

SEPTEMBER 2013

Q MAGAZINE

Made in Melbourne!  
Enjoyed Nationally  
& Internationally!

featuring  
PHILMAH BOCKS  
A True Drag Original





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## q comment: **PUCKER UP**

Stars from around the world are puckering, posing and pouting for Bright Pink Lipstick Day (Friday, September 20) - A fun and fabulous way to raise awareness of hereditary breast and ovarian cancer.

By slicking on your brightest shade of pink, you're promoting the importance that all women, everywhere, should be proactive about their breast and ovarian health by investigating their family history.

In Australia, it's believed that nearly a quarter of a million men and women carry a hereditary gene that put them at increased risk of breast, ovarian, prostate and other cancers.

Founder of Pink Hope and BRCA1 carrier herself, Krystal Barter says, "Through #brightpinklipstickday we hope that by raising awareness about hereditary cancer the media, community and philanthropists see how vital prevention truly is."

In 2007, Access Economics data revealed that one young high risk woman (under 65, if diagnosed with breast and ovarian cancer) can cost the affected individual, their family and the healthcare system up to \$1.75 million in their life-time. If you look at the estimated figures of 1000 young women at risk, the estimated cost of treating them in their lifetime would be over \$1.5 billion! And that is only the physical cost; the emotional cost to these families who are affected year after year and generation after generation is enormous.

They're asking everyone to WEAR Revlon bright pink lipstick, SHARE their pic on social media (using hashtags #brightpinklipstickday #pinkhopeaus #revlon) and CARE by making a donation to Pink Hope so they can continue their life changing work for women and families at risk of hereditary cancer.

For more information or support, visit [www.pinkhope.org.au](http://www.pinkhope.org.au).



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# q feature: PHILMAH BOCKS

Philmah Bocks is one of the true originals on the drag stage. But there is more to Philmah than her onstage performances. Alan Mayberry first met her when she headlined in *Boylesque* at the GH. He found out how her amazing persona evolved.

I suckled on Adelaide's teat as an infant but my departure was so sudden and rushed – time only allowed me to pack a black eyeliner pencil. That first makeover was just awful. I am a true country girl, going to One Tree Hill Primary School and then Birdwood High. In case you're wondering, my signature yellow gingham was not the school uniform!

There was no way I had to discover I was gay. It was always there as far as I can remember. I was always attracted to boys and dresses. My first toy was a handbag – except I got it a bit wrong and wore it as a hat. I would sneak into mum's clothes when she wasn't home, trying them on. I even tore my sister's wedding dress putting that on – good job I was a clever hand stitcher! When I came out, my first partner encouraged drag and we mucked around at home. Philmah grew from there.

I had a very sexual childhood, it seemed very natural to me. I gave my friend my first head job when I was five. But we got caught and learnt it was wrong. So the next few times we 'played' we made sure we hid in closets – oh the irony! That led to quite a few play friends all through my formative years. Even the straight lads would come to me to explore their curiosities when going through puberty. In my world, same-sex attraction and action has always been a part of who I am.

At first drag was all just shit and giggles in the lounge room, messing about with friends, making videos. Then one night we went out and entered a competition at the Adelaide Mars Bar Annual Drag Ball. I was the 1992 Belle of the Ball. BOOM – the glitter bug bit – and bit hard!

I had a lot of support from my peers when I still had on my tranny training wheels and they all shaped and molded me in to the performer I am today. Gloria Williams played a very big role during that time, my BFF. I joined the Mardi Gras collective in Adelaide in 1994 and we held a few fundraisers. At the time, my partner and great friend Robert Adams formed a trio called *The Lick Sisters*. Our first gig was ABBA's *Money, Money, Money*. It was so successful we started to explore other options, one of them was to perform at Beans Bar. It was on that stage that I developed into a more professional performer. We even managed a small season of shows at the Xchange Hotel. Now that's another story.

I saw my first drag show and my first 'phoamy' on Maude Boat at The Albury in Sydney in 1992. I was completely mesmerised by her and to this day pay respect to her as a drag mother – adore, adore and love. That was the venue I came out in, ah Sydney. I was also heavily influenced by the shows I used to watch even before I was a drag queen here in Melbourne. I have a very big history with this city and at every chance I would be here partying at Red Raw and Winterdaze. The girls at The Xchange and 3 Faces also shaped who I am today. They were some golden times and I feel so lucky to have witnessed that time in our culture's history.

To be honest, I'm still pushing my limits as a performer and have a taste to continue learning. Recently I joined the Ministry of Dance family and that brought on a whole new world for me.

This year my regular gig is QWRK at Sircuit every Thursday night with my sissypoo Art Simone. Earlier I was so lucky to be asked to host *Boylesque* at the GH, what a fabulous adventure that was. I had a lot of fun – sometimes too much fun. On top of that plenty of interstate gigs and corporates. I hosted *The Toscas* in Adelaide and *Flamingoes 8th Birthday* in Hobart this year and always love attending the *DIVA Awards* in Sydney. My two agents regularly feed me hen's nights, corporate functions, weddings, parties. I'm a whore!

My career highlights include meeting, working and partying with Kylie Minogue, winning best individual entrant in the 1996 Mardi Gras Parade, and definitely the finalé of a show I put on in Adelaide called *Le Femme de Fabuleux* – one of the proudest moments



and the happiest I've been in my life. Surrounded by a beautiful cast and crew and loved by a huge community in Adelaide. I was truly blessed for that show and that moment. I'd also include hosting *Boylesque* at the GH up there on top, just an incredibly fabulous experience.

Years ago when my partner and I dragged up we made silly home videos. Returning home late after a boozy night at the Mars Bar we witnessed an arson attack on someone's Volkswagen in the heart of Adelaide. Naturally we filmed it and the police recorded us as witnesses. Years later we were called up. My partner and I gave some blurry evidence, trying not to let on where we'd been, how much we'd drunk and that we were poofs. The judge insisted on seeing the video. So the next day we bring in 20 or so videos and a police woman sat through hours of shit home drag, mildly smirking, until she found the footage of the burning car to show the judge. The courtroom was packed, including a full class of law students. We'd queued the video to the exact point of the burning car, but the judge wanted the house lights off, so the guy with the remote control, rewound the footage but past the spot of the burning car. Suddenly, on the huge screen, appears the two of us in FULL drag CAMPING it up LARGE! I've never been so humiliated and embarrassed, but pissing ourselves laughing. It is an image that has burned into my memory forever. We never saw that tape again! I've no idea what else was on that tape – I dread to think. It's probably His Honor's bedtime viewing!

Drag was always a hobby for me. An expensive one at that! My career over 25 years has been animation as a stop motion animator and director. I have produced my own short film called *Tales from the Powder Room* which won many awards including best film at the Queer Screen Festival, part of Sydney's G&L Mardi Gras Festival. I've worked on some of the most incredible television commercials and series, plus short films and feature films. My work spans the globe with projects such as *Louie the Fly*, *Home Hardware*, *Schmackoes*, *Creature Comforts*, *Koala Brothers*, *Bob the Builder*, *Wallace and Gromit*, *Harvey Krumpet and Mary & Max*. Two of which have won Oscars. If anyone is interested in that side of my work and watch my short film *Tales* which about an aging, bitter transsexual, just go to [www.toybocks.com.au](http://www.toybocks.com.au)

Philmah Bocks certainly gets her characteristics from my career in animation. She is very much a sculpture of my mind and imagination. I adopt and nurture the ying and yang of glamour and sheer gender-fuck androgyny. I draw from many things in life, and make them my own which I believe is an essential talent for any artist. My favourite characteristic of Philmah's is the 'Pie in the Face' scenario adapted after watching a director's commentary on an episode of *Sex and the City*. He liked to set up the glamour and beauty of a character, then shoot her down very quickly with a 'pie in the face'. That's very much my rule of thumb – looks stunning, but not taken too seriously.

