



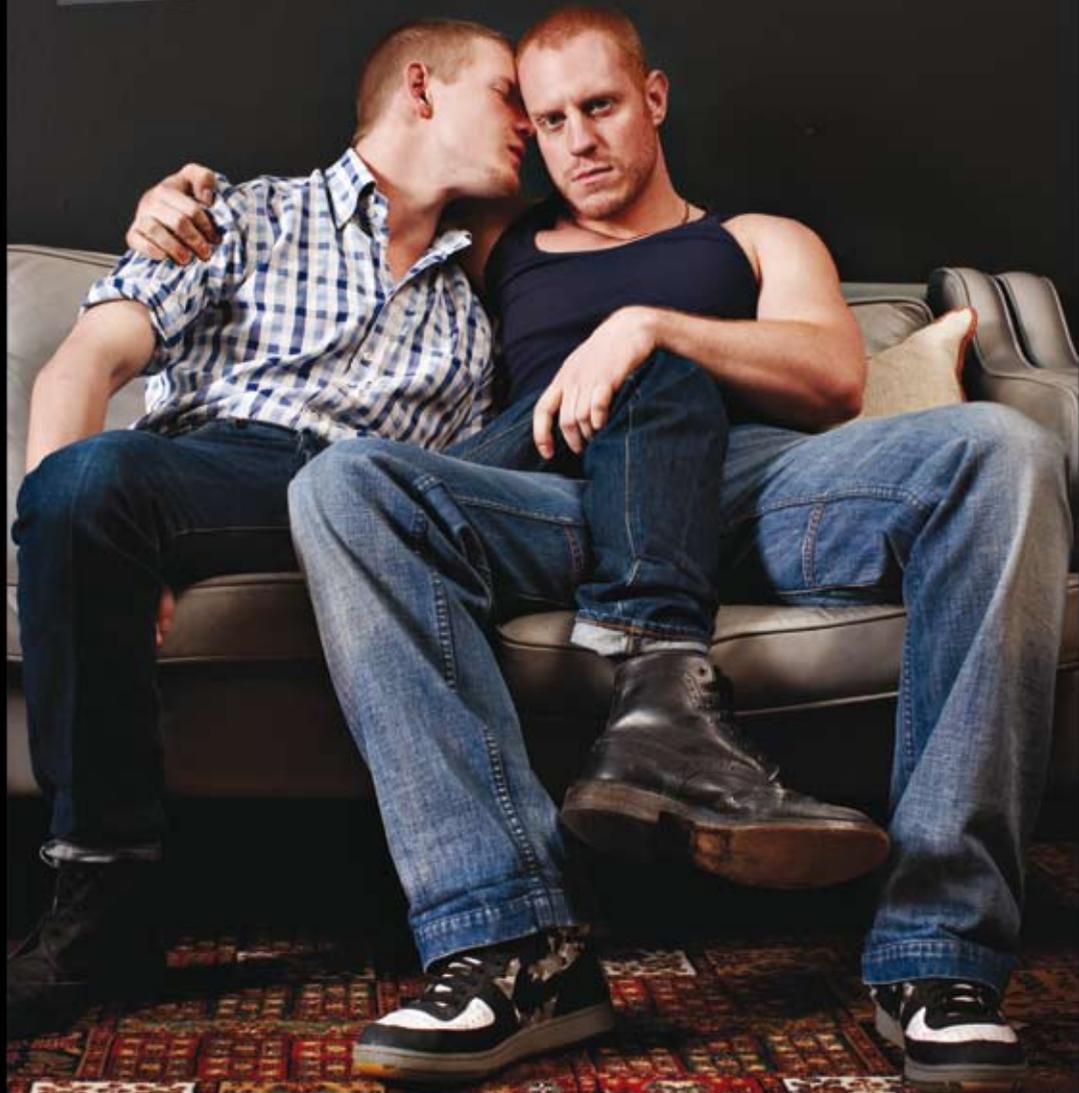
JUNE 2009

Q MAGAZINE



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### q comment: **HELP GIVEN**

The new player on the block: [Soundcheck.com.au](http://Soundcheck.com.au) recently announced that it would be handing out cash to winning contestants.

This includes a 1st prize of \$50 000 cash, 2nd prize of \$10 000 cash, and a 3rd prize of \$5000 cash. This is in addition to the \$10 000 School Music Development Grant.

"The money is to encourage people to get involved by entering, voting and encouraging a great competition", says Richard Li, Chairman of GoConnect, organiser of the [soundcheck.com.au](http://soundcheck.com.au) music competition. "But ultimately it is to support the musicians in their pursuit for excellence."

On announcing the prizes, Richard says, "I hope that the eventual winners will go on to great things. I wish all contestants the best of luck and I am extremely encouraged by the variety and quality of many of the entries so far."

Apart from all the great prizes and opportunities available to bands and individuals that enter the competition, the [Soundcheck.com.au](http://Soundcheck.com.au) Music Competition will offer \$10 000 to a winning school.

To have your School eligible for the \$10 000 prize, you must: nominate your school when entering the competition; be registered and attend that school in 2009; the school must be either 'primary', 'secondary' or a 'talent/music development' school.

It is certainly worth a try and I for one have always been someone who will support an initiative that helps out those who may not otherwise be able to enter the music industry through the more traditional means.

Congratulations Soundcheck - I hope it is a great success for you and, of course, the many talented people who are bound to enter.



Publisher & Editor  
Brett Hayhoe  
0422 632 690  
[brett.hayhoe@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:brett.hayhoe@qmagazine.com.au)

Editorial  
[editor@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:editor@qmagazine.com.au)

Sales and Marketing  
[sales@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:sales@qmagazine.com.au)

Design  
Uncle Brett Designs & Graphics

Contributing Writers  
Pete Dillon, Addam Stobbs, Brett Hayhoe,  
Evan Davis, Ben Angel, Nathan Miller, Ash  
Hogan, Alan Mayberry, James Freer, George  
Alexander, Rohan Shearn

Cover picture  
Times Square, Manhattan, NYC.

Photographic Contributions  
Q Photos  
[scenepics@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:scenepics@qmagazine.com.au)

Distribution  
[distribution@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:distribution@qmagazine.com.au)

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Q MAGAZINE  
PO Box 7479, St. Kilda Road,  
Melbourne Victoria 8004  
[info@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:info@qmagazine.com.au)  
[www.qmagazine.com.au](http://www.qmagazine.com.au)

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Brett Hayhoe t/a Q Magazine  
ABN 21 631 209 230



# q feature: NEW YORK NEW YORK

From the moment I landed at La Guardia to the second I flew out of JFK I loved every minute of my first time in New York. I was also fortunate (I believe) to have the best of both worlds by staying with Alan Reiff in Astoria (Queens) and commuting daily into Manhattan. I will be eternally grateful to Alan for allowing me to stay with him in his home. It is no longer a wonder to me why they refer to it as the "greatest city in the world".

My first night started a bite to eat at a local diner with Sir Puffalot (Russell Murphy) and ended with "cocktails" at the Crescent Lounge in Astoria - near the corner of Broadway and Crescent Street. A beautiful little bar with extremely friendly staff and an open, casual ambience. The room is based around a bar with huge comfortable lounges spread throughout the rest of the space. A very pleasant local gay friendly bar in an equally pleasant neighbourhood. The following day was learning how to use the subway (thanks Russell for your tutoring - and friendship as always).

Having made it safely into Manhattan, I walked the couple of extra blocks from the station to NYC & Company where I had pre-arranged a meeting. They armed me with a media kit which included a city pass, a map, and media releases about the 40th anniversary of Stonewall. They also arranged a Gray Line Tour Bus pass for me. This was to be the best thing ever. That day though - armed with a map pointing out the gay areas of Hells Kitchen, Chelsea and down into Greenwich Village - I started walking (which is something I like doing when I am in a city for the first time). I eventually reached Christopher Street and stopped for a rest in the park opposite the Stonewall Inn (pictures to the right).

