



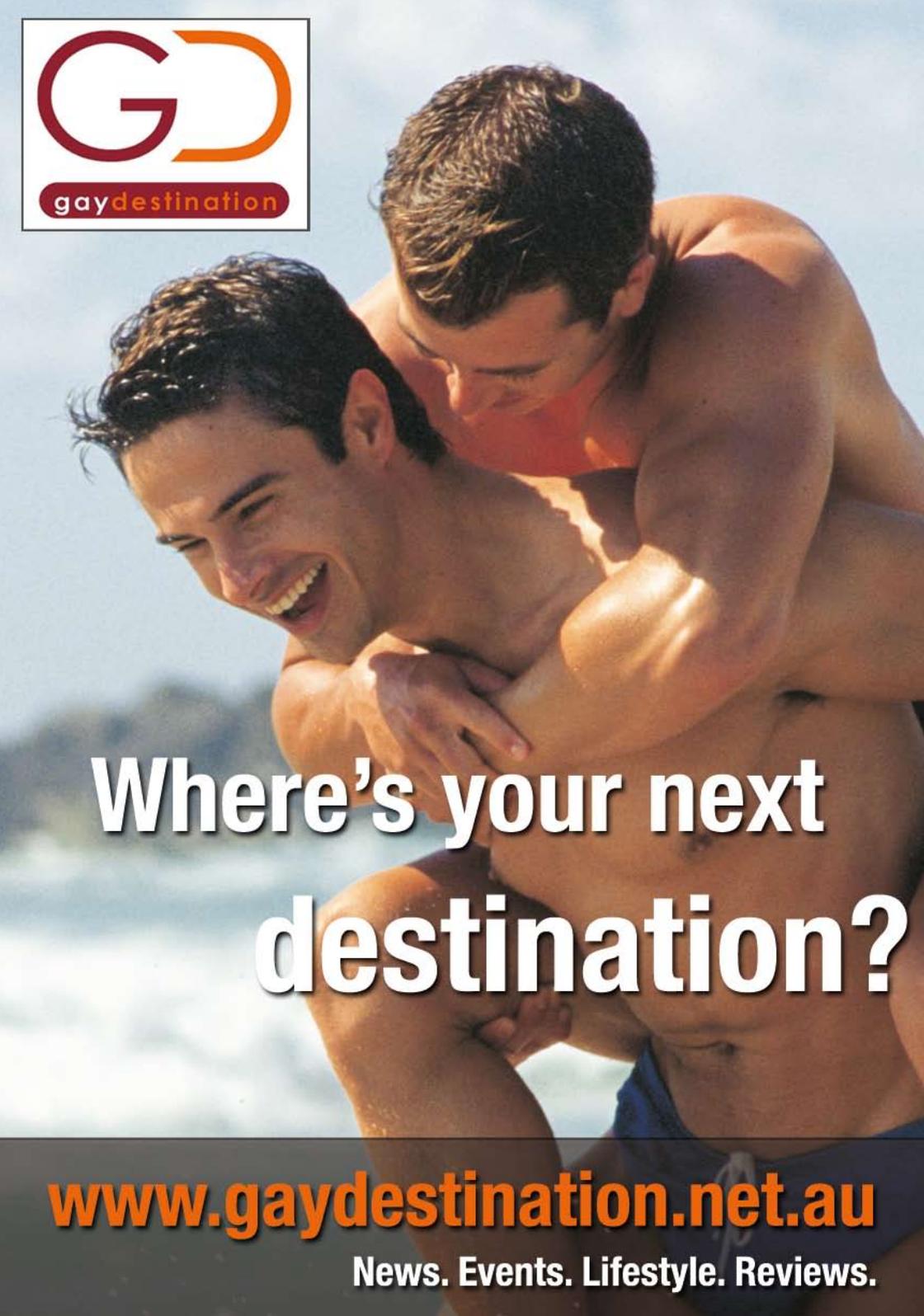
MAY 2009

Q MAGAZINE

*Made in Melbourne!
Enjoyed Nationally!*



gaydestination

A photograph of two shirtless men on a beach. One man is leaning over the other, embracing him from behind. They are both smiling and appear to be laughing. The background shows a bright, sunny beach scene with waves in the distance.

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q comment: **YEAR SIX BEGINS**

Firstly this month I would like to welcome both Ash Hogan (Q Travel) and James Freer (Q Work). Both men come with a wealth of knowledge about the subjects they are writing and I am extremely pleased to have them as part of the Q Writing team.

I also want to welcome a man who probably needs no introduction Alan Mayberry who will be highlighting from this issue onwards some of our fabulous drag performers. Not just a free plug for the venues they are performing in, Alan will take you through their beginning to where they are now. Hopefully it will give you a little more insight into the wonderful world of gender illusionism and the marvelous and talented men behind the craft.

Something I didn't mention last month is that April represented Q Magazine's fifth year anniversary of publishing (now in our sixth year). I thank everyone who has ever been involved and those particularly who continue to support the only independent publication (of its kind) in Melbourne and Australia. I am filled with pride when I think of our publication and hope that we continue to be of relevance to the GLBTi community.

Finally - the very talented Katie Underwood.

Katie has been interviewed recently on the web, television and the street press about her "return" to jazz (every Wednesday at Priscillas), life after Bardot and other aspects of her life. Q Magazine however is the only publication to place her on the cover (for the second time). Katie is a truly wonderful person and a good friend.

You can also catch Katie (not doing jazz) at Pinkalicious - Miss Libertine, 34 Franklin Street the city - doing two amazing sets on the 16th of this month. This is however a Girls ONLY event.



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Brett Hayhoe t/a Q Magazine
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q anniversary: FIVE YEARS ON

When I learnt that 2009 was the five year anniversary for Q Magazine I immediately recalled that other historical event five years ago - the marriage ban.

The Marriage Ban - background

In June 2004 the Howard Government introduced a bill to define marriage as a "union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life."

This legislation was introduced to prevent a current court proceeding from ruling that an overseas same-sex marriage could be seen as marriage in Australia. The initial bill also proposed to ban same-sex couples from adopting overseas.

The Democrats and Greens opposed the initial bill. With ALP support they sent the bill to a Senate committee for review and reporting in October 2004. The Senate Legal & Constitutional Affairs committee received 13,769 submissions, approx 90% of them supporting the marriage ban.

Right-wing and religious organisations banded together and with the support of Prime Minister Howard ran the National Marriage Forum in Canberra on 4 August 2009.

Then shadow Attorney-General Nicola Roxon stood up at the forum and announced that the Australian Labor Party would support a ban on same-sex marriage. The ALP indicated they would investigate the idea of civil unions and opposed the ban on overseas adoption.

A revised bill without the ban on overseas adoption by same-sex couples passed the Senate on Friday 13 August 2009.

We will never know if the Senate report would have supported or condemned the marriage ban. Because the second bill was passed by the Senate before its reporting date it was unnecessary to continue with public hearings or make a report.

Howard had created a wedge against the ALP just before the 2004 election. It caused the ALP to cave into the perception of public pressure created by right-wing organisations and the Howard Government.

Society's changing attitude

A newspoll conducted in June 2004 indicated that

38% of Australians supported same-sex marriage. 44% opposed same-sex marriage and 18% were uncommitted.

A galaxy poll conducted in June 2007 indicated that 57% agreed same-sex couples should be allowed to marry. 37% disagreed and only 6% didn't know.

Many groups and individuals, along with the US California debate around same-sex marriage, can be thanked for this 19% increase. Organisations such as the Australian Marriage Equality and the Equal Love protests have helped achieve this 19% increased support in only 3 short years.

In the same 2007 Galaxy survey 72% of Australians supported treating same-sex couples equally in areas like taxation, superannuation and workplace entitlements. In 2008 the ALP Rudd government fulfilled their election promise and removed discrimination in over 85 pieces of legislation.

But the marriage ban remains and same-sex couples in five out of eight states/territories have no way for their relationships to be formally recognised.

Civil Unions

Another five year anniversary this year is the 2004 Relationships Act in Tasmania. After seven years of consultations the Tasmanian government introduced an act to treat all relationships equally. The act not only recognised same-sex couples, but also recognised caring couples.

The Tasmanian scheme was never designed to be a compromise or marriage by another name. It was for a completely different purpose. It did exactly what it set out to achieve. That is, it recognised that in our modern day Australia all relationships deserve equal treatment before the law; whether they are married or defacto, sexual or friendship.

The 'marriage equality compromise' of civil unions is often suggested as a way to appease people opposed to marriage equality. Over the years however opposition to civil unions has been as vocal as they were to same-sex marriage.

Indeed back in 2004 after the ALP indicated they would support a marriage ban, but investigate the idea of civil unions - Bill Muehlenberg from the Australian Family Association labelled the ALP's policy "an attempt to sneak homosexual 'marriage' in by the back door".

On mainland Australia the Tasmanian aspiration for treating all relationships equally, was denounced by many as nothing more than 'dog registrations'. The international idea that civil unions could be an acceptable substitute for same-sex marriage became a strong alternative to marriage equality, despite its many flaws.



The United Kingdom introduced a Civil Partnership 'for gays only'. New Zealand around the same time created a Civil Union scheme which was open to all couples, but only through a formal ceremony. Around the world no two schemes seem to be exactly the same. Unlike marriage which (mostly) has a consistent understanding across the globe.

The ALP in 2007 supported a 'nationally consistent, state-based' scheme that put pressure on the states to introduce some form of recognition of same-sex relationships. However the ALP's policy, some two years down the track has done nothing to introduce any schemes.

The ACT and Victoria were already well underway in the process of introducing a relationship recognition scheme. Victoria stayed with the Tasmanian terminology of 'relationship register' and the ACT opted for 'civil partnership'.

It seems that no one civil union scheme will be satisfactory to all parties. Some want a mandated ceremony, others opposing being told how to celebrate their relationships. Some want caring relationships treated equally with conjugal or sexual relationships, others see this as deeming same-sex relationships to be on an equal footing with two friends or two brothers.

I support the Tasmanian attempt to treat all couples equally. I do not support using civil unions as a substitute for marriage. Supporters of marriage equality will never be satisfied with a substitute system. Supporters of civil unions for all relationships are unlikely to ever enter into a civil marriage.

What next in Australia

In Australia we have defacto laws that treat unmarried and married couples equally.

The 2008 equal treatment of same-sex couples by the Rudd Federal Government places Australia in a stronger position than some other countries in terms of practical equality. The removal of discrimination has largely been achieved in most laws except the Marriage Act 1961.

