

MARCH 2007



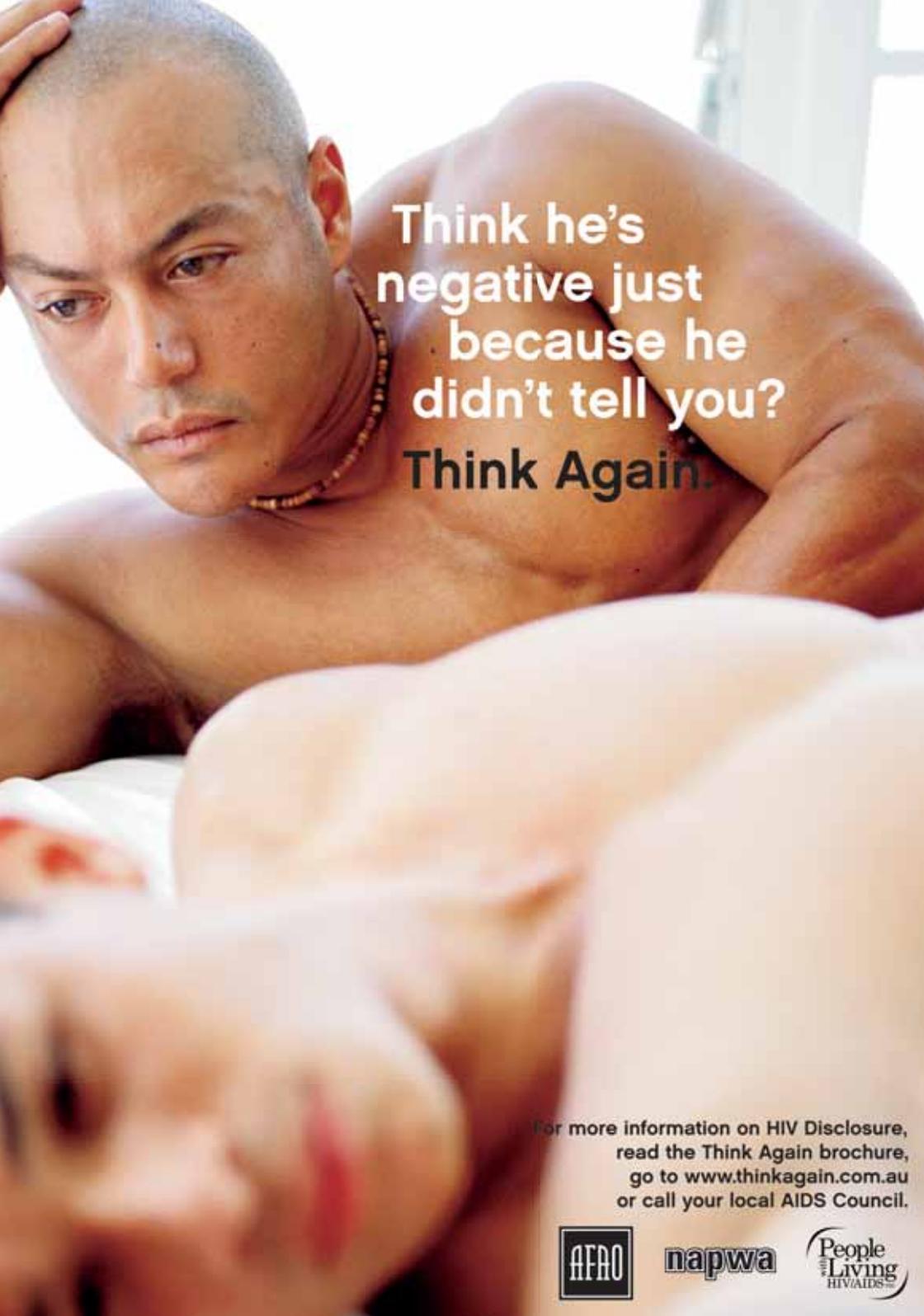
Q MAGAZINE



Inside this issue:

- Q Generation, Q Community,
- Q Wine, Q Grooming, Q Beauty,
- Q Music with Cara Tyler, Q WIN,
- Q Business with the Opium Den,
- Q Travel, Q Fashion and more.

*Q Magazine speaks exclusively to three Gay, Asian, and Proud men about Life, Love, and Community.
Q Magazine - Made Locally! Enjoyed Nationally!*



Think he's
negative just
because he
didn't tell you?
Think Again.

For more information on HIV Disclosure,
read the Think Again brochure,
go to www.thinkagain.com.au
or call your local AIDS Council.



napwa



q comment: FESTIVITIES CONTINUE

The festivities continue this month with Mardi Gras in Sydney and the Melbourne Queer Film Festival. Please have fun, but do it safely and responsibly.

Well I don't often use my column to whinge about things, but, apart from the fabulous [cough] people at MSN deleting my website [Out Loud and Proud] for apparent breaches of conduct (wreaks of homophobia to me but I'm over it now), I bought a new Sony Ericsson K800i at Christmas time from an Optus shop to later find that Sony Ericsson brands their phones when distributing them to such retail outlets. This has resulted in me now having a Telstra SIM but Optus branding on a phone I paid cash for [not on a plan]. I can not tell you how much that pisses me off. I can only hope that one day Sony Ericsson may re-think this ridiculous behaviour and stop branding their products with providers signage.

Just recently a member/s of the drag fraternity decided to act questionably and thus losing a gig at a southside venue. I am aware of both sides of the story and suggest that the parties involved consider what these sorts of antics do to the whole community, in particular our reputation to broader, less forgiving straight sectors. To spite what you may have been told or think yourselves, you are not stars - you are people doing a job [albeit an admirable one and something I truly enjoy watching] earning a living as valued members of the entertainment industry. You do deserve respect, but no more than anyone else.

Finally, I would like to personally thank everyone who participated in Pride March 2007. Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us, but the feedback I have received indicates that everyone still had a great time. I look forward to BakeOff later this year and to the 13th Annual Pride March in 2008.



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ABN 21 631 209 230



q feature: **GAY, ASIAN** and **PROUD**

I asked the three guys exactly the same questions - getting very different answers [as you would expect]. They all have a very rich story to tell and I sincerely thank them for their time and effort.

1 - Where were you born and when did you come to Australia?

2 - How did you meet your partner?

3 - Did you know you were Gay in your home country? If so...how easy or difficult was it for you to be yourself? If not...when did you come out and was it easy or difficult?

4 - How have you dealt with the stereotype of "gay asian / white partner" or hasn't it been an issue for you?

5 - What are your long term goals in life?

Chucky:

I was born in Thailand in 1981 in the refugee camp of Chunri. Our family is originally from Cambodia and fled the Khmer Rouge regime in 1979. We stayed in the camps for two years awaiting our visas and finally got accepted to Australia. Our first home was in Adelaide.

Tom and I have been friends for 5 years and partners for 2 years. For some bizarre reason, Tom and I used to bump into each other and get invited to the same parties before we were together. I used to say he was stalking me.

Well I was 9 months old when I came to Australia so gay probably wasn't in my vocabulary at that time. But having said that, the process of coming out in Australia was not an easy one. I grew up with a very strict and traditional Asian upbringing. Being the only male in the family, I was naturally expected to carry the family thrown. So you can just imagine the reaction when I told mum ' See you guys in 3 days, I'm just going up to Sydney for Mardi Gras'. Like most parents, both mum and dad are in total denial. Compounded by the fact that both are very staunch Christians. We used to have bible study at our home every Saturday night...fun fun fun.

I'm all for interracial relationships, bring it on. I just think it's another example of how the world is changing and realising that none of us are living on an island any more. I think when you have a partner from a different cultural background, you get to see the world from his/her perspective which makes you think, 'Oh, so you mean the sky isn't really blue?'.

After Tom and I are satisfied with our works at The Opium Den I will be looking into building a school in Cambodia. I've taught English in China for a few years and enjoyed it tremendously.

I've always felt very privileged to come from a working class family who worked very hard to provide me with a decent education to build my dreams. Now I hope to bring that same privilege to the people of Cambodia.

Edmond:

I was born in Sandakan, Malaysia, on the tree top :) I came to Australia in about 1996.

Kye and I met in the sling somewhere in a sex dungeon...just joking, mate!

I knew I was different, but never realised until I was corrupted when I got here. It wasn't too difficult to be myself as there's nothing much ever happened in my hometown. However, that also means I didn't have any relationship with someone til my late, late teen.

Everyone is allowed to have their own perception or opinion, which I do not have any control over, so no, it's not an issue.

Be healthy, happy and have no worries.



Pike:

I was born in Bangkok, Thailand. I came to Australia in the year 2000 to complete my Bachelor Degree.

My partner and I met through friends in Bangkok when I was there on holiday. I was already living in Melbourne and when I returned we bumped into each other on Commercial Road. We started out as friends and soon realised there was more to it.

Oh come on Brett I wasn't the only gay in the village!

It was not difficult as I grew up as one of 3, having one brother and one sister. So my parents accepted me easily compared to other families where they might only have one son. In my culture it would have been difficult if there was only one son. But my parents were very generous by giving me the opportunity to come to Australia and helping me to have my own life.

The stereotyping has never been an issue for me at all. It's only an issue for some people who make it a stereotype.

In the long term I would like to expand the Heavenly empire and set up my own successful business.

q business: THE OPIUM DEN

Featuring our Asian beauties on the front cover, I thought it only sensible to interview the current operator of the one establishment that caters to our Asian brothers and sisters more than any other - The Opium Den [formerly Star Hotel]. I started by asking Tom Robb to give me a brief historical overview of the property.

The "Gay" era of the Star Hotel started in 1996 when Fritz Maatens and his partner Andy Stevens took it over specifically to run their already established Lotus Night. The Star was sold in 2003. It was purchased by a consortium including Eric Asche, Alison Asche, Wendy Hogg and Rob. This meant the hotel remained in gay hands. Entertainment was still the main thrust of the pub. Chucky and I took over in Feb 2006.

As one of the current operators of the property, I am interested in knowing a little about your personal and business history. Where did Mr. Robb come from and what has he done?

