The John Davis collection on punk

Special Collections in Performing Arts
University of Maryland Libraries

Processed by: Vin Novara
Date Processed: May 2016 with continuing accruals
Size: 5.25 Linear Feet
Inclusive Dates: 1980-2017
Bulk Dates: 1994-1999
Collection No.: 16-27-DAVIS
SCPA shelf location: L9-3-4, Map Case
Abstract
John Davis (b. 1976) is an American musician, fanzine editor, librarian, and archivist. The John Davis collection on punk contains items that span the period from 1980 to 2017; the bulk of the material dates from 1994 to 1999 when Davis was editing the fanzines, Slanted and Held Like Sound. The collection contains concert photographs taken by Davis, fliers advertising punk concerts that Davis collected throughout the 1990s, ephemera related to D.C. punk culture, and posters mostly related to his career as a musician.

Important Information for Users of the Collection
Restrictions: There are no restricted files in this collection.
Preferred Citation: John Davis collection on punk, Special Collections in Performing Arts, University of Maryland Libraries.
Publication Rights: Materials from this collection must be used in the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library's Irving and Margery Morgan Lowens Special Collections Room, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Please make an appointment with the curator: Vincent J. Novara Tel: 301.405.9220, Email: vnovara@umd.edu
Status: This collection is PROCESSED

Historical Note
John Davis (b. 1976) is an American musician, fanzine editor, librarian, and archivist. Raised in the Washington, DC area, Davis became a participant in DC’s thriving punk subculture as a teenager in the early 1990s. Davis made his initial mark in the local punk community as a guitarist in the band Corm (1992-1997), as well as with his work as a fanzine editor on Slanted (1993-1995) and Held Like Sound (1996-2002).

From 1998 to 2005, he was the drummer in Q And Not U. The group released three full-length albums and three singles on Dischord Records, the flagship record label for DC’s punk scene. Q And Not U performed more than 400 concerts on four continents, and sold in excess of 100,000 copies of its albums, a notable feat for an independent band. Following his tenure in Q And Not U, Davis started the band Georgie James, in which he played guitar and sang. Since Georgie James’ breakup in 2008, Davis has released three albums with his solo project, Title Tracks, and has released one album and an EP with Paint Branch, a project formed with his erstwhile Q And Not U bandmate (and current Washington Post Pop Critic), Chris Richards.

In 2012, Davis obtained a Master of Science in Library and Information Science degree from the Catholic University of America, which enabled him to embark on a new career as an archivist and special collections librarian. He is currently the Performing Arts Metadata Archivist at the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library at the University of Maryland. In 2015, he co-created a new fanzine, his first project of the sort in more than a decade, called Confab.
Scope and Contents of Collection
The John Davis collection on punk covers the period from 1980 to 2017; the bulk of the materials date from 1994 to 1999. The collection consists of photographs and posters mostly related to Davis’ work in the punk music subculture, both as a musician and as a fanzine editor. The photographs, all taken by Davis, were taken at various punk concerts in the mid-1990s, primarily in the Washington D.C. area.

Custodial History and Acquisition Information
Gift of John Davis, received in August 2015 with ongoing accruals.

Arrangement of Collection
This collection is organized into three series.
- Series 1: Photographs
- Series 2: Posters
- Series 3: Fliers
- Series 4: Ephemera

Series Descriptions
**Series 1. Photographs, 1993-1997 (0.50 Linear Feet)**
This series contains photographs taken by Davis at concerts in the mid-1990s. Materials are arranged alphabetically by performer.

**Series 2. Posters, 1980-2015 (4.00 Linear Feet)**
This series contains posters collected by Davis. Materials are arranged alphabetically by performer.

**Series 3. Fliers, 1989-2005 (0.50 linear feet)**
This series contains fliers advertising performances for concerts. With a few exceptions, the fliers are advertising concerts held in the Washington, D.C. area and feature D.C. area punk bands. Materials are arranged alphabetically by headlining performer.

**Series 4. Ephemera, 1983-2017 (10 items)**
This series contains ephemera – ticket stubs, set lists, etc. – collected by Davis. Materials are arranged alphabetically by performer.