Yet we are still not equal in the eyes of many Australians. Our community is not on an equal footing within the broader community. The continued ban same-sex couples from marrying sends a clear message to the Australian public. Same-sex couples may be taxed like a couple, they may have the right to inherit their life partners superannuation; but do not be fooled they are not equal.

Five years on as Q Magazine and the Tasmanian Relationships Act celebrate their achievements, those supporting same-sex marriage mourn the continued discrimination against two loving people. While our relationships are not seen as the same as opposite sex couples, our community remains socially excluded from mainstream society.

If you want to help same-sex couples to have the right to marry I would urge you to talk about the issue with your family and friends - never under estimate the power of a personal story.

If Mr Rudd is serious about social inclusion and human rights, then its time to introduce civil unions throughout Australia and remove the marriage ban.

To get involved with the Australian Marriage Equality go to australianmarriageequality.com or visit the Equal Love (National Day of Action – 1 August 2009) website at equallove.info

Corey Irlam is a media spokesperson with the Australian Coalition for Equality. The views expressed in this article are his own.



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*"It gives me great pleasure to
bring Q Magazine to you.
I hope you enjoy reading it
as much as I do producing it.
We could not have got this far
without your support",
Brett Hayhoe,
Publisher & Editor.*

QMAGAZINE



Q money: with EVAN DAVIS

G'day and welcome to Q Money. It was late when I got home. I just wanted to get into my apartment without being noticed. Unfortunately, one of my neighbors was working in the garden. Despite the fact I wasn't dressed for the task, she insisted I help with fixing the automatic watering system. As I tightened a join, the pipe split evenly in two and covered me, and my favorite suit, with muddy water.

Finally inside the apartment I was told by my partner that the kitchen cupboards needed packing in preparation for our renovations. I was midway through this task when my upstairs neighbor's music started assaulting my senses. He was elderly and clearly his hearing aids were on the fritz again. I decided to ignore the noise from above and finish the job.

I knew what was about to happen next. Every apartment building has a self important, know it all, pit bull terrier. Mine was a wrinkly old dog called Mrs Claire Williams and she was aggressively knocking on my door. The music must have got her out of bed as she stood in front of me in her night dress, hair rollers and face mask. Time for me to sell and move!

When you decide, or are coerced to sell, you'll need a sale preparation checklist. Go through your property and decide what needs to be done to get you a better price. Tidy your home and garden. Where possible declutter and finish those little jobs. It is amazing how big a difference even minimal painting can make. Sometimes getting a property stylist can help improve the appeal of your property and increase the price you get for it.

The timing and method of sale are important. Traditionally spring or summer tend to be busy periods in real estate. There are generally more properties listed and there is more buyer activity. Different strategies should be applied to different areas. Many inner city locations do well with auctions, where as more suburban locations tend to favour private sales or sales by treaty or tender. Most sales campaigns run for approximately four weeks.

A real estate agent that is local to your area will be able to provide the best advice for where you live. Get quotes from several agents before deciding on the agent that is right for you. Get your solicitor or conveyancer to prepare contracts listing all inclusions and special conditions of sale. If relevant, contact your lender before you decide to sell. It is very important to check the payout on your mortgage so you know how much equity you have. Contact a mortgage broker to get pre-approval for your next purchase before you sell. A lot may have changed

since you took out your last mortgage.

Mrs Williams had finished ordering me to deal with the music. I realized that my only reward for the work completed so far was the promise of more work to come. She was half way up the stairs and turned around to give me more orders. As she spun her night dress did too. The crone wasn't wearing any panties. I definitely have to move and soon.



If you have a comment or question for Evan, please email money@qmagazine.com.au

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q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

It's a helluva long time since I wrote anything sensible about beer. I know, its a little trashy to drink beer that is anything but VB but hey, we all like one on a hot day, or a cold day and so, I dedicate a few words to the linctus of the hop.

Beer is a great thing - in moderation of course, and there are many boutiques on the market, especially those produced in Victoria.

There are many breweries in Victoria making some stunning little drops, and one of them is the Holgate Pub and Brewery in Woodend. The Holgate range of beers are brewed with 100% malt, real hops, sparkling fresh Macedon Ranges water - all of the finest ingredients from Australia and around the world to create a diverse range of Ales and Lagers giving you a taste sensation and real beer experience! All of the Holgate beers are available at Holgate Brewhouse on Draught, year round. The biggest selling beer on draught at Holgate Brewhouse is the Pilsner. It is a true European style lager - a light straw colour brewed with bucket loads of Czech Saaz hops. This lager is the ultimate session beer, but also offers enjoyment for the beer enthusiast with a clean malt palate and grassy/floral hop aroma and flavour. Crisp and refreshing anytime, the Holgate Pilsner matches well with seafood or rich dishes such as deep fried fish and chips or pizza.

In Bright in Victoria's North East is the Bright Brewery. Using fresh mountain water, quality ingredients and craft brewing techniques to brew their Mountain Crafted beer, they have found a recipe that is fantastic. Overlooking the river, parks and mountains, you can't top Bright Brewery for a beer and a bite. Relax with a beer outside gazing over the riverside parkland, or at the bar examining the brewing equipment. Or get comfy on one of the fireside couches. Have an adventure choosing your favourite beers from our Regular Range and our ever-changing Brewer's Choice beers. Try their Hellfire Amber Ale: Full-bodied English-style ale brewed with a rich blend of malts, balanced with aromatic hops. Or have a bash at the Blowhard Pale Ale: Plenty of hop character, a bracing citrus aroma and a clean refreshing finish. There are many options here and any of them present a refreshing clean palate and match themselves terribly well with anything from a pizza to some more complex flavours like Thai or Indonesian food- fresh clean tastes with mid palate complexity.

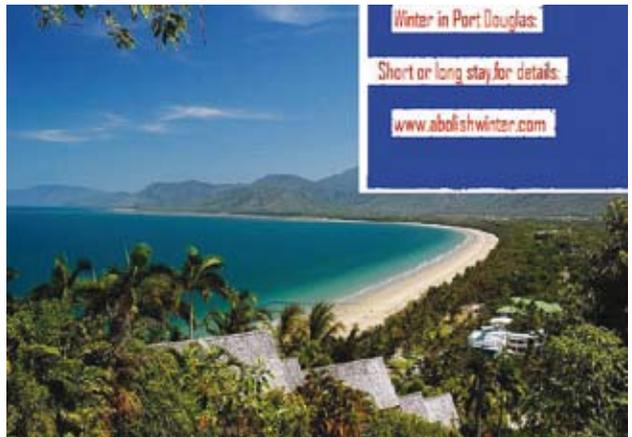
At Grand Ridge Brewery in Mirboo North, there is clearly a great love of pure beer. Winner of every Australian beer title at National Festival of Beer including best lager, ale, wheat beer, stout, dark ale and light beer, their beer is made with no added chemicals, preservatives and no added sugar.

If you are heading to try anything different in the North West, then The Mildura Brewery needs to be your choice. This renovated country pub is a place where you can enjoy fresh beer and a chat with the head brewer in full view of the modern brewing facility. It is part of the Di Pieri family of venues, and it is clear that they are doing some amazing things with hops locally. Known more for its wines, this region is making some spectacular frothies.

The Desert Premium is made using a long, cool fermentation, and is a refreshing and cleansing beer, suitable for all drinkers. The finish is thirst quenching, but more-ish, and it makes a great all-day beer. The Mallee Bull is a full-bodied and powerful ale with great flavour and length, and is a heavier style ale, brewed with Carapils, chocolate and roast malt. This gives the beer it's nutty and toffee flavour, and its deep amber to copper colour. This beer has a kick, like a Mallee Bull at almost 6% alcohol, and can pretty much knock an afternoon on its tush.

So, as always, remember to drink in moderation, but enjoy some of the amazing boutique beers Victoria has to offer.

Finally, if there is anything above that you want more information on, please feel free to email at lifestyle@qmagazine.com.au or phone Pete on 0409142365



q nyc: START SPREADING THE NEWS

NYC A POT OF GOLD AT END OF RAINBOW PILGRIMAGE

New York City is the most-visited U.S. destination for gay leisure travel, capturing a 24% share, according to San Francisco-based Community Marketing, Inc. The City is also the number-one destination for gay and lesbian business travel, making it the primary destination for the GLBT community in the U.S.

City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn and NYC & Company CEO George Fertitta have announced the New York City's first-ever integrated marketing and communications campaign to promote gay travel to New York City, a yearlong initiative to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. Rainbow Pilgrimage travel packages, bookable at nycgo.com/gay, will be available for the GLBT community to book trips to New York City throughout the year.

"New York City is an iconic destination for the gay and lesbian visitor," said George Fertitta, CEO of NYC & Company. "We are eager to invite and welcome even more gay travelers to visit New York City in 2009 not only to celebrate the historical significance of the Stonewall Riots anniversary, but also to take in all the energy, beauty and vibrancy our great City has to offer."

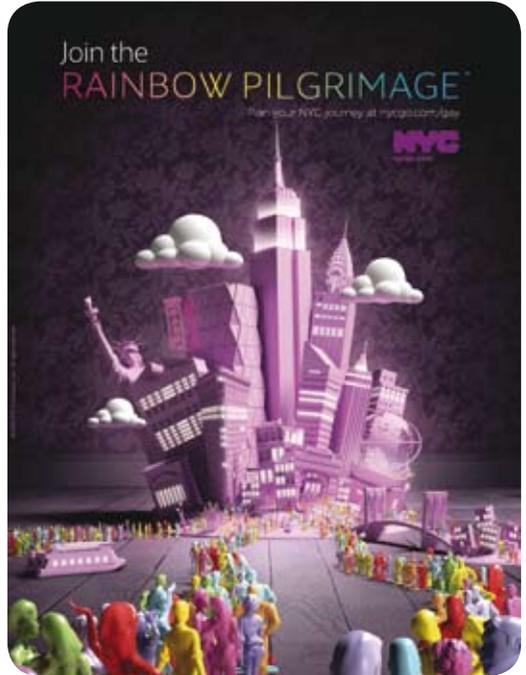
To help gay travelers more easily plan their future visit to New York City, nycgo.com/gay, a new Web microsite featuring original editorial content and a comprehensive five-borough GLBT Calendar of Events, was unveiled. Additional elements of the new site include listings of must-see gay landmarks in New York City and gay-friendly spring cultural highlights. A cornerstone event of the year will be the NYC Pride celebration, taking place June 20-28. The annual celebration marks the June 27 anniversary date of the 1969 Stonewall Riots.