I'm a Melbourne guy, growing up in orphanages and foster homes in and around Melbourne. I started my life in show business as a set painter for Kennedys IMT - way back in the 'blue scale' era. From there to Bandstand in Sydney, and, in the late 60s, to Perth as resident set and costume designer for the late Rex Reid at the WA Ballet Co. In 1969 I set off to Europe to set up my own company with world renowned choreographer Luis Moreno. Worked for MGM on lots of films in bit parts to earn money. Lucky enough to work with wonderful people such as George Cuker, Katherine Hepburn and Maggie Smith. I have been traveling the world ever since, worked in 23 countries. Returned back to Melbourne in 2001 and lost a fortune when SARS struck the cruise ship industry. At that time I had 12 shows on 12 ships with over 200 dancers, all but one ship ending up in dry dock. I was, however, extremely honoured to be included in Who's Who in the World in the same year. Sandwiched in between Robert Redford and Rossanne OH WELL. This was for my producing skills, and I'm still proud to be the only Australian producer to have presented a purely Australian show on a 2 year world tour. Just after that I got the Big C (stomach, lung). It was a great struggle for 18 months with numerous chemo treatments. They told me I only had 3 months to live (haha). When I got better, I saw Kaye Sera in Salon Kitty and thought "yup love to have a place with artists of that calibre." I saw Ali the following week and she mentioned the Star was up for grabs. The rest is history.

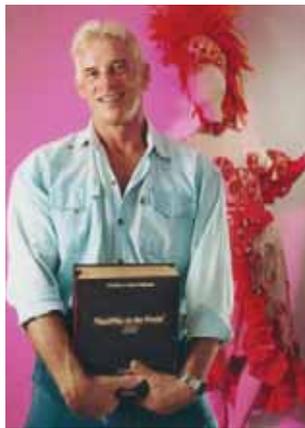
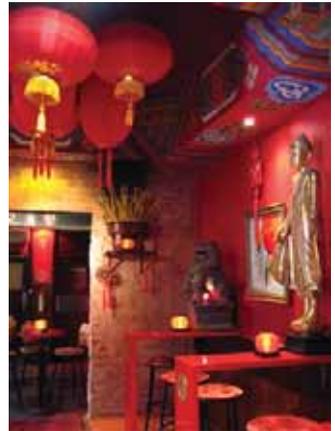
Why did you decide to buy the license of the Star and why the name change?

Star had some nasty "dirty old men and Asian" connotations, plus it needed a face lift. Loved Opium Den because it has sophisticated sleaziness overtones, and what you can't disguise - emphasise.

Apart from the amazing internal transformation, any other plans for the hotel?

We are of course going to change the external look of the Hotel. We are also starting to be taken seriously as a legit Cabaret venue with Kaye Sera's Saturday night gig and super guest stars. We have been having sell out nights and getting great revues in The Age and also local press. That's the aim and we will see what happens.

**The Opium Den is home to:
Lotus Night, King Vic Drag Kings,
Outblack, Mai Tai Swingers,
and Kaye Sera's Cabaret.
Open 7 days, opiumden.com.au**



q review: SOUNDS GREAT



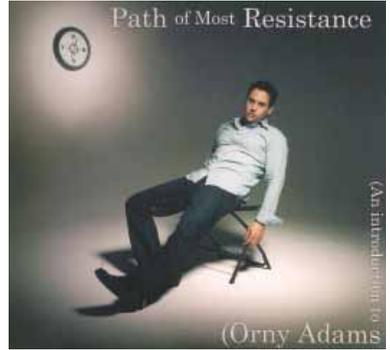
Dreamgirls

The soundtrack from the movie that is making waves across the globe is now out through SonyBMG. This is a must buy for anyone's CD collection.



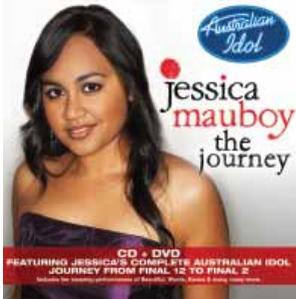
Loaded Volume 1

This would have to be the mother of all compilations - Loaded Volume 1 featuring 22 tracks on CD with an additional 19 tracks on the DVD. Moloko, Kylie, The Pussy Cat Dolls, Leo Sayer, Marcia and Deni Hines and a whole lot more. In all good record stores through Liberation Music.



Orny Adams

My good friend [and extremely talented Cabaret performer] Enda Markey sent me this release of his friend, Orny Adams. Entitled "An Introduction to Orny Adams - Path of Most Resistance", it is one of the funniest things I have listened to and watched for quite some time.



Jessica Mauboy the Journey

The second in the "journey" releases from Australian Idol features our runner-up. Share the musical journey with her and get your hands on a copy today. Out now through SonyBMG.



Grammy

25 tracks of pure gold from the 2007 Grammy nominees in one little package. This is jammed packed with the best of the best - out now through Sony BMG.

The release is a CD / DVD double - guaranteed to make even the most pessimistic person laugh. Orny is a very attractive [unfortunately he bats for the wrong team] comedian. The recording is live from the Ice House Comedy Club in Pasadena [USA]. His energy is relentless, the content extremely broad - although he does do a fair bit of talking about girls, it is surprisingly funny and not offensive in any way, shape, or form.

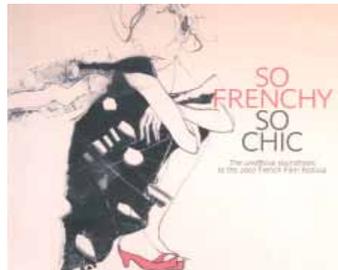
Jerry Seinfeld says "I'm a big fan of Orny Adams."

Garry Shandling says "I thought this CD was hilarious. Then Orny told me it was a DVD. Well, to see his facial expressions made it even funnier. Either way, he kicks ass."



MADONNA

From her Confessions Tour comes this amazing package of non-stop full-on Madonna. A CD with 13 tracks, a DVD with 21, plus bonus behind the scenes footage and a photo gallery. Out now through Warner Music. This is Madonna at her very best.



So Frenchy So Chic

Get a taste of wonderful french [underground] music just in time for the 2007 French Film Festival - out now through Shock Records.

I guess the best way to judge a comedian, and particularly their performance, is to monitor the laughs they get from their audience. On this occasion, it is non stop. Orny covers subjects like getting older, politics, wars, women, annoying on hold voice recordings, obese children...and the list goes on.

Absolutely hilarious. This guy is something else, and someone who you really need to see. Available online now from ornyadams.com

q music: with CARA TYLER

I have had the occasion to meet this lovely young lady several times. She is truly delightful and talented to boot. After engaging her for Pride March, I decided also to interview her so you got to know her a little better too. I started by asking her to tell me a little about her history.

I come from Canada but I have worked internationally. Other than my original pop/dance music, I have done musical theatre, jazz and cabaret, worked as a dancer and an actor. I was featured for some time in the Toronto music scene as a dancer on a popular TV show.

I heard Australia was amazing and Melbourne is a cultural and beautiful city to live and work in, what can say - I never left.

JOY Melbourne currently has you on their play list. How did you orchestrate that and which songs are they?

I wrote and guided the production of my three songs Like the Girls Do, Divarosity and Dangerously Close. I have then launched my own record label TYGERGIRL Productions, where I have done (or over seen) every aspect of marketing, pr, promotion, choreography, costumes, planning and organising of gigs and events. I submitted my tracks and package to them and they called me up immediately and congratulated me, they loved them. Next thing I know, I was placed on their compilation album as well.

You were one of the acts at both Pride March and MIDSUMMA. Do you prefer performing or recording?

Both are a completely different experience. The studio is very special in a way that it is great to be working with the creative mediums to be the impetus for something new and exciting, but nothing beats the raw energy of communicating those lyrics over a pumping sound system to fans that really dig what you do. I can feel the energy go through me like an electrical current. When it all comes together it's the best high there is!

Do you or have you written any of your own material?

Yes I write all my songs. I have volumes of ideas. I have always written to express my thoughts about the world around me, to heal and to grow. I find the human experience fascinating and what we are capable of. I love to explore different creative metaphors and sensual, inspiring ways of describing

an experience or a moment in time.

Will we see an album and/or tour from you any time soon?

I have some really amazing and beautiful people working with me now, I think you should definantly watch this space!



Photography by Rod Stewart, Styling by Jono Francisco, Hair & Makeup by Liam Livingstone, Shot at Eve, Southbank, Melbourne.

You can also check out Cara Tyler at carat Tyler.com or myspace.com/carat Tyler or see her at the PLWHA fundraiser to be held at DT's on Saturday the 10th of this month.

generationq.net headlines for MARCH

Celebrity Interviews:

Fiona Horne, Tina Cousins and Charlie David.

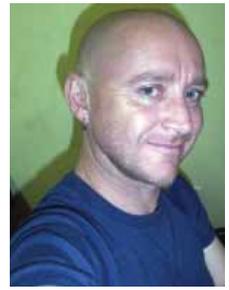
New funky look and features for profiles.

All the latest gossip from Hollywood and London. Latest updates on Britney

Spears and Daniel Radcliffe.



q art: with DAVID WESTLAKE



Displaying your treasures. Displaying your pieces can be daunting, yet gives you great pleasure. It gives you the chance to play with the pieces and bring them to life through your story. Here's a few important things to remember which will help protect your collection when it's on display:

First, try to keep similar objects together. This is one of those golden rules, Decorating 101 stuff. Then there's a few other things to consider.

Do you need lighting to maximise their beauty, or do they need to be kept away from light to avoid damage?

Do you need to dust or regularly polish your items? (Unless of course, you follow Quentin Crisp's rule that dust can only get so thick, then stops building.)

If items are fragile, do you need cabinets with doors? Glass of course, for your viewing pleasure.

With your displays, remember to keep them out of heavy traffic areas – "Pet Jump Zones" and "Fumble-In-The-Dark Areas". I have often tried to switch on a 17th Century sculpture's head when trying to find the light switch, thank God it's made of wood!

