



## Adelaide and LGBTQ migration

Margie Fischer, interviewed by Sasha Grbich on 6 October 2023

Margie talks about Feast.

“So I thought, why isn’t there a queer arts festival in Adelaide? And then I realised it was because of Don Dunstan. Because homosexuality got decriminalised in South Australia, there was nothing to rebel against because, like in Sydney for the Mardi Gras, which started off as a protest thing, but Adelaide didn’t have to have that protest. It did have other protests. And it had a pride march in 1973 or something. That was the reason. Another reason was that Adelaide was such a small place and people might see their auntie, - in a lesser population they were more shocked. Didn’t feel they could be that liberated. I already was a lesbian and had been doing lesbian things. So, but I didn’t know any gay men. So then I researched gay men by getting involved with them. I knew if there was a queer festival, obviously it wasn’t a lesbian festival and I didn’t want a lesbian festival. [...] So, then I thought, I want to start a festival now, a lesbian and gay festival ‘cause because in those days that’s what it was called. Sydney’s still called Lesbian and gay Mardi Gras. They haven’t changed their name. So, I thought, okay, I need gay men and lesbians and I want it to be professional. I don’t want - so Helen Bock, who was like a lesbian identity, I don’t know if you know about her. So, she was super lesbian and had time. Luke Cutler was a professional designer, gay man. And Damien Carey was an administrator general manager type. So, I was really clear that I wanted to be professional right from the beginning and I wanted it to be arts workers who started it. So, I got them together and we started Feast.”



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