I'm often referred to as the 'monochrome queen' which is a very cartoony approach to my drag. I am not sure where the passion for it comes from, but as I create each look, it's always visualised with one colour. It's the design and silhouette that defines them. My role models are Kylie, Dallas Dellaforce and Marilyn Monroe – in every step and every gesture. It's masculine sex mixed in with feminine glamour.

My absolute favourite genre is 50's kitsch and when a gorgeous friend of mine Jennifer Rossiter asked if I would join her Paperdoll Pin Up collection of artists and photos, I jumped at the chance. Both scenes were shot inside her house which is still in its original 50's condition. Just sheer campness.

Travel is a real passion of mine, but more importantly is being a man and hanging out with my husband Vince and my 2 cats Kit Kat and Custard. I love, love, love my down time. My husband is such a beautiful man and a genuine supporter of my work, we've been together 5 years now.

What do I hope to be doing in 5 years you ask? Planning my drag retirement with one giant fuck-off party. Everyone's invited, that should last a year or so. But mostly, happy and healthy – not too much to ask I hope.



# q gay files: with MATTEO SNOOKS

**Hanky Panky and Dating... OH MY!**

**Is Romance applying for extinction? Are hook ups the new pick up? Instead of buying the cute guy a drink, do we simply pore the lube? Are friends becoming more comfortable cruising guys on their phone? Has modern technology become a safety blanket giving reason as to why some men are losing their sperm bags? Or are we fabulous escorts selling ourselves cheap through social media without raking any cash?**

With phone apps and internet dating sites now dominating single life, it seems too old fashioned to approach guys when out for a cocktail; it's easier to log on and search up some company for the night.

Like a 'male' order bride, you can have Mr. Right NOW, pop in for chocolate doughnuts and creamy soda, then send him packing. This behaviour is not new to the gay world but with the influence of social media, sexual relations and coffee dates are sped up in line with dog years, allowing you to filter through men quicker without any sort of romantic spark.

I know a few couples who have meet online, which is fabulous and each to their own I say, but if you're like me; and find this medium boring, psychotic and hard to take seriously, It's quite simple...DELETE!

I'm sick of friends complaining about certain apps and hunting men like hungry vultures. The chances of meeting your companion is very slim as it is an online meat market. However, you never know who may wink your way. So clam your twinkly arse down. His profile will spell it out!

A spritz of desperation is like a mothers runt.

Receiving XXX photos may spoil your fantasy, but a suburban sleaze exposing his caramel abyss (which could use a visit to Jenny and a litter of anal bleaching) is priceless when having Show and Tell with mates. There is always that entertainment factor.

We're not all confident, which is cool, but try having an endless approach. Drop that Zucchini and Bok Choy in Coles as appose to searching the hunk online. Be original and grab his attention. I wonder what the younger generation will evolve into. Sitting behind a computer in today's world is like retro homosexuals limited to meeting in public toilets and bushes.

Some profiles are like viewing an Amsterdam window; equal to a professional whore... well, at least hussies take safety precautions. Some guys online want to ride bare back and shoot tadpoles into the cave...BABE, that's not impressive or helping the fight against infections.

You never know what is on the other side of the glory hole...

OH...Have I missed the memo on profile pictures being taken in the car? Is this a hint the dude is on his way? I certainly can't see his hot rod so if this hazardous fool is emphasizing a "straight acting" persona...HONEY it's lame, like a Facebook states 'screaming for attention!' Sometimes I think about posting my amazing bowel movements, just to see how many likes I would receive.

Thank you guys who state NSA and know what you're after. We're all looking for different things so remember: if your checklist isn't scoring a High Distinction...ADIOS PAPI!

Never hurry love, I know finding a decent, well mannered homosexual with morals and mental health is like Goldie Locks searching the web in a land of bears...Enjoy being single. Sometimes we can get the benefits of a relationship by having that special friend. Sex is fun with the right person and during these cold winter nights, spooning can be more fulfilling than forking.



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# q money: with EVAN DAVIS

**Business cards are an important marketing tool. The quality, content and delivery of a card can say an awful lot about the individual and the business they represent. This one didn't though. It just said 'Godzilla Important Business dinosaur'.**

I looked up from the card to the individual that had handed it to me. He had a box of cigarettes taped to his head, coke bottle glasses and very high waisted trousers that were tucked into his socks. I narrowed my eyes as I read him the only other content on his card.

'eeeeeeeeeyyyyyyyaaahhhhh'? I asked with a curious inflection in my voice.

He nodded, smiled, then enthusiastically cleared his throat and let rip.

'EEEEEEEEYYYYYYYAAAAAAHHHHHH!' He roared proudly at the top of his lungs.

The humble business card is the lowest cost investment anyone or business can make in marketing itself. But please do it correctly, as your cards are a reflection of you and the business you represent.

Crossed out phone numbers and stickers with updated contact details should never be seen. There are no excuses at all. It's not that expensive or difficult. Just head down to your local print franchise and get new cards.

It really doesn't matter if something changes: a new title; phone number; or you up and shift locations. Just print the new cards. People will take you way more seriously. I'd recommend against getting hyper cheap or free cards from companies like Vista print. They will almost certainly wind up being thrown out - as nothing says 'cheap' like having another company's contact details and logo on the back of your business card.

Most importantly have a proper working website - with your own domain and email address as appropriate. It is 2013. No-one who is handing out business cards should ever have a Hotmail or Gmail account as their professional email address.

A corporate pet hate of mine is being given a dog-eared card out of someone's wallet. Get a business cardcase. It is always fun to have another corporate accessory and as a prospect it is a joy to get a card that isn't crushed, bent, battered or otherwise soiled.

Cards are also an area where you can really let your creative side out. A great logo, catchy motto or even a photo will mean that people are far more likely to keep the card and you will therefore be far more likely to get a phone call for your products or services.

If you want to make an impact with your card, remember first impressions do count. The extra money to get a graphic designer is well worth it. You'll also be more than likely end up with a more consistent image across all your marketing materials.

That said, sometime quirky does the job and sometimes not. The Godzilla business card is one I will always remember and keep. It has become my favourite bookmark.

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# q lgbt news: **by PAZ Y LIBERACION**

## **CHILEAN PRESIDENT CONDEMNS ANTI-GAY VIOLENCE**

Chilean President Sebastian Pinera has condemned the anti-gay attacks that recently cost 19 year old Esteban Navarro his leg. He was attacked with knives, machetes and iron bars at a soccer field near Santiago, the capital, while shouting anti-gay slurs.

The Movement for Homosexual Integration and Liberation (MOVILH), a Chilean LGBT advocacy group, said that President Pinera in July 2012 signed an LGBT hate crimes and anti-discrimination bill in reponse to the death of Daniel Zamudio, a gay man whom a group of neo-Nazis beat to death in a downtown Santiago park.