Another tip – keep pieces of a light or a fragile nature away from open windows, sudden gusts of wind or other hazards. She-who-must-be-honoured, the dearly departed cat, taught me that rather expensive lesson.

And from Decorating 102, level cabinets using half a timber clothes peg under the leg. BUT, notify your partner/lover/housemate, as I will testify that when ones significant other

tries to clean and knocks said cabinet unstable. Grr! Life gets a little tense as we debate whose fault it is while I rescue my precious treasures from a potential tumble of death.

What I am trying to say after all that rambling is, enjoy your pieces, display them for yours and others' pleasure, and try to protect to them at the same time.

And remember, as I always say, we are only the custodians, looking after these items for the future.

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Paul LaFare, The Sydney Telegraph

"A MUST see... before you go blind!"
Ed Linn, The Australian

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Bookings: 02 8839 3399
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www.flyingsolo.rnt.nsw.gov.au

Interviewed by Judy Mann

q news: 3rd BIRTHDAY BASH

It seems like only yesterday that Tom McFeely invited me to be part of Q Magazine and its eventual birth, but next month [April] marks the publications 3rd Birthday. Since September 2006, I have been the sole proprietor and I hope you can come along.

Pop it in your diaries now - Thursday the 05th of April - Diva Bar, 153 Commercial Road, South Yarra!

Come along and see the 3rd Birthday Issue before anyone else and help celebrate this milestone in publishing for your Q Magazine. The night kicks off at 7pm and will go til the wee hours of the morning. All your favourite writers will be there, plus supporting advertisers, friends, and maybe a few special celebrity guests. The night will include champers on arrival plus drink specials all night.

In true Q Magazine style, we will also have a bunch of prizes for you to win, plus of course, some fabulous entertainment throughout the evening too.

Although Diva Bar is usually free entry, I want to do something extra to celebrate the birthday and that is to make it a minor fundraiser for the Michael Masters Fund [a project of PLWHA Victoria]. Entry on the evening will be by way of a Gold Coin donation - all of the funds raised going to assist People Living with HIV/AIDS in our community in need.

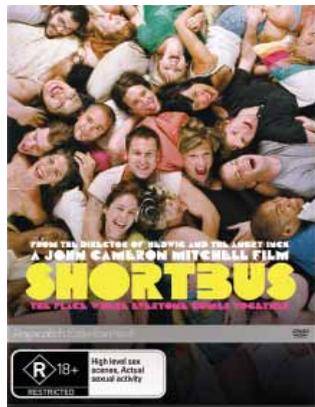


Q win: ENTERTAINING GOODIES



Central Station Records

4 Strings is truly superb and features the wonderful vocal talents of Tina Cousins - out now through Central Station Records. We have 5 albums up for grabs. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with "4 Strings" in the subject line.



Eros Essentials

Get lubed up for Autumn as Q Magazine gives you the chance to win one of 24 bottles of this amazing lubricant. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with "Eros" in the subject line to enhance your fun time.

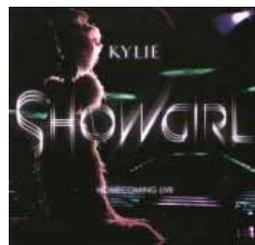


ConeZone

Read about the product in Q Fun, then enjoy the pleasures of the all new Cone. We have two to give away this month to two very lucky people. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with "Cone" in the subject line - suitable for boys and girls.

Sony BMG

Critics claim this film will go down in history as a true classic. You have a chance to win one of five soundtracks with the compliments of SonyBMG. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with "Dreamgirls" in the subject line to get your hands on the hottest CD release this year so far.



Hopscotch

This has to be the film of the year and you have the chance to win one of five copies. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with "Shortbus" in the subject line to get your hands on this hot hot movie. Also see the review in the q movies section.

Warner Music

If you missed her Australian Tour, then this is your chance to pick up one of five "Homecoming Live" CDs and enjoy the experience at home. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with "Kylie" in the subject line. What's life without Kylie.

* All prizes are open to everyone, except those which specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Entries close on the final day of each calendar month with the prize draw taking place at 5pm the following day at Apt. 3, 15 - 17 Charnwood Road, St. Kilda 3182. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of QMagazine. All monthly winners are notified by email or SMS.



Make To Order Specialists

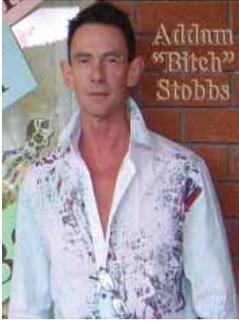
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q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS



Where is the best place in Australia?

Everyone who lives in Sydney think they are living in the best place, of that there is doubt. The number of times I've been introduced to people in Sydney and they refer to Melbourne as the "Big Yawn" or Brisbane as "A Country Town" etc. Brisbane, the Gold Coast and the Sunshine coast have the biggest growing populations in Australia, and will soon become one huge megopolis. The City of South East Queensland will be the most spread out and most popular city in the country.

Where is the best place for Gay and Lesbian people to live? Well that depends on what makes you life significant doesn't it?

Sydney runs on sex. If you

don't believe me, go to a SOVP (Sex on premises Venue) and have a look, during Mardi Gras. I haven't been there for some years, but I was quite shocked at the amount of sex I was inveigled into, and every time I go up there it's the same story (God I am so sick of being gorgeous). So what's it like living in that environment? Well I did live there for a few years, and I remember that my partner (at that time - he was a trashy whore anyway) had decided that we wanted to escape the drudgery of our daily lives and weekends and go to the "fast lane". Where does one go in that case? If I want to escape Melbourne and go to the fast lane, I go to Sydney. If one lives in Sydney where does one go to get up to the next level of frenzy? Well I am afraid it's bad news, it's either USA or Europe. Many of my closer friends are rice nannas, and they like SE Asia, but I like a more varied experience.

So the problem of living in the fast lane is that there are eventually no fast lanes left. That's probably one of the reasons that I like living in Melbourne. I've had an itinerant life, I have lived around overseas and here at home in Oz, and we have it pretty good here. The political scene seems to be going retro - back to the 50's at times, but generally we've got a great community and lifestyle in Australia.

Most Australian cities have good G&L cultures, festivals and communities. We are especially lucky in Melbourne, because we have the extra luxury of having a Gay and Lesbian Radio station, and some locally produced gay focused TV. There is a festival coming up in Melbourne that is absolutely brilliant, that's Melbourne Queer Film Festival. It is a one of the most heavily subscribed and well produced events I have ever seen. There are close to 100 movies/docs etc

screened (86 sessions in 2006). There are similar events in other cities (looking world wide it's amazing how popular G&L film festivals are). Why are they so prolific? Because they do some important things: They make us (me) think, they confirm my worst fears, and reinforce my view of what it is (or is not) to be Gay. Many of the movies and features also show us things from a different perspective. However, more to the point - it's entertaining and it's cheap, friendly and brings us all together for something other than sex (as if). It also lets us forget about life for a while. Look out for your local G&L film festival; I see many regional centres are also getting into it.

I am coming up to the end of my second year writing for Q magazine, and you know I really love it. I have had so many interesting conversations with people who have read something or other I have written (or said on radio), and it has been a great way to make enemies and get death threats. Only joking, no one has actually turned out to be an enemy. One of the things I really enjoy about writing for Q mag is the amount of freedom the editor gives me. Thanks Brett! I know my opinions are not always popular, but it is opinions that evolve the rich tapestry of ideas.

Because you get it for free, you need to support the advertisers in Q mag, because it's all about community and belonging. Same goes for all of the wonderful community events and festivals that are on throughout Australia during the year, and if you buy or use an advertiser's service, let them know why you chose them. I buy all my major purchases from community advertisers, and I let them know why, and I seek out providers for other services if they support our community. See you in the Q3rd Birthday edition.

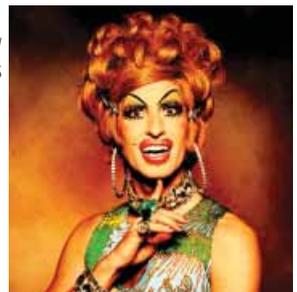
q says: with VANESSA WAGNER

Poverty under Howard

Hello spunkrats, mover's and shakers. As we recover from the imposition that is Xmas, New Year and Australia (Invasion) Day it might just be a good time to ponder one thing we sometimes sweep under the Huga Squares - POVERTY!

I know it's not fashionable and it's certainly not great dinner party banter but it shouldn't be ignored, especially in the Queer community. The advent of neo-con, fend for yourself culture has left many people out in the cold. If you become sick and unemployed, don't expect much help from Centrelink, you will become sicker and poor!

Vanessa Wagner



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q wine: with PETE DILLON



I have awoken this spring morning with a little spring in my step. I flagged here many moons ago the new buzz word, breakfast wine, and I have been more than thrilled of late to find it is making its way into my lexicon more frequently.

Matt Skinner, the Aussie Jamie Oliver of wine (who has worked with the pukker tucker man himself in London as a sommelier) is taking a lot of the nonsense out of wine and giving it to us straight. It was he that first gave me the breakfast wine idea.

In doing my research, I again wanted to stay away from all of the piff paff commercial wines that abound and find something that will highlight your spring morning.

Breakfast wine is Moscato or a Moscatito. It generally is a low alcohol wine with a little frizzante rather than full on bubbles like a sparkling. Beautifully sweet and fabulously refreshing, it has strong hints of crunchy granny smith apples, zesty citrus and tropical flavours, with some even having a mango passionfruit undertone.

I have found three wonderful examples of this wine, and it would be awful of me to keep these offerings to myself. They all come in smaller bottles, perfect to pop into a small backpack and surprise someone special with some chilled mango, stone fruits and fresh raspberries for breakfast. All sell for less than \$20.

Two Hands 'Brilliant Disguise' Moscato (500ml) from the Barossa Valley sells for about \$15 and is a rare departure from Shiraz for the renowned producers, yet showing they can still do it with buckets of style. This Moscato is made from Frontignac vines between 80 and 100 years old. It has an explosive, vibrant nose, is floral with some peach and apricot hints adding depth. Light fizz helps the flavours dance across your tongue, yet with some texture as well – like a big, silky tropical fruit salad. With a good length to finish it is probably Australia's best Moscato.

