their subsequent annual shows until 1997. A founding member of the Performing Older Women's Circus in 1995, O'Connor performed with POW until 1997 and took overall responsibility for the technical aspects of POW's shows. O'Connor was instrumental in setting up the Lesbian Cancer Support Group in December 1996 after being diagnosed with ovarian cancer.</p> <p>This is No. 125 of the Victorian Women's Liberation and Lesbian Feminist Archive</p>	
Date Range of Collection/Series	c.1970-c.1998
Size/Extent	2 Units and audiovisual material (0.50m)
Access Conditions	Access: Open
Scope and Content of Collection/Series	
<p>Slides and slide viewer; photograph albums; socks; badgemaker; drawings by DL Sargent; vinyl 45rpm records by women and lesbian bands.</p> <p>This collection is part of No.125 of the Victorian Women's Liberation and Lesbian Feminist Archive (VWLLFA)</p>	
Collection Category	Community and Political, individuals
This document dated	27/08/2015

Unit 1	3	Small boxes of slides - 2 plastic, with MOKA and MOC on them (possibly Maureen's initials). Photos of some of Maureen's travels.	
	1	Black plastic slide viewer	
	1	Pair of hand knitted socks. Knitted by Jean Taylor who was a notable knitter of socks (and other items). She knitted at meetings and at parties and at all events and gave socks as gifts and prizes for fundraisers. This pair was special for "Maur's" – much loved and so often worn that there is a hole in them.	
	1	Photo Album – cover of ochre colours/Aboriginal design. Mostly of animals ("Maur's" loved cats)	
	1	Photo Album – cover of green colour with sunflowers "Maur's" favourite flower and strongly identified with her – for example, her POW clown costume hat which featured on the cover of Spinifex book by Jean Taylor <i>The C Word</i> Album primarily features images of her trip to Greece.	1977
	3	Drawings by D.L. Sargent.	
Unit 2 2015.0052.0010	1	Badge maker. Used by Maureen and others for making many many badges for a wide assortment of causes and events. Making selling, giving and wearing badges was a common practice in WLM, Lesbian, and other social justice groups	
Audio Visual Material		Vinyl "45" records:	
2015.0052.0001		<i>If It Weren't For The Music and Lady</i> by Meg Christian – USA, significant lesbian singer/songwriter in and for Women's Music culture.	
2015.0052.0002		<i>Spitfire and Tumba Rumba</i> by Rapunzel Gets Down A very popular Melbourne Womyns' Band.	1989-1990
2015.0052.0003		<i>Love Theme and On The Inside</i> – Themes from the popular TV series Prisoner with lesbian characters and "political story lines.	1979
2015.0052.0004- 2015.0052.0009		Cassette tapes of significance to Maureen. Some are by Lesbians – kd lang, Ferron, and Alix Dobkin ; "Lakme" in honor of the Deborah Cheatam and a duet at the Lesbian Conference and Festival in Sydney, and Anique Lamerduc. Other personal favorites are Anne Lennox, Joan Baez and Patsy Cline.	