As a gay man, I felt a certain warmth and homeliness from this area - realising I was standing smack bang in the middle of history (the Stonewall riots in 1969 being the beginning of our modern day Pride movement). I spent the day wondering around (plus having a drink at Stonewall) but came back a few nights later and enjoyed a few drinks at local niteclubs including Julius, Gym Bar and Barracuda with Ben Widdicombe - who is an Australian journalist living in New York.

That evening Russell came and collected me and we walked across the city to Drom to see the fabulous Guy Sebastian - and he was on fire! A smallish club, Guy wowed the intimate crowd with songs from his various albums. He is singing so well and looking great. A truly amazing and talented ambassador for Australia and one we should be very proud of. Make sure you pick up his new album when it is released.

The following day was the beginning of my tourist adventures in the city that is so good, they named it twice (I had to get that line in somewhere). On top of one the Gray Line busses, I had a perfect view of the city I had admired for so long. The Empire State Building, M.O.M.A., the Statue of Liberty, Times Square, Broadway, Brooklyn, Queens - and the list goes on. New York is so full of history that to get a really good overview I recommend buying a ticket and get on one of these busses. They have various tours - uptown, downtown, night tours and Brooklyn. An excellent way to see the city's sites.



I spent the next few days exploring the city and having a ball. Although Alan was busy working, he did make some quality time for me by taking me to several local gay places: Lavish Lounge - first gay owned and operated bar in Astoria Queens; the Crescent Lounge - gay owned but not specifically gay (gay friendly & open to all) which I have previously mentioned; the Sanford Diner - family owned business recently renovated to a first class restaurant - and I have to say that the food was incredible and our Irish waitress was simply superb - make sure you experience it - it's open 24/7; and Crescent & Wine - wine, cheese, and beer bar in Astoria - really sweet place with a fabulous ambience.



One of the highlights of my trip to New York was a pedicab ride through Central Park - which in case you didn't know is TOTALLY MAN MADE! My young Russian "driver" spent an hour explaining the attributes of the park, how the city had cleaned it up and removed the drug / violence aspect, and some of the famous people who lived in the beautiful apartment buildings surrounding the park (particularly the East and West sides).



Another one was seeing Avenue Q on Broadway - something every theatre queen like myself has to do.

I had an incredibly fabulous time and seriously did not want to come home. New York is clean, friendly, welcoming, huge, vibrant, and everything I had hoped for multiplied by a million.

Alan explained it quite well that everywhere else you go in the USA you know you are in that country. In New York, you are in New York - it is almost a country on its own. I will certainly be back as often as I can and recommend it to you. Before you travel though, check out [nycgo.com](http://nycgo.com) for all the information for your gay holiday in the Big Apple.

*Pictures: top two are different views from the Empire State Building, bottom one is Central Park.*



# q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

I was invited to a dinner recently and several friends and i have a thing where we rotate households for dinner. A couple of us are gourmands and tend to overdo things, and the others feel compelled to compete. So much so, that one of them had a caterer in when it was her turn.

A recent column I read written by a friend of mine got me to thinking - maybe he has been checking my email (be warned Preston - just because you are a judge on a fancy TV show..) but I digress. The column reminded me that we spend so much time dining with one another that a great portion of our expendable income goes in paying other people to cook us great food.

So how can you do it at home - what are the rules and where do you learn what works and what does not. Just because it is a recession, it doesn't mean you have to spend 3 nights a week eating beans from a can to put together a good meal on the weekend for your friends, nor does it mean you have to go without quality. There are many things you can do to make the dining experience a good one, at home for not a great deal of money.

Whilst Mr P has the monopoly on his comments from his recent column, does not mean I cannot offer you mine.

1.It's not expensive when you go to the market and buy beautiful, fresh, seasonal produce. Regardless of where you live, you will find a fresh market near you on the weekend. If you are in the south or the south east, start with either Prahran or South Melbourne. In the west, head to Footscray or Little Saigon Markets, and in the North, there is always Preston. Regardless of what city you live in there will be a fresh food market. Adelaide has one on Gouger Street, Sydney has Paddy's, and Darwin has Mindal Beach. Find your market and buy fresh fruit and veg there. You will also find things like spices and honey at most of them. Taking a drive and finding a rural farmers market is also a great deal of fun. And you can usually snag a bargain or two at a re used goods stall!

2.Seafood and meaty products can be found at most of these as well. Like buying fruit and veg, get what is in season, and what is on special. At certain times of the year, venison, duck, quail and other game meats are cheaper.

3.Buy some flowers. Flowers are a great way to dress up a table and not expensive all of the time.

Again, avoid the florist and the supermarket and find a flower market or roadside vendor.

4.Get your guests to bring stuff - mostly ask them to bring a decent bottle of wine and a cheaper one. The decent ones get consumed first while the taste buds work, and the cheaper ones come later when all are a bit over refreshed.

5.When guests ask is there anything they can bring - say yes. Bread, a dip, crackers, some

cheese, a tub of olives or a dessert all help, and ease the cost burden on you. And if everyone brings a little something, then there will always be loads to eat.

6.Use cheaper cuts and slow cook - there is nothing better in winter than a beautiful slow cooked braised lamb shoulder with winter vegetables and a decadent creamy mashed potato, lightly whipped with a little blue cheese. Still gourmet by anyone's standards and you can simply throw it all into a big ovenproof dish, add a slurp of wine and let it slow cook all day at 140 degrees.

7.At the risk of sounding stupid, people come to dinner because they want to see you and enjoy your company, not to be fed a meal similar to their favourite dining hole and getting it scot free! Don't stress over the food and if you are doing it on a very tight budget , buy heaps of bread and nibbly bits - then they wont eat as much when you get them to the dining table.

8.Dress the table up a bit - if you don't have damask linen or you do and know your friends will get a bit messy and ruin it, then throw an old bed sheet on the table, and then cover it with butchers paper. Add some brightly coloured napkins, and it looks incredibly festive.

9.If you are responsible for the booze as well, whip up a fruity punch with some ginger beer, a couple of bottles of cheap sparkling, fruit juice, fruit and some soda and get the guests a little socially lubricated before moving onto wine.

10.Hide your good booze away ..... we all know that when we drink too much, it always sounds like a good idea to drink more, and before you know it, your imported single malt Laphroaig is being consumed with ice cubes and coke. If they can't see it, they won't want to drink it.

11.Know your limits and don't attempt anything you are not sure of. It can end in disaster and then the doorbell rings. Guests arrive with booze and an appetite and you have screwed up the main course. Also try to have a starter - a soup is always simple and easy, can be prepared beforehand, and generally won't cost a great deal to put together. With a heap of crusty bread, your guests will be full in no time.

12.Finally, and this is the best secret I can share with you ...Enjoy yourself. It's not a contest (and if it is you have invited the wrong people). It's about good friends enjoying good company and often, simple healthy food. The best food can be ruined by horrible company.

If you want any further information about this column, you can contact Pete at [lifestyle@mqmagazine.com.au](mailto:lifestyle@mqmagazine.com.au) or call 0409142365.

Stand by for my new show on Joy 94.9 called Cravings, for more food and beverage related information.



# Q money: with EVAN DAVIS

G'day and welcome to Q Money. My brother has recently landed a great job and moved to Melbourne. It was a cold Saturday morning and we both sipped coffees as we waited for the real estate agent to arrive. He was keen on a recently converted warehouse apartment in one of the city's trendier suburbs.

