

QUEER CORE

THE ORIGIN STORY

W

H

O

!

g.b.jones

&

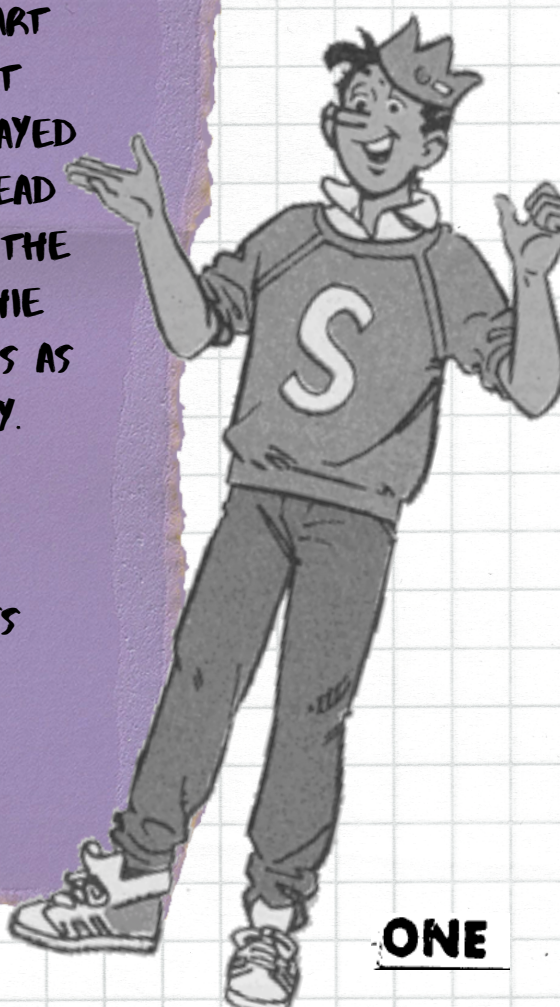
Bruce LaBruce

G.B. WAS A MEMBER OF THE QUEER FEMINIST PUNK BAND, FIFTH COLUMN, AND A FORMER ART STUDENT AT OCADU.

SHE BECAME KNOWN FOR HER ART THAT PORTRAYED JUGHEAD FROM THE ARCHIE COMICS AS GAY.

BRUCE WAS A GRAD STUDENT IN FILM AT YORK UNI AND PART OF THE QUEERCORE BAND, ZUZU'S PETALS.

ALTHOUGH HIS UNIVERSITY PROFS TAUGHT RADICAL POLITICS, HE HATED THAT THEY DIDN'T ACTUALLY LIVE RADICAL LIVES.



Homophobia

in the PUNK

SCENE

"THIS GUY WITH A HUGE MOHAWK CAME UP AND PUNCHED ME IN THE NOSE. I THINK I HAD A NOSE BLEED. SOME OF THE FIFTH COLUMN GIRLS FORMED A HUMAN SHIELD AROUND ME AND WERE PROTECTING ME FROM THESE GUYS."



Bruce LaBruce

aNti-punk

Sentiment

in the

GAY
MOVEMENT

"THE GAY 'MOVEMENT' AS IT EXISTS
NOW IS A BIG FARCE, AND WE HAVE
NOTHING NICE TO SAY ABOUT IT, SO WE
WON'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL, EXCEPT
THAT, IRONICALLY, IT FAILS MOST
MISERABLY WHERE IT SHOULD BE THE
MOST PROGRESSIVE— IN ITS SEXUAL
POLITICS."

g.b.jones

the

B*IRTH* OF

QUEERCORE

G.B. AND BRUCE WERE LOOKING
FOR THE PERFECT MIX OF THE
QUEER AND PUNK WORLDS.

THEY DECIDED TO
PRETEND THAT
THEY WERE AT THE
HEART OF A
POPULAR AND
FULLY-REALIZED
MOVEMENT CALLED
QUEERCORE (OR
HOMOCORE) IN
TORONTO.



IN REALITY, THEY WERE MAKING
THEIR ZINE, J.D.S., IN A RUN-
DOWN, BUG-INFESTED APARTMENT
AT QUEEN & PARLIAMENT, AND
STEALING THEIR FOOD FROM
LOBLAWS.