Also featured on nycgo.com/gay is the trailer of the "Out in the City" documentary, co-produced by NYC & Company and acclaimed documentary filmmaker George Hickenlooper. The thirty-minute documentary celebrates the City's GLBT heritage, and features individuals sharing their personal experiences and background history on the GLBT community in New York City while showcasing some of the unique and exciting things to see and do in the City. Individuals appearing include both members and friends of the GLBT community, including Isaac Mizrahi, Cynthia Rowley, Murray Hill, Kate Clinton, Florent and New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn.

For more information on visiting New York City and its five boroughs, log on to nycgo.com. Below is a small taste of what you will find on the site in the [nyc gay history page](#) by David Sokol

Forty years ago, New York City's Greenwich Village served as the site of the Stonewall Riots, an uprising widely recognized as the birth of the modern gay rights movement. In the predawn hours of June 28, 1969, a handful of City police descended on the Stonewall Inn, a popular neighborhood gay bar. Such raids were commonplace during that era due to strong anti-gay bias, the enforcement of arcane local laws and the connection that some establishments had with organized crime. The bar's patrons, perhaps emboldened by the civil rights movement, refused to disperse peacefully, holding a series of protests during the next few days. In the wake of the Riots, the gay pride movement took hold as groups of New Yorkers formed the Gay Liberation Front, launched the newspaper Gay and organized the Gay Activists Alliance. The first Pride March was held to mark the event's one-year anniversary.

In the years since, gay pride has developed a multifaceted identity and achieved an impressive series of accomplishments - and all the while, New York City has remained at the epicenter of it. There's no better time than now to journey to the heart of gay pride and immerse yourself in a rich history that's still being written. That history long predates Stonewall. New York's Bowery, Greenwich Village and Times Square neighborhoods were home to a thriving gay culture by the late 19th and early 20th centuries. By 1890, the Bowery was home to saloons and "degenerate resorts" that catered to gay men.





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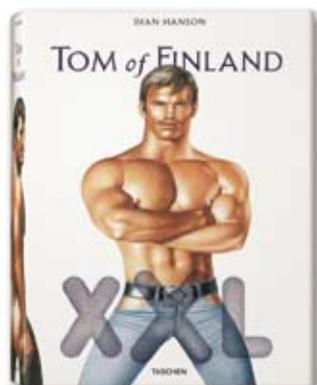


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q drag: LAURA GRAVITY

Alan Mayberry spoke to Laura Gravity about how it felt to be defying gravity while balancing on the tightrope between the drag stage and the legit theatre. My days with Laura go back to 1990 when I asked her ultra ego Rod to be part of the very first Fantasy Ball at the St Kilda Town Hall. He would have been training with Tony Bartuccio at the time. He never hesitated to come onboard along with the Pokeys male dancers. They carried Kerrie Le Gore into the town hall on a gold Egyptian divan. Now skip forward a decade and Paris, Vivien St James, Le Gore and I ask Laura to be part of the Classics. We thought Laura's sense of fun and dancing skills took her a step above the usual drag doing ballad after ballad, and would bring a real element of theatre. I'll leave Laura to fill in the gaps.

Laura Gravity ain't just a drag stage babe - she's hoofed it with the best. Theatre has always been in her blood.

I was born in Melbourne to quite a religious family and went to Primary and High school in Rosanna. Those were the days when TV variety shows were big, like The Mike Walsh Show. I loved the huge production numbers. I gave up work and did 12 months training at Tony Bartuccios. Six months later I was cast in *CATS*. Since then I have performed in many musicals - *42nd Street*, *Me and My Girl*, *Crazy For You*, *Jolson*, and *Fiddler on the Roof* being my favourites.

During that time I was going to The Xchange and 3 Faces with friends. I loved watching the drag shows, and although I came from a theatre background, I learnt more about performing drag from those shows.



Friends used to throw extravagant backyard parties with drag shows. This is where Laura Gravity was born. I used to do solos and choreograph group numbers for the others. Friends said I was OK at the drag thing and should enter Lucy Loosebox's Star Search Competition at The Xchange. I thought "sure, you can all come down and have a laugh" and that would be it.

They all came down to cheer Laura through the heat, semi-final and the big Grand Final and I won! I was still performing and touring Australia with various theatre shows, but when I was in town I would do guest spots for Lucy, Kerrie Le Gore, Candee and Barbra. I loved it. All my friends would come to support me.

A number of years later, Paris and Vivien St James were looking for a 'girl' for a new group at The Greyhound. I remember Kerrie Le Gore phoning me in 2003 asking would I be interested in joining them. With no immediate theatre work coming up and always wanting to be part of a group that works regularly at a venue, I jumped at the chance and The Classics were born.

Both Paris and Viv had been working in the clubs for many years and certainly helped me learn the ropes. Since then the group has gone from strength to strength, winning best drag show at The Rainbows.

Coming from a theatre background, numbers with the dancing boys have always been great. 'River Deep Mountain High' always gets a great response as well as 'Disco Inferno' and 'Let's Hear It for the Boy'.

I have always tried to find solo numbers that tell a story. I like to find the humour in a number, even if it is being done "serious". 'Everybody's Fucking But Me', by Geraldine Turner is a serious torch song, but the lyrics are hysterical and her voice is fantastic. Even if you're doing a Whitney or Shirley Bassey ballad you can still have your tongue planted firmly in your cheek.

I always like the vocals to be very clear and not too far back in the mix with the music. If you are going to mime a number the audience should be able to hear the words as well.

I love showtunes, but unless they stand alone as a solo number they usually won't work. Not everyone has seen the show like me. I couldn't resist doing 'Defying Gravity' from *Wicked* once I had found the right version. 'Defying Gravity', Laura Gravitry, it's gotta work!

I love the remixes of the 80's classics and I think they are the numbers that the punters (especially at The Greyhound) love to hear. I also love it when I get to fill in when one of the early CSS showgirls are away. Their numbers are all so up tempo.

I always try to get out among the crowd and have a drink (or ten) - which is so much easier when your favourite drink is anything with a straw! It makes my night if someone comes up and says they loved this or that number I have done during the night. We are there to entertain the punters who have come out to have a fun night. I take it very seriously but, at the end of the day, we are all there to have fun and make it camp, camp, camp!



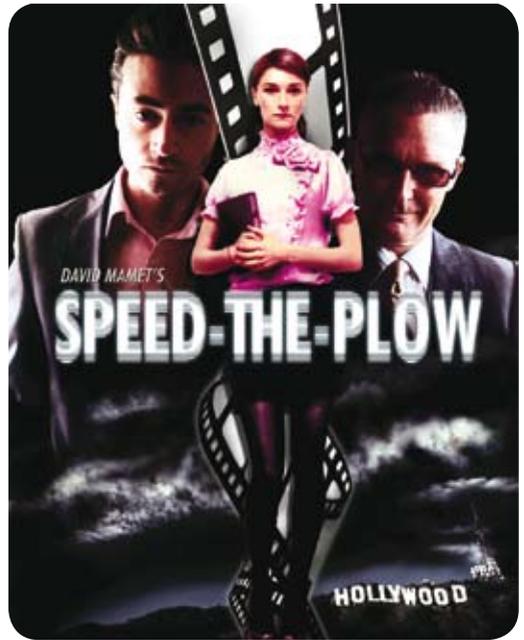
q theatre: THE CHAPEL OFF CHAPEL

SPEED-THE-PLOW written by David Mamet - It's lonely at the top. But it ain't crowded.

Life in the movie business is like the beginning of a new love affair. . . everyone gets screwed. Hollywood mid-level producers Bobby Gould and Charlie Fox engage in a verbal boxing match centred on the eternal debate of art versus money. Should Gould recommend to his boss another bad action would-be blockbuster? Or should he put himself on the line for a film adaptation of a spiritual, uplifting and apocalyptic novel?

When Karen, the office temp, reads the novel in order to report on it to Bobby, she gives a glowing review and Gould becomes deeply affected by her and her analysis, causing a 3-way conflict that questions their lives, loyalty and integrity.

SPEED THE PLOW @ Chapel off Chapel from May 7th - 24th
Thursday / Friday / Saturday - 8pm shows and Sunday 6pm show. \$29 (Full) \$25 (Concession) To book call: 03 8290 7000. Chapel off Chapel: 12 Little Chapel St Prahran Vic 3181 (Melway 2L-J10) Presented by HST (Human Sacrifice Theatre) 'By Special arrangement with Dominie PTY LTD' For further information go to humansacrificetheatre.com or chapeloffchapel.com.au



Cast:

MARK DIACO - Bobby Gould - Mark received rave reviews in such productions as David Mamet's 'Glengarry Glen Ross', Sam Shepard's 'True West' and 'The Late Henry Moss', Jez Butterworth's 'Mojo' and Stephen Belber's 'Tape'. Mark trained full time in New York at the LEE STRASBERG THEATRE INSTITUTE and William Esper STUDIO. His credits range across film and theatre and has also performed off Broadway. Mark's has appeared on such TV shows as 'City Homicide' and SBS show 'Carla Cametti P.D.'. Mark is set to feature in the film October 4th along side Lorraine Bracco (Goodfellas, Sopranos) and Giancarlo Giannini (Man on Fire, 007- Quantum of Solace).

COLIN MAC PHERSON - Charlie Fox - Colin has worked extensively on stage with companies including LaMama, Human Sacrifice Theatre and Viscious Fish Theatre. His roles have included Jack Worthing in Porcelain, Aaronow in Glengarry Glen Ross, Norman in The Dresser, Mozart in Amadeus. His work in feature films includes Blonde, The Marilyn Monroe Story, and Parallels, as well as short films, The Trial of Film, Samaritan, and Out of Order. Television series include M.D.A, Neighbours, Saddle Club, The Hollowmen, and as David Karas in an upcoming City Homicide episode. February will also see the release of the documentary Shore Stories: Tales of a Kiosk, written and coproduced by Colin.

KASIA KACZMAREK - Karen - Raised in Western Australia, Kasia studied acting at the Victorian College of Arts before moving to New York in 2008 to train at the William Esper Studio in Meisner technique. Kasia's theatre credits include The Seagull, The Taming of the Shrew, A Season at Sarsaparilla, Medea, The House of Bernarda Alba and The Golden Age. Kasia also researched, devised and directed Bring A Nice Dress, a three woman show about brothel workers for the 2005 Perth Artrage Festival.