## **LESBIAN COUPLE CHALLENGES ECUADOR'S SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BAN**

A Lesbian couple in Ecuador who engaged in an argument with President Rafael Correa on Twitter applied for a marriage license in Quito, the capital, on August 5th, beginning the fight toward establishing legal marriage equality in their country.

Pamela Troya and Gabriela Correa submitted their application with the civil registrar, and though it is expected to be rejected, they can then wage a legal challenge to the country's marriage ban.

Troya, the head of Igualdad de Derechos, Ya! (Equal Rights, Now!) took President Correa to task on Twitter, when he voiced his opposition to marriage equality earlier this year.

If successful, Ecuador could be the fourth South American country to establish full marriage rights for same-sex couples, in addition to Brazil, Argentina, and most recently, Uruguay.



## **ZIMBABWE PRESIDENT CALLS FOR THE DECAPITATION OF GAY PEOPLE**

Zimbabwe's president Robert Mugabe has called for the decapitation of gay people. This tyrant called us "worse than pigs, goats and birds". "Homosexuality seeks to destroy our lineage".

Mugabe says Gays and Lesbians who don't conceive children should be arrested. He stated this at a July 5th rally in the country's capital. "I should like to shut them-up in some room and see if they can get pregnant; if they don't then it's jail because they have claimed they can have children".

Mugabe also wants stiffer prison sentences for homosexuals.

## **GAYS TARGETED IN LEBANON**

Lebanon has a reputation as the most liberal country in the conservative Middle East, but even a night on the town for gays can end in arrest and humiliating sexuality "tests".

Outside the capital, Beirut, Lebanese homosexuals are largely stigmatized and discriminated against. Article 534 of Lebanese law punishes "unnatural sexual intercourse" by up to one year's imprisonment.

## **ALL AROUND ASIA, LGBT PEOPLE ARE CALLING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS**

Burma, Thailand, the Philippines, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Vietnam and India all held events for International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia.

In Burma gay men are asking to be decriminalized, in Thailand transgender women want to be spared military service and in the Philippines LGBT rights activists are pushing for an anti-discrimination law. In Burma, now Myanmar, seven cities held anti-homophobia and transphobia events.

Four governments in Asia are seriously considering some form of legal recognition for same-sex couples. They are Nepal, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

## **RUSSIA'S NEW HARSH ANTI-GAY LAW**

Russia's new anti-gay law providing fines and jail time for anyone who disseminates so-called "propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations" was signed into law by President Vladimir Putin. The new laws also threaten the detainment of LGBT visitors. Gay activists, Harvey Fierstein and Dan Savage equate Russia to 1933 Nazi Germany. On August 20th, the United Nations Human Rights office urged Russia to repeal the law.

# q youth: with **TASMAN ANDERSON**

**This month, I couldn't stop thinking about whether I made the right choice by going to university. I wondered whether I wasted what will soon be four years of my life or whether it was an investment in my future.**

I know the typical speech we get in high school. They tell us that we have to do well in school to get into university and then we must do well in university to get a decent job. They tell us that if we want a bright future than we need a university degree, but how accurate is this? Is it really necessary to have a college education in order to be successful?

Throughout my high school life, I did everything I could to get into a decent university. I took on more extra curricular activities, I stayed up till 4am every morning to complete assessments and I took extra QCS (HSC for you guys) practise exams. I truly believed that the only way for me to have a successful career was by getting into a decent university and excelling in my studies. I ended up getting into UQ, which is one of the best in Australia and I seriously thought that it couldn't get any better than that. However, now that I'm almost finished my third year, I've come to the realisation that there are no promises and certainly no guarantees when it comes to the future.

Going to university doesn't guarantee that you'll have a job waiting for you at the end. If you stand any chance of getting a position after you graduate, it'll take more than completing the course. It'll take work experience, internships, connections and research projects. Even then, you could be waiting months before a job is made available.

I'm not trying to convince you to not go to university because sometimes it really is the best option. What I'm trying to say is that it's not the only option out there.

The best example of this is the latest installment to the Monsters Inc. franchise, Monsters University. Okay, so there's probably much better examples out there but I have a soft spot for Pixar films and I love that they used a kids movie to teach a valuable message. In the film, we're taken back to when Sully and Mike are at university. Mike is the over achieving book worm whereas Sully believes he can cruise through his degree on the success of his father. After the boys get into trouble and all is said and done, both Mike and Sully have been kicked out of school with no prospects ahead of them. Surprisingly, instead of having the boys find a way back into school, the writers have them accept what happened and decide to work from the bottom of Monsters Inc. and climb to the top through their hard work.

I think it's these types of examples that kids should see more often. Sometimes, you don't need a university degree to have the career you want. Sometimes you just need to start from the bottom and earn your place.

Like I said, I'm not against university and I'm certainly not saying that uni is easy because trust me, it's not. I'd be a hypocrite if I told you that uni was bad because I'm doing a double degree right this moment and I've never had to work so hard in my life. No, what I'm trying to say is that uni is not the right path for everyone and forcing yourself to do something simply because you were told to, will not end well.

You're responsible for your own future and happiness. It's up to you which path you think is the right one to take. Neither of them is wrong if it makes you happy.



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# arts centre: **AWARD WINNING CHO CHO**

Two National Awards for Cho Cho  
World's First Bilingual Musical Wins Two Australian  
Arts in Asia Awards

**A collaboration between the National Theatre of China, Playking Productions and Arts Centre Melbourne to create possibly the world's first bilingual musical theatre production, Cho Cho, last night won two of the inaugural Australian Arts in Asia Awards which were presented by the Australian Minister for the Arts, The Hon Tony Burke MP in Sydney.**

The new Awards "recognise, celebrate and promote the significant number of Australian artists engaging in Asia, contributing to stronger, deeper and broader cultural links with Asian nations" and Cho Cho won both the Theatre Award and the Partnership Award.

*"We are thrilled that our work with the National Theatre of China and Carrillo and Ziyin Gantner of Playking Productions has been honoured in this way,"* said Arts Centre Melbourne Chief Executive Judith Isherwood. *"It takes courage to cross cultural boundaries and seeing the show in Beijing at the start of the year was a truly exciting moment for us all."*

*"It's wonderful having such great partners, who are leaders in their fields in their respective countries, to go through the exhilarating creation of something entirely new and to end up with a sensational piece of theatre that's a world first,"* said Playking Directors Carrillo Gantner and Ziyin Wang Gantner

Cho Cho moves the classic story of Puccini's Madame Butterfly to 1930s Shanghai (and from opera to music theatre) and is a re-working of the acclaimed 1980s work Cho Cho San developed by leading Australian writer Daniel Keene and director Peter Wilson. This new interpretation of the classic Madame Butterfly story, through the lens of that production, has seen the development of a new script, score and design.

Cho Cho opened at the National Theatre of China in Beijing in January 2013 and was the finale of the Shenzhen International Arts Festival in March. It will play in Sydney at The Concourse in Chatswood from September 24, at Arts Centre Melbourne from October 2, and then will begin its second China season in November ahead of an Australian tour in 2014.

