



Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Hal Call Chronicles and the Early Movement for Homosexual Emancipation

Phd, John Dececco

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Take a revealing look at gay sex and gay history—and the man who helped kick-start gay activism in today’s society

The Mattachine is the origin of the contemporary American gay movement. One of the major players in this movement was Hal Call, America’s first openly gay journalist and the man most responsible for the end of government censorship of frontal male nude photography through the mail. Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Early Movement for Homosexual Emancipation, the Hal Call Chronicles travels back to the times before Stonewall and its aftermath, to the beginnings of the modern homosexual movement and the lesser-known individuals who started it. This stunning chronicle boldly goes beyond the standard whitewashed/desexualized history usually provided by other gay historians, to give the unexpurgated—and sexually charged—history of the activists who organized homosexuals, using the biography of the controversial Hal Call as its springboard.

Behind the Mask of the Mattachine provides a revealing illustration of gay life and gay sex in the past through an intergenerational history of the early gay men’s movement. Noted author James T. Sears generously weaves oral history, seldom seen historical documents, and rare photographs to provide a rich behind-the-scenes look at the first wave of Mattachine activists and the emerging gay pornography industry. This historical chronicle of a previously neglected era is packed with details of Call’s personal struggles, his celebration of the phallus, and his assertion linking homophobia and heteronormativity to our culture’s sex-negative tradition. The reader is transported to the sexual underworld of youthful hustlers, porno kingpins, spurned lovers, sex clubs, cruising grounds, secretive societies, and personal in-fighting over the direction of gay activism. This enthralling narrative is impeccably referenced.

Behind the Mask of the Mattachine examines:

- the origins of the Mattachine Society
- the Mattachine Foundation of Harry Hay and others of the “Fifth Order”
- the Weimar Republic in Germany—the roots of the modern homosexual movement
- networking of homosexuals through correspondence clubs and speakeasies in Depression-era America
- the intense rivalries between San Francisco and New York City Mattachine groups
- censorship of books, magazines, and films
- *much more!*

The book explores the lives of three generations of pre-Stonewall gay activists:

- Magnus Hirschfeld and Benedikt Friedländer
- Henry Gerber and Manual boyFrank
- Harry Hay and Hal Call

Behind the Mask of the Mattachine is not only candid about gay sex and its impact on society but also puts a needed spotlight on a time in lesser-known gay history. This is important, illuminating reading for historians

and gay persons interested in the undeniably sexually charged history of the early gay men's movement.

Take a look at these other James T. Sears books on LGBT issues:


Growing Up Gay in the South

online at <http://www.haworthpress.com/store/product.asp?sku=0502>

and

Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Issues in Education

online at <http://www.haworthpress.com/store/product.asp?sku=5180>

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Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book mainly book entitled Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Hal Call Chronicles and the Early Movement for Homosexual Emancipation your brain will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in most aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a book then become one web form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get just before. The Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Hal Call Chronicles and the Early Movement for Homosexual Emancipation giving you yet another experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful facts for your better life on this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern this is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

Amy Quist:

Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Hal Call Chronicles and the Early Movement for Homosexual Emancipation can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to get every word into delight arrangement in writing Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Hal Call Chronicles and the Early Movement for Homosexual Emancipation yet doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can easily drawn you into brand new stage of crucial imagining.

Cheryl Crockett:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you, why because this Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Hal Call Chronicles and the Early Movement for Homosexual Emancipation book written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book which might be understand by anyone who all read the book. Written inside good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still doubt Behind the Mask of the Mattachine: The Hal Call Chronicles and the Early

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