Director:

MATT EMOND - Matt graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts with a Graduate Diploma in Dramatic Arts (Directing). His directing credits include Godspell - regional tour (CEO Sandhurst), Taize - George Fairfax Playwriting Award Winner (2007 Castlemaine State Festival), The Return (National Theatre Drama), Cowboy Mouth (Victorian College of the Arts), Grave (Cat and Fiddle Theatre) and Blow (Theatre Nepean). Matthew has also worked on Saved (Victorian College of the Arts), Hard Lines Readings - assistant director/dramaturge (Melbourne Theatre Company), dramaturgical assistant to Nick Enright on A Man and Five Children (Sydney Theatre Company), Ray's Tempest - directorial secondment (Melbourne Theatre Company), and with Geoffrey Rush and Neil Armfield on Exit the King - Besen Family Artists Program recipient (Malthouse) and assistant director (Company B Belvoir). Matthew was Associate Director of The Journey Program at Actors Centre Australia, Sydney and in 2006 founded REGIONAL THEATRE WORKS.

q theatre: CABARET - LIFE'S SPICE

Looking ahead:

Emerging enfant terrible of New York cabaret, Kim Smith (2009 Backstage Bistro award winner) returns to The Butterfly Club on 19 and 20 June with his latest dark and whimsical offering, Morphium.

Melissa Langton, Mark Jones & Libby O'Donovan - EVERYBODY'S GOT SOMETHING TO HIDE EXCEPT ME AND MY MONKEY - The Lennon and McCartney Songbook

Ever buy a Beatles CD? Enjoy a good bed-in? Ever sing the na na na na bit in Hey Jude? Want to give peace a chance? Fancy a one legged ex-model? Does 'All My Loving' bring back uncomfortable memories of Johnny Young and the Young Talent Team? Breathe in oxygen and exhale Carbon Dioxide? Got opposable thumbs? This is the show for you!!

*Friday 15 and Saturday 16 May (two performances)
10.30pm \$27 full / \$22 concession and for groups of 8 or more*

Emma Clair Ford in THE BLACK SEA EXPRESS

Jane is an idealist. Jane is a hopeless romantic. Jane just spent two years planning the perfect European experience. But Jane is about to learn that it only takes a moment of spontaneity on a bliss-bound Italian train to make a pretty little mess of her liberation. Honest, warm and endearingly flawed, The Black Sea Express proves that when it comes to matters of the heart, nothing is black and white.

Thursday 14 to Sunday 17 May (four performances) 7.00pm Thursday - Saturday, 6.00pm Sunday \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Justin Clausen in FABTASTIX: BEHIND THE PEARLS

Are you ready to take a peek at the darker side of home wares? Join Justin Fabtastix as he guides you through the ins, the outs, the ups and the downs of the craze that is home ware supplies with the Brighton house wives ... Behind the pearls! Accompanied by James Simpson on piano.

Thursday 14 to Sunday 17 May (four performances) 9.00pm Thursday - Saturday, 8.00pm Sunday \$22 full / \$17 concession

THE GEORGE AND SVETLANA SHOW

George and Svetlana present an evening of sultry, toe tapping entertainment accompanied by the musically dexterous piano Guy. However, the show becomes unstuck as the unhappy truth of their marriage bleeds onto the stage, with devastatingly funny results.

Thursday 21 to Sunday 31 May (eight performances Thurs to Sun) 7.00pm Thursday - Saturday, 6.00pm Sundays \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

CAMPING OUT with KAYE SERA (pictured)

Drag personality, Kaye Sera introduces you to the camp scene of Melbourne in the 1960s. Val's Coffee Lounge, the Windsor and the infamous Australia Hotel were but three of the many rendezvous sites for the discerning socialite.

Featuring the songs of Dusty Springfield, Judy Garland and the recently passed Eartha Kitt along film interviews from the people who were there.

Thursday 21 to Saturday 23 May (three performances) 9.00pm \$27 full / \$22 concession and for groups of 8 or more

JACQUI & HELEN'S SLUMBER PARTY

You are most cordially invited to attend Jacqui & Helen's Slumber Party! Why: Who doesn't love slumber parties? Let Jacqui Hoy & Helen Patterson take you on a musical journey through their bedroom of unearthly nocturnal delights.

Friday 22 and Saturday 23 May (two performances) 10.30pm \$27

Katrina Talbot is SLEEPING HER WAY TO THE TOP

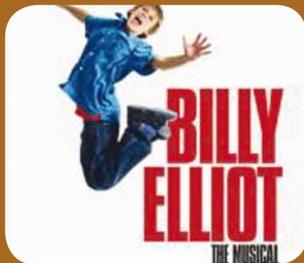
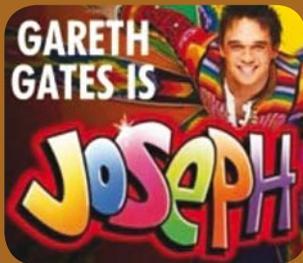
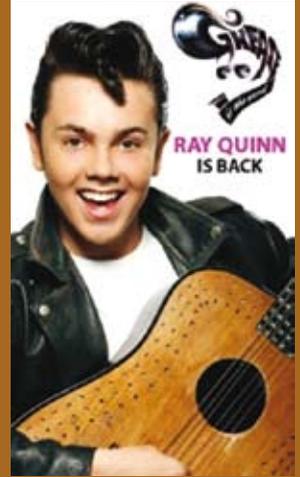
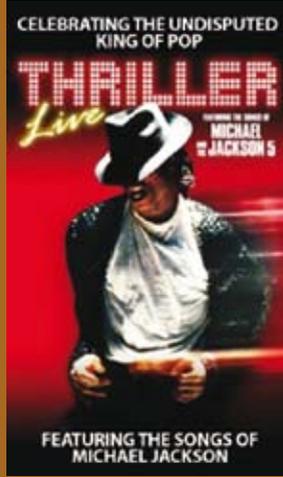
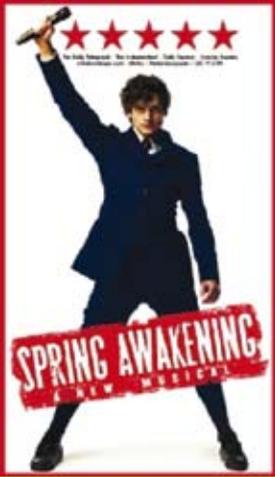
After touring with Mamma Mia for four years Kat found she needed another four years to recover. Seeing as she can't afford therapy she is doing this cabaret instead.

Sunday 24 May (one performance) 8.00pm \$27 full / \$22 concession and for groups of 8 or more

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q world: DUBLIN GAY THEATRE

The World's only gay theatre festival returns for its sixth year. The ABSOLUT Dublin Gay Theatre Festival presents a diverse range of 40 productions with a gay theme or relevance between May 4th and 17th. Now in its sixth year, the festival stages 15 shows a night in city centre venues, including drama, comedy, musical theatre and dance. Although the festival has lost the word 'International' from its title, since taking on sponsor, ABSOLUT, it has by no means reduced its international content. In spite of the global downturn, the festival welcomes to Dublin, companies from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Australia, Canada and the USA, in addition to many from Europe and the UK. The festival is the only one of its kind worldwide, dedicated solely to gay theatre and was established in 2004 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Oscar Wilde in Dublin. The 2009 run will see the festival surpass its 1,000th performance within its first week. Details of all shows and online booking are available on www.gaytheatre.ie



Speaking of his company's decision to increase their support of the festival to that of title sponsor, Brendan Buckley of Irish Distillers Pernod Ricard, the distributors of ABSOLUT in Ireland said that "ABSOLUT was one of the first mainstream brands to support the gay community and have been doing so all around the world since 1981. When ABSOLUT first decided to support the rights of the individual some 30 years ago, it was considered bold. Today the brand can look back on those days and that decision with pride. For us, our sponsorship of the ABSOLUT Dublin Gay Theatre Festival is a natural way to continue to inspire people to challenge convention and to see the world in a better, more inclusive light."

Although the 40 productions in this year's programme are connected by having a gay theme, character or relevance, the festival's Artistic Director, Brian Merriman insists that the festival is an inclusive event. "Everyone is welcome to contribute to the ABSOLUT Dublin Gay Theatre Festival and many do. Our participants are as diverse as our audience; gay and straight, men and women, young and old, of many races and beliefs. We provide a fortnight of good employment for actors, playwrights and technicians, good value prices and quality entertainment for the people of Dublin and beyond. This festival punches way above its weight when you look at the resources we have to draw upon, and I thank all those whose generous contributions make it possible for this unique event to happen in Dublin city."

After celebrating a fifth successful year in 2008, the festival received a highly commended award in the Culture & Tourism category of the 2008 Irish Times Living Dublin Awards, which recognise organisations that work to improve the quality of life in Dublin city.

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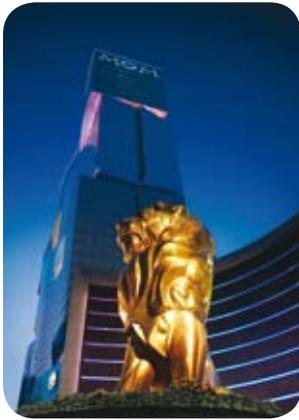
q travel: with ASH HOGAN

Macau - A world of difference.

Experiencing Italian architecture, eating caviar in the Russian room, or drinking Veuve under the night sky sounds reminiscent of a five star, once in a lifetime holiday to Europe. However, you may be surprised to learn that just over eight hours flying time from Australia and a mere 60 kilometres from Hong Kong is the city of Macau, an engaging and unique destination that is redefining the ultimate affordable weekend getaway.

Once a sleepy backwater after the Opium War in 1841, Macau emerged onto the tourism scene with a mix of Portuguese influence and Western innovation. Today,

the city has exploded with construction and is rapidly becoming known as "Vegas of the East" due to the many five star hotels, casinos and fine dining restaurants that compliment the historic centre of Macau, a world heritage site. Arriving one Thursday evening, you could be forgiven for thinking you were on one of America's famous gambling strips; names such as Venetian, MGM Grand, Wynn and Four Seasons shine brightly in the night sky. Inside each venue is a variety of activities; whilst card tables and slot machines play the centrepiece, you can enjoy an amazing performance of Cirque du Soleil "Zaia", tantalise your tastebuds with a five star dining experience, or simply dance the night away at one of the many bars and clubs that adorn the island. Even the Venetian runs a gay night and men dancing together are fairly unnoticed in most nightclubs.