Box Inventory

**Series 1 – Photographs, 1993-1997**
Box 1
Folder 1 - 31 Short - Live at Black Cat, September 1994 (2 photos)
Folder 2 – Antimony - Live at Alternatives Festival, Fall 1994
Folder 3 – Arm - Live at WMUC, 1997
Folder 4 - Branch Manager - Live at 9:30 Club, Fall 1994 (5 photos)
Folder 5 – Chisel - Live at Black Cat, circa 1995 (2 photos)
Folder 6 - Crowenhate Ruin, The - Live at Black Cat, circa 1995 (2 photos)
Folder 7 - Crowenhate Ruin, The - Live at George Washington University, 1996 (2 photos)
Folder 8 - Crowenhate Ruin, The - Live at UMBC, 1996
Folder 9 - Dismemberment Plan, The - Live at American University Tavern, 1996
Folder 10 - Enigk, Jeremy - Live at Black Cat, 1996 (2 photos)
Folder 11 - Ethel Meserve - Live at George Washington University, 1996 (2 photos)
Folder 12 – Fugazi - Live at Black Cat, 1995
Folder 13 - Get Up Kids - Live at Fusebox, 1995
Folder 14 - Gray Matter - Live at Black Cat, September 1994
Folder 15 - Holy Rollers - Live at 9:30 Club, Fall 1994 (5 photos)
Folder 16 - Holy Rollers - Live at Black Cat, September 1994 (4 photos)
Folder 17 – Hoover - Live at Black Cat, April 1994 (7 photos)
Folder 18 – Jawbox - Live at American University Tavern photograph, 1996
Folder 19 – Jawbox - Live at 9:30 Club photograph, 1994
Folder 20 – Jenhitt - Live at WMUC photograph, 1997 (3 photos)
Folder 21 - June of ’44 - Live at Black Cat photograph, 1996 (2 copies)
Folder 22 - Kerosene 454 - Live at Black Cat photograph, circa 1996 (2 copies)
Folder 23 - The Make Up - Live at 9:30 Club photograph, 1994
Folder 24 - Norman Mayer Group - Live at Black Cat, September 1994
Folder 25 – Pitchblende - Live at 9:30 Club, Fall 1994 (3 photos)
Folder 26 - Regulator Watts - Live at Black Cat, circa 1996
Folder 27 – Sideshow - Live at Black Cat photograph, April 1994 (2 photos)
Folder 28 - Sunny Day Real Estate - Live at Black Cat, December 1994 (3 photos)
Folder 29 – Tsunami - Live at Black Cat, Summer 1995
Folder 30 - Velocity Girl - Live at American University Tavern, September 1993
Folder 31 – Versus - Live at Black Cat, circa Fall 1994
Folder 32 - Your Majesty - Live at 9:30 Club, Fall 1994

Series 2 – Posters, 1980-2015
Box 2
Folder 1 – Arm – April 12, 1997 – College Park, MD. - WMUC
Folder 2 – The Clash - “Black Market Clash” promotional poster - 1980
Folder 3 – Elvis Costello - “Get Happy” promotional poster – 1980
Folder 5 – Dismemberment Plan, The – Tour poster – circa 1995
Folder 6 – Echoes from the Nation’s Capital Pt. 2 CD promotional poster - 1995
Folder 7 – Ethel Meserve – May 31, 1997 – Arlington, VA. – Galaxy Hut
Folder 8 – The Faith – Subject To Change CD reissue promotional poster – 2011
Folder 9 – Georgie James - November 8, 2007 - Omaha, NE. - Slowdown
Folder 10 – Gray Matter – Thog CD promotional poster - 1992
Folder 11 – The Others – March 7, 1997 – Washington, D.C. – Fort Reno Park
Folder 12 – Q And Not U – Fall 2002 European tour (2 copies)
Folder 13 - Q And Not U - July 3, 2003 – Ottawa, ON. (2 copies)
Folder 14 – Q And Not U - Fall 2003 Tour (2 copies)
Folder 15 – Q And Not U - September 15, 2003
Folder 16 – Q And Not U - June 25, 2004
Folder 17 – Q And Not U – Power CD promotional poster – 2004 (2 copies)
Folder 18 – Q And Not U - October 19, 2004
Folder 19 – Q And Not U - October 21, 2004
Folder 21 - Ted Leo – Towson, MD. - Recher Theater - August 2007 (framed poster)
Folder 22 - Three (3) - June/July 1987 - Washington, D.C. - various venues
Folder 23 - Three (3) - September 9, 1987 - Washington, D.C. - D.C. Space
Folder 24 - Three (3) - January 1, 1988 - Washington, D.C. - 9:30 Club
Folder 25 - Title Tracks - April 7, 2011 - Munster, Germany - Gleis 22
Folder 26 – Title Tracks - October 10, 2013 – Washington, D.C. – Rock and Roll Hotel
Folder 27 - Title Tracks - October 1, 2015 - Washington, D.C. - MLK Library
Folder 29 – White Lodge Spring Fling – State College, PA. – State College VFW Hall
Folder 30 – Wire - November 8, 2002 – Antwerp, Belgium – Hof Ter Loo