The apartment was surrounded with cafes, bars and shops. The dull repetitive thud of house music somewhere in the distance suggested there might be nightclubs too. Across the street was a clothing store with a crudely stenciled poster in the window. It featured Kevin Rudd clutching fists full of money with a speech bubble above his head that read 'Stimulate me baby'.

It was because of Kevin that we were stimulated to be here. The first home owners' grant and its associated bonuses have been continued, though changed slightly. Also interest rates are historically low so for many of us home ownership is more obtainable than ever.

From the first of July through to the thirtieth of September first home buyers in Victoria will receive \$16,000 toward the purchase of an established home and \$32,500 for the purchase of a newly constructed home.

This also applies to house and land packages. There are additional bonuses for purchases in regional Victoria.

From October to December 2009 the payments are reduced. The payments will drop by \$4,500

for established properties and \$2,500 for newly built properties or house and land packages. The payments are scheduled to reduce again in January of next year.

So now is the time to look at your situation! There is never a bad time to buy your first home, providing you are ready and can afford your mortgage. Check the state revenue office website in your state or territory to find out what your entitlements may be. The grant and bonus payments are designed to help you offset the costs of entering the property market and can also assist with your deposit.

As with all things there are criteria for eligibility. Feel free to email with questions or scenarios. This is an area that I deal in regularly so I will be able to easily provide answers based on your individual situation.

Even with the additional assistance from the grant and bonus payments it is appropriate to note that lenders have become stricter. That is to say the banks are being conservative. Across the board lenders are reducing the total amounts they will lend and are looking for borrowers with a good savings history. So make sure you put your K Rudd money in the bank account! If you can save 3 - 5% of the value of the property you are interested in purchasing this will assist greatly in getting you across the line.

When we left the apartment the house music had abated and clearly the club had evicted the last of its patrons. A passing group of girls in their sparkling club wear lifted their tops and flashed us in fits of hysterics.

For my brother at least the prospect of home ownership in this area had become more stimulating still...



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# q beauty: with GEORGE ALEXANDER

**Have you heard that there is a credit crunch? Can't quite justify the price of going to a hairdresser and colouring your hair. Well I have come across the next best thing and best of all it's toxin free and is made with certified organic ingredients.**

Tints Of Nature Conditioning Permanent Hair Colour is a new and highly effective range of 24 conditioning permanent hair colours. It employs an advanced formula to produce outstanding results whilst protecting and caring for your hair and scalp as naturally and gently as possible. Tints of Nature is the only range of hair colours to use high quality, certified organic ingredients. It contains no harsh chemicals, such as resorcinol or nonoxynol, thus guaranteeing damage free results without compromise.

## Why Tints of Nature?

It contains no Ammonia or Ammonia Substitutes; Allows damage free results (ammonia swells the hair shaft and lifts the cuticle); Maintains the hair's natural moisture and protein balance; Leaves no staining on the skin; Smells pleasant to use with no ammonia gas to be inhaled.

It contains No Parabens

Contains Certified Organic Ingredients

Certified Organic Aloe Vera;

Certified Organic Comfrey Extract;

Certified Organic Orange and Grapefruit Extract;

Certified Organic Chamomile.

It does not take the hair as far from its isometric point as other leading colours: Makes it possible, by use of the supplied shampoo and conditioner, to close down the cuticle and return the hair to its ideal pH level.

It uses extra mild Pharmaceutical Grade Peroxide:

Gives the hair a natural feel and shine; Minimizes the possibility of irritation to the skin.

It has the lowest possible percentage of PPD's (pigments): Reduces the risk of allergic reaction and possible chemical build up whilst gently covering grey hair.

It uses a Naturally Derived Base: Is a cleaner, less harmful alternative when compared to the more highly chemical bases used by many other hair colour products; No animal testing; No animal ingredients.

If you are want to lighten or give highlights to your hair try the: **LIGHTENER AND HIGHLIGHTS KITS**

For blonde results naturally. Tints of Nature has introduced two new products to its range. These salon formulated, ammonia-free, Conditioning Permanent Highlighter Kits and Lightener Kits contain everything you need to create beautiful, naturally blonde highlights at home, whilst protecting the scalp during the lightening process. Use them to either add highlights or to lighten your hair by several shades. The choice is yours - you pick the effect and we take care of the condition - leaving your hair soft and silky with a deep, lasting shine and a great new look!

To care for your hair post colouring use:

**TINTS OF NATURE SULFATE-FREE SHAMPOO** - 250 ml - Contains Certified Organic Ingredients - Chamomile and Aloe Vera. The first sulfate, ethanolamine, silicone and paraben free shampoo to have been created. Using the latest naturally based lathering agents, natural wheat protein and plant amino acids. Sulfate free shampoo gives a kind and gentle non-irritating wash that will give the hair fabulous body and shine. The wheat protein and plant amino acids maintain the essential moisture balance of the hair, which helps to keep it supple and healthy. The substantial Vitamin B5 content adds volume to fine or limp hair making this shampoo suitable for all hair types. Ph balanced at 5.5. Does not contain any animal ingredients and has not been tested on animals. It is important to shampoo twice. Due to the absence of the sulfates the first lather will be small, but the second wash will give a rich creamy lather.

**TINTS OF NATURE CONDITIONER** - 250 ml

Contains Certified Organic Chamomile, Aloe Vera and Comfrey. Contains extract of carrageenan, chamomile, aloe and comfrey for natural conditioning and shine. Tints of Nature Conditioner is the ultimate in Natural Conditioning Technology. It contains the latest natural Certified Organic materials to ensure that your hair is kept beautifully conditioned and in perfect pH balance. With carrageenan extract, it gives your hair a deep gloss and beautiful shine. Aloe, Chamomile and Comfrey ensure that your hair and scalp are protected. It will leave your hair smooth to the touch and easy to comb, naturally. Does not contain any animal products and has not been tested on animals.

Tints Of Nature is available from Allscents: 135 Carlisle Street, Balaclava 03 9525 6880



# q dining: SEBEL'S WINDOWS STYLE

## Windows Restaurant Opens

The launch of Windows restaurant at the Sebel Albert Park Melbourne Hotel showcased extraordinary versatility of the property and its capabilities, a delectable 3 course sit down lunch prepared by Executive Chef Andy North had guest's taste buds surpass satisfaction.

The launch also saw a considerable donation made by the Mirvac group to the children of the Mirabel foundation; the gorgeous MC Naomi Robson rose to the occasion joined by other familiar faces Tottie Goldsmith, Lawrence Mooney, Julie Gaudion and Ann Maree Cooksley.

Craig Bond, General Manager of the Sebel Albert Park Hotel, the man responsible for the amazing event, surprised guests with a fashion parade to conclude the launch. The phenomenal designs of local Melbourne designer Sam Ogila-Loro, worn by some of Melbourne's freshest talent, including Samantha Downie of Australia's Next Top Model had guests in ore. Jane Rowe founder of the Mirabel foundation was noted for her tremendous efforts in starting the charity, dedicated to children associated with being orphaned or abandoned due to parental drug use.



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# q drag: RITA LE COQUEATER

**Alan Mayberry spoke to Rita Le Coqueater and found the rumours of tantrums and booze are legendary - but that is what stardom is all about! Bizarre is very much her character - both on stage and off.**

Rita Le Coqueater has been a major face of Melbourne drag nearly 20 years: the Fab 3; PZR; and the Classics all bore the mark of Rita's creative genius. She never goes unnoticed, cashing in on the fact that everyone loves a drag queen and adores a mountain of feathers, gargantuan hair, towering heels, and larger-than-life accessories. She is a shameless and devout party girl, making sure she stands out like a beacon at every envelope opening in town! Her shows and cossies are sensational - never just a metre of disco sequin and the same wig for the whole show, always leaving audiences begging for more.