I was somewhat amazed at the opulence of my standard room at the MGM Grand, complete with full glass wall between the deep soaking tub in the bathroom and the panoramic views of the ocean from my window. Thoughtful amenities such as complimentary bottles of water, spare toothbrushes for unexpected guests, wireless internet and plasma television made for a comfortable stay; however the spa treatments were to die for. Whisked away for an afternoon, it was hard to decide between the Six Senses Massage Fusion or the Water and Fire Ritual, designed to cleanse the mind and soul. After several hours of being cocooned in my sensory journey, it was of course appropriate to spend some time in the steam room and floatation pool before returning from this alternate reality.

Shopping in Macau stimulates the senses; you can purchase nearly anything here from jewellery to electronics, cashmere sweaters and silk, to Chinese antiques. Make sure you check out around Senado Square with inexpensively priced

goods of all kinds, or if you are feeling more adventurous then the 19th century shop houses in Felicidade carry everything from curios to live snakes!

Getting to Macau is reasonably easy, and won't break the budget. Flights from Sydney on Viva Macau start from \$670 return including taxes with connections from all major capital cities. Alternatively, fly direct to Hong Kong and catch the one hour ferry to Macau direct from the airport. Accommodation at MGM Grand starts from \$268 per night. To book, get in touch with Flight Centre Rainbow on 1300 405 657 or rainbow@flightcentre.com.
Macau - A world of difference.

Ash Hogan travelled to Macau courtesy of Viva Macau Airlines, and the Macau Government Tourist Office. He is an employee of Flight Centre Limited.



in bed: with BEN

How to Get a Promotion without Sleeping with the Boss!

"I slept with my first manager at the age of 18, I never got a promotion but I did get a raise!"
Excerpt from Ben's upcoming book, "Sleeping Your Way to the Top in Business," out in Aug .

First of all, where's the fun if you can't sleep with the boss, right? Well, if they look like Joan Rivers who hasn't had plastic surgery for fifty years then it's probably not an option. In a tough job market you've got to pull out all of the stops to ensure that your job is safe and you're moving up the ladder and not down it. To help here's my tips on how to get a promotion and secure your job in troubled times.

1.Be Good at What You Do! (are you shitting me?) As if you didn't know this was going to be the first tip! This goes without saying. Master your craft and make sure everyone around you is aware of the effort you're putting in. Continually take courses and workshops to up-skill. If anyone's going to go it's not going to be the one with the most experience and the ability to bring business in the door.

2.Look the Part - 55% of all communication is visual. If you fell down the ugly tree, hit every branch on the way down and then was bashed with the ugly stick you're in trouble. It doesn't matter who you are and what you look like, you always need to make an effort. If you want a promotion dress like the role is already yours. Here's a few tips;

- Dress like you know what year it is and what industry you work in.
- Wear tailored clothing. Ill-fitting clothing leaves the impression you're messy and out of order.
- Keep your clothes up to date. If you're a marketing consultant you will want to be seen as current and ahead of the trends. Out of date clothing will subconsciously give the impression you're out of the touch.
- Be the best or at minimum the second best dressed person in your environment. Your objective is to stand out for all of the right reasons, this being one of them.
- Girls, did you know that you're four times more likely to get a promotion if you wear makeup? It's true. Just don't plaster it on like Krusty the Clown however.

3.Engage Your Team Members - Getting a promotion is nothing more than a popularity game. Play the game to win. Engage and influence those that have a say in your career progression. Actively find out what you need to do to advance your career and express your interest directly to the decision makers. Ask lots of questions to find the best possible root (oops, I mean route!) to moving forward. No-one got fired for asking a question (actually they probably did and it was almost certainly a really dumb question).

What about you? What are your tips to getting a promotion without having to sleep with the boss? Send them in. Actually, have you slept with the boss? If you have, send those in too! If you'd like to catch Ben's regular Twitter tips, you can follow him by going to <http://twitter.com/Benangel>



An advertisement for Eagle Leather. The background is dark with a bright lightning bolt on the left side. At the top, the text "The Spark to Make Your Sex Life Electric" is written in a large, white, serif font. Below the text, there are four items: a white leather glove, a black pen with a silver clip, and a black jump rope with a wooden handle. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo for "EAGLE LEATHER" featuring a stylized eagle head. Below the logo, the address "58 Hoddle Street Abbotsford VIC 3067" and phone number "T: (03) 9417 2100" are listed, along with the website "Shop online @ eagleleather.com.au". In the bottom right corner, there is a small logo for "SPIKERS" with the text "Powered by" above it.

q focus: THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

MELBOURNE CRAZY FOR THE PRODUCTION COMPANY'S NEW SEASON OF BROADWAY HITS

Jeanne Pratt AC, Chairman of The Production Company today announced the 2009 Season of classic Broadway musicals. "Three wonderful shows are on their way. Good fun mixed with great dancing and singing have been the key ingredients in selecting our shows. We are keeping our ticket prices modest and affordable in 2009 with subscriptions to all three shows costing as little as \$93. We are also value-adding with complimentary souvenir programs for all of our patrons".



Following the landmark 10th anniversary season of this innovative company, The Production Company now moves into its second decade with a season that showcases the cream of Australian musical theatre talent. With toe-tapping tunes including I Got Rhythm, They Can't Take That Away From Me and Someone To Watch Over Me, it's no surprise that Crazy For You picked up the Tony Award for Best Musical. Starring Christopher Parker, Natalie O'Donnell and Chloe Dallimore, Crazy For You follows rich heir Bobby Child (Parker), whose dream is to leave wealth behind and go into . . . show business! Naturally, his domineering mother has other plans for him, so Bobby escapes to the wilds of Nevada to avoid an unwanted fiancée (Dallimore). Meeting the feisty Polly (O'Donnell) Bobby falls in love, puts on a show in the aptly named Deadrock, and winds up in some hilarious misunderstandings and muddles that make Crazy For You a sure winner. *Directed by Terence O'Connell, Crazy For You has musical direction by Peter Casey, choreography by Alana Scanlan, costumes by Kim Bishop, and scenery by Kathryn Sproul. Six performances only from 15 - 19 July.*

August brings Sandy Wilson's The Boy Friend, with the stellar cast of Rhonda Burchmore, Esther Hannaford, Alex Rathgeber and Grant Smith. Fresh from her knock-em-dead performance as Mame last year, Rhonda returns to embrace the role of the magnificent matriarch Madame

Dubonnet, who runs a French Finishing School for Girls, all of whom are boy crazy. English heiress Polly Browne (Hannaford), invents an imaginary boyfriend as her father Percival (Smith) will not allow her the real thing. Life gets complicated when Polly falls in love with the delivery boy (Rathgeber), who has a secret other life. And Percival arrives in Nice to find that the elegant Madame is an old flame! The stage is set for confusion, mayhem and great songs, including The Boy Friend, Won't You Charleston With Me? and It's Never too Late to Fall In Love. *The Boy Friend is directed by Gary Young, with musical direction by David Piper, choreography by Andrew Hallsworth, costumes by Kim Bishop and scenery by Richard Jeziorny. All six performances from 12 - 16 August feature Orchestra Victoria.*

The Broadway hit Dirty Rotten Scoundrels has its Australian premiere in this season. Prepare to suspend disbelief and head for a riotous night in the theatre with the stunning Marina Prior making a welcome return to the Company, along with star of stage and screen Simon Burke, and audience favourites Matt Hetherington and Grant Piro. Dirty Rotten Scoundrels takes us to the French Riviera with two con artists - suave and sophisticated Lawrence Jameson (Burke) who charms women out of their money, while his rival, small-time crook Freddy Benson (Hetherington) swindles the ladies with stories of heroic deeds and sick grandmothers. The quest to be the first one to swindle a young heiress is on, and the loser must leave town. To complicate matters, wealthy American divorcee Muriel Eubanks (Prior) falls for Lawrence's con - and the local Chief of Police (Piro). Our two con men take on a variety of roles, so Dirty Rotten Scoundrels is full of fake German accents, phoney French royalty, corrupt French police and loads of fun. The outrageous score includes Love is My Legs, Ruffhousin' Mit Shuffhausen and Like Zis/Like Zat. *Roger Hodgman directs, with Guy Simpson as musical director. Choreography is by Dana Jolly and costumes by Victoria Rowell, with Orchestra Victoria providing the musical backing for the six performances from 20 September to 4 October.*



To subscribe to all three shows call 9247 4800 or email admin@theproductioncompany.com. au. Single tickets go on sale for all shows on 1 June. Bookings through Ticketmaster 1300 136 166 or www.ticketmaster.com.au

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q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

The preoccupation of finding 'the one'.

I have noted many times that the up and coming generations of homosexuals have different perspectives on a lot of things. Their life experiences are different to older generations and will be vastly different to the next generation.

I work with a lot of younger gay and lesbians - many in their late teens and early twenties. I have been doing this for a number of years and I have always admired the diversity and inclusiveness they show as part of their natural socialisation. Racism, sexism and the economic 'caste' systems that have been in a lot of generations are not as evident in them (they are there, but not nearly as 'upfront prejudices' as was evident in previous generations).

The thing that struck me at first was (what I thought) their repugnant attitudes towards the casual sex of many men of my generation. They never criticised me, but I know they did not condone or approve of my wanton casual attitude to sex. They all knew anyway that I do not need anyone's approval to live my life.

On closer examination and by asking a few discreet questions, it turns out the homosexual males are definitely not into casual sex or sex in general like 'we' were. The young lesbians though (or many of) certainly are. They are unashamedly and positively into experiencing different types of short term and casual relationships. The thing that impressed me the most about this is how mature so many of them are! The gay boys though have a very different story. Many of them are in their early twenties and, apart from their early sexual experiences in the "coming out" formative engagements, have not had sex for some years.

When exploring (respectfully) the reasons why it has been quite an eye opener the consequences of this slightly closeted behaviour are significant in some cases.

Paramount in all these conversations I have had with younger gay people has been the issue of "the one". There are two opposite philosophical ideals operating - the lesbians say they need to have more partners so they can identify 'the one' and the gay guys say they don't want to sleep around because they are saving themselves for 'the one'.

Popular culture has been overflowing for years with monogamous messages that you have to find 'the one' to have a worthwhile and fulfilling life. There is some truth in it, but it's not the only way.

The young gay guys who do find 'the one' (and usually it's someone around the same age) go through the usual infatuation stage for about 6 months and then this is where it gets interesting. The sexual impetus is replaced by deeper feelings. If it isn't, then problems creep up. I've seen so many of them still in love but just completely unable to navigate through the tumultuous times.

Some of the lesbians have found 'the one' and are, and will be, in love for ever. Good on them. We could learn a lot from their wonderful examples.