Series 3 – Fliers, 1989-1999
Folder 1 – Absolutely Boxspring – December 29, 1999 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat
Folder 2 – Alternatives Music Festival - October 14, 1995 – Washington, D.C. – Dupont Circle
Folder 5 – Blast Off Country Style – July 29, 1994 - Arlington, VA. – O’Carroll’s
Folder 6 – Bluetip – October 25, 1995 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat
Folder 7 – Bluetip – November 2, 1996 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat
Folder 8 – Bluetip – August 7, 1998 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 10 – Braid / Compound Red / Shiner – September 2-4, 1998 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat/Metro Café (three separate concerts listed on one flier)
Folder 11 – Capitol City Dusters – August 9, 1999 – Washington, D.C. – Fort Reno Park
Folder 12 – Chisel – May 26, 1995 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat
Folder 14 – Chisel – circa February 15, 1997 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 15 – Circus Lupus – April 24, 1993 – Washington, D.C. – St. Stephen’s Church
Folder 16 – Citizen Fish / Lois – April 2 and April 14, 1994 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat (two separate concerts listed on one flyer)
Folder 17 – Corm – December 13, 1993 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 18 – Corm - November 29, 1996 – Annapolis, MD. – House show
Folder 21 – Corm – March 24, 1997 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat
Folder 22 – Crainium, The – circa October 1, 1997 - Washington, D.C. – Project Space
Folder 25 – Damnation AD – April 26, 1996 – Philadelphia, PA. - First Unitarian Church
Folder 26 – Dead Meadow – December 6, 1999 – Arlington, VA. – Galaxy Hut
Folder 29 – Dismemberment Plan, The – September 13, 1997 – Washington, D.C. – St. Margaret’s Church (design 1)
Folder 30 – Dismemberment Plan, The – September 13, 1997 – Washington, D.C. – St. Margaret’s Church (design 2)
Folder 32 – Earthwell – Spring 1996 – upcoming concert schedule from promoter
Folder 36 – 400 Years - February 6, 1998 – Baltimore, MD. – The Small Intestine
Folder 38 – Frodus – August 5, 1994 – Arlington, VA. – O’Carroll’s
Folder 40 – Frodus – August 10, 1995 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 41 – Frodus – June 1, 1996 - Potomac, MD. – House show
Folder 42 – Frodus – November 23, 1996 – State College, PA. – Penn State University
Folder 44 – Frodus / The Make-Up – June 21 and 27, 1997 - Washington, D.C. - St. Aloysius Church/Foundry Methodist Church (two separate concerts listed on one flyer)
Folder 47 – Fugazi – April 2, 1993 – College Park, MD. – Ritchie Coliseum
Folder 49 – Fugazi – November 20, 1994 – Takoma Park, MD. – Long Branch Community Center
Folder 50 – Fugazi – March 2, 1995 – Catonsville, MD. – UMBC Ballroom
Folder 51 – Fugazi – May 12, 1998 – Baltimore, MD. – Teamsters’ Union Hall
Folder 54 – Glass House – September 2002 – Pomona, CA. – upcoming concert schedule
Folder 57 – Holy Rollers – May 18, 1994 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 59 – Hose Got Cable – October 27, 1995 – Philadelphia, PA. – First Unitarian Church
Folder 60 – Impossible Five, The – October 12, 1997 – Bethesda, MD. – River Road Unitarian Church
Folder 63 – Into Another – April 19, 1994 – Washington, D.C. – Nightbreed Lounge
Folder 64 – Jawbox – April 23, 1993 – Hour Haus – Baltimore, MD.
Folder 69 – Jawbox – August 7, 1995 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 70 – Jawbox – March 1, 1996 – Washington, D.C. – American University
Folder 71 – Jawbox – September 28, 1996 – College Park, MD. – University of Maryland
Folder 72 – Jawbox / Girls Against Boys – January 24 and 25, 1997 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat (two separate concerts listed on one flyer)
Folder 73 – Juno – November 20, 1999 – Arlington, VA. – Kansas House
Folder 74 – Kepone – December 23, 1995 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat (design 1)
Folder 75 – Kepone – December 23, 1995 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat (design 2)
Folder 76 – Kepone – circa August 30, 1996 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 78 – Kerosene 454 - September 5, 1997 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat
Folder 80 – Lois – February 18, 1994 – Harrisonburg, VA. – James Madison University
Folder 84 – Mineral – September 9, 1997 – College Park, MD. - WMUC
Folder 85 – Modest Mouse – September 6, 1997 – Washington, D.C. - Black Cat
Folder 90 – Norman Mayer Group – August 17, 1997 – Wheaton, MD. - Phantasmagoria
Folder 91 – Onespot Fringehead – April 15 and 17, 1994 – Annapolis, MD and Baltimore, MD.
Folder 93 – Q And Not U –September 21, 2003 – Denver, CO.
Folder 94 – Rachel’s – August 22, 1996 – Kalamazoo, MI. – Club Soda
Folder 95 – Rah Brahs - January 16, 1999 – Arlington, VA. – Galaxy Hut
Folder 96 – Rainer Maria – July 9, 1998 – Baltimore, MD. – The Small Intestine
Folder 98 – Regulator Watts – February 1, 1996 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 99 – Regulator Watts – August 11, 1997 – Minneapolis, MN. – Extreme Noise Records
Folder 102 – Rondelles – December 17, 1999 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 103 – Sammy - June 23, 1996 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 104 – Sarge – May 26, 1997 – Arlington, VA. – Galaxy Hut
Folder 107 – Shudder To Think – April 8, 1993 – Washington, D.C. – Artscience Warehouse
Folder 109 – Simple Machines 50th Party – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 111 – Sleepytime Trio – December 5, 1999 – Washington, D.C. – Wilson Center
Folder 112 – Smart Went Crazy – October 3, 1996 – College Park, MD. - WMUC
Folder 115 – Thee Flypped Wigs – February 4, 1996 – Springfield, VA. – Record Convergence
Folder 117 – Tilden Shirtwaist Fire, The – April 20, 1996 – Annapolis, MD. – House show
Folder 119 – Trusty / The Volatiles – June 1 and June 4, 1996 – Baltimore, MD. – The Loft and The Shuffle House (two separate concerts listed on one flyer)
Folder 122 - 12 Tone System – December 14, 1996 – Washington, D.C. – Kaffa House (design 1)
Folder 123 - 12 Tone System – December 14, 1996 – Washington, D.C. – Kaffa House (design 2)
Folder 124 – Vita Bruno – September 13, 1999 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 125 – Vita Bruno – October 18, 1999 – Arlington, VA. – Galaxy Hut (design 1)
Folder 126 – Vita Bruno – October 18, 1999 – Arlington, VA. – Galaxy Hut (design 2)
Folder 129 – WMUC promotional flier – circa 1996 – College Park, MD.