Rita admits: I am only happy when I'm doing a show with people I love working with. That hasn't always been the case and things soon turn sour. Team spirit is very important to me. If you are not getting along, the audience senses it straight away. There's no hiding it. Once onstage and the spotlight is on you are laid bare. To me drag should be fun. A lot of drags today are too serious ... all desperate to get somewhere with the attitude. You've got to love me!

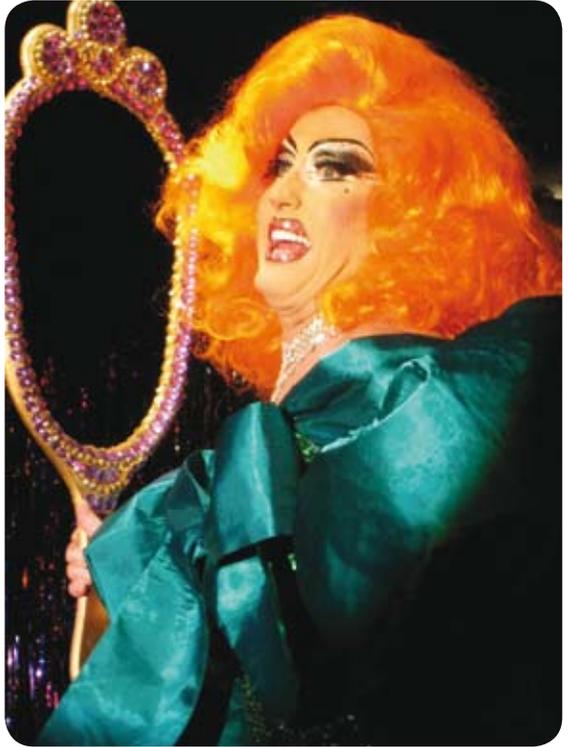
Drag for me is about comedy and camp, not about looking beautiful. I am inspired by a lot of drags in the US like Jackie Beat and Lady Bunny who are total comedy and into the whole huge make-up and scary look. It's never been about beauty for me. I leave that to my younger sisters!

I like to play around with gender a bit, looking fairly obviously male but with the whole drag angle happening. It's a nice alternative to the "real" girls.

I grew up in Mortlake near Warrnambool. There really must be something in the water down there as it has bred Candee and Lucy as well! I've four brothers and a sister. I'm second youngest. The Auntie Mame in my life was Auntie Elaine, who would arrive like a movie star from Sydney, all catfans and jewellery and right red hair (sound familiar?). An inspiration!

My introduction to the world of drag came when I was seventeen and taken to Pokeys. Then I got into visual merchandising at Myer. It was the old school of window dressing and I received the best training. But my creativity dates back to childhood. I was always making things out of toilet roll holders and dish mops. Both my grandmothers are arty in that way too. Very Country Women's Association!

I was absolutely blown away by Pokeys and realised there was more to life than dressing dummies at Myer. I started frocking up to go to parties which was my first taste of drag. My friendships with my drag colleagues have never meant more to me than this year when Vivien St James' tragic death brought us all so close.





I can't believe it is 20 years ago that I performed at Candy's Bar at the Cadillac Bar. I arrived with over-the-top theatrical make-up when everyone else was still in girlie make-up and taffeta dresses. Before I went on stage Candee said "What's your surname?" I didn't have one and next thing I knew she was announcing "Rita Le Coqueater" and it stuck!



Kerrie Le Gore saw me perform at the Cadillac Bar and suggested Paris and I form a team and the Fab 3 were born. Things were tense from the beginning - a clash of personalities. I was always

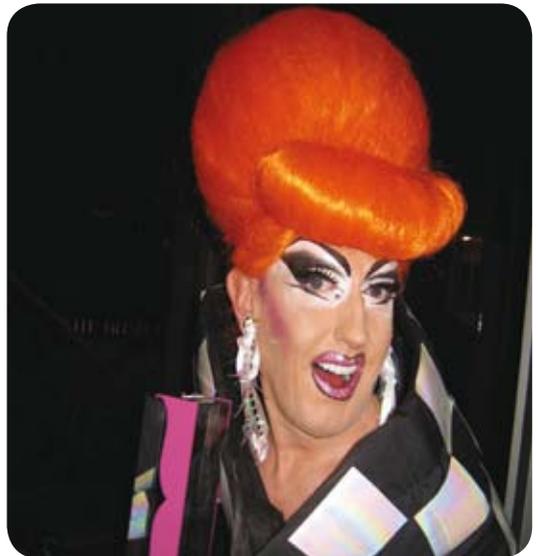
a party girl, annoying both my workmates at times. There were feuds and fights. All the backstage drama you'd expect in a drag show! But out of the turmoil came brilliance and some of that was a determination to outdo one another. We ended at our peak. More than 900 people were there for our closing on 4 July 1993.

Outside the clubs I try to lead a normal life with Steve my partner, going bike riding and to the gym. Keeping a balance at this stage in life is crucial. My health is paramount and I try to keep all that together. I get a lot of satisfaction from my costume work and think the Versailles costumes with the boats on our heads were a highlight in recent times. Design wise, I'm inspired by early Dior, Paco Rabanne and Thierry Mugler. I am also heavily inspired by Leigh Bowery. It is great to have my work recognised at Awards nights and they have a special spot on my mantle.



But you can never rest on your laurels. Unless we keep changing with the times we'll all become dinosaurs. We must move ahead. That's why I love the comedy numbers I do at the Prince on a Monday and love working with Bunny, Anita and Monte at the Peel which is really kicking off.

All those years ago at 3 Faces I never dreamed I'd still be doing drag at 40 and beyond. Botox is a wonderful thing! I'm really happy to be still able to do it at this age and I plan to be around for quite a while yet. Nowadays the younger girls call me "Grandma Le Coqueater." Who would have thought it huh?



# q art: **GASWORKS ART PARK**

“there is something I need to tell you” by Janice Appleton is an exhibition about personal transformation. It follows a ten year journey undertaken with my life partner, who made the ultimate decision to transgender from male to female.

How do you react to the myriad of changes that accompany this decision?

Art reflects life in a re-invented bedroom filled with conceptually driven hand-crafted objects. Combining text, traditional textile skills - with a subversive twist - found objects and non-precious materials, this exhibition charts the journey taken from living as a heterosexual married couple, to one of the few legally married same-sex couples in Australia.

The installation embodies the spirit of thrift present in post-war domestic textiles and the arte povera movement.

The impetus for my current work and this exhibition is a personal one, yet it importantly engages the viewer by addressing the continuing ‘awkwardness’ in our society regarding transgender issues, transgender people, their partners and extended families.

Through my artwork, I acknowledge and celebrate diversity.

Opening Tuesday 7 July 2009 6 to 8pm by Dr Fintan Harte.

“there is something I need to tell you” by Janice Appleton - Gasworks Arts Park - Corner Graham and Pickles Streets, Albert Park - Melways Ref 2J H7

Monday 6 to Monday 26 July 2009 - 9am to 5pm, daily: Free entry Enquires: t:8606 4200 or [www.gasworks.org.au](http://www.gasworks.org.au)



# q fundraising: **JOY SERVES UP SOUP**

**Kicking off on Friday June 12 and running on-air for 10 days the JOY 94.9 ALPHABET SOUP RADIOTHON will ensure the station remains a staple in the community's media diet.**

The station provides an independent voice for the diverse GLBTi Community (often referred to as “the alphabet soup” community) by providing a healthy diet of Music, Talks shows, News & Current Affairs and Arts & Culture programs. The station receives no re-current government funding and is proudly self funded through on-air sponsorship and more importantly memberships and donations.