Some of the gay guys have found 'the one' without realising it but are consumed with complicated self doubt and worry. Some have inherited the on-going gay myth that they don't want to commit because something better is 'just around the corner'. From my own youthful experiences I have to say this is right and wrong.

We are taught through the cultural and religious clap-trap that you only get to meet 'the one' - the ultimate 'soul-mate' - once. Rubbish.

I have had in my life 8 relationships that lasted more than 1 year, one for 12 years (he's dead) and my current partner for 8 years. I completely loved and adored all my of other partners (ironically, they all hate me).

I have been told that I am a mentor to many young people, but I have also been told I am not worthy. I slut around, take (used to) illegal substances, and get pissed. I am SO happy though. I love being me. The opposite is the case, I am learning, from the young homosexuals around me.

They didn't have to contend with a hostile, hate-filled society like I did, but their challenges are as equally significant - although a lot more internalised. One of my young friends is in love with someone who does not love him and has a partner.

Through all my expensive private education, one thing has been consistent. You learn the lessons and then get the test - but in love it's the exact opposite. Sometimes even that fails and you don't learn. There in lies the route to suffering.

The two things in this 'lesson':

1 - There can be more than one of 'the one'.

2 - Self amputate if you have to. Cut off the parts that are killing you. Emotionally, humans (especially homosexuals) are starfish. You'll grow those bits back.



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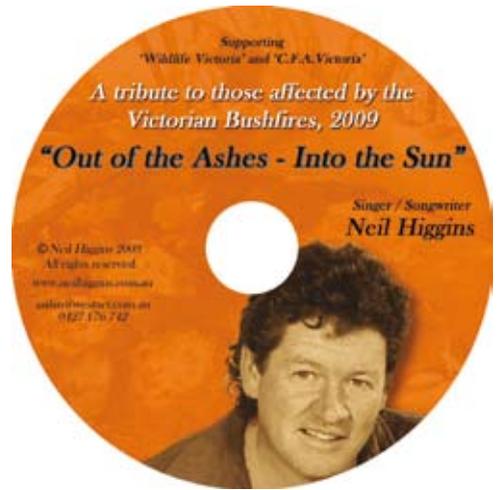
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q spotlight: A SONG FOR THE BUSH

"Out of the Ashes-Into the Sun" - A Special Tribute to those affected by the Victorian Bushfires 2009 This Song composition "Out of the Ashes-Into the Sun" is a special writing in tribute to those affected by the Bushfires that have swept across Victoria in unprecedented fashion. To the many that have, and still are suffering pain and loss from this tragedy, this song has been written from the heart.

"Out of the Ashes-Into the Sun" is a song for the people, and is also dedicated to the thousands of volunteers, CFA Members, Wildlife carers, Red Cross, Hospital staff, Police & Ambulance services, Government and Non-Government organizations.

"I have repeatedly listened over and over to Neil's song and every time I do I get more and more drawn into it. The lyrics are strong, caring and sensitive. What Neil says to us in his song is pretty much the way we are all feeling right about now! Good job, well done mate but most of all, it shows you care and its come straight from your heart – God speed"
David Tree (finder & original carer for 'Sam the Koala')



As a Singer/Songwriter, I was compelled to write and compose this song, with a deep compassion and hope to provide strength, healing and some resolution to all those affected.

Anyone seeking to obtain a copy of this Tribute can do so by ordering through direct post or email. Cost is \$10- (paid by money order or cheque) which includes postage and bonus tracks.

"We thank Neil for wanting to bring awareness to the plight of our native wildlife rescued from the recent Victorian bushfires, of which it is estimated over a million animals and birds perished. Neil has produced a compassionate and uniquely Australian song that will touch and heal the hearts of many."

Wildlife Victoria

Neil continues to support both local Firefighting units and Wildlife shelters with \$5 from each cd order directed to the local preference of your choice.

Words & Music written by Neil Higgins all rights reserved 2009. For further information go to www.neilhiggins.com.au

"Neil Higgins' writes about his immediate environment, about kids and women and the places he knows, about the state of his soul. He asks questions and ponders a few solutions, observing the passing parade with touches of celebration, resignation, humour and occasional righteous indignation. It's all delivered with a friendly voice, some spare, able and lilting playing, floating harmonies, and an engaging spirit".
"I'm just an ordinary man trying to make my way" he sings. "Not that ordinary"
Glenn A. Baker (Respected Music Historian)

q cuisine: with CHEF NATHAN



As we travel into my favourite time in good old Melbourne town, there is nothing like heading out during the evening with a warm heavy jacket and bright scarf to wonder along the amazing Yarra's edge. It's also a great time to experience great food and wine in what is the best food and wine area in Australia. But if you're like me, you would rather host an elegant dinner party, complimented with fantastic people, mature wine and elegant dishes of local produce.

Each dinner party requires a Pièce de résistance, as you need one thing for your guests to talk about and discuss. So this is also your chance to show off your culinary skills and leave your guests feeling fulfilled and yet flabbergasted. This recipe for Lamb Cutlets is quite simple but can be dressed to suit all occasions.

Grilled Lamb Cutlets with Pistachio and Chilli

Ingredients (serves 4)

- 100g pistachio kernels
- 30g fresh white breadcrumbs
- 1 lemon, rind grated
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 chilli
- 30gm x sundried tomatoes
- 25g grated parmesan
- 1/2 cup firmly packed fresh basil leaves
- 120ml olive oil
- 16 Frenched lamb cutlets
- 800g Sebago potatoes
- 40g butter, chopped
- 1/3 cup hot milk
- extra butter, to serve



Method for Mash Potatoes

Peel potatoes and cut into large chunks. Cook in a large saucepan of boiling salted water for 20 minutes or until very tender but not falling apart. Drain potatoes well. Return to saucepan over low heat. Shake pan gently until any remaining water evaporates. Using a potato masher, roughly mash potatoes. Add butter and hot milk to potatoes. Beat with a wooden spoon until fluffy. Season with salt and pepper. Serve topped with extra butter and salt and pepper.

Method for Lamb Cutlets

Place the pistachios, breadcrumbs, lemon rind, chili, sun dried tomato, garlic, parmesan, basil and 100ml olive oil in a food processor and process to a paste. Season with salt and pepper. Heat a pan on medium-high heat, brush the cutlets with the remaining oil and sauté for 1-2 minutes each side. Serve on mashed potato and the pistachio dressing. I recommend a Cabernet Shiraz to compliment.



Got a question
about HIV or
sexual health?

q win: MUSIC MUSIC MUSIC



Warner Music

Live In Chicago and The Soundstage Sessions are both recordings taken from Stevie's performance in October 2007 before an intimate audience at Grainger Studio in Chicago. Remarkably, The Soundstage Sessions & Live In Chicago are the 1st live recordings or filmings of Stevie's solo career since 1985. These recordings showcase the remarkable talents of the songstress who has enjoyed immense success firstly with the band Fleetwood Mac, and then as a solo artist. Combined, these have collectively produced over forty top 50 hits and sold nearly 120 million albums worldwide, making Stevie Nicks one of the biggest rock stars of all time.

Live In Chicago and The Soundstage Sessions both feature a number of Stevie's most famous songs including Rhiannon, Dreams, Landslide, and How Still My Love. Also included are live performance rarities, and 2 new excellent covers (Dave Matthews Band 'Crash Into Me' and Led Zeppelin's 'Rock And Roll') making Live In

Chicago and The Soundstage Sessions the perfect choice for the Stevie Nicks novice or the avid fan.

We have five copies of the Soundstage Sessions CDs to give away. Simply email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **stevie nicks** in the subject line to test your luck.

Sony Music

A real deal album. One that delivers on the blissful and bright promises of early fan favorites like "Sleepyhead." It took nearly two months of "explosive" off-the-cuff sessions with producer Chris Zane (Les Savy Fav, The Walkmen) to get there - everything was written and recorded on the fly - but *Manners* is exactly that: an irresistible, filler-free glimpse into the mind of a man who'd like to unleash his very own Pet Sounds someday.

Check the carefully-sculpted songwriting on display: the speaker-panning synths and slightly sinister children's chorus (straight outta P.S. 22 in NYC) of "Little Secrets" and "The Reeling," the lead dulcimer loops and melancholic melodies of "Moth's Wings," the ecstatic, riled-up climax of "Folds in Your Hands." All part of a greater plan, the next step of which is taking Passion Pit's live show to a level that matches, and eventually exceeds, Manners' ambition and kaleidoscopic soundscapes.



What's in a name? Well, if the name happens to include a reference to a musical genre, it could mean a whole lot. *Jazmine* Sullivan's mother remembers having a sense that the child she was carrying twenty-one years ago was born to sing and as a lover of jazz, she named her daughter accordingly. While there are elements of jazz in her phrasing - sultry shades of great vocalists like Phyllis Hyman and Sarah Vaughan; replete with a delivery that has often been compared to the likes of Lauryn Hill and Mary J. Blige, the Philadelphia-born Jazmine is very much an artist for today as her exciting first J Records' album, *Fearless*, illustrates.

Championed by the likes of Stevie Wonder, Missy Elliott, Faith Evans, and (fellow Philadelphians) Kindred among others, the statuesque and beautiful Jazmine is all at once smart, sassy, insightful, down to earth and very real. As the primary songwriter on *Fearless*, Jazmine brings her own experiences and observations on life and love with vivid storytelling imagery to her songs. Says Jazmine, "I wasn't familiar with reggae but Missy said 'Let's try this out!' So I wrote to the track as soon as I heard it and then Missy brought in Pepa from Salt-N-Pepa to do the chant."



We have five of each to give away. Simply email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **passion and/or jazmine** in the subject line. You can enter for both.

* 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. 7, 16 Westbury Grove, St. Kilda East 3183. 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.

q work: with JAMES FREER

Nothing seems worse than going to work when you simply can't be bothered. You wake from your morning slumber where your bed is warm, you repeatedly hit the snooze button, your boss is at your throat and the option of changing jobs these days holds as much reality as Madonna winning an Academy Award for her acting ability.

Twelve to eighteen months ago, the employment landscape was a vastly different environment with organisations fighting the "war for talent"; focus was on the retention and attraction of good talent. In most industry sectors the market was brimming with more jobs than you could poke a stick at. Today, it's the reverse; fewer roles and more people out of work.

Recession Stress Syndrome is seen as the flow on affect of the symptoms related to stress and anxiety of the current economic downturn. This includes trouble concentrating on individual tasks, irritability with fellow workers, anger toward management, higher absenteeism, substance abuse, feelings of mistrust, health issues, negative attitude toward work, and a sense of hopelessness.