Wanderer Wines from the Yarra Valley is a small independent wine maker. The 2005 Moscatito is a light straw colour with green hues. It displays lifted floral aromatics of fresh grapes, musk and tropical fruits. In the mouth the wine is lush and mouthfilling. The zingy tropical fruit flavours are prominent on the palate, whilst the light "frizzante" provides a refreshing, clean finish.

I have very recently been one of a very select few to sample the 2006, which is a slightly more grown up moscatito, with more tangy green apple flavours, and that glorious mouth filling taste. Both wines are available only by appointment to the parent winery, Gembrook Wines, which is owned by the maker's parents, but well worth the effort.

Innocent Bystander 2006 Pink Moscato. Destined to be a big hit this summer and take off where Rose left us at the end of last. What a cracker of a hot-weather wine it is, too with a gently sherberty fizz, gorgeous pale rose colour, floral, grapey perfume and sweet Pink Lady apple flavours. And around 10 bucks for a half-bottle with a crown seal, you cannot go wrong. This cheeky little moscato is sensational when you get home after a hard day's work, and want something cold and wet to throw down that screech. **For further information on anything that appears in this column, email wine@qmagazine.com.au or call Pete on 0409142365**

q announcements: BEAT BROKER

It's with great excitement that Beat Broker announces the launch of their Remix and Production Service.

Set up with the aim of providing labels and artists with innovative options for their next track or album, as well as producers with an additional outlet for their creative endeavours, Beat Broker is extending its commitment to nurturing and promoting music created by top rate local and international artists.

The first round of artists to be signed includes ARIA award winning Danielsan from Koolism and leading Australian dance act Nubreed, as well as two of Australia's most recognised producers in hip hop, Jase (Obese Records) and Plutonic Lab of Muph & Plutonic fame.

With a view to expand the roster in the coming months, this new facet of the organisation, in line with Beat Broker's other specialist services, will focus on dance and hip hop.

Sam Cameron Director of Beat Broker commented " We are really excited about this new arm to the Beat Broker tree and think it will be of real benefit to the music industry. The idea has been in development for sometime now, so we are looking forward to working with labels and artists to help create some hits!"

Any labels, artists or producers who would like to find out more should contact Beat Broker on info@beatbroker.com.au or 03 9827 6068



q generation: with LUKE HUGGARD

The times are changing...

In an ever-changing world, sometimes it seems that nothing ever quite stays the same...including people, some friendships, cities, anything really. However, after a recent trip to Melbourne by an old friend (with benefits) of mine, I realised that some things and some people never really change. And this isn't necessarily a bad thing, especially due to the fact that I would be devastated if the mind-blowing sex I had with this special friend of mine were somehow jeopardised by time or circumstance.

After all, despite thriving on, and certainly depending on, change in order to achieve the goals I have set for my young self, a little stability and familiarity is always nice. As I checked in to the Langham Hotel (formerly Sheraton Towers) once again to enjoy a fabulous weekend with a fabulous friend, I was reminded of how so much had changed since I last saw this close friend of mine. Chapters had been opened and others closed in my turbulent young life, all eventually for my benefit, yet this is exactly what I needed, a chance to exhale...on the nineteenth floor!

Why is there something about height that can somehow make you think a lot more clearly? Isn't that why people climb mountains, book hotel rooms on the highest floors and own four wheel drives? (being 6'2 tall myself, I would have thought I would already possess a little more clarity). Nevertheless, this is exactly what I needed to refuel for the rest of my summer - meaningless conversation followed by a lot of laughter, cosmopolitans with pink grapefruit juice and...relaxation (or something of the sort!).

I checked out feeling refreshed (although from the look on the concierge's face, I should have been feeling like a hotel hooker - however I was not deterred). I was reminded that there was a whole wide world outside Melbourne, and with a lot of hard work and a bit of luck, one day I would get to see it.

At Carnival in Treasury Gardens the next week, I also couldn't help but focus on time

and change. It is quite moving to witness an evolving GLBTi community that now includes children and proud gay parents, and for that matter an evolving Carnival day itself. Much has been said on whether that change is a positive or a negative, and I will not weigh in on the debate. Regardless, I have no problem with any day of the year on which it is socially acceptable to start drinking at 11am.

As the alcohol continued to flow and I rolled around on the grass with the gorgeous George (my friend's adorable chocolate Labrador and I think a soul mate of mine!), I couldn't help but realise that life is always changing, moving on in different directions and, perhaps only after life has been stagnant for a period of time can we really appreciate the importance of change.

As I watched friends Simon and Vaughn, the happy couple, and socialites of Treasury Gardens circle the park, I once again gained the affirmation that change, in this case from single life to almost married life, can be such a wonderful thing. Change is often a frightening thing but is simultaneously so exciting and promising.

I'm off to Mardi Gras this week and will report back with all the dirty details next month. In loving memory of Anna Nicole Smith 1967-2007.



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q beauty: with GEORGE ALEXANDER



Drop whatever hair colour brand you're using, and go ORGANIC!

Organic Systems Australia (OSA), an Australian owned company with a philosophy steeped in bringing to the market only the best certified organic hair products and cosmetics, has finally launched in Australia the most advanced and organic hair colour system available, Organic Colour Systems. Born in the UK, Organic Colour Systems produce professional hair care products using as many certified and naturally derived ingredients as possible.

Organic Colour Systems is the FIRST and ONLY range of long lasting, permanent hair colours in the world today containing certified organic and naturally derived ingredients and has been formulated to cover all grey hair - with 100% coverage.

The innovative formulation, with NO AMMONIA has the ability to achieve all areas of hair colouring techniques, whilst maintaining the hair's essential moisture and protein levels. This means there is NO PHYSICAL DAMAGE TO THE HAIRS DELICATE INNER STRUCTURE. The organic natural extracts and vitamins E & C, combined with plant derived conditioners, will actually enhance, protect and moisturise as the hair is coloured, and with a broad range of colours you are able to achieve almost any colour you wish.

It was to be seven years of hard work before Organic Colour Systems was launched. Initially it was only available in the UK, but after many enquiries from hairdressers in other countries, was exported a year later. The products are now exported to 28 countries and this is growing all the time as more hairdressers try to address the issue of unnecessary chemicals for their clients and in their everyday working lives.

The company recently moved to new purpose built premises and have one of the most sophisticated and hi-tech plants in Europe, capable of producing some of the very finest products in the world.

The products philosophy and ethos is without question. Using ingredients such as Certified Organic Comfrey Extract, Certified Organic Roman Chamomile Extract,

Certified Organic Aloe Vera to name a few, Organic Colour Systems in a league of its own. No other hair colour comes remotely close.

These two pictures are from exactly the same natural hair sample, which is untreated light brown hair. Both have been coloured and photographed under a microscope. The first is of a popular ammonia colour with 6% activator and the bottom picture is Organic Colour Systems with the same level of activator for exactly the same period.



From the pictures you can clearly see the difference in the effect created on the cuticle. Organic Colour Systems colour causes no visible damage to the hairs cuticle layer.



In addition, the natural extracts soothe and heal the scalp, so it's ideal for the most sensitive scalps. So gentle in fact, that it is the ONLY permanent colour product I would recommend during pregnancy or whilst going through chemotherapy.

So, when choosing your next colour, ask your hairdresser if they are using Organic Colour Systems.

If not, email organicsystems@iinet.net.au to find out the location of your nearest Organic Colour Systems Gold Salon.

Better yet, hand this article to your current hairdresser and get them to start using it. I did!!

q grooming: YOUR Q & A SECTION

Q - Does Q have any shaving tips?

A - Start with a mild scrub to minimise flaky skin before shaving. Use a shave gel with an emollient to help the blade slip across skin, or if you don't have shave gel, try a little gentle hair conditioner or body wash, rather than a soap bar.

Always use clean/sterilised blades, and change the blades regularly. Use a moisturiser day and night, particularly on your newly shaved jaw line, to protect skin from the elements.

TRY: Terra Firma For Men by The Natural Source - Anti-Sting Shave Gel - Price \$13.95

To ask a question, please send an email to grooming@qmagazine.com.au

q fashion special issue: with SEXi ALEXi



To make contact with Brecik and Alex, please email fashion@qmagazine.com.au

Mates - what's up? Alex the Greek with you this month as Brecik has gone on holidays (or had a misfortunate botox related incident - one or the other - I can't remember).

We are coming up to the most exciting time of the year in fashion when the new winter styles are hitting the shelves and, from what we are seeing so far, it doesn't matter how cold it is outside - we are all going to be looking HOT!!!!

While black is still a basic colour, we are seeing it teamed with a lot of brighter colours which gives an awesome lift to a dark shirt or T-shirt. A basic white is also still very much in which gives that fresh, alive feel - even though the weather starts to get real cold. We are also seeing shirts come through with a less of a bold stripe to them, which have been so popular for so long. Lots of grey and blue shades that have a more plain, dressy feel to them. There are even a few shirts coming through with small prints or writing on them just for that different, more individual feel.

We are also seeing just as many formal styles of shirts coming through as we are casual, so even this early in the season, before we are hit with the full slog of winter stock, there is a great deal of choice. I know that at yd they are offering

a dressy style shirt with a button next to the sleeve to give the customer choice between buttoning the sleeve or wearing cuff links.

We are seeing really slick, slim fit dress pants come through in dark colours and an almost self stripe down the pant. They are not only great at making you look really tall, they give you that real distinguished look! There are also a few brown and grey styles out there with a check shaped pin stripe which can be worn on that more casual occasion - again offering a different look for individual style.

Jeans haven't changed much yet (it's still a little early in the season) but what is coming through is the right style and why change something that is working well? Hot shades of blue are slowly filtering out with slight fade patches through the legs and less of the really bold 'whiskering' which we are all getting sick of!

For that funky going out look, it is still really hot to wear a tee shirt underneath an opened short sleeve shirt. (see photo) as long as they are both a tight fit look top, and the two contrast each other, roll the sleeves up and you will be the hottest in the club (speaking from experience).

