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& Collections](#)[Issue Date](#)[Author](#)[Title](#)[Subject](#)**Please use this identifier to cite or link to this item:** <http://hdl.handle.net/1903/15247>**Title:** Shades of Gay: Representations of Male Same-Sex Desire in French Literature, Culture, and Ideology from 1789-1926**Authors:** [Gomolka, Carl Joseph](#)**Advisors:** Orlando, Valérie**Department/Program:** French Language and Literature**Type:** Dissertation**Sponsors:** Digital Repository at the University of Maryland  
University of Maryland (College Park, Md.)**Subjects:** French Canadian literature  
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"Scandalous Sexualities: the Baron Jacques d'Adelswärd-Fersen and the World of Apologetic Impropriety," addresses the relationship between scandal, journalism, and literature in the works of Jacques d'Adelswärd-Fersen. This chapter also questions whether *Akadémos*, the journal orchestrated by Fersen, can be considered France's first gay journal. The fourth chapter, entitled, "For the Love of Boys: Ephemeral (Homo)sexuality and Platonic Politics in the Works of Achille Essebac" pioneers an analysis of the works of Achille Essebac, the first such study in English. The final chapter, titled "The Trouble with Normal: the Politics of the Closet in the Works of André Gide," analyzes the dichotomies silence/disclosure and desire/restraint in the fin-de-siècle and early twentieth century works of André Gide, contradictory notions that are of particular interest in the context of sexual and gender identity study. Ultimately, I contend that the authors examined in my dissertation pull from social, ideological, cultural, as well as political representations of sexuality and gender to create an antagonistic and pugnacious literature that contributes to the contemporary definition of homosexuality.

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