Here are a few things that could help you cope with the challenges:

Up skilling:

Ask yourself, "What skills do I currently possess" to take me to the next step of career and "what skills do I need to develop". Career evaluation is an ever evolving task, every six to twelve months take a side step and ask "are all my skills being utilised", if not, ask for more responsibility, look to be involved in a project. This will help you develop additional skills and work with other business units which in turn will you widening your internal network, increasing your chances for internal opportunities.

Learn:

Study of any type will never go to waste, if throughout your career you have done well but not formalising your experience with a degree, maybe now is a good time to invest.

Get involved:

if your company doesn't have social club, start one, or arrange a company event, or even start a charity committee.

Take Care of You:

Eating a healthy diet, exercising regularly, getting enough sleep, having a massage, going on a weekend away, arrange a swanky dinner party, start a hobby, something that will break up the stresses and give you something to look forward to.

Lastly if you have exhausted all these options or you are faced with looking for a new role a solid investment will be required. The job application process is one of the most important steps.

Ensure your CV and cover letter encompasses your relevant skills and experience. Thoroughly check your CV for spelling mistakes, have you outlined dates of employment, key responsibilities, and is it no longer 3-4 pages and most importantly ensure your contact details are professional, you may be a naughty_minx@hotmail.com.au on the weekend, but it's not going to help you get that job, unless you're applying to be a naughty mix. The interview is a critical stage and warrants research of the role and company. Arrive prepped, use the job ad or job description as a guide as to the types of questioning the interviewer will take, the interview is as much about you interviewing the company as it is about you interviewing them.

Lastly, chin up, it's not all doom and gloom. Look after yourself, don't sweat the small stuff and investing now will pay dividends when the downturn improves.

James Freer has been helping candidates find their perfect role and assisting some of Australia's leading companies to attract and retain talent for over 11 years. If you would like a particular question or area covered email James at work@qmagazine.com.au



q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**



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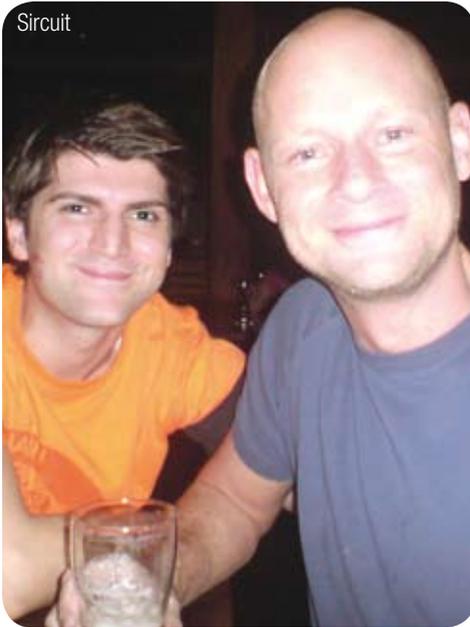


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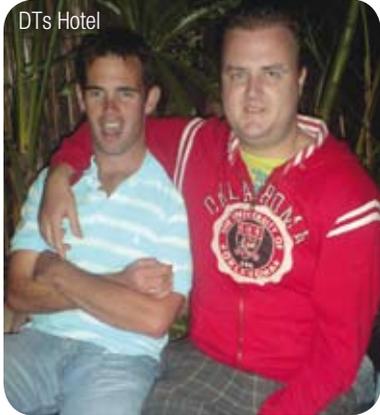
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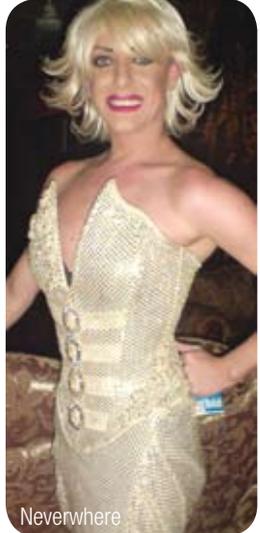
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q scene: OUT & ABOUT

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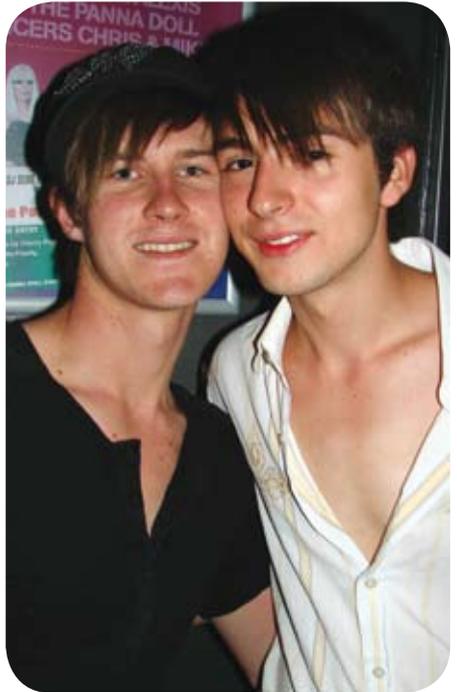
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q scene: KATIE UNDERWOOD WOWS



q music: DO YOURSELF A FAVOUR

THE ANNIE LENNOX COLLECTION

Available in all good music stores now, The Annie Lennox Collection (Sony Music), is a glorious 14-song retrospective that brings together the acclaimed artist's finest solo work on a single disc for the first time, and includes two of new songs available exclusively with this release through Sony Music Australia.

Spanning 15 years, The Annie Lennox Collection includes hits from her four top-selling solo albums Diva (1992), Medusa (1995), Bare (2003) and 2007's highly praised Songs of Mass Destruction. The timeless music selected for this collection uniquely reflects the essence of the singer's instantly recognizable brand of soul music on tracks like "Why," "Walking on Broken Glass" and "No More 'I Love You's'" - a song that earned Lennox one of her four Grammys.

"It seems like the time has come to release the Collection this year," says Lennox of the best of set. "The songs are timeless, and have become "classics" in their own right." Indeed, Annie Lennox is a peerless singer, writer and performer who has channelled her personal joys and sorrows into her songs to create true soul music. In turn, her songs help form the soundtrack of our collective lives.

The retrospective also includes two new songs recorded especially for this collection. Offering the instant Annie Lennox classic tag is "Pattern Of My Life", written by Tom Chaplin the front man of multi award winning UK Rock band Keane. The second new track is a cover of Irish alt-rock group Ash's "Shining Light", which picked up the 2001 Ivor Novello best Contemporary Song Award and the Irish Music best Single Award the following year.

Among the many highlights on The Annie Lennox Collection is "Sing," a song that references The SING Campaign, a humanitarian organization Lennox founded to raise awareness and support for the AIDS/HIV pandemic in Africa. "We're still in the early stages, but this is a lifelong commitment on my part," Lennox says. "I'm coming out from behind my singing voice to express myself in broader terms and help give a voice and lend support to those who don't have the same opportunities as I do."

Onelove 'Sound Machine' released through Sony Music - 3 disc compilation mixed by Bart B More, Ajax & Minx Prepare the heavy dance artillery as Onelove explodes into 2009 with their latest mixed CD compilation! The Sound Machine dance engine calls on three of the finest dance floor mechanics to rock it across three discs.

It's time to get sweaty as one of Australia's most popular DJs Ajax rocks the Backroom disc, presenting a showcase of his very own label Sweat It Out. Not just a star at home, Ajax is in demand right around the world. Ajax is known as the biggest party-starter and on Sound Machine he's definitely shifted into top gear.

Adelaide's super hot lady of the dance floor, Minx makes her first appearance on Onelove comps by mixing the 12AM disc one on Sound Machine. She's been rocking Nova FM in Adelaide along with her appearances right around the country at Onelove clubs and festivals, so here's your chance to take home one of her fine mixes.

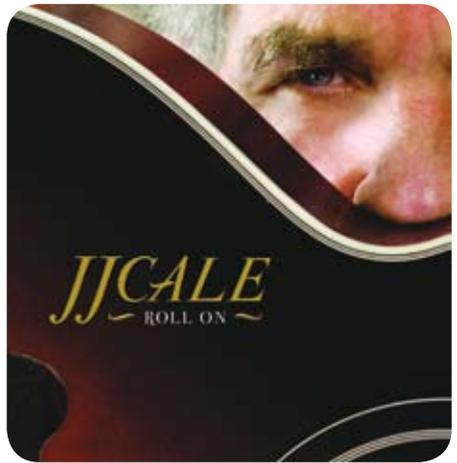
Forget tulips and windmills; Holland's Bart B More has been rocking the globe with a genre-busting mix of productions combining his love of beat driven big electro house with a side order of techno. Pete Tong has already crowned a number of his remixes as 'essential new tunes'. The Dutchman makes his debut by mixing Sound Machine's 3AM disc.

Sound Machine is the eleventh instalment for Onelove's winning series of popular dance compilations. Previously the cream of international and local superstars like Crookers, Thomas Gold, Kaz James, Tommie Sunshine, Junior Sanchez and John Course plus many more have all supplied a mix for Onelove, and Sound Machine will continue the ever-charting success to mix compilations by serving up another massive release for you to sweat to!



Warner Music News: Rock & roll is an unforgiving profession. Aging gracefully while remaining relevant in the rock game is the hardest trick of all, and JJ Cale might be doing it better than anyone.

For some, music is a hobby, or if they're lucky a job or a passion; for JJ Cale it's not even a choice: music is all he's ever known. He's a lifer. Born John Weldon Cale in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the guitarist, singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, producer and engineer has been doing this for over fifty years and on February 24, 2009, Rounder Records will release *Roll On*, Cale's sixteenth album. Comprised of 12 new songs, including the previously unreleased title track recorded with Eric Clapton, *Roll On* is Cale's first batch of new solo material since 2004's *To Tulsa and Back* and comes on the heels of his gold selling (platinum overseas) 2006 collaboration with Eric Clapton, *The Road to Escondido*, which also earned Cale his first Grammy®. In addition to the always appealing notion of another Cale record, what makes *Roll On* special is that it actually breaks new ground. Parts of this album sound like classic Cale and could have come out 30 years ago while other songs find him traveling in completely new directions. The banjo picking and earthy feel of "Strange Days," along with the pedal steel of "Leaving In The Morning," sound like they could have come off the *Naturally* sessions, while the crunching guitar on "Where The Sun Don't Shine" is in the vein of "Cocaine," and the gypsy funk of "Fonda-Lina" could be the sophisticated cousin of "Travelin' Light" from 1976's *Troubadour*.