And people, please - please don't forget to accessorise! It is so important to complete your look! I am starting to see more of you out and about looking fully sick with your accessories - simple wrist bands, watches, belts etc all help you complete your outfit and give you that hot finishing touch!

HARD PUSSY WEDNESDAYS WITH ANYTHING GOES AGAIN

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q travel: DISASTER AT CORAL BAY

Pictures and article by Shek Graham

We were only a few kilometres from Coral Bay and the Ningaloo Reef when the first of a series of disasters struck. Experiencing your first flat tyre whilst driving at 100 kph, and pulling a heavy trailer, is rather frightening - especially when the tyre literally shreds itself to pieces. It had never happened to me before, despite travelling on some pretty rough tracks. Yet here we were on the tarmac with almost brand new tyres, and I felt the vehicle pulling across the road. Luckily I was able to control the Troopie and pull over safely. There wasn't much left of the tyre at all - no patch up job for this baby! It was sort of sweet, but also a little annoying that *he* came over to help us change the tyre but then rather took over the situation. Though it was the first flat I had experienced whilst driving, we had certainly changed many a tyre on our various trips, and were more than capable, but I guess you have to let the sole straight male make himself feel important!

Within twenty minutes we were back on the road, seeing our first glimpses of the ocean, and not long after we pulled into Coral Bay very excitedly. There are only two caravan/tent parks in Coral Bay and the first one we stopped at didn't take dogs! Luckily the second one did, and we pitched our tents and walked down to the beach. It's a beautiful bay with pristine white sands and a fabulous coral blue shade to the gently lapping sea. We went for a long walk and came back to camp just as the sun was setting - experiencing one of the most magical sunsets I have ever seen. The next day we went to the dive shop to book some dives and two snorkelling trips to view the manta rays and then the whale sharks. We spent the rest of the day at the beach and came back in the late afternoon.

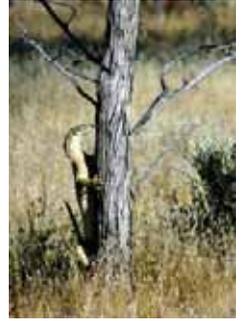
Our two dogs Penda and Pumpkin are like chalk and cheese.



Penda, the Australian silky terrier is a really cool dog, happy with other people and dogs. Pumpkin, who is a maltese/poodle cross, is completely different. He thinks he is the size of a German Shepherd and acts

accordingly. We try and keep a very careful eye on him, always keeping him on a lead and watching his every step. However I dropped my guard for a second and we were in trouble! Whilst taking off his lead to put him in his car harness, he slipped away from me just in time to nip a passing stranger on the calf. I ran over to grab him and offer my sincere apologies, just as a worker at the ground came up in his beach buggy and whisked her off to the nurse. A little later the campground manager came round and said that she had reported the incident to the Park Ranger and that he was going to have Pumpkin put down!

Rather shaken and distraught, we gathered up both Penda and Pumpkin and got into the Troopie and drove away into the night, leaving our friends to look after our stuff. Our plan was to get Pumpkin to safety in kennels a long way from Coral Bay, then come back and face the music. Jan didn't like us driving at night in case we hit a kangaroo or some other wild life and killed it, so we stopped in a lay-by some kilometres out of town. We hadn't



grabbed any bedding in our rush to whisk Pumpkin from the jaws of death, so were reduced to sleeping on the beach towels that we had in the back of the car. Not comfortable at all. After a very short and restless doze I was awakened by the sound of footsteps outside the car. I peered out of the window into the blackest night and saw shadows moving past the window! Luckily just then, one of the shadows materialised into a white calf! It was a group of about 10 young cows walking past the vehicle in the dead of night.

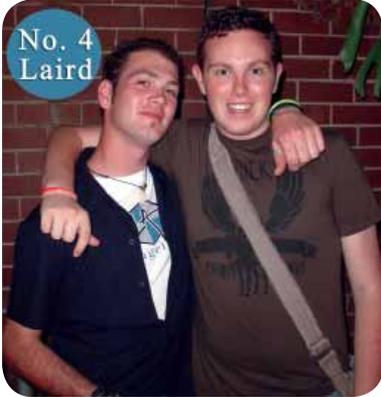
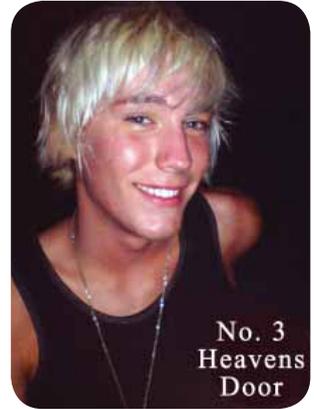
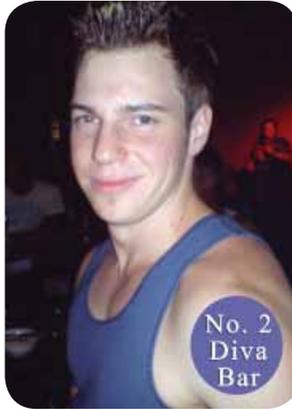


I felt it was time to move on, and enduring Jan's many curses I drove very slowly through the night to Carnarvon seeing more kangaroos than I had seen during the whole of our trip so far. In the morning I received a call from our friends saying that the Ranger had indeed come around soon after we left but that he had no intention of putting Pumpkin down for such a minor incident. We felt somewhat relieved, and headed back after a hearty breakfast, but still booked Penda and Pumpkin into kennels in Exmouth, some eighty kilometres away from Coral Bay, under a pseudonym! Round trip - some 560 kilometres, and we still hadn't had a dive on the reef. Were we ever going to see the Whale Sharks?



Q cuties: LOVE YOU MELBOURNE

Send your entries into cuties@qmagazine.com.au for your chance to be our monthly Q Cutie.



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Our MIDSUMMA Q Cuties title goes to our cutie from the Peel. You have won a \$50 drink voucher at the Peel (thepeel.com.au) in Collingwood - simply identify yourself anytime to Ben from now to collect - congratulations.



Conditions: All Omagazine competitions are open to everyone, except those that specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Competitions close on the final day of each calendar month with all prizes being drawn at 5pm the following day at Apartment 3, 15 - 17 Charnwood Road, St. Kilda 3182. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of Omagazine. All monthly Q Cuties winners will appear in the following edition of the publication

q spotlight: MELBOURNE MUSEUM

Great Wall of China: dynasties, dragons & warriors

Melbourne Museum, in partnership with the National Museum of China in Beijing, will present the first major international exhibition about China's historic Great Wall. The exhibition features treasures rarely seen outside the vaults of China's major museums, including objects such as a Terracotta Warrior, crossbows, swords and formal court robes. With objects dating as far back as 475 BCE, this exhibition brings to life many of the fascinating stories associated with the walls. A joint project of the National Museum of China, Beijing and the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney in association with the Palace Museum, Gansu Provincial Museum, Gansu Provincial Institute of Archaeology, the Municipal Museum of Dunhuang and Shanhaiguan Great Wall Museum.

Date 23 March – 22 July 2007 Cost Adult \$16, Child \$8, Concession \$10, Family \$36 (Includes Museum entry)

Koorie Elders Talkin Up Country

This exhibition presents work from six respected Koorie elders who took up art later in life. Aunty Lorraine 'Bunta' Patten, Uncle Herb Patten, Uncle Howard Edwards, Aunty Gwen Garoni, Uncle Kennedy Edwards and Aunty Frances Gallagher have since exhibited in many venues and won a host of art awards. Talkin Up Country is the first of three changing exhibitions being presented in Bunjillaka's Birrarung Gallery in 2007, as part of a regular program showcasing the talents of Victorian Aboriginal artists.

Venue Bunjillaka Aboriginal Centre, Melbourne Museum
Date Now – May 2007 Cost Free with Museum entry

Exotic Chameleons on display at Melbourne Museum

Visitors to Melbourne Museum will have the opportunity to see exotic Chameleons (*Chamaeleo calytratus*) on display in the Discovery Centre. Native to Yemen and Saudi Arabia, Melbourne Museum is one of only three places in Australia where they can be seen. With long slender legs and a prehensile tail adapted for grasping, Chameleons

have the ability to change colour within seconds to match surroundings and become invisible to predators.

Venue Discovery Centre, Lower Ground Floor

Date From 1 December 2006 Cost FREE

Top Designs

This exhibition showcases outstanding VCE student design and innovation. Top Designs features work from a range of disciplines including wood, metal, plastic, food, fabric and fibre, film, graphic design, publishing, photography, multimedia, mechanical and electronic systems. Part of the 2007 VCE Season of Excellence, Top Designs is presented by the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority.

Date 20 March – 11 June 2007 Cost Free with Museum entry

My Sister's Wardrobe – Presented in association with the L'Oreal Fashion Festival

Imagine a gigantic clothing store where everything is free! This clothing exchange provides an opportunity to swap clothes you don't wear anymore for those you will. Participants bring up to six high quality garments to swap with hundreds of others.

Date Saturday 10 March 2007 Time 1:30pm – 4:00pm Cost \$6 Adults. Bookings essential, phone 13 11 02.

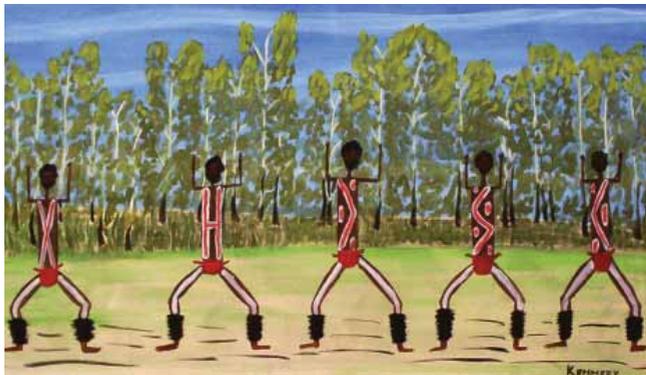
Autumn School Holidays at Melbourne Museum

To celebrate the blockbuster exhibition Great Wall of China: dynasties, dragons & warriors Melbourne Museum has an exciting program of Chinese themed activities and presentations these school holidays. Visitors can make an imperial war tiger tally, learn Chinese characters and try on ceremonial armour.