Cho Cho is possibly the first truly bilingual (Chinese/English) musical. The script is in Mandarin and English and is surtitled in both. The creative team is totally cross-cultural, comprising Australian Director, Peter Wilson and Production Designer, Richard Jeziorny; and Chinese composer, Cheng Jin and Lighting Designer, Wang Qi. The cast comprises outstanding Chinese and Australian actor/singers Wang Zheng (Butterfly), Scott Irwin (Pinkerton), Dong Wen Liang (Luo Shu), David Whitney (Sharpless), Du He (Gu Ma) and Danielle Barnes (Kate/Bar Singer), puppeteer Han Xing and four musicians. Polish/Australian actor/director Lech Mackiewicz is the rehearsal director for the Australian production.

The creation and production of Cho Cho is regarded as a model project of international cooperation by the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China, which has already made two major special grants to support National Theatre of China's participation in this joint venture.

**The Concourse, Chatswood  
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# q theatre: CHAPEL OFF CHAPEL



## **NINA SIMONE – BLACK DIVA POWER**

Melbourne-based and Brixton-born-and-raised jazz diva, the acclaimed Ruth Rogers- Wright all but embodies Ms Simone in Nina Simone Black Diva Power, by award-winning playwright Neil Cole, telling the story and exploring the music of Nina Simone from 1958 to 1965: the period during which she went from popular jazz, blues and folk singer to become "the voice of the civil rights movement" in the United States.

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## **POLLYFILLA – KITSCH IN SYNCH**

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**20-21 SEPTEMBER**



## **MANLINESS Starring Sexy Galexxy**

From the Angle of my Dangle is an exploration into what we consider to be manliness, from the perspective of female Drag King, performance artist, Sexy Galexxy.

**20-21 SEPTEMBER**

## **A SINGER MUST DIE...and other bedtime stories**

Sweet lullabies of lust, disillusion, aspiration, moral turpitude, chocolate covered espresso beans and dwarfism. Something for the whole family. An astonishing new cabaret from Green Room Award winning cabaret artist, Melissa Langton.



**24-29 SEPTEMBER**

## **DOLLY DIAMOND – NIL BY MOUTH**

A Cabaret of Herstorical Proportions.

Dolly's brand new show for Melbourne Fringe, Dolly examines and takes on four of history's favourite, outspoken and misunderstood leading ladies. Watch in sheer delight as Dolly sings and dances (Read: moves well) through the ages and breathes life life back into Eve, Joan of Arc, Marie Antoinette and Taylor Swift

**27-29 SEPTEMBER**



FOR TIMES, PRICES AND MORE INFO PLEASE GO TO  
[www.chapeloffchapel.com.au](http://www.chapeloffchapel.com.au)  
OR PHONE 03 8290 7000

# q wine: 2014 AUSTRALIAN VINTAGES

Fully updated 31st edition showcases the best new vintages from Australian wineries!

**Did you know you can drink a different bottle of Australian wine every day for over nine years and still only have tasted one wine from our current 3,500 vintages? Add in the changes that occur in vintages over time and keeping up becomes an impossible task.**

In the 31st edition of Australian Wine Vintages (referred to as 'The Gold Book'), Master of Wine Rob Geddes provides a comprehensive guide to help wine drinkers select the best quality vintages in any price range.

Presented in a travel-friendly pocket sized handbook, as well as in App format, this edition includes an updated list of Certified Organic and or Biodynamic wineries, advice on older wines dating back to the 90's, and a quick guide to wine varieties and regions so readers know what to look for. For every wine there is advice on the quality of its flavour, vintage quality, when to drink each wine, indicative retail prices and alcohol strength. The Gold star list recognises the most consistent wine producers in Australia, with an annual list of the top 100 wines tasted, regardless of price.

Complete with full colour label images and extensive winery details, this easy to use compact guide is written and published by Rob Geddes, only one of a handful of Australians to be awarded the prestigious international 'Master of Wine'.

The book includes cellar door addresses to visit in each major wine region, while the app has as tips on where to eat and stay, drawing on not only Rob's thirty years' industry experience but also the winemakers of the region.

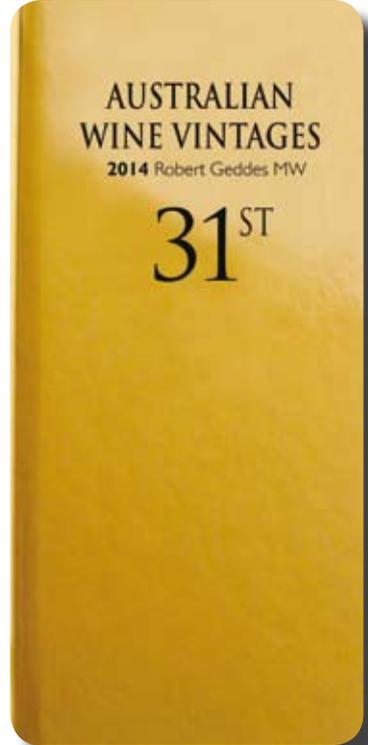
The 31st edition of Australian Wine Vintages is the definitive insider's guide to help you select the best wine for any occasion.

- Available in book & App formats
- Includes interactive map for travellers looking for local wineries (on App version)
- Official website: [www.australianwinevintages.com.au](http://www.australianwinevintages.com.au)
- Author is experienced and credible media talent

**Australian Wine Vintages 31st Ed By Rob Geddes**

**RRP: AU\$34.95**

**Publisher:  
Geddes a Drink Publications**



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# q symphony: DARWIN ORCHESTRA

Tickets are now available for a world first orchestral performance, as the Darwin Symphony Orchestra with special guests James Morrison, William Barton, Emma Matthews and James Egglestone get set to perform against the backdrop of Uluru for two nights this October.

This event is a world first and the concert series will put the spotlight on Central Australia and the natural beauty of this spectacular location.

The first night will present Viva Verdi, featuring operatic highlights celebrating the 200th anniversary of Giuseppe Verdi's birth, one of the world's most famous and recognisable opera composers, as well as Emma Matthews, Opera Australia Principal artist and star of Handa Opera on the Harbour.

The second night will present Sounds of Australia, featuring two of Australia's most cherished Australian instrumentalists James Morrison and William Barton in Sounds of Australia.

It is anticipated the event will attract both symphony lovers and those wanting to experience the majesty of Uluru in a completely unique way. Darwin Symphony Orchestra Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, Mr Mathew Wood, said this event has been a long time in the making.

*"Part of the Darwin Symphony Orchestra's ambition is to take the majesty of a symphony orchestra to places that would never usually have access to this art form," Mr Wood said. "This tour is tremendously exciting and is representative of everything we are about and what we strive to achieve."*

The concert series will be held on Friday 18 and Saturday 19 October 2013.

A maximum of 1200 tickets are available for each Uluru concert. Due to the remote location of the event and limited accommodation

it is recommended that people book tickets as soon as possible. Ticket prices start at \$95 per person. The ultimate experience costs \$495 per person which includes the Sounds of Silence dinner, five hour drinks package and meeting the orchestra. Tickets are on sale through Ticketmaster and complete holiday packages are available through Territory Discoveries.