Every soup needs seasoning so they've got a range of great prizes available to all new and renewing members - total prize pool is over \$30,000. Major Prizes include a holiday to LA from the Virgin Blue Group, a Mac Book, iPod touch, Vers iPod speaker system and laptop bag from My Mac Academy, plus a great range of daily and specialist prizes, even prizes for interstate and overseas listeners. Whatever your taste they've got something for you.

Help keep JOY 94.9 in the radio food chain and support the station, because they can't make a complete alphabet soup without U.



# g theatre: BUTTERFLY CLUB



## Dolly Diamond in LIKE A MOTH TO A FLAME

Dolly the UK Diva now taking up residence in Australia brings her one woman show to The Butterfly Club.

Join her as she sings her way through a medley of songs all live and unleashed. Just like Garland and Minnelli she sings the blues away and rattles when she walks.

Thursday 18 to Saturday 20 June - 9.00pm - \$22 full / \$17

concession and for groups of 8 or more

## Kim Smith in MORPHIUM

Emerging enfant terrible of New York cabaret, Kim Smith, returns to Australia with his latest offering, MORPHIUM.

Friday 19 and Saturday 20 June - 10.30pm - \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

## LOVELINE – THE CABARET

What hasn't been said about love? The greatest writers, musicians, painters and Richard Mercer have said just about all there is ... now it's our turn.

Three girls, a little less than sane turn to The Loveline for advice on their increasingly pathetic love lives. Featuring Sophie Weiss, Tineke Sibbel and Melanie Velissaris.

Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 June - 7.00pm Thursday to Saturday; 6.00pm on Sunday - \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

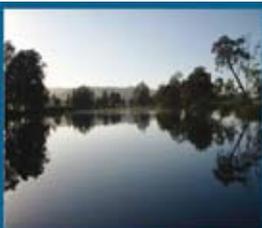
## Jacob Diefenbach in FACING THE MUSIC

FACING THE MUSIC is a darkly comical and shameless self-referential look at what it takes to 'make it' in the music biz. With FACING THE MUSIC, Jacob is taking his greatest step into the world of cabaret to date, playing the struggling / eternally insecure and self-questioning artist – at once desperate to please, jaded, reflective and, at times, hysterical (it's not much of a stretch).

Deeper still, FACING THE MUSIC is about the dynamic and complex exchange between artist and audience; the magic that happens when the two are in perfect harmony ... and the disasters that transpire when they don't.

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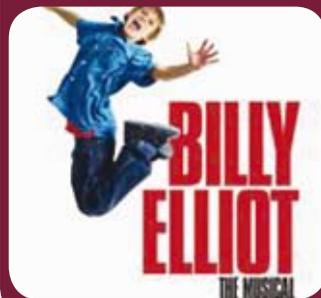
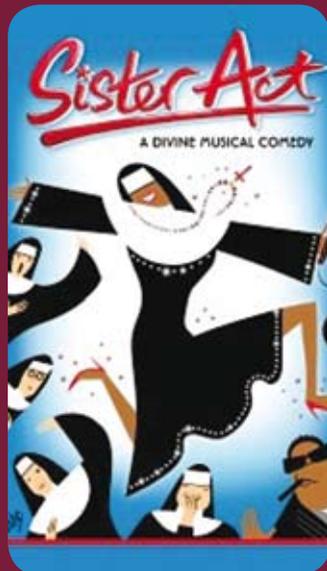
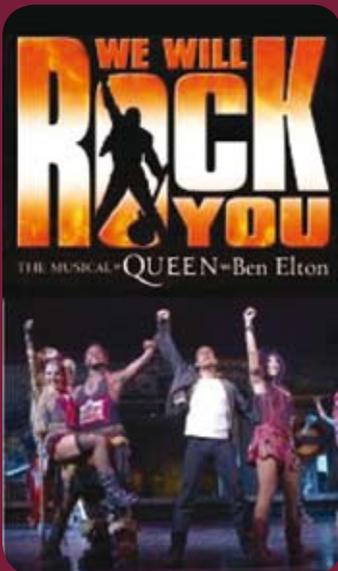
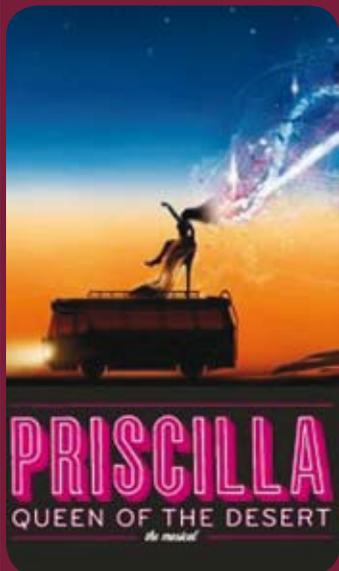
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# q circus: OZ STYLE

From June 17, the internationally acclaimed and undeniably Australian, Circus Oz returns with a new energy and aesthetic to the Big Top at Birrarung Marr for "Circus Oz: Barely Contained", two hours of exuberant physicality, exquisitely executed aerial mastery, jaw dropping acrobatic performances and comedic mayhem - all driven by the dynamic, original and eclectic music of the all-new Circus Oz band.

In Circus Oz's Lab, creative development for the new 2009 show has begun. The 2009 Melbourne season of "Circus Oz : Barely Contained" runs from June 17 to July 12 and will introduce a number of brand new performers and acts, an entirely new band as well as welcoming back some familiar Circus Oz faces. These exciting and daring multi-skilled performers will offer up a selection of irreverent characters, barely controlled chaos and stunt-jumping acrobatics that will have audience members – both young and old - on the edge of their seats.

In 2009, the Circus Oz show opens with the cast exquisitely dressed in the formal and opulent surroundings of a ballroom. Quickly however, in true Circus Oz style, this elegant scene descends into a manic comic knockabout cyclone of absurd acrobatics and non-stop action with an explosive finale. Featured acts include thrilling rubber limbed tumbling, duo juggle, chair balancing, teeterboard, rim, hoop diving, group bike, double trapeze and amazing aerial rope performances.

As Artistic Director Mike Finch says of the 2009 season, "I'm thrilled that we have such an extraordinary group of ultra diverse performers cooking up eccentric new material in the Lab, which we will reveal in June under the Big Top. Anything could happen, and it probably will!"

For over three decades Melbourne based Circus Oz has travelled the globe and has been celebrated for its high energy performances and larrikin spirit – but for the Circus Oz mob, nothing beats performing in front of their home town crowd where it all began thirty years ago. Following the Melbourne season, Circus Oz will be embarking on a capital city and regional tour of Australia including performances in; Port Macquarie, Launceston, Hobart, Mildura, Griffith, Orange, Canberra, and Brisbane.

Whether you come to see Circus Oz every year, or hope to discover Melbourne's own internationally acclaimed contemporary circus for the first time, do not miss out! A stimulus package that always delivers.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW THROUGH TICKETMASTER - Birrarung Marr, Corner Flinders Street & Batman Avenue - 17 June to 12 July 2009



(L - R) Paul O'Keefe, Flip Kammerer, Rockie Stone  
Circus Oz. Photographer: Rob Blackburn

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# q travel: with ASH HOGAN

## Spotlight on Manchester

Visiting the UK is one of those trips I had put off for years. It's not that I was averse to returning home to the so called mother country, it's just that my impressions of England always included bleak landscapes and warm beer. Seeing I gave up beer last November (true story), I was only left with one rather feeble excuse, so I booked a ticket and headed on over.