Date 31 March – 15 April 2007



Melbourne Museum, Nicholson Street, Carlton. Open daily 10am – 5pm. Admission: Adult \$6, children and concession FREE. For further details phone 13 11 02 or visit museumvictoria.com.au/melbournemuseum



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Trusting your intuition

Do you do what's right for you or do what's expected of you?

Have you ever been placed in a situation where you knew what felt right in your heart to do but started doubting yourself anyway?

Just recently I came up against some criticism for adding a "cause" to my business www.nationwidenetworking.com and that cause is to educate business owners about their individual impact on global warming and what they can do to reduce it.

I was accused of introducing a political issue to the business and was debated whether it was in fact occurring. It wasn't a simple "I don't think you should do this" it was a direct attack to say that it was a bad idea and that other individuals hated it.

When I was presented with this information I went through a brief period of confusion. I started questioning myself as to whether I was right to in fact discuss a topic such as climate change and try and engage pro active change amongst the business community.

I found it literally like being in a relationship with someone that accuses you of doing something wrong. Initially you know you weren't wrong but then after a while you start to believe that you we're because of the influence the other person may have had over you, you then start to lose confidence and play the victim. So I decided to sit down and ask myself, "Do I really believe in this and what I am doing?" the answer back was a resounding yes. From that I made a clear cut decision to face the criticism and do what I wanted to do regardless of the hurdles I may encounter.

You see when we come across a situation on which we have our heart set on and decide to go after a goal, a relationship or even a career or business choice, we are sometimes going to come up from opposition from people that do not want to see us change. The funny thing about this is that it isn't about you or me, your changing threatens who they are and any possible control they may have over you. Now, this isn't to say be disrespectful of others and ignore them completely but it is to say trust what your gut instinct is telling you.

Is it telling you to leave a destructive relationship? Is it telling you to change your job because you want more? Is it telling you that you need a complete lifestyle? If this is the case then it is quite possible that you may be in a state of confusion or be incongruent within yourself and what is going on around you. Being truly congruent within yourself means being happy with each aspect of your life. If you are sad or depressed it means that you aren't doing what feels right for you or is in congruency with who you are.

So how do you trust your intuition? Decide on an aspect of your life right now that you would like to work on, find a quiet place and simply ask yourself the question, "What is the right path forward in this situation?" Wait for the answer to come to you and don't by any means force it. It may come to you straight away or it may take weeks or days but it will come. When it does come act on it without thinking about it or second guessing it.

This is truly what the difference between doing what is expected of you or doing what is right for you.

q joke of the month

There was this man who walked into a bar and says to the bartender 10 shots of whiskey.

The bartender asks, "What's the matter?"

The man says, "I found out my brother is gay and marrying my best friend."

The next day the same man comes in and orders 12 shots of whiskey.

The bartender asks, "What's wrong this time?"

The man says, "I found out that my son is gay."

The next day the same man comes in the bar and orders 15 shots of whiskey.

Then the bartender asks, "Doesn't anyone in your family like women?"

The man looks up and says, "Apparently my wife does."

THROB For Men presents....

THE GOOD FRIDAY A-PEEL

Friday
April 06^{ad}

9
NOEY BIBLE

72.4

5.5

He died
for our sins.
"Lets make it
worth his while!"

4
Sacred
Jesus
heart

22.30

"cum unto me said the Lord"

**A party for Men & boys
from every persuasion....**



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q movies: **SHORTBUS**

Shortbus was the buzz film at Cannes this year. It is a celebration of sex in all its forms - heterosexual, homosexual and... autosexual. The sex may be graphic but in Shortbus sex is fun and more often than not, downright funny. From the opening scene, the tone is set as one of the Gay characters gives himself pleasure [including the eventual protein face mask] while a neighbour watches from his apartment.

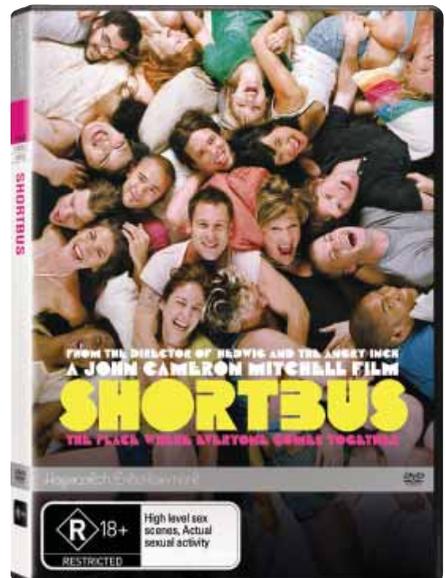
Shortbus explores the lives of several emotionally challenged characters as they navigate the comic and tragic intersections between love and sex in and around a modern-day underground salon.

A sex therapist who has never had an orgasm, a dominatrix who is unable to connect, a gay couple who are deciding whether to open up their relationship, and the people who weave in and out of their lives, all converge on a weekly gathering called Shortbus: a mad nexus of art, music, politics and polysexual carnality.

In a post - 9/11, Bush-exhausted New York City, Shortbus tells its story with sexual frankness, suggesting new ways to reconcile questions of the mind, pleasures of the flesh, and imperatives of the heart.

Director John Cameron Mitchell (Hedwig and the Angry Inch) has given us a true cinematic gift that is destined for cult status and will help define a generation. It is R rated for a reason, so for anyone who does not like the less vanilla side of things, or has a problem with seeing genitalia on scene, you should probably not hire or buy this film.

If you do however like a rollercoaster ride of hilarity, sexual freedom and discovery, a brilliant storyline, equally fabulous acting, then this one is definite for you and should immediately be added to your collection.



If you do however like a rollercoaster ride of hilarity, sexual freedom and discovery, a brilliant storyline, equally fabulous acting, then this one is definite for you and should immediately be added to your collection.

Think of a pornographic Woody Allen movie and you will still fall well short of the pleasures and challenges that await you in Shortbus.

Truly brilliant! For sale or hire now in your favourite video outlet through Hopscotch Entertainment. I give Shortbus a very strong 5 star rating.

q essentials: **EROS LUBRICANTS**

WORLD FIRST FOR SUPERMARKETS

Major Supermarkets commence sales of silicone based personal lubricant, marking a first for supermarkets globally.

SASMAR, the Australian distributor of Europe's best selling lubricant brand marked a world first with their introduction of EROS Essentials Original silicone based personal lubricant onto the shelves of Australian supermarkets. Woolworths and Safeway were the first to add the silicone lubricant formula to their shelves, accepting EROS Essentials Original in their annual medicinal range review. Now Coles, Bi-Lo, and Franklin's have followed suit by accepting EROS Essentials Original into a very conservative supermarket category. This makes the product available to over 26 million customers who visit their stores each week. Silicone lubricant has been available since 1994 but until now rarely sold anywhere else other than adult lifestyle stores both within Australia and around the world.

The introduction of EROS Essentials Original into supermarkets is a world first and only the beginning with future plans for the product in other supermarket chains internationally.

EROS Essentials Silicone lubricant does not contain sugar, oil, fat or fragrance making it a perfect choice for sufferers of cystitis, thrush and skin irritations. Never becoming sticky or dry the product enhances sexual activity for both males and females. Go to erosessentials.com for further information.



q festivals: MQFF

17th Melbourne Queer Film Festival - Driven by Volkswagen 15 March – 25 March 2007

- Opening Night- Astor Theatre Closing Night- Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)
- All other sessions at Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)
- Tickets on sale now [and all general informaton] at melbournequeerfilm.com.au. Also at Hares and Hyenas, 63 Johnston Street Fitzroy and at ACMI Cinemas.

The largest and most successful queer film festival in Australia, the Melbourne Queer Film Festival will take place from March 15- 25 at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image, commencing with its roof-raising opening night and party at the Astor Theatre in St Kilda. In 2006, 20,000 film and queer film devotees attended MQFF, an illustration of the immense success and support for the Festival in Melbourne.

In 2007, the Melbourne Queer Film Festival continues to be driven by Volkswagen, and MQFF is proud to announce that Volkswagen has committed to a 3 year naming rights sponsorship from 2007 to 2009. Festival Director, Lisa Daniel is thrilled to present the program this year which she is delighted to confirm as the very best yet. 122 films will screen over ten days including 38 feature films and 27 documentaries. Over 10 feature film Australian premieres.

"The programming panel has gone to great lengths to carve out a selection of films which highlights the maturity of queer cinema as a genre across the globe", said Daniel. "We are delighted to present the Australian premiere of 2 new Australian feature films, Ed Aldridge's gay surf film Tan Lines, and the World Premiere of Melbourne filmmaker Kylie Eddy's This Kiss, and there's some great new films from the next generation of up and coming Australian filmmakers featured in the City of Melbourne Awards short film package."

Opening and Closing nights of the Festival are as always, a highlight of the social calendar for the queer community. MQFF is delighted to confirm Infamous, the accurate and compelling portrayal of the brilliant and egotistical author Truman Capote as the opening night film. Closing night film is the hilarious Itty Bitty Titty Committee, by Jamie Babbit (But I'm a Cheerleader) featuring an all star cast of lesbian favourites such as Daniela Sea (The L Word, Shortbus) and Jenny Shimuzu (Foxfire) in this high powered girl on girl adventure. Director Jamie Babbit will also be a guest of the Festival.

Highlights of the 2007 program include: The Gymnast,

winner of 9 international Best Film Awards including LA Outfest, 20 Centimetres, a hilarious Spanish comedy featuring a narcoleptic transsexual prostitute, Another Gay Movie, a queer teen sex comedy that makes 'American Pie' look tame, and Cut Sleeve Boys, from Hong Kong starring Chowee Leow, who is am MQFF guest.

A strong international selection includes features from Iceland, The Philippines, Mexico, Taiwan, Romania, Bosnia, Herzegovina and South Korea including the brilliant award winning film, The King and the Clown (Wang-ui Namja), South Korea's Official Entry into the Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film. From out of the archives MQFF presents Frank Brittain's seminal 1970 Australian feature, The Set.