J.D.S. is dedicated to the furtherance of **ham-core** photography, and literature - without confining itself to material which will offend no one or avoiding that which may offend some. It is our belief that freedom of communication shall not be denied to any segment of our society even though that group may be antithetical to the so-called "normal" majority. If we were wise enough, we might know that communication may have greater therapeutic value than any sermon that those of the "normal" community can ever offer. ■ And if the communication is of value to the so-called "deviant" community, how can it be said to be without any redeeming social importance? Redeeming to whom?

WHAT DID J.D.S STAND FOR?

J.D.s

HOMOSEXUALS,
OLD PEOPLE,
DISILLUSIONED
RADICALS,
AND UNLOVED
CHILDREN:

THAT'S WHO J.D.s
IS MADE FOR.

\$ 3.00

NO CHECKS PLEASE

JOY DIVISION

J.D. Salinger

juvenile
DELINQUENTS

Just
Desserts

(A RESTAURANT IN TORONTO &
HANGOUT SPOT FOR QUEER PUNKS)

JACK DANIEL'S
OLD TIME
Old

J.D.s
soft
core
zine
for
hard
core
kids

ALL PUNKS ARE GAY.



J.D.s
DARES
TO
UNVEIL

EIGHT ISSUES OF J.D.S
FEATURED PICTURES,
STORIES, AND QUEERCORE
SONG CHARTS.

THE FORBIDDEN WORLD
OF THE HOMOSEXUAL

№7

WARNING
Ex-rated

UNCENSORED
J.D.S

liberally seasoned with sexual carryings-on

Explicit
GAY
SEX

SENSATIONAL

**HEAVY
DUTY**

HOT STUFF

QUEERCORE WAS PART OF A
WAVE OF CONFRONTATIONAL
ACTIVISM ACROSS NORTH
AMERICA IN THE 1970S-1980S.

J.D.S WAS DESIGNED
TO SHOCK PEOPLE
AND ENCOURAGE THEM
TO RADICALLY
QUESTION SOCIETY.

MAY BE A BIT TOO MUCH FOR MANY
PEOPLE, BUT THAT'S THEIR PROBLEM.

IN THE U.S., THE BLACK PANTHERS WERE CALLING FOR A
RADICAL RESPONSE TO SYSTEMIC RACISM, AND QUEER
NATION (ALSO CALLED THE "PINK PANTHERS") DEVELOPED
THEIR POLITICAL SLOGAN, "BASH BACK!"



IN
SOLIDARITY,
BRUCE AND
G.B. CALLED
THEMSELVES
"THE NEW
LAVENDER
PANTHERS."

WE ARE THE
NEW LAVENDER PANTHERS





3

Stuff stolen from:
The Sun, Pyschotron
WRITE TO J.D.S
ADELAIDE ST. ST

Hot!



little. I must
ences I won't
there
ancisco.
e to a
real
eat danger
any difference

her
many
ot or speed
danger, as
in over
between overent

G.B. AND
BRUCE'S PLAN
WORKED!

J.D.S TURNED
QUEERCORE INTO
AN INTERNATIONAL
MOVEMENT...

WHATEVER HAPPENED
TO GOOD OLDE
Queer CORE?

SO MANY ARTISTS GOT INVOLVED,
EACH WITH THEIR OWN STYLE,
THAT BY THE MID-1990S
QUEERCORE NO LONGER HAD A
UNIFIED APPROACH.

BRUCE EVEN SAID,
"QUEERCORE IS DEAD. OUR SON
IS DEAD. I KILLED HIM."
ALTHOUGH G.B. AND BRUCE'S CREATION
MAY BE GONE, A DIFFERENT
QUEERCORE LIVES ON TODAY...



Image Sources

Archie Comics. "Jughead." n.d. *Wikipedia*,
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jughead_Jones

"G.B. Jones." n.d. Courtesy of JD Doyle, *Queer Music Heritage*,
<https://queermusicheritage.com/jul2009qg9.html>

Kern, Richard. "Bruce LaBruce." n.d. *Exberliner*,
<https://www.exberliner.com/whats-on/film/the-advocate-for-bruce/>

"Queen and Parliament Toronto Streetcar." In "Queen and Parliament/Then and Now," November 28, 2014, *Wordpress*,
<https://losttoronto2.wordpress.com/2014/11/28/queen-and-parliamentthen-and-now-3/>