For more information on ticketing options go to [www.travelnt.com/uluru](http://www.travelnt.com/uluru)



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# q orchestra: AUSTRALIAN WORLD

Wed 2 & Fri 4 October 2013 | Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne Bookings: 1300 182 183 | [www.artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au)  
Thursday 3 October 2013 | Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House Bookings: 02 9250 7777 | [www.sydneyoperahouse.com](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com)

The Australian World Orchestra (AWO) brings together Australia's finest classical music talent from across the globe for three spectacular concerts, conducted by one of the world's finest conductors, Maestro Zubin Mehta, taking place at Melbourne's Hamer Hall and the Sydney Opera House.

In a triumph of logistics and passion, 107 performers will take part in the concerts, with 47 internationally based artists joining 61 acclaimed musicians from across the country. The performers represent over 30 leading international orchestras including Berlin and Vienna Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam, London Symphony Orchestra and Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The local musicians represent the top orchestras across Australia: Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Queenstand, Tasmanian and West Australian Symphony Orchestras, the Australian Chamber Orchestra and Australian National Academy of Music. The AWO concerts are an opportunity for these globally renowned musicians at the height of their game to come together and perform on home soil, resulting in events with an incredible energy and atmosphere.



The Australian World Orchestra is honoured to have Maestro Zubin Mehta as the conductor for the 2013 series. Maestro Mehta has conducted the cream of the world's celebrated orchestras including the Berlin, Los Angeles, New York and Vienna Philharmonics. He is Music Director for Life of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Maestro Mehta said "For many years I have worked with and developed friendships with the Australian musicians that hold major positions with the great orchestras around the world. Many of them played in the Australian World Orchestra's highly successful inaugural season in Sydney in 2011 and when I was asked if I would return to Australia to conduct the AWO in 2013 I did not hesitate to agree."

The Australian World Orchestra was created in 2011 by Alexander Briger, an internationally acclaimed conductor with a vision: to bring together Australia's finest musicians from home and around the world to form one of the country's most electrifying orchestras. The inaugural AWO concert series took place in Sydney in August 2011 at the Sydney Opera House, and was voted '2011 Best Orchestral Concert' by ABC's Lighthouse Magazine. In all, four concerts took place over four days attracting over 6,200 attendees.

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## Trans Health Survey - People Wanted

Transsexual? Transgender? Sistergirl? Genderqueer?

Researchers from Curtin University are looking for trans people to take part in an anonymous internet survey of mental health and wellbeing.



Find out more here: [transoz.org](http://transoz.org)  
Make tomorrow better.



Curtin University

# q business: TMJ CENTRE MELBOURNE

[www.tmjcentremelbourne.com.au](http://www.tmjcentremelbourne.com.au)



**TMJ  
CENTRE  
MELBOURNE**

When I was first asked to go and see what Dr. Meetal Shah and Dr. Eric Dowker were doing at TMJ Centre Melbourne, I had no idea what I was in for. What I found however was nothing short of amazing and life changing.

I have several friends (in the USA) who have to use sleep apnoea machines, but after speaking to several patients at TMJ I realised the ground-breaking work these two guys were doing and how they really were changing people's lives. Never before has a dentist and a chiropractor worked so seamlessly together to help their patients in such a real manner.

I spoke with three patients - all women but of varying ages. All of whom had been to various Doctors, had similar sleep-related issues and a dramatic deterioration in their quality of life due to their condition. All of whom however reported to me a complete change in all of this once they had been seen by TMJ Centre Melbourne. I am 100% convinced that what these two guys are doing is nothing short of miraculous.

TMJ Centre Melbourne work on three major problem areas: Snoring, Sleep apnea and TMJ (temporo-mandibular joint) Dysfunction or TMD - an umbrella term for a complex myriad of symptoms that occur when the jaw joints and associated muscles are disrupted. It is very common and can lead to symptoms such as headaches, face pain, jaw pain, neck ache, back ache, ear pain, tinnitus and more.

**Here's a wake-up call for snorers: Snoring may put you at a greater risk than those who are overweight, smoke or have high cholesterol to have thickening or abnormalities in the carotid artery, according to researchers at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.**

**Sleep apnea, sleep apnoea or sleep apnoea is a sleep disorder characterized by pauses in breathing during sleep. These episodes, called apneas (literally, "without breath"), each last long enough so one or more breaths are missed, and occur repeatedly throughout sleep.**

The work that TMJ Centre Melbourne is doing clearly shows there are alternatives to cpap treatment and research is showing the appliances they make (mandibular advancement devices -MAD) are just as good as cpap in mild to moderate cases. Furthermore research now shows that the health outcomes are similar in severe obstructive sleep apnoea as the tolerance for MAD is much better than that for CPAP.

**The TMJ is interconnected with many systems within the body. Any problems or discomfort within it can cause structural imbalances or health problems in another part of the body. It's a little like having a pebble in your shoe - you naturally adjust your stride to make yourself more comfortable. But in doing so, you place more stress upon your ankle, knee, and hip. Your uneven hips then cause the adjustment and discomfort to travel up your spine. Before you know it you have a pain in your neck - all from a pebble in your shoe. Just like the pebble, a problem in your TMJ can cause multiple, seemingly unrelated problems.**

**While some symptoms can be easily traced back to the jaw joint - such as difficulty or pain in biting and chewing, clicks and grating noises from your jaw, or pain in your jaw or face - other symptoms, like neck back, knee, and shoulder pain, sinus pain, pain behind the eye, or ringing in the ears, may make it less obvious that the TMJ is the root cause of the problem.**

The secret to TMJ's treatment is that a dentist and chiropractor work on identifying the problems together - which is having huge impact for people of all genders and ages. The symptoms are often misdiagnosed and patients will end up seeing Doctor after Doctor in a range of fields until the real problem is treated. Success can be miraculous.

The technique they use really needs to be seen to be believed. I was in total awe at the synergy between these two guys and how their individual specialities melded to create the perfect solution for their patients. Dr Shah & Dr Dowker are a close knit team of dentist and chiropractor working together to provide genuine, lasting solutions to your health problems. Together they are able to assess and treat the entire structure of the body. They understand the importance of TMJ (jaw joint) as a pivot point of good health, interconnected as it is with the muscular, nervous, and skeleton systems of the body.

Stop living in pain, putting up with interrupted sleep (or worse), going from Doctor to Doctor to try and find a solution. If you suffer from any of the conditions above, or think you may have something similar impeding your quality of life, call TMJ Centre Melbourne. A permanent solution may very well be just a visit away.

# Don't ignore the snore

Let's face it, snoring isn't sexy, and nor is wearing a breathing device! If you suffer with sleep breathing disorders, like snoring or sleep apnoea, we can help you with non-surgical, non-intrusive dental solutions.

We specialise in the diagnosis and treatment of sleep apnoea, snoring problems and TMJ disorder (TMD).

Our unique multidisciplinary service offers genuine, effective, lasting, non-surgical solutions to your sleep apnoea, snoring or TMJ symptoms.

Your bite and jaw alignment are considered along with chiropractic adjustments to your body as a whole entity. With two doctors working together, you'll quickly get relief, and your body can get to work restoring balance to its system.