You want proof that Cale still has a few tricks up his sleeve? Just press play on the new record and all of a sudden there's JJ Cale jazz-scatting for the first time ever on disc opener "Who Knew," and later he's loping along behind a restrained jazz piano on "Former Me." So, where did this new inspiration come from? "When I'm singing in the bathtub I usually do that [scat]," says Cale. "When I got through with ['Who Knew'] it made me laugh, so I went, 'Well that's good.' Me doing the scatting is kinda funny." The recording process for *Roll On* followed the same general path Cale has used throughout his career. He starts by reviving old songs from previous sessions, writes some new ones and lays down way more material than he can put out. Then he whittles it all down to the strongest set of songs. The albums are generally cut spontaneously with little attention to concept, mood or story. Three of the album's tracks were done at his old friend David Teegarden's Natural Digital Recording Studios in Tulsa, and the rest (except "Roll On") in his home studio, where he eventually takes all the material and truly works his magic, carefully crafting that "Classic JJ Cale Sound."

But what's truly remarkable and often overlooked about Cale is that he does the majority of this on his own. A few of the songs, specifically the ones cut in Tulsa, feature Cale's old cronies backing him, but the majority of the album is just Cale "screwing with electronics." The new CD finds Cale playing guitars, pedal steel, bass, drums, synthesizers, singing lead, backup, harmonizing with himself and then producing and engineering the whole thing. After all these years Cale is still in love with making music, passionately creating future-classics that he'll one day tuck into his very own chapter of the Great American Songbook. Cale was "do it yourself" before DIY was even a term and he was using drum machines long before it was made fashionable by hip-hop producers. Posted next to his long list of song credits and album accolades ought to be a section on Cale's pioneering work in music technology, which has had a major impact on his sound. In classic Cale fashion, it's his role as engineer and co-producer of *The Road to Escondido* that he takes the greatest pride in regarding the Grammy® win, perhaps even more than his work as the artist.

"I think it goes back to me being a recording mixer and engineer. Because of all the technology now you can make music yourself and a lot of people are doing that now," reflects Cale. "I started out doing that a long time ago and I found when I did that I came up with a unique sound."

Cale's longevity and keen sense of quality control is no doubt tied to his modesty. By staying outside the reach of the music business' sticky web, Cale's career has been steady, strong and rewarding to both fans and artist. He never sought the limelight, and stayed grounded, allowing him to focus on what really matters: the music.

While hinting that this could be his last CD, Cale is just as quick to mention the growing desire to get back on the road and play live for his hard core fans, and should the inspiration strike, make another record. There are no rules, Cale just rolls with it, and at 70 he's still doing it, and doing it well. He's writing songs, playing guitar, producing, engineering, messing with gear, ripping apart instruments and releasing albums. There ain't no changing JJ Cale - he's a true American original. And like the album says, he's just gonna continue to Roll On.

q tours: **TAHUNA BREAKS IN OZ**

Tahuna Breaks National Tour

Bringing a fresh dose of energy and good vibes to audiences around Australia is Kiwi Reggae and Funk group Tahuna Breaks. Once hailed as being "One of the most promising acts to break through on the NZ Music scene in recent years", Tahuna Breaks will be touring this big brown land of ours sooner than you can say fish and chips.

Tahuna Breaks burst onto the scene with style in 2007 with their critically acclaimed debut album 'Reflections'. Debuting at #3 on the NZ Independent charts, Tahuna Breaks swiftly cemented their position as a superb live act supporting some of the finest Kiwi musicians - think Fat Freddy's Drop, Salmonella Dub, Tiki Live, Katchafire, and Koru just for starters. Proving to be much, much more than a choice support act, Tahuna Breaks have played a long list of sell out gigs around the Land of the Long White Cloud. 2008 saw their long player 'Reflections' earn accolades from NZ Musician Magazine who called it "An album pumped up with strong vocals, funk filled grooves and tight drumming". Proving to be an equally strong force in the visual arena, Tahuna Breaks also won the Juice TV Music Award for Best Roots/ Electronic Video for their hit single 'Real Life', topping an impressive line-up of New Zealand's heavyweight acts in contention for the award.

Formed in 2005 when a common love of funk filled grooves and Reggae combined with an energy fuelled by a passion for music brought founding members and friends Marty Greentree (vocals), Kelsey Serjeant (saxophone), Tim G (drums) and James (Bass) together. From their original jamming sessions at Tahuna Street, Auckland, (hence the name) Tahuna Breaks grew from this modest four, attracting Tim B (trumpet/synths), Jonny McClean (saxophone), Adam 'Young Blood' Fuhr and Tom Charleson (guitar) - and before they could say "choice!" Tahuna Breaks was a full blown band ready to take on the industry. Having earned such a high reputation with the release of 'Reflections', Tahuna Breaks went on to receive rave reviews for their hugely energetic live shows. The ever busy Tahuna Breaks are now working hard on the very highly anticipated follow up album 'Black, Brown & White'. Set for release in August, their second studio album is sure to be equally rich in musical goodness as their debut release - not just in the ol' CD player but in the live forum too.



Never a posse to take a break, Tahuna Breaks are now gearing up to leave their carpet clad Auckland warehouse to launch a full scale assault on Australia during May to warm up our aural tastebuds and soothe the soul with some smooth and funky reggae beats. To listen to some of the tracks from Tahuna Breaks' last album 'Reflections' copy and paste this link into your favourite browser: <http://www.beatbroker.com.au/projects.php?projectid=309>

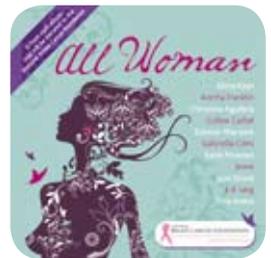
Tour Dates: 14th May - Sands Tavern, Maroochydore, 15th May - Step Inn, Brisbane, 16th May - Del Plaza, Gold Coast, 17th May - The Beach Hotel, Byron Bay, 21st May - The Steyne Hotel, Ivy's Room, Manly, 22nd May - The Empire Hotel, Annandale, Sydney, and 23rd May - Oxford Tavern, Wollongong.

q news: **SINGING FOR THE BIG C**

WARNER MUSIC RELEASES NEW COMPILATION TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION

Warner Music Australia released a new compilation, 'All Woman' on Friday 17 April in partnership with the National Breast Cancer Foundation to raise money for breast cancer research. \$1 from every CD will be donated to the NBCF with a commitment of at least \$25,000 from Warner Music regardless of sales figures reached.

"We are very pleased to be partnering with the National Breast Cancer Foundation this Mother's Day, with the launch of All Woman, a fabulous compilation featuring the very best female artists from around the world. More than 13,600 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed this year in Australia. We hope that by partnering with the NBCF we can raise more money to help fund essential research." Sarah Rouhan, Vice President Commercial Marketing said today.



q pride: MEETING IN ST PETES

InterPride has two face to face meetings annually. The first, or mid-year meeting, is held in the same place as the World conference and AGM to give the board a chance to meet with the host organisation and see the venue in which the latter will be held. This year the location is St. Petersburg in sunny Florida.

St. Petersburg (or St. Pete's Beach as it is often referred as) is a quaint sea-side resort town approximately thirty minutes from Tampa. The Tradewinds Island Grand is perfectly placed with the Gulf of Mexico walking distance from all the rooms and the resort itself. The room we stayed in had the most magnificent views from the balcony (see picture below) overlooking the "family" pool and right out on to the massive beach and water beyond.



The facilities at the property are superb and the staff extremely accommodating. As a conference venue, the Tradewinds has everything you could wish for - various meeting rooms, a variety of restaurants and cafes, and a huge marquee erected for the purpose of wedding receptions and the like. There is also a massive function room just behind reception for the more "grand" type events.

The highlights of the time spent there socially started on the first night with a trip to a local gay bar - George's Alibi - which was packed to the rafters on a Thursday night. The people were very friendly - particularly the cute barman (isn't there always one of those). They were serving Long Island Ice Teas in jam jars for only \$3, so it was very inexpensive (which has been a constant consideration on this trip due to the exchange rate between the Australian and USA dollars).

The second social highlight was ALTAR BOYS in the park (see picture above). Held in Tampa on the harbour, it was a brilliant way to experience this show. The boys did a good job - adapting the script to add a special local flavour to it - the rig / staging was amazing and the whole night was topped off beautifully by being able to sit outdoors sipping on wine and laying back on the grass or chair (as I did).

The three days of meetings were very productive with around sixteen board members in attendance and several joining us via Skype. The mid-year was a great way to make sure all the work was being done and to set the massive agenda for this year's AGM.

Then I went to New York - thank you Alan for opening your home for me in Queens to stay. My report on that in June.



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Hold The Pickle

written and performed by

Rachel Berger

**NOMINATED FOR
3 GREEN ROOM AWARDS**

Hold The Pickle

Returns for 12 shows only in 2009

"Rachel Berger is well known as a comedian, a performer who delivers rapid-fire lines with assertive and acerbic virtuosity. In Hold the Pickle, however, she leaves the microphone behind to paint an intimate portrait of her parents' life story, and by extension her own cultural heritage. Scores of characters come to life, each crafted with affection and wry observation. But this is no mere sentimental nostalgia trip, and Berger's honesty in exploring the gamut of family life is a key factor in the success of Hold the Pickle."

The Age

In 2008 Rachel sold out her debut theatre piece at La Mama and Chapel off Chapel.

Now, once again she opens the door of her parents' delicatessen and delivers stories of heartbreak, loss and longing, fear and belonging. Oh, and schnitzels.

But there's more... the art of survival; the frightening cost of war not only upon those directly effected, but on the succeeding generation; the struggle of immigrants to rebuild their lives; the birth of the cosmopolitan culture that has at long last become an integral part of this city; the ways in which parents can unwittingly traumatise their own children.

Experience the shrieking, the embraces, the flagellation and overflowing anxiety of her parents' journey from war torn Europe to 1960s Melbourne, Hundreds & Thousands sandwiches and Vegemite.

Berger plays out the angst and energy of her immigrant childhood by inviting the audience into a world populated by eccentric, heartbroken, adorable and sometimes embittered characters.

After 22 years as a stand-up comedian, growing up with Jewish guilt and refugee parents, Rachel Berger knows more about survival than any idiot attending tribal council on reality TV. She is one of Australia's most highly regarded, adept, and adaptive comedic talents, working variously as a broadcaster, comic, novelist, columnist, agitator and television entertainer.

"Cleverly balancing her comic skills with poignant story-telling." The Herald Sun

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