ACT UP 101

Want to learn more about historic AIDS activist group ACT UP? You’re in luck. This primer will educate, inspire and even entertain!

February 14, 2022 By Trent Straube

ACTUPOralHistory.org

This archive includes 187 interviews with members of ACT UP New York.

“AIDS Diva: The Legend of Connie Norman”AIDSDivaConnie.com

AIDS Diva: The Legend of Connie Norman

Now playing film festivals, Dante Alencastre’s documentary spotlights this transgender activist and spokesperson for ACT UP Los Angeles.

the AIDS activist project

Bill Bytsura’s stunning collection of 60 black-and-white portraits of activists from various cities includes statements from each. For our interview with Bytsura, see “Portrait of an Activist.”

BPM (Beats Per Minute)

This 2017 French film by Robin Campillo offers a based-on-real-life tale of AIDS activism in 1992

Paris. For our interview with Campillo, see “Hit That Perfect Beat.”

“How to Survive a Plague”

How to Survive a Plague

The 2012 documentary and 2016 book by journalist David France follow activists’ push for the development of effective HIV treatment. Watch a POZ on Location interview with France.

“Let the Record Show: A Political History of ACT UP, New York, 1987–1993”

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Sarah Schulman’s 2021 book reassesses the common narratives around this famed coalition. She talks with POZ about the book in “For the Record.”

Never Silent: ACT UP and My Life in Activism

A memoir by current POZ cover boy Peter Staley. Read an excerpt titled “Searching for ACT UP.”

“Larry Kramer: In Love & Anger”

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The iconic, irascible cofounder of ACT UP is the subject of Jean Carlomusto's 2015 HBO documentary. Read our interview

with Carlomusto titled "Behind the Lens."

“United in Anger: A History of ACT UP”

United in Anger: A History of ACT UP

Jim Hubbard's 2012 documentary explores the early days of AIDS activism. Read more about Hubbard in POZ blog post by Visual AIDS titled "Interview With Filmmaker Jim Hubbard."

For related news from the March 2022 issue of POZ, see "Memory = History = Knowledge = Power," about ACT UP Los Angeles members launching an oral history project.

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