

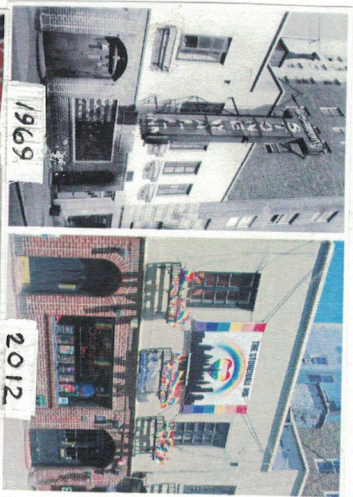
THE PRIDE of ELIZABETH, NJ



MARSHA P. JOHNSON

MARSHA "PAY IT NO MIND" JOHNSON WAS BORN ON AUG. 24, 1945, IN ELIZABETH, NJ. SHE GRADUATED FROM ELIZABETH'S THOMAS A. EDISON HIGH SCHOOL IN 1963 + QUICKLY MOVED TO NYC, WHERE SHE LIVED MOST OF HER LIFE AS:

- ★ A BLACK, QUEER, GENDER NON-CONFORMING, FIGURE OF LIGHT IN NYC'S NIGHT LIFE
- ★ A DRAG PERFORMER IN A GROUP CALLED "HOT PEACHES"
- ★ A MODEL FOR ANDY WARHOL
- ★ A SAINT, SOME HAVE SAID
- ★ A CENTRAL ACTIVIST IN THE STONEWALL RIOTS AGAINST A DEADLY POLICE RAID ON JUNE 28, 1969, AN UPRISING WHICH INITIATED RIPPLING LGBTQ+ RIGHTS MOVEMENTS.



INFO. SOURCE: CHAN, S. (2018) MARSHA P. JOHNSON. THE NEW YORK TIMES.



Marsha + Sylvia at the first-ever NYC pride parade, in 1970.

WITH HER CLOSE FRIEND, + FELLOW TRANSGENDER DRAG STAR, SYLVIA RIVERA, MARSHA FOUNDED S.T.A.R. (STREET TRANSVESTITE ACTION REVOLUTIONARIES) IN 1970, AN ADVOCACY GROUP FOR YOUNG TRANSGENDER PEOPLE.



POLAROID BY ANDY WARHOL



SCREEN PRINT BY ANDY WARHOL

THROUGHOUT HER LIFE-LONG FIGHT FOR QUEER RIGHTS, MARSHA EXPERIENCED:

- DESTITUTION, + OFTEN, HOMELESSNESS
- MENTAL ILLNESS, WITH REPEATED COMMITMENT TO PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTIONS
- DRUG ABUSE
- HIV
- OVER 100 ARRESTS + 1 SHOOTING, FOR PROSTITUTION
- ARBITRARY POLICE ENFORCEMENT, IN PERSECUTION OF GAY PEOPLE

MARSHA'S BODY WAS FOUND IN THE HUDSON RIVER ON JULY 6, 1992, THE CAUSE OF HER DROWNING WAS "UNDETERMINED" + THE CASE REMAINS OPEN.



TO THIS DAY, WE MOURN.