Series 4 – Ephemera, 1983-2017

Folder 1 - Bad Moves – DCPL Punk Archive Basement Show ticket stub – February 2, 2017
Folder 2 - Cupid Car Club – set list - September 1993 – Washington, D.C. – Black Cat
Folder 3 - Dischord mailorder catalog – Number 2 – 1994
Folder 4 - Dischord Records calendar - 2015
Folder 5 - Ebullition mailorder, advertising flier - circa 1995
Folder 6 – Flex (music venue, Vienna, Austria) promotional program – November 2002
Folder 7 – Fugazi, booklet distributed at concert, April 2, 1993
Folder 8 - Fugazi, booklet distributed at concert, August 7, 1993
Folder 9 - Fugazi ticket stub, September 3, 1997
Folder 10 - Fugazi ticket stub, December 5, 1999
Folder 12 - Give - DCPL Punk Archive Basement Show ticket stub, June 11, 2015
Folder 13 - Interpol/Q And Not U, all access pass, Spring 2005
Folder 14 - Jawbox – set list circa 1993 (on back of flier for June 5, 1993 show at St. Stephen’s)
Folder 15 - Jawbox – set list circa 1994 (on back of flier for October 30, 1993 show at Black Cat)
Folder 16 - Minor Threat – In My Eyes unfolded 7” cover - 1981
Folder 18 - Minor Threat, postcard – undated
Folder 19 - Q And Not U – interview clipping from Status magazine, 2002
Folder 20 - Q And Not U – interview clipping from Thrasher magazine - 2002
Folder 21 - Simple Machines Farewell Party mailer – 1998
Folder 22 – The Simple Machines Story – 1998
Folder 23 - Vera (music venue, Groningen, Netherlands), promotional sticker – 2004

Related Material
- D.C. Punk and Indie Fanzine Collection (finding aid)
- Jason Farrell Flyers & Posters Collection, 1987-2012 (finding aid)
- Sharon Cheslow Punk Flyers Collection, 1979-1991 (finding aid)