After a few days in the North of the country, my drive down to Manchester was quick and easy thanks to GPS and being able to blame the computer, not myself for any driving mistakes. Arriving mid afternoon, I was immediately struck by the similarities to Melbourne; admittedly there were a few showers around, but nothing could dampen my spirit as I wandered the streets looking at the amazing architecture and cute scenery to boot. Stopping by the gallery Cube gave a quirky perspective on the city's diverse architecture, whilst Luso Restaurant just off Deansgate offered a tasty Portuguese influenced lunch delivered in a tapas style presentation. A brief stroll past the Manchester Eye (a smaller version of that in London and now in Melbourne's Docklands) and a walk up King Street revealed trendy shops and boutiques mixed amongst some of the more well known shopping labels such as Harvey Nichols.



Of course, it was the gay scene I was keen to explore and the Village was the place to be. Canal Street is awash with fabulous places to see and be seen whether it be the ultra cool Tribeca for cocktails whilst reclining on day beds, the more energetic Essential with most music tastes covered in three different dance spaces. Somewhere I passed but didn't get a chance to enter was Cruz 101. Let's just leave that one to the imagination! Funnily enough, I was tempted back to my hotel room at the Renaissance Manchester in the city centre with some take away Thai, a few bottles of white wine, and some great company. He spent many hours explaining to me what life was like in Manchester growing up as a lad...and I must have dozed off, because next thing I know, it was morning (did you honestly think I meant something else? Naughty!).

One of the idiosyncrasies in visiting so far North in May is that it is daylight almost 18 hours a day, so make sure you either come prepared with an eye mask, or be prepared to wake up at 3:30am every morning and then struggle to get back to sleep. Or even better, get home after this time from your night out, and collapse from exhaustion. I tried both, and preferred the latter. And if for some reason you don't like to head out to the bars, [gaydar.co.uk](http://gaydar.co.uk) have an active chat and cruise room for Manchester with helpful, friendly people if you are seeking advice, or something more.



*Getting to Manchester is seamless with connections from every Australian capital city via London or the Middle East. Flights ex Sydney start from \$1899 return including taxes in low season. Accommodation at Renaissance Manchester starts from \$190 per night. Ash's accommodation in Manchester was partially gifted by Marriott. Ash is an employee of Flight Centre Limited. Images courtesy of [visitmanchester.com](http://visitmanchester.com)*

# in bed: with BEN

## Sweet Tweets

Ok, this month I thought I'd do something different. For the last little while I've been tweeting my ass off on twitter, I'm literally down to 69kg's. What a convenient number for a gay man! If you're not on twitter yet go to [www.twitter.com/benangel](http://www.twitter.com/benangel) and check out my profile to see what it is all about. In basic terms twitter is a mini blog feed where you type in what you're doing at any given moment, much like facebook where they ask you, "What's on your mind?" You can follow Britney Spears, Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore and my favourite Justine to see what they're doing.

What I love about twitter is that you immediately know whether or not people like what you have to say. In print the feedback can take some time to filter back to the writer. So this month I've copied all of the sweet tweets my followers seemed to have gone tweeting mad over this month below. They're not in any order (that would be way too hard,) they are simply random posts I've made over the last month about what to wear, manscaping, schmoozing, what to do when someone annoys you and even how to deal with sweaty armpits, (gross I know!)

Here we go, starting with this month's top tweet:

- Next time someone annoys you**, simply say to them: "You've aged me horribly!" then walk away.
- Want to look slim?** Put down the fork! Or, spoil your food by pouring salt over it to prevent you from eating anymore.
- When schmoozing** with key contacts play host and be the one to introduce everyone else to the most

influential person in attendance.

-**Sweaty armpits?** Grab a product called Dri-Clor from the chemist. It prevents you from sweating. Read the instructions first or it may sting you worse than that rash you have in your underpants!

-**Chaps:** Manscaping should be part of your weekly ritual. Your partner doesn't want to go down on a scrubbing brush!

-**Want to influence somebody?** Speak 10% of the time and allow the other 90% of the time for them to express what they need. In other words, SHUT UP!

-**It's scary when you realise** that you've had a longer relationship with your telephone service provider than a real person. Oh Optus, I love you! Let's commit for another three years.

-**For an instant facelift** staple your eyebrows to your forehead. And Bobs your uncle, you'll be looking like Joan Rivers in no time.

-**I get all of my fashion tips** from Antiques Roadshow... Oh, those Brits know how to dress. Some of the sexiest people alive are on it!

-**Bitch looks bad** on everybody!

-**Have u ever tried 2 pick someone up** who was wearing crocs? They destroy love lives around the world daily. Stop the atrocity!

-**Be Remembered:** Shift a person from one emotional state to another, sad/neutral/happy. Make them laugh, smile, grin. Works with everyone.

There you have it. Do you feel more enlightened? Probably not!

But if you want to jump on my twitter page and post me some questions next month I'll answer them in this column, anonymously of course. Let's get some interaction happening. They can be about anything and I mean anything!



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# q focus: THE MAGICAL NT

"I love a sunburnt country, A land of sweeping plains, Of ragged mountain ranges, Of droughts and flooding rains."

A first time visitor to the heartland of Australia, one could be forgiven that Dorothea Mackellar herself was referring to Alice Springs. As my mid-morning flight heads north from Adelaide, the greens hills of the City of Churches soon gives way to the boundless arid landscapes of Central Australia.

On arrival at Alice Springs Airport, you are greeted by one of the many Tourism Ambassadors, handing out guides to the region. There is plenty to see and do, as I'm to find out over the next few days.

I check-in into the Voyages Alice Springs Resort. My spacious room overlooking the parched Todd River reflects the earthy tones of the Central Australian desert. The resort pool is conveniently located next to the Barra On Todd Restaurant featuring local produce matched with flavours of the region.

A short stroll into town and you are instantly immersed in the many cultural offerings the region has to offer. Plenty of galleries line the Todd Mall, with a good range of indigenous and non-indigenous art at affordable prices.

The Alice Wanderer, for a nominal fee, represents great value for money and the perfect way to see the town. This 'hop on – hop off' tour operates on a continual 70 minute loop of the major attractions in Alice Springs and includes the Old Telegraph Station, the School of the Air, the Royal Flying Doctor Base, and the Araluen Art Centre and Galleries.

A visit to Central Australia isn't complete without a trip to the Uluru - Kata Tjuta National Park. Located 450km south west of Alice Springs, this World Heritage listed precinct is considered the spiritual heartland of Australia and great cultural significance for the Anangu traditional landowners.



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Interpretive signage provides many fascinating details of the area, while a walking tour with an Aboriginal guide will inform about the local flora and fauna, and Dreamtime stories. Everyday, hundreds gather at sunset to view the changing kaleidoscope of colours from gentle, dusky blues and purples to fierce oranges and reds.

Drinks by the Pool at Voyages on a Friday evening is a good way to meet the locals, including Phil and Glenn from The Rainbow Connection, who for the last ten years, have actively promoted Central Australia as a region of choice for the gay and lesbian traveller.



A number of attractions and accommodation providers are also members of Gay and Lesbian Tourism Australia (GALTA), so it's worth checking out [galta.com.au](http://galta.com.au) for more details. Article courtesy of Rohan Shearn.

"Our land has big story.

Sometimes we tell a little bit at a time.

Come and hear our stories, see our land.

A little bit might stay in your hearts."

Jacob Nayinggul, Traditional Owner, 7:03pm

# ENCHANTED



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# q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

**Ethical Considerations in Sport, Society and Culture. "Sport is part of the Australian way of life" but doesn't every culture claim this to be so? If so then sport is an integral part of all communities, cultures and national identities.**

The question this month: is sport actually that important to cultural development? Looking at the recent issues that face sport, it's hard to understand why it is so important.