**Do yourself (and your loved ones) a favour, make sure you rest easy.**

**Call for an appointment today, on (03) 9417 4038.**

[www.tmjcentremelbourne.com.au](http://www.tmjcentremelbourne.com.au)  
126 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne



**TMJ**  
CENTRE  
MELBOURNE

# q people: **HARRISON CRAIG & CO.**

THE HARBOUR AGENCY PRESENT...  
**JOHN FOREMAN** joins The Voice winner **HARRISON CRAIG'S 'More Than A Dream' tour**

The Voice winner Harrison Craig's much anticipated upcoming national tour just became a whole lot bigger, with acclaimed musical director John Foreman.



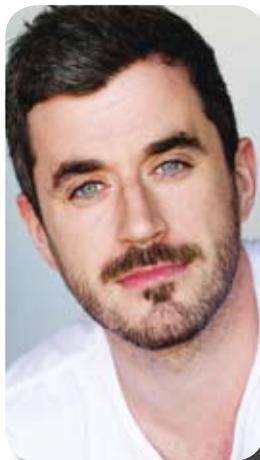
John Foreman will perform with Harrison, taking the role of Emcee and Musical Director for the tour. As Australia's resident musical maestro, John hardly needs an introduction. After his start on Ten's Good Morning Australia and moving on to Australian Idol, he's clocked up over 20 years of working in television, including 9's annual Carols By Candle Light and TV Week Logie Awards. Combined with producing hit singles and albums for an alumni of Australian talent and having his compositions performed at Olympic and Commonwealth Games, John will bring a wealth of musical expertise, virtuosity and polish to Harrison's concerts.



Harrison, who has just this week returned to Australia after spending several weeks in LA recording for his next album, says of the pairing:

*"What an honour to be working with John Foreman on my first ever Australian tour. He's an incredible musician and personality. I think we will have a lot of fun on stage and I can't wait to share these very special evenings with Australia".*

Harrison's 'More Than A Dream' tour will feature the outstanding performances that millions of viewers tuned in to see each week on channel 9's The Voice.



Performed with full band and spectacular stage production, it will be these very songs that fans will now have the chance to witness themselves, including 'Can't Help Falling in Love', 'Unchained Melody', 'It Had Better Be Tonight' and his own original single 'More Than a Dream', along with other favourites such as 'You Raise Me Up' and his new found hit 'Unconditional'.

If you loved Harrison Craig on The Voice, this is an opportunity to get up close and personal with Australia's humblest, newest, superstar. Combined with the musical brilliance of John Foreman, these concerts are not to be missed.

**THE VOICE WINNER HARRISON CRAIG'S 'MORE THAN A DREAM' CONCERT TOUR**  
**FEATURING JOHN FOREMAN**  
**ON SALE NOW**

Head to [www.harrisoncraigofficial.com](http://www.harrisoncraigofficial.com) for all details.

## NATIONAL CAPITAL CITY DATES

Friday 27 September  
Saturday 28 September  
Tuesday 1 October  
Wednesday 2 October  
Thursday 3 October  
Saturday 5 October  
Friday 11 October  
Saturday 12 October  
Saturday 16 November

QPAC Concert Hall  
Jupiter's Theatre  
Palms at Crown  
Palms at Crown  
Palms at Crown  
Capitol Theatre  
Regal Theatre  
Her Majesty's Theatre  
The Playhouse

Brisbane, QLD  
Gold Coast, QLD  
Melbourne, VIC  
Melbourne, VIC  
Melbourne, VIC  
Sydney, NSW  
Perth, WA  
Adelaide, SA  
Canberra, ACT

## REGIONAL DATES

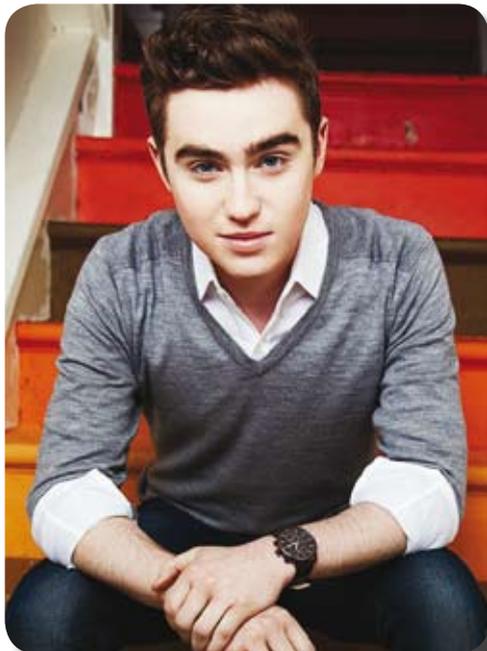
Thursday 31 October  
Friday 1 November  
Saturday 2 November  
Sunday 3 November  
Wednesday 6 November  
Thursday 7 November  
Friday 8 November  
Saturday 9 November  
Wednesday 13 November  
Thursday 14 November  
Friday 15 November  
Tuesday 19 November  
Wednesday 20 November  
Thursday 21 November  
Friday 22 November  
Saturday 23 November

The Capital  
Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts  
Deakin's Costa Hall  
Lighthouse Theatre  
Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre  
Mildura Arts Centre  
Wangarratta Performing Arts Centre  
Wangarratta Performing Arts Centre  
Dubbo Regional Theatre Convention Centre  
Orange Civic Theatre  
Illawarra Performing Arts Centre  
Star Court Theatre  
Capitol Theatre  
Glasshouse  
Civic Theatre Newcastle  
Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre

Bendigo, VIC  
Ballarat, VIC  
Geelong, VIC  
Warrnambool, VIC  
Mount Gambier, SA  
Mildura, VIC  
Wangarratta, VIC  
Wangarratta, VIC  
Dubbo, NSW  
Orange, NSW  
Wollongong, NSW  
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**Harrison Craig 'More Than A Dream'**  
Album available now

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# q book launch: **ABOUT FACE**

"About Face" Book Launch  
A Fundraising Event for the Australian LGBTI Multicultural Council (AGMC Inc.)



**The Australian LGBTI Multicultural Council (AGMC) and the Victorian AIDS Council/ Gay Men's Health Centre (VAC/GMHC) are pleased to announce a fundraising event to support AGMC and multicultural LGBTI communities.**

"About Face" is a photography-based, anthropological exploration of diversity in an Australian male context. Between 2011 and 2012, men from all walks of life were invited to be photographed and to share their experiences and thoughts on a range of topics, from multiculturalism to racism, sexualities, (dis)abilities and beyond.

The project aims to provoke thought and discussion on racial and cultural diversity in contemporary Australian society. "About Face" is a project of Keo Lin, a Melbourne based photographer. Keo's work explores the meaning of life and culture through photographic representation.

AGMC and VAC/GMHC are proud to support this project to promote multiculturalism in Australia's LGBTI community.

The book launch and fundraising event will be held on 25 September 2013 at Hares & Hyenas, 63 Johnston St, Fitzroy, from 6pm. Portion of the book sales will go to support AGMC.

They would like to invite members of Melbourne's LGBTI community, as well as the general public, to join them in this event to show their support for multicultural LGBTI communities.

