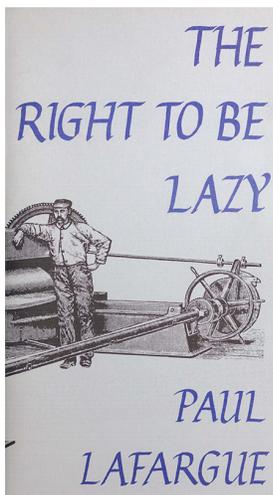


The University of Connecticut
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*Below are a selection
from Louise Menzies's
research - images from
the Dodd Center's
Alternative Press
Archives*



Press Release

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LOUISE MENZIES TIME TO THINK LIKE A MOUNTAIN RESIDENCY & EXHIBITION

Contemporary Art Galleries, Storrs Campus

October 8, 2014 – November 21, 2014

Monday – Friday 10 – 4 & Sun 1 to 4

The Artist in Conversation 4pm – October 8, 2014

October 8, 2014 - Art Building, CAG

Exhibition Reception

5:30 to 7pm – October 8, 2014

“Print media, newspapers, posters, postcards and books are recurring forms in my work. Often these provide an index, beginning point or reference for considering a specific time or place, a situation or action. This project takes the material held in the Alternative Press Collection at the University of Connecticut as a starting point to extend on existing themes in my work of investigations into history, its forms and alternatives.” – Louise Menzies

By utilizing objects, images and situations that inform past and present while emphasizing the way things are already represented, New Zealand born artist **Louise Menzies** explores the University of Connecticut's Thomas J. Dodd Research Center's archives through her cross-media practice in her solo exhibition *Alternate Press* (working title) on view this October at the CAG. Incorporating film, zines, alternate publications and print into performances and installations, Menzies constructs spaces that explore information and events meant to be communicated within the specified audience of activist movements of various social cultural and political persuasions.

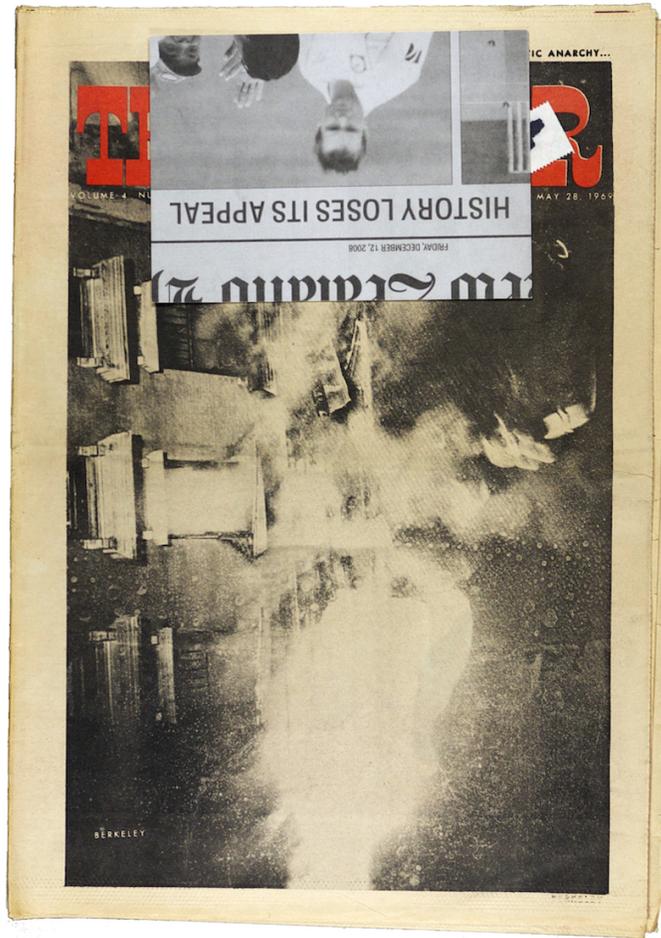
The Alternative Press Collection in Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut, is one of the oldest and largest collections of alternative press materials in the United States. The Alternative Press



Collection (APC) was founded in the late 1960s. Currently, the APC includes thousands of national and international newspapers, serials, books, pamphlets, ephemera and artifacts documenting activist themes and organizations, spanning from the 1800s to the present. The Alternative Press Collection grew out of student activism at the University of Connecticut. Flyers, handouts and locally produced tabloids collected during the heyday of student demonstrations at the University of Connecticut and other New England campuses formed the initial collection and encompass hundreds of files in the archives. Secondly, Archives & Special Collections has over 150 newsletters, magazines and journals devoted to environmental concerns, including *Mother Earth News*, *Everyone's Back Yard*, *Earth Island Journal*, *Friends of the Earth* and a number of publications from Greenpeace and other national and international organizations. The collection also contains materials pertaining to non-white racial and ethnic identities and power movements, including the Oakland-based Black Panther newspaper as well as flyers and ephemeral materials from demonstrations in New Haven, Connecticut, during the trial of Black Panther Bobby Seale. Asian, Latino, Native American and interracial publications are all represented in the collection, including Akwesasne Notes and Chicano Community News, as well as materials advocating the rights of prisoners, children, the elderly and people with physical and mental challenges.

By receiving the **Dean's Creative Activity and Research Grant** director Barry Rosenberg was able to spend six weeks in New Zealand visiting studios and interviewing artists in search of an artist that would mutually benefit from UConn's vast resources. Louise Menzies' current art practice and interests match well with CAG's mission to provide an environment where artists can produce work within an interdisciplinary setting unique to tier one research institutions. Her vision of the creative uses for the APC have resulted in an unprecedented collaboration between one of the oldest and largest collections of alternative press materials in United States and an exceptional emerging artist. After receiving the **Creative New Zealand Arts Grant** the CAG has hosted Menzies as artist in residence to provide the artist with direct access to the creative and technical support that resides at UConn, including both the newly established Counterproof Press and the Digital Art Service Lab ((DASL), as well as provided access to key scholars from UConn and New Zealand who have contributed writings published within Menzies Catalog/Artists Book.

After closing the exhibition at the CAG on UConn's Storrs Campus the work will travel to the Gus Fisher Gallery in Auckland NZ. The distributing of this project's publication is being partially supported by a grant from New Zealand's **Chartwell Trust** and will be a joint activity of the CAG and New Zealand's Split/Fountain Publications.



Louise Menzies (NZ, lives and works in Auckland) explores past and present through her cross-media practice that has incorporated film and print into performances and installations. In 2013 her work featured in the solo exhibition *World, Business, Lifestyle, Sport* (The Physics Room, Christchurch) and the group exhibitions *Freedom Farmers* (Auckland Art Gallery) and *Everyone knows this is nowhere* (castillo/corrales, Paris). The artist's work is also represented in numerous collections including the Chartwell Collection, Auckland Art Gallery, Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand. In 2014 she will be artist in residence at the University of Connecticut and together with Marnie Slater and Jon Bywater will complete the fifth installment of *The Social Life of the Book, Die Toilette* (Paraguay Press, Paris).