Massive issues of sexual impropriety, The Rugby league sex scandal, the stripper in the football club, the supposed cruelty of Horse Jumps racing, the list goes on. Human Blood sport, Killing and torturing animals as sport, and using sport to reinforce stereotyping and hatred. Sport fosters aggression, and transforms it into violence and anger; literally it brings out the very worst parts of ourselves. Is this the necessary "Part of Australian Life"?

It is universally accepted that sport is part of the process to healthy living for humans, it represents exercise etc. Exercise becomes sport. Sport becomes competition. Competition becomes war, look at the very pinnacle of sporting endeavour the Olympic Games. How much of the Olympics is actually sport? The last 2 weeks of a 4 years cycle. There is the training etc that the few athletes go through, but it is in its most basic form, preparation for war, it's about money prestige and most of all about winning. There is a huge fanfare made about how it brings the nations of the world together in peace, really? How?

The competitive nature can turn sport from healthy recreation into the most cold blooded cruelty and barbarianism. Look at the language of competitive sport, it's not the "we want to win" language it's more "we are going to slaughter" language.

I'm generally not interested in the issues of sport or the ridiculous fuss that the virility of sports people seems to ejaculate onto our culture, if you support sport to the insane level that it has become in our society than you have to take the blame for all of the attendant issues that come with it.

Is it the player's fault? I would argue that it is not. For the purpose of this I am only really going to talk about male sport, I acknowledge that women's sport is as much the issue, but the recent crisis are mainly to do with men.

We take teenagers who are in the prime of their sporting prowess, train them to be extremely skilled and efficient, give them far to much money, glory and power than they can handle, and then let them 'loose' into the community. Most of the trouble comes from men in their mid 20's early 30's who do not know who to use this power they have or control themselves after months of strenuous back-breaking training and psychological manipulation into being completely focused "winning machines".

When they run off the rails because they are hyped up on testosterone and beer, and become violent or make very poor judgements, who do we blame? We blame them.

I think they are all big enough boys to know right from wrong, or are they? If you have been on a flight with pissed sport hooligans (players or spectators) you will know exactly what I mean. I recall being on a cheaper Australian airline flight while a football was being thrown up and down the cabin, despite the efforts of a frustrated air crew, and some quite traumatised passengers – I was one of them. "They're just being blokes" said the man next to me who seemed more traumatised than I was. Hmmm.

Let's look back historically at the changing attitudes in society towards sport. "Casting a coksteele" was a sport whereby a roster was tethered to a pole and people would throw heavy wooden cudgels at it until it was dead. Barbaric? Sir Thomas Moore who was beheaded because he would not sell out his values and is often thought of as an enlightened (Although perhaps naive) was proud of his ability in this sport. The first blow was usually to break the animals legs, which they would then strap up with sticks so they could extended the duration of the 'game'.

Obviously things have changed. The big question though remains, does sport actually enhance the human experience, or does it connect us with our internalised savagery? Do we loose or 'educated connection with civilization'? It would seem that we (they) do. You would think that in these times we are not so cruel to animals, or each other. In fact we are, and in some cases we are worse off. Mass media is also mass hysteria. Look at the violent behaviours that soccer creates, look at one of the Olympic sports, boxing, what is it really? Look at the basic premise of boxing, it's awful.

I remember hiding in the toilets at boarding school trying not to be cast into the depravity of competitive sport, thank goodness I had the sense to realise.

The one time I was forced into competitive sport in a team it lasted two weeks, and I broke the nose of one of my 'team-mates' with a hockey stick as a consequence of the endless poofter taunting and I was expelled (eventually), because I was "too aggressive". Therein lies the irony.



q web: **MaMyDa - FUN NETWORKING**

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At MaMyDa you are able to create an event (which other's will be able to view and RSVP), browse and join from a large list of existing events and meet new people. It's easy and quick to sign up and FREE.

MaMyDa which was originally created in Sydney is now going beyond the 2000 post code to other states nation wide around Australia. If you can't see any events in your city, grab some inspiration from what's on offer in other cities and create one! MaMyDa - The perfect event listing website and community. When signing up use the promotion code: "QMAG" - [www.mamyda.com](http://www.mamyda.com)

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# q cuisine: with CHEF NATHAN



Enjoying a warm and hearty soup at this time of year is more of a staple than a delicacy. With vegetable costs being quite reasonable and at great quality, this soup will bring warmth and heartiness to your evenings spent by the open fire.

Vegetable, Bacon & Risoni Soup

## Ingredients (serves 4)

1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 brown onion, finely chopped  
125g 97% fat-free bacon, chopped  
2 garlic cloves, crushed  
2 carrots, peeled, chopped

1 parsnip, peeled, chopped  
1 celery stick, chopped  
2 small zucchini, chopped  
6 cups reduced-salt beef stock  
400g can diced roma tomatoes  
1/3 cup dried risoni pasta  
1/3 cup flat-leaf parsley leaves, roughly chopped

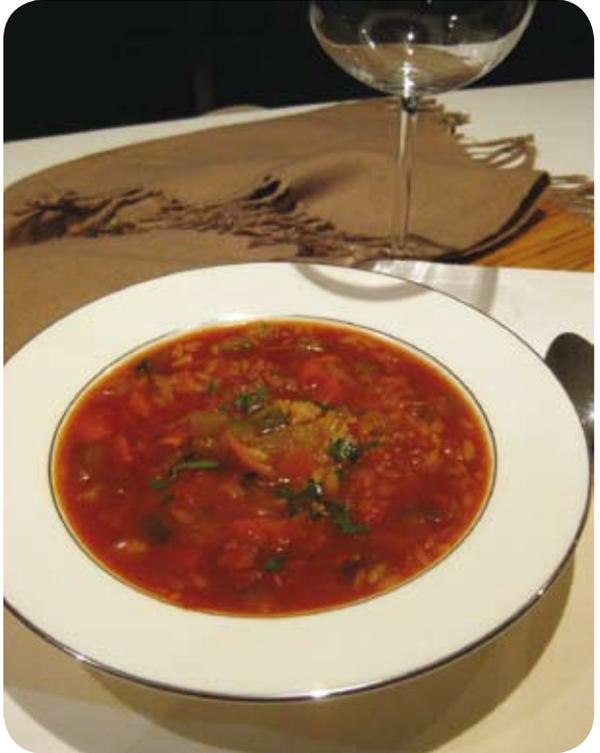
## Method

Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onion, bacon and garlic. Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until soft. Add carrot, parsnip, celery and zucchini. Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes.

Add stock and tomatoes. Stir to combine. Bring to the boil. Reduce heat to low. Cover. Simmer, stirring occasionally, for 45 minutes or until vegetables are soft.

Stir in risoni. Cook for 12 to 15 minutes or until risoni is tender. Season with salt and pepper. Stir through parsley. Ladle soup into bowls. Serve.

If you require a little more heartiness in this soup, try adding some raw chicken strips into the soup at the same time as you add the risoni.



Got a question  
about HIV or  
sexual health?

# q art: RYAN DAVIS - BLUE

Blue – A Retrospective.

"Blue" is a range of works inspired by the post impressionists caught in the cusp of Pop Art. Further inspired by twentieth century beach culture, washed with this touch of Pop Art, Ryan creates a range of paintings from big blue skies with everyday beach life to detailed wallpapered patterns, featuring unique and abstract narratives.

These works will stimulate everyone's visual library of big blue skies with everyday scenes of beach life and people having fun.

Born in England in 1972, Ryan and his family came to Australia on an ocean liner called "The Australia" on a family ticket costing 26 pounds. Throughout this body of work, we can see a heavy influence of Australian landscape and culture. Ryan's technique also shows the refinement and control of the European classics.