Cropped Images

Cover Art for Joy Division's album, *Unknown Pleasures* (June 15, 1979, Factory Records). "Joy Division." *CBC Radio*,
<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/q/thursday-june-13-2019-sergio-trujillo-chanty-marostica-and-more-1.5172532/unknown-pleasures-peter-saville-on-the-interstellar-origins-of-joy-division-s-debut-album-artwork-1.5172583>

Jack Daniel's. "Jack Daniel's Logo." *1000logos.net*,
<https://1000logos.net/jack-daniels-logo/>

"Members of the Pink Panthers Patrol march to protest violence." Publicity Photo from 'Whose Streets? Our Streets!' In "Pink Panthers, Queer Violence, and Guns," by James Finn, Aug 24, 2019, *Medium*,
<https://medium.com/james-finn/pink-panthers-queer-violence-and-guns-1d083c0f2ee2>

New York Times. "J.D. Salinger." In "So Where Are the New J. D. Salinger Books We Were Promised?" by Matthew Haag, October 25, 2017, *New York Times*,
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/25/books/jd-salinger-new-books.html>

Tomislav Todorovic. "Black Panther Party Logo Flag - White Variant." September 27, 2015, In "Black Panthers Party (U.S.)" by Rick Wyatt, July 28, 2016 CRW Flags,
<https://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/us%7Dbpp.html>

Letters and Clippings

Canwood Times. "Canada at War with Germany." Government of Saskatchewan. In "Sask. government to release province's historic newspapers online," by Jonathan Guignard, August 26, 2019, *Global News*,
<https://globalnews.ca/news/5814735/saskatchewan-government-historic-newspapers/>

Le Monde. "Le Monde Cover." December 26, 1887. In "Google Shuts Down Newspaper Archive Project," by Jared Keller, May 20, 2011, *The Atlantic*,
<https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2011/05/google-shuts-down-newspaper-archive-project/239239/>

Queer Magazine. "Queer Magazine Cover." May 2009. In "Queer Magazine," by Wellington Pereti, July 13, 2009, *issuu*,
https://issuu.com/wpereti/docs/queer_magazine

Springfield Daily News. "Front page of Springfield Daily News." November 22, 1963. *Wikipedia*,
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Front_page_of_Springfield_Daily_News,_Nov_22_1963.jpg

The Daily Colonist. "Invasion Begins Canadians In Action." June 6, 1944. In "12-year project complete: Online newspaper archive covers Victoria's history," by Richard Watts, June 9, 2019, *Times Colonist*,
<https://www.timescolonist.com/islander/12-year-project-complete-online-newspaper-archive-covers-victoria-s-history-1.23850065>

The Daily Worker. "Cover of 'The Daily Worker'." March 6, 1930. Digitized and digitally edited by Tim Davenport ("Carrite") for *Wikipedia*,
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daily_Worker

The Western Herald. "The Western Herald Cover." Courtesy of Digital Library of Georgia. In "Georgia Newspapers From Before The Civil War, Now Online," by Grant Blankenship, January 4, 2019, GPB Radio News,
<https://www.gpbnews.org/post/georgia-newspapers-civil-war-now-online>

Zines Used (for clippings and images):

Candy. *Dr. Smith #1*. Toronto, 1984. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/323

Candy. *Dr. Smith #3*. Toronto, 1984. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/272

Jenkins, Nicholas. *Fuzz Box*. Montreal, 1990s. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/525

LaBruce, Bruce, and Jones, G.B. *J.D.s #1*. Toronto, 1985. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/308

LaBruce, Bruce, and Jones, G.B. *J.D.s #2*. Toronto, 1985. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/343

LaBruce, Bruce, and Jones, G.B. *J.D.s #3*. Toronto, 1987. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/345

LaBruce, Bruce, and Jones, G.B. *J.D.s #4*. Toronto, 1987. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/389

LaBruce, Bruce, and Jones, G.B. *J.D.s #5*. Toronto, 1989. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/391

LaBruce, Bruce, and Jones, G.B. *J.D.s #7*. Toronto, 1990. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/402

OConnor, Alan. *Homocore Toronto #2*. Toronto, 1993. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/113

QT Collective. *QT #1*. Montreal, 1991. Queer Zine Archive Project,
https://archive.qzap.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/374

LE CENTRE CANADIEN DE LA
DIVERSITÉ DES GENRES
+ DE LA **SEXUALITÉ**



THE CANADIAN CENTRE FOR
GENDER+SEXUAL
DIVERSITY

Document written and created by Emma N. Awe
Contact Information: emma.nicole.awe@gmail.com