This year in partnership with the City of Melbourne, MQFF presents the 2007 Oz Shorts program which offers a \$2000 cash prize for Best Australian Short Film. Filmmakers will also vie for best feature film, best documentary, best short film and best Australian Short Film with over \$9000 in cash prizes on offer. Strap on the stilettos or buckle up those boots, MQFF needs you on the floor...



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Please help us welcome our newest member, Thomas, by receiving 10% off all services when you come in and see him.

See you soon!

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q theatre: THE WORLD IS A STAGE

There's a show for everyone's taste in March as The Butterfly Club serves up an impressive mix of cabaret styles by some of Australia's finest performers. From comedy to characters, operatic to tributes, satire to 'dark' cabaret, our March program is eclectic but, as always, highly entertaining!

Function special: mention 'flutterby' for half priced welcome cocktails when you book a party in March.



Phil Scott in MY LONG AWAITED COMEBACK

Plucky Phil Scott, cabaret pianist, singer, comedian and star of the infamous Sydney Theatre Company's Wharf Revue, is risking life and limb to entertain you. After he

suffered shocking injuries in a ten-pin bowling accident, doctors told Phil cabaret was out for good! (gasp) But he proves the experts wrong in his brave new show and subsequent 5-year world tour of MY LONG AWAITED COMEBACK. Expect new numbers, old numbers treated in a deep new way, songs, laughs and sudden twinges of pain at Phil's personal 'recovery party'.

Dates: Thursday 8 to Sunday 11 March, all shows at 9.00 pm Ticket price: \$20 full / \$16 concession-holders and for groups of 8 or more.

Divino in A CRASSICAL TRIBUTE

After their sell out Christmas season Divino is back at The Butterfly Club with their brand new show. These three stunning young tenors are more than just a sleazy European boy band, their hilarious and exciting cabaret incorporates songs from artists such as Frank Sinatra, Simon and Garfunkle and of course Il Divo.



Dates: Fridays and Saturdays from 9 March (9/10, 16/17, 23/24, 30/31), all shows at 10.30 pm Ticket price: \$25 full / \$20 concession-holders and for groups of 8 or more.

THE BEAUTIFUL LOSERS (Winners, Best Ensemble – 2006 Green Room Awards, Best Cabaret – 2005 Melbourne Fringe Festival) feature Mark Jones, Adam Murphy and Karlis Zaid as a cast of murderers, sado-masochists, necrophiliacs, philatelists, prison bitches and Seventh-Day Adventists.

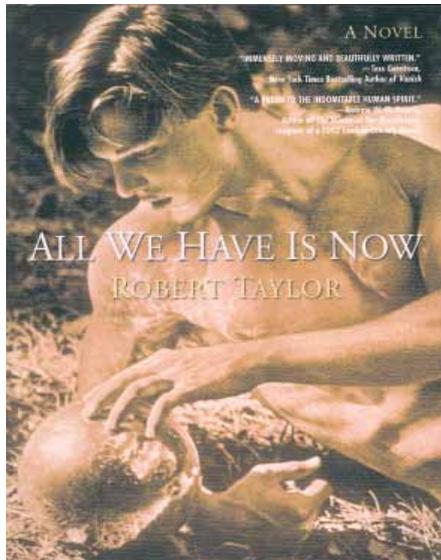


Dates: Friday 16 and Saturday 17 March, both shows at 9.00 pm Ticket price: \$25 full / \$20 concession-holders and for groups of 8 or more.

Bookings for all shows in Q Theatre for March: thebutterflyclub.com or telephone (03) 9690 2000.

Q Magazine - supporting the Arts in our community!

q books: by DAVID GLASHEEN



After his lover dies of AIDS, well known actor Ian McBride lives a reclusive life of solitude centred around his theatre company in Washington - having been devastated and not wanting to open himself up to risking the pain of loss that another relationship may bring.



Until, one day Ian falls in love with fellow actor Jimmy Davidson - a much younger man - and he warily starts to break down the emotional barriers he has built around himself as he plans a new life with Jimmy. However, hope is short lived, quickly turning to rage, sadness, and loss (an all too common feeling for Ian) when Jimmy is brutally murdered during a visit to his family in Texas.

All We Have Is Now is the journey through Ian's grief and anger dealing with an unforgiving disease and then a despicable act of hatred, then back to a place where compassion brings hope, not hate.

Author: Robert Taylor Publisher: Harrington Park Press.
Available in all good book stores. Distributed by Bulldog Books.

q plays: SHOE-HORN SONATA

Alexander Theatre is excited to welcome Belinda Giblin and Maggie Kirkpatrick in *The Shoe-Horn Sonata* by John Misto on 27 and 28 March.

- Winner of the 1995 Australia Remembers National Play Competition, the largest playwriting prize ever offered in Australia, which the playwright donated to a fund for the building of a memorial to Australian nurses killed in the war.
- Winner of the 1996 Play Award, NSW Premier's Literary Awards

The Shoe-Horn Sonata is a rare piece of theatre – John Misto's quest to reclaim ignored and thus forgotten history has resulted in a work of great emotional power. Theatre gives history an urgent voice with an important story to tell. A story, which relates to all ages because it entertains, informs, celebrates and enriches our lives. Misto's creation of Sheila and Bridie has resulted in stage portraits connecting with a wide audience base. For enquiries and bookings telephone 99051111 or visit monash.edu.au/monart



q websites: RICHARD McLEAN

Making art, whether it be images, music, writing, multi-media, or otherwise, has always been an intensely creative cathartic process for Richard McLean, and something that is a need, not a fickle want. The term, 'schizophrenia', as applies to him, defines him as such for an identifiable concept, yet he denounces the very limited definitions of the term, and the new born paradigms of modern psychiatry.

His 'psychosis', is not just an en-cumbersome and somewhat disabling epoch in time, (in regards to employment and sociability), yet one filled with many grand spiritual teachings, and personal realisations. It's surely something he would not wish upon a worst enemy in future tense, yet in retrospect, a period defined with 'acute empathy', 'alchemy', and 'intense spiritual growth'.

Social realism, dadaist imagery and pop culture has frequented much of his digital imagery in recent times, and are born from the writing of a new 'multimedia book', tentatively titled "The Truth Teller", which will follow 'Recovered, Not Cured, a journey through schizophrenia'. (Allen and Unwin). The current writing of 'The Truth Teller', has a more in depth shamanistic, spiritualist, and holistic angle to 'dis-chordancy', exploring metaphysical realms, and beauty and tragedy in the cracks of his life, and greater society. The process of writing has acted as catalyst for his website, from which the images in his exhibition are realised from. Sexuality, diversity, Religion, and attacking mediocrity and the celebration of diversity are main themes, and although the images may be seem controversial, they well from a source of empathy, and good will.

For further information about the work of this truly individual person, go to richiemclean.com/writing.html and tastemysubversion.com.au

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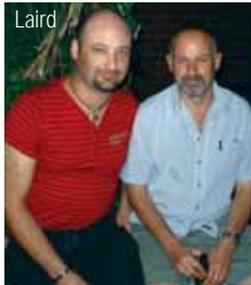
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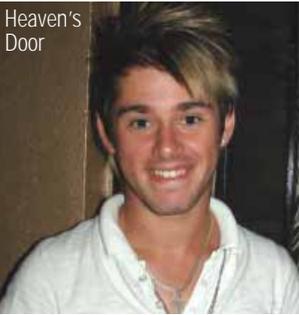


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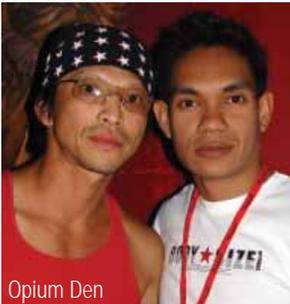
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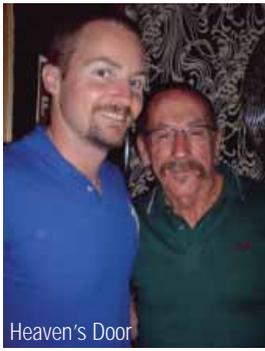
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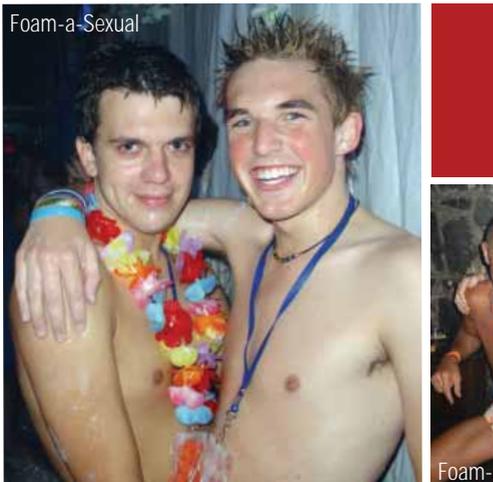
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q pets: with CAT RESCUE

What is Feline AIDS...?

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV), also referred to as Feline AIDS, is an infectious disease that attacks certain cells in the cat's immune system. As the virus replicates and spreads, it compromises the body's ability to fight off secondary infections.

When a cat is initially infected with FIV they become acutely unwell. After a few weeks they then enter an asymptomatic phase where the cat appears healthy and is able to lead a normal life. This period may last for many years, even for the duration of an average life span. But all the while the virus continues to replicate and destroy more of the immune system.

Eventually the immune system ceases to function completely and can no longer fight opportunistic infections. Once this has occurred, cats display a wide range of symptoms such as weight loss, diarrhoea, chronic secondary infections, and cancer. Sadly this is the final stage of FIV.

FIV is most commonly transferred between cats when they fight, because infected cats have large amounts of the virus present in their saliva. Undesexed adult male cats are the most likely to be infected, and through

fighting and mating they spread the virus to others.

Once a cat has been infected with FIV they cannot be cured. So it is essential to provide them with quality preventative care and limit their exposure to disease. This means desexing, a trip to the vet at the first sign of illness, a high quality diet, and minimising their contact with other cats.