Obtaining a degree in three-dimensional design, from the University of Newcastle in the UK, Ryan's technique was further developed whilst travelling throughout Europe and studying the works of such artists as Monet, Constable and Dali. Ryan has now returned to Australia and calls Melbourne home.

"I have always admired people such as a Jeffrey Smart. His clean palette and fun subject matter has drawn me to push my work into the surreal arena. Smart, Constable and the likes of Monet make a wonderful blend of inspiration combining my heritage and past eight years in Melbourne," says Ryan.

Ryan calls upon smart techniques to create works of art arresting in realism and engaging in visual and narrative wit. He recognises the power of realism and uses his training in three-dimensional design to great effect, whilst still calling upon traditional techniques so to lay the intricate patterns that he uses [without the use of stencils] and with an interest in visual concepts and conceits to express his narratives.

For the last five years Ryan has been exhibiting work across Australia and Asia. He is also a commission artist, who has done works for companies such as Paint Right, and numerous bars and cafes and private collectors.

"I believe a painting should not be placed on a wall to fill a space, but to inspire the onlooker, to evoke thought and feeling, tell a story and record times gone by."

Open now at Arterial (74 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford), running to the 13th June. Weekdays - 12pm to 7pm Sat-Sun - 10am to 6pm



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# q win: A MIXED BAG OF GOODIES



## Dimattina Coffee

The Dimattina name, representing one of Australia's oldest, traditional coffee-roasting families can be traced back to 1954, when the family began servicing the demand for coffee following the wave of post-war immigrants to arrive in Melbourne.

Dimattina coffee are proud to offer their Brazilian Ipanema Rainforest Alliance coffee. Using some of Brazil's finest from the South Minas Gerais area, it has a sweet middle palate with a creamy flavour of raw honey with hints of fruit and spice.

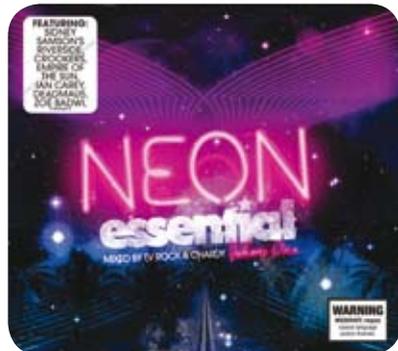
We have five ten dollar bags of premium coffee to give away. Simply email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **dimattina** in the subject line to hopefully win one of these fabulous packs.

## Warner Music

NEON POWERS NOVANATION RELEASES THE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF A SERIES OF COMPILATIONS: NEON 'ESSENTIAL' - VOLUME 1

NEON is proud to announce a long term partnership to power the new DMG digital 24 hour dance station Novanation. Neon will supply exclusive new content to the station including the new weekly dance show Neon Essential 10 hosted by TV ROCK's Grant Smillie, in addition to his Overdrive show on the Nova network. Warner Music Australia and Nova will also release a series of compilations in 2009- the first being NEON ESSENTIAL mixed by TV ROCK and Chardy.

'ESSENTIAL' turns it up with 35 of clublands biggest tunes including the monster exclusive 'Riverside' which is currently riding high at the top of the ARIA Club Chart after a dominating 10 week run at No#1.



Over two massive CDs, 'Essential' promises 'all killers...no fillers' as it brings together the cream of early '09 with new music from heavyweights Ian Carey, Armand Van Helden, Empire Of The Sun, Crookers, Deadmau5, Underworld and many more as well as exclusive new material from Neon Artists Zoe Badwi, Todd Watson feat. Jason Singh & Albin Myers.

We have five to give away. Simply email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **neon** in the subject line.

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Visit [www.dunnywrap.com.au](http://www.dunnywrap.com.au) for a selection of products on offer. We have five rolls to give away. Simply email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **dunnywrap** in the subject line to really impress your guests next time they visit your loo.

\* 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

Let me take you on a journey down memory lane, there I am aged 9, it was careers day at school, standing at the front of the classroom long socks, shorts and bowl haircut (sadly I was blessed with a mother who thought that by placing a bowl around my head and cutting away the residue hair would make a fantastic hair cut, sadly no).

On the blackboard was a heading "When I grow I will be". Mrs. Brown pointed at me and handed the chalk in my hand. I didn't delay in scribing "Airline Pilot", I secretly wanted to write Superman, but I knew that the planet krypton had been destroyed and I wouldn't have any chances in converting from mere mortal to superhero without a shard of crystal to activate the crystal chamber.

For some of us, our careers are destined or pre programmed, or for some a career we land by default. In our western society there is so much empathisis on what we do. I believe a job is just that, a job, it does not define us. However it is everyone responsibility to manage their career, after all it is one of the most important investments that you will make in your life. Whether you work in a bar or CEO of a company, we all want to feel valued, respected and get rewarded for our hard work. Sometimes the career we selected is no longer providing the rewards. It is easy to get caught up in the salary war of working for money; or striving for getting a more senior position.

A "career" is defined as a progression in a particular field, with each position building on the experience of the ones before. It requires careful navigation; a career road map is one of the best ways to ensure your stay on track. This map of sorts has short, mid and long term goals but a clear outline of your career objectives.

Not sure you are following a map? Most people have an end goal, but along the way, it's easy to lose the path, especially when faced with current economic challenges of redundancies, downsizing and pressure to meet company objectives. Here is an exercise to do to help work out how to best "map" out your career, in particular allow you to change careers.

Firstly pull out your resume, if it's not up to date no need to stress. Take a note pad; focus on all the positives and list all the roles you enjoyed, go through each role you have held and jot down your favourite tasks and responsibilities, then lastly write down any additional tasks you would like to be doing. What you have written is a wish list, next select your industry, do you want to work in a different field? Finally what company do you admire, is there one you would like to work for.

Your new career, may sit among 2-3 people's roles. Maybe you will need to up skill or undertake further study. Consider doing voluntary, freelance or part-time work in your chosen field. This will give you contacts, industry experience - perhaps even a job. Be prepared to start at the bottom (or close to it) and work your way up.

With the goal in sight, map the steps involved to get you to your dream career. Set goals. Better yet, come up with short term and specific goals, rather than longer term and vague goal. Best to have a list of realistic actions to meet your goal.



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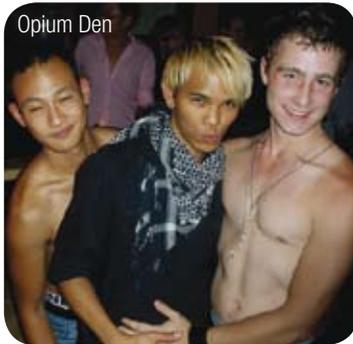
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# q scene: OUT & ABOUT





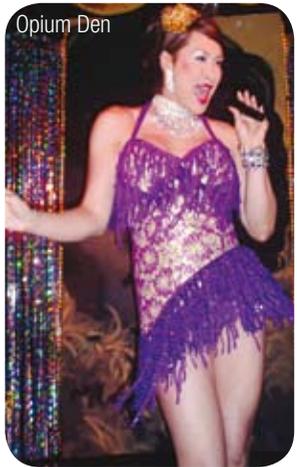
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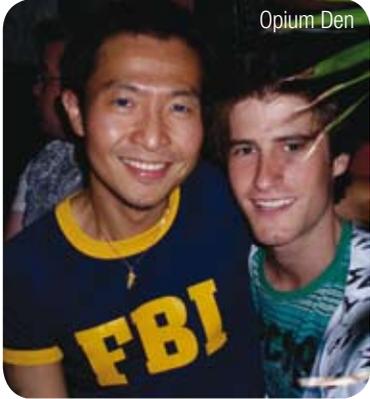
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