*For further information, please contact Keo Lin via [keo@canopeia.com](mailto:keo@canopeia.com) or 0435 233 236 or contact AGMC direct via [www.agmc.org.au](http://www.agmc.org.au)*

# q music: **LINDA SEDIO**

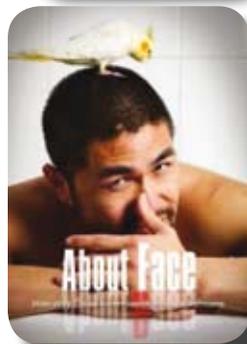
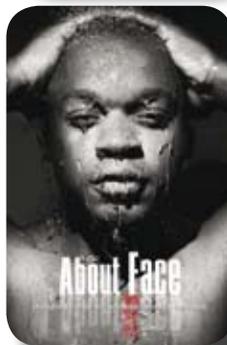
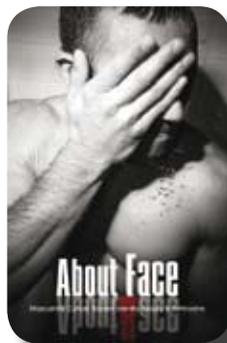
**Linda Sedio, the emerging Pop/Singer Songwriter & Entertainer finished her new release "Cross The Line" in May, which is now available digitally Worldwide.**

Since its release; The single "Cross The Line" have been sold more than 6,000 copies in two weeks and took several top rankings in many fm & Web radios (Top 10, Top 40, Top 50 & Top 100). In Promotion on many platforms, ZipDj (United States), Dj Barometer (Canada), & more others for Radios & Web Radios, "Cross The Line" receives more and more positive feedback from Radios and Dj's around the World who love it and play it in their clubs and airplay rotation. The track will be included in her forthcoming debut album which will be released internationally in 2014.

Born on September 8th, 1987, "Linda Sedio" started her career as a photo model before ending up in the world of music.

Discovered by Farwell Olivier, Music Producer at Atlanta G.A and seduced by her powerful voice during a live session, he decided to follow and develop her as a recording artist.

*For further information, including how to download your own copy, go to [www.lindasedio.com](http://www.lindasedio.com)*



# q books: ESTUARY

This ambitious novel is about a search for identity through discovery of the past. It investigates what belonging and otherness mean in contemporary Australian society. It questions the dichotomies that are often artificially constructed between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians, between ideas of sanity and madness, identification as homosexual and heterosexual, and considerations of deformity and wholeness.

Unifying these themes are common concerns about art, truth, blame, guilt and acceptance.

Seth's life is disconnected from his children, his own childhood, his former wife and even his current partner, Sandra. He lives and works alone as a wood carver, resisting involvement with others, and with his own past relationships and ties. When his aunt Leila dies and he returns to Adelaide for her funeral, his past is waiting for him.

Leila, who cared for Seth as a child, was different from most women of her time. An artist, she expressed her spiritual convictions and the grief that arose from the loss of her lover and child in ways considered to be proof of madness. While incarcerated in a mental hospital she developed a deep friendship and with a young Aboriginal woman, Ruby. The family connections they discover stretch into the past, a not-so-distant past denied by official accounts but which lives on in memories and in blood.

Seth has had a 'deformity' since birth, a cleft palate that has been treated by surgery but which marks him out as different. In his mid-fifties, he has yet to accept his sexuality, choosing to block out memories of Jacko, the friend and lover of his youth, and fighting against the attraction he feels for Cubadgee, a young Aboriginal man who knew his Aunt. His Chinese ancestry is another aspect of his identity that sets him apart.

Estuary is about the aftermath of being wounded, about overcoming fear and about dealing with guilt. More broadly, the story is an expression of the debt that white Australians owe Aboriginal people. It asks what can and should be done about this burden of debt and guilt. It acknowledges the enormous challenge of facing the truth about the present as well as the past. The twists of this story go beyond Seth's personal history and symbolise the complex relationships that are being played out in Australia.

**John Bartlett discovered writing at the age of 11 when Sr Benedict reprimanded him for using 'big words.' Despite this ecclesiastical condemnation, he went on to pursue a career in the Catholic Church becoming a priest and working in the southern Philippines for 10 years. These years immersed him in experiences of violence, corruption, injustice and Filipino heroism that contributed to his first novel, Towards a Distant Sea, published in 2005. This novel is currently under consideration by a Los Angeles producer as a possible TV miniseries.**

10 % from the sale of each copy of this book will be donated to Ngarrindjeri Land & Progress Association Incorporated, Camp Coorong, South Australia.

Further information, go to [www.beyondtheestuary.com](http://www.beyondtheestuary.com)



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# q fashion: ZAYN UNDERWEAR

# zayn

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**24 YEAR OLD STARTS OWN UNDERWEAR BRAND**  
Young entrepreneur and Gippsland local, Jarryd Haeefe, has put everything he owns on the line to start his own men's underwear brand, Zayn.

A successful graphic designer, Jarryd's passion for fashion is what led him to start designing his own underwear. Wanting to manufacturer comfortable and affordable underwear for Australian men, he felt he could use his creativity to produce stand out designs that look and feel great on every guy.

Currently sold online at [www.zayn.com.au](http://www.zayn.com.au), Jarryd is in talks with many small retailers around Australia to start wholesaling his brand.

Heavily relying on social media to promote Zayn, Jarryd has been shocked at the immediate results on Facebook and Instagram. Hitting over 600 'likes' in 2 weeks on Facebook, Zayn has already sold underwear to the USA and England.

A percentage from every pair of underwear sold gets donated to beyondblue, an organization that is close to Jarryd's heart.



# q dance: SYDNEY CO., 2014 SEASON

Sydney Dance Company celebrates its 45th year in 2014 with three premiere seasons and an extensive touring program, which will see Australia's leading contemporary dance company perform in five of the country's capitals, in addition to regional centres across Queensland and Western Australia.

The Company will commission eight new works in the coming 12 months, including two works from Sydney Dance Company Artistic Director Rafael Bonachela, alongside works from renowned Greek choreographer Andonis Foniadakis and celebrated Melbourne choreographer Gideon Obarzanek.

Four up and coming choreographers, who are yet to be chosen, will be given the opportunity to create works on the Company's dancers for the November season of New Breed.

The Company opens 2014 with an exciting triple bill season, *Interplay*, which will premiere in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne. The show brings together three internationally esteemed contemporary choreographers Rafael Bonachela, Melbourne's Gideon Obarzanek and Italy's Jacopo Godani, for what promises to be a breathtaking presentation.

For his new work Bonachela will re-imagine Bach's majestic Partitas for solo violin in D Minor, to live music performed by violinist Veronique Serret, whilst Obarzanek will debut a spirited, epic work for the entire Company.

Sydney Dance Company is also thrilled to be bringing Jacopo Godani back to Australia to restage his acclaimed production of the 'sleek and super sexy' *Raw Models*, which makes its return to the Sydney stage, following its explosive 2011 premiere.

In October the Company presents *Louder than Words*, a double bill featuring new works by Rafael Bonachela and award-winning Paris-based choreographer Andonis Foniadakis, whose previous collaborations have included commissions for Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, Geneva Ballet, Lyon Opera Ballet and many more.

The Company will end the year in Sydney by partnering with Carriageworks to present *New Breed*, featuring works from four emerging choreographers, who are yet to be selected.

Also in 2014, Sydney Dance Company will also tour its critically acclaimed production of Bonachela's *2 One Another* throughout Queensland and Western Australia. This stunning performance has won multiple awards including Most Outstanding Choreography, Most Outstanding Performance by a Company and Most Outstanding Female Dancer (Australian Dance Awards 2013), Best Ensemble and Best Female Dancer (Green Room Awards 2012) and Best Female Dancer (Helpmann Awards 2012). In September and October 2013 the show will tour to North, and South America, Mexico and Russia.