There is now a vaccine to help protect cats from FIV, however it does not provide complete immunisation. The best thing you can do is have your cat desexed. This will stop the behaviours that predispose them to contracting FIV, such as wandering, fighting and breeding.

FIV is not a death sentence, it simply means adjusting your cat's life style to support him or her to live with this virus. Through appropriate vet treatment and tender loving care an FIV positive cat can lead a happy life.

For more information on FIV visit www.catchat.org/fiv.html or speak to your vet.

If you have a cat related question you would like us to answer, email pets@qmagazine.com.au Don't forget to check out the website www.catrescue.com.au

The CatRescue Team.



q fun: INTRODUCING THE CONE

The Cone, a unique new creation in adult entertainment, has been launched globally due to massive demand. Following its limited UK release earlier this year, Twisted Products has now launched The Cone to the international market with great success.

Original and individual in design, its contemporary shape separates The Cone from traditional toys. The non-phallic styling appeals to both men and women looking for something that is different and easy to use. Made with super-soft silicone, the cone is comfortable, easy to clean and extremely durable.

It boasts a powerful 3 volt 3,000rpm Gold Brush Motor, 16 automated programmes and an orgasm button. The Cone is hands-free and is suitable for newcomers and veterans alike. Twisted Products believe The Cone will be the best new toy for 2007. The Cone officially launched in August 2006 and is now available worldwide! International stockists are listed on conezone.org

The Cone is available in Australia from Cheeky Little Monkey at thecone.com.au



q lifestyle: BISH BASH BOSH TUCKER



Like a maturing young man, my humble little column is growing up. From hereon in each month, I will embrace the hedonistic lifestyle I lead and bring you booze, bottles, bars and bish bash bosh tucker. For any sensible contributions, please email wine@qmagazine.com.au or call 0409142365

Bar – 'Madam Brussels' L3 59-63 Bourke Street, City

If ever there was a bar that screamed queer and camp to the high heavens, then Madam Brussels is it. Perched above a "gentleman's entertainment club" or knock shop, it is named after a 19th century Lonsdale Street brothel owner. Indoors, the flooring is AstroTurf, with cutesy outdoor garden furniture, including sunlounges. One might be in a scene from Bewitched. Bring the dog/s and sit on the terrace outdoors, 3 levels above the hustle and bustle of Bourke Street – they will even throw a blanket over your shoulders if the weather turns cool. It is very Alice in Wonderland, and the amazingly attentive staff are dressed for a day at the club. Pink walls, Pimms and rose' as specialties, and cocktails by the jug, Madam Brussels is oh so country club. A great place to meet after work or for pre-dinner beverages or just to hang out at a funky city bar, away from the maddening crowd.

Bish Bash Bosh Tucker – Mirka at Tolarno 42 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda

Yours truly was particularly impressed to be invited to a junket for the media launch of the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival recently. The festival runs from the 16 - 30th of this month, and will highlight everything that is so freaking good about this town and her foodie culture.

The venue for said launch was the new Guy Grossi venture, Mirka at Tolarno (Tolarno Hotel, 42 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda). This amazing piece of Melbourne has finally come full circle in so many ways, with Guy commissioning Mirka Mora to do the restoration of her original 1960's murals and the creation of some new pieces.

'The Dining Room' will seat about 50 and is all timber and art. Classy, elegant, and yet oh so casual, it has that so very continental feel that one expects from the St Kilda area. The food is typically Grossi, understated and beautifully created southern Euro flair.

Perch yourself up at 'The Bar'. With attentive staff and all the noise and buzz one wants from a bar, glasses clinking, bottles being poured and stacked, and the general chit chat of evenings and weekends.

Anthony D'Augello and Dominic Marzano, two of Guy's protégés will be at the stoves while Restaurant Manager David Orbach heads front of house.

Well worth a visit. I rate it four forks.

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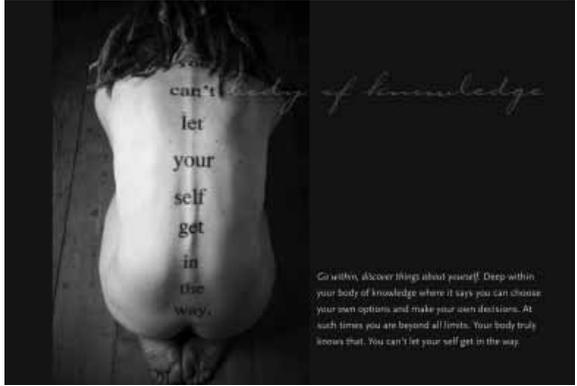
q community: POSITIVE WOMEN

Did you know that 20 million women worldwide are HIV positive?
 Did you know that most women contract HIV from their long term partner?
 Did you know that last year HIV diagnoses for women in Victoria increased by 25%?

Many people still believe only gay men or a "certain type of woman" are affected by HIV and AIDS. However, although in Australia it is predominantly Gay men who are infected by the virus, at Positive Women Victoria they know that any body can be infected and affected. Their members come from all walks of life; they are all somebody's daughter, mother, sister, even grandmother.

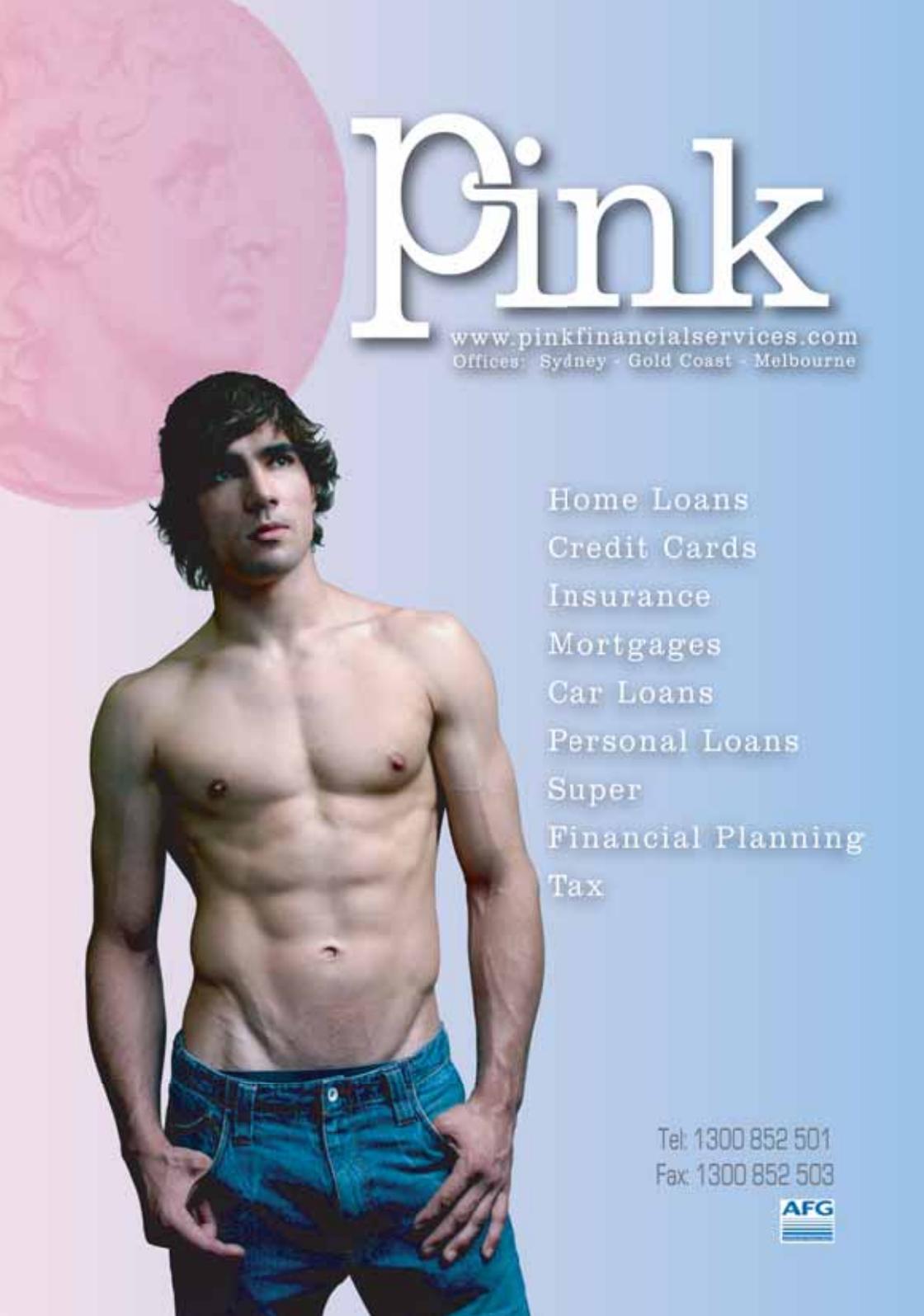
A Body of Knowledge, produced with the support of Australia Council will comprise a series of 15 large photographs (1 meter x 105cm). These stunning images have been photographed by world renowned photographer Michael Coyne. The prints feature parts of the body with text, strategically positioned on the body part that the women have chosen to be photographed. The text, gleaned from interviews conducted with the women by playwright Graham Pitts, was then tattooed onto the bodies by Amazing Raymond the Tattoo Artist. Amazing Raymond uses a method of tattooing that does not require needles but still allows the eye to see the pores of the skin in the photos, creating a truly remarkable affect.

This project allows the members of Positive Women Victoria to enjoy self expression while remaining, if they choose, anonymous. What we see, is what they feel. It will differ from other HIV/AIDS photographic exhibitions, which are often negative, by literally building a Body of Knowledge that can be used to educate and inform in a creative and innovative manner. Thirteen of the prints are of women who are HIV positive and two are of women who are affected but not infected. For more information on Positive Women Victoria go to: www.positivewomen.org.au



A BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

A Photographic Exhibition taking you inside the world and emotions of women affected by HIV/AIDS will be on display from the 20th to 24th March 2007 at fortyfivedownstairs gallery, 45 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.



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