

## **Document Set - Stormé DeLarverie**

## Document 1: Biography

Stormé DeLarverie was a drag king and activist born December 24, 1920 in New Orleans, Louisiana. DeLarverie chose her birthdate herself, because her parent's interacial relationship was deemed illegal and she was never issued a birth certificate.

DeLarverie began her career as a jazz singer in her teen years. By the 1950s, she began performing as a drag king as part of the Jewel Box Revue, a traveling show that featured performers in drag. Shows were often billed under the title of "25 Men and 1 Woman," and audiences were encouraged to guess which cast member was the sole woman. For it's time, The Jewel Box Revue was considered radical, not only due to its focus on drag performances, but also because during a time of segregation the show incorporated both a racially diverse cast and audience. DeLarverie performed with the group well into the 1960s.



DeLaverie is credited as being one of the first people to fight back against the police officers who conducted a raid at Stonewall the morning of June 28, 1969. After she was hit in the head by a police officer with a baton, she began defending herself against multiple police officers, helping to begin the rebellion.

After Stonewall, DeLarverie worked as a security guard in lesbian clubs throughout New York City. A lesbian herself, DeLarverie was seen by many as a protector in the West Village neighborhood where many in the LGBTQ+ community resided. In addition to protecting lesbian spaces, she also continued performing for fundraisers devoted to helping survivors of domestic violence, and participated in pride parades.

DeLarverie spent her final years in a nursing home in Brooklyn, New York, where she passed away on May 24, 2014. DeLarverie's death was covered in the New York Times and major LGBTQ+ publications, which honored her contributions to LGBTQ+ history. Her journals, papers, and other belongings reside at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City.



## Document 2: Jewel Box Review Artifacts

	Opening
SAVOY THEATRE	"CAN'T DO A SHOW WITHOUT GIRLS"
ASBURY PARK, N. J.	Storme Delarvarie Doddi Daniels James Tai Bob Lake Lynn Roberts Kenny Kilpatrick
DANNY BROWN & DOC BENNER	Ted Duncan Sal Angelica Ronnie Morales Clinton Williams Jud Stoddard Jay Johnson
Present The	Billy Austin Vivi Vogue Jim Challander
EWEL BOX REVUE	Jan Britton Robbi Ross Armonda Rodda Dori D'or Lynn Car
WEL BOX REVUE	INellieLynn Carl
25 Men and A Girl	"Don't Be A Woman"
RLD'S GREATEST FEMME MIMICS	The WomenJan Britton, Dori D'C Ronnie Morales, Robbi Ra
Starring	"Jungle Fantasy"
LYNNE CARTER	LYMME CARTER
*	"Loud and Hot"Doddi Danie
ittering Personalities, Gay Dance Ensembles	"Roaring Twenties"Robbi Ross, Sal Angelica, Billy Aust. Jim Challander, Lynn Car
littering Personalities, Gay Dance Ensembles Gorgeous Gowns and	Jim Challander, Lynn Car
Jan Chalander,	Jim Challander, Lynn Car
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs, Laughs, Laughs	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday" Featuring Bob La With Ted Duncan, Clinton Willia
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs, Laughs, Laughs ★	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday"Foaturing Bob La with
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs, Laughs, Laughs * Musical Direction by Art Lillien	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday"Featuring Bob La with Ted Duncan, Clinton Williar Jud Stoddard, Sal Angelica, Jim Challander.
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs, Laughs, Laughs *	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday"Featuring Bob La with Ted Duncan, Clinton Williar Jud Stoddard, Sal Angelica, Jim Challander.
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs. Laughs, Laughs ★ Musical Direction by Art Lillien Lighting by Robert B. White	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday"Featuring Bob La. with Ted Duncan, Clinton Willian Jum Challander. "Toe Modern"Jan Britt
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs, Laughs * Musical Direction by Art Lillien Lighting by Robert B. White	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday"Foaturing Bob La with Ted Duncan, Clinton Willian Jud Stoddard, Sal Angelica, Jim Challander. "Toe Modern"Jan Britt "Jack The Ripper" BobbyBob Wh
Laughs, Laughs, Laughs * Musical Direction by Art Lillien Lighting by Robert B. White Show Manager – Martin Wurtzburg * New York Office	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday"Featuring Bob La with Ted Duncan, Clinton Williar Jud Stoddard, Sal Angelica, Jim Challander. "Toe Modern"Jan Briti "Jack The Ripper" BobbyBob WH DaphnieBilly Aus TalullahJay Johns
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs, Laughs, Laughs * Musical Direction by Art Lillien Lighting by Robert B. White Show Manager - Martin Wurtzburg *	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday"Featuring Bob La. with Ted Duncan, Clinton Willian Jum Challander. "Toe Modern"Jan Britt
Gorgeous Gowns and Laughs, Laughs, Laughs ★ Musical Direction by Art Lillien Lighting by Robert B. White Show Manager – Martin Wurtzburg ★ New York Office	Jim Challander, Lynn Car "Beatnick's Holiday" Featuring Bob La Willia Ted Dancan, Clinton Williar Jud Stoddard, Sol Angelica, Jim Challander. "Toe Modern"Jan Britt "Jack The Ripper" Bobby Bob WH Daphnie Billy Aus Talullah Jay Johns Carmella Hans Crys









Discussion Questions:

1. Based upon the documents presented above, describe what the Jewel Box Revue might have been like.