A partnership with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra will see eight of the Company's dancers perform as part of a limited season presentation of Richard Strauss' one-act opera, *Elektra*, featuring newly commissioned choreography by award-winning dancer and choreographer Stephanie Lake.

And the Queensland Symphony Orchestra will present a Brisbane performance of Sydney Dance Company's acclaimed *Les Illuminations*, featuring the illustrious Katie Noonan, which sold out prior to opening for its premiere season in Sydney this August.

To view the full Sydney Dance Company 2014 Program, go to [www.sydneydancecompany.com](http://www.sydneydancecompany.com). Limited tickets are on sale now.

## BOOKINGS

Sydney Theatre, [sydneytheatre.org.au](http://sydneytheatre.org.au) / 02 9250 1999 or Melbourne Southbank Theatre, [mtc.com.au](http://mtc.com.au) / 03 8688 0800





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# q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**



DESIGNED BY DANIEL MARTIN EAST

## DnM PHOTOGRAPHY

Close, Intimate  
Posing/Stage

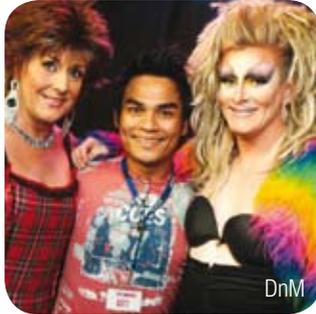
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# q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**





Lotus Night at DT's Pub



Lotus Night at DT's Pub



Lotus Night at DT's Pub



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# q travel: with BARRIE MAHONEY

'Tweeters from the Atlantic'

Barrie Mahoney was a teacher, head teacher and school inspector in the UK, as well as a reporter in Spain, before moving to the Canary Islands as a newspaper editor. He is still enjoying life in the sun as a writer and author.



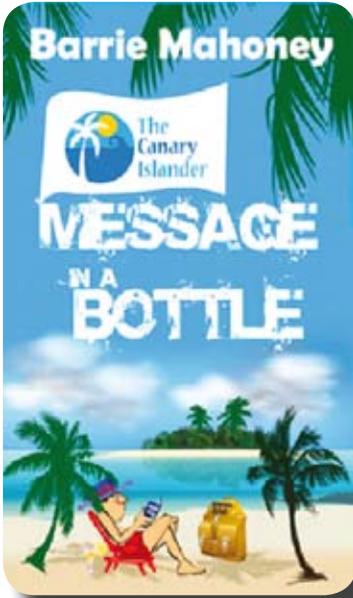
## Rocking the Boats

**Hatred, rivalries and jealousies are a feature of human nature that, sadly, can continue for many years. If left unresolved, they become poisonous and destructive with implications that spread far beyond the original squabble. Such rivalries apply to families, countries and even to islands.**

For most people, these seven islands in the Atlantic are a haven of peace and tranquillity. There is an illusion that these islands cooperate and work well together as an autonomous community within Spain. The islands benefit from a shared history, culture, mutual understanding, a shared dependency and have common concerns about the economy, unemployment, health and environmental issues, such as exploration for oil off the coast of Africa. However, is this glossy facade really true?

Needless to say, much of this cooperation is really only skin deep. Bitter rivalries between the islands and, in particular, between Gran Canaria and Tenerife have existed for many hundreds of years, peaking during the horrors of the Spanish Civil War. Nowadays, we have only to attend a football match or other major sporting event between the two rivals to witness current manifestations of unresolved bitterness, jealousy and rivalry. Just add a dose of Spanish machismo on a very hot day, and you can imagine the result.

Although Tenerife is the largest island, with the largest population of all the islands, the city of Las Palmas in Gran Canaria is the largest city on any of the islands. Indeed, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria is the seventh largest city in all of Spain. In addition, the airport of Gran Canaria dwarfs those on Tenerife, with its large number of national and international flights, as well as being the third largest airport in Spain. Tenerife and Gran Canaria have squabbled ferociously in the past as to which city should be regarded as the capital city of the Canary Islands, Santa Cruz de Tenerife or Las Palmas de Gran Canaria? The outcome was, of course, the usual compromise that they should both hold equal status. There was much anguish about where the islands' prestigious universities and hospitals should be situated. The answer was to duplicate everything for the benefit of both islands. There is, of course, always a Canarian compromise, but only after much macho shouting, unpronounceable expletives and table banging. It's just the way that things are done over here.



The current spat between the Mayors of Santa Cruz de Tenerife and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria is another fine example of such a squabble. Las Palmas recently accused Tenerife of 'cooking the books', with its inclusion of over 13,000 "ghost residents" in its statistical submission designed, naturally enough, to enhance its quota of funding from the Government. By now we all know that statistics can be interpreted and distorted by politicians to mean anything. Predictably, the Mayor of Tenerife and the President of the Tenerife Cabildo are now accusing the Mayor of Las Palmas of similar evil doings with dark suggestions that they too "may be surprised" if they examine their own statistics too closely. Despite the squabble, and much huffing and puffing, they will eventually kiss and make up - until the next time, that is.

Of course, there is a small independence movement on the islands, which makes impressive and strident claims during local and national elections that the Canary Islands would benefit from being an independent state, completely divorced from Spain. After all, the Scots are trying to do it, so why not the Canary Islands? It is, of course, great rhetoric, but totally ignores the reality that the islands just do not get on with each other, and that they need Spain to keep them from capsizing the other's metaphorical boats.

The arguments and accusations go on, and will continue just as they have always done. After all, it is much like the love-hate relationship between Britain and France. They may dislike each other intensely, but support each other when the going gets tough.

If you enjoyed this article, take a look at Barrie's websites: [www.bariemahoney.com](http://www.bariemahoney.com) and [www.thecanaryislander.com](http://www.thecanaryislander.com) or read his latest book, 'Message in a Bottle' (ISBN: 978 1480 031005). Available as paperback, Kindle and iBook

# Gaylord Blade

Young, Gay & Hot-to-trot

I'm not sure I like the idea of using sex toys, Lachlan



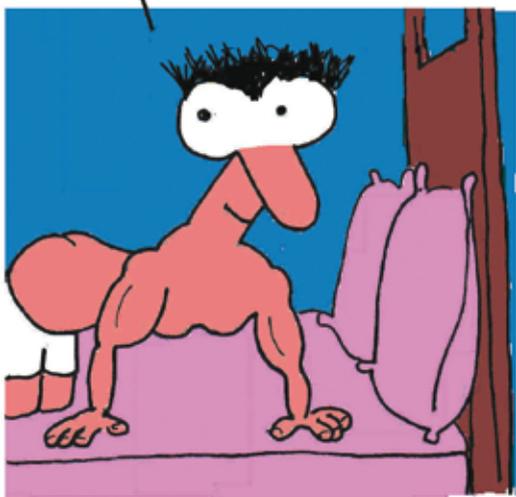
they're a good way to "prime the pump" as it were, and "ease on down the road"



I always thought they were for lonley men without boyfriends



If you don't shut-up and shove it in, Gaylord, YOU'll be lonley and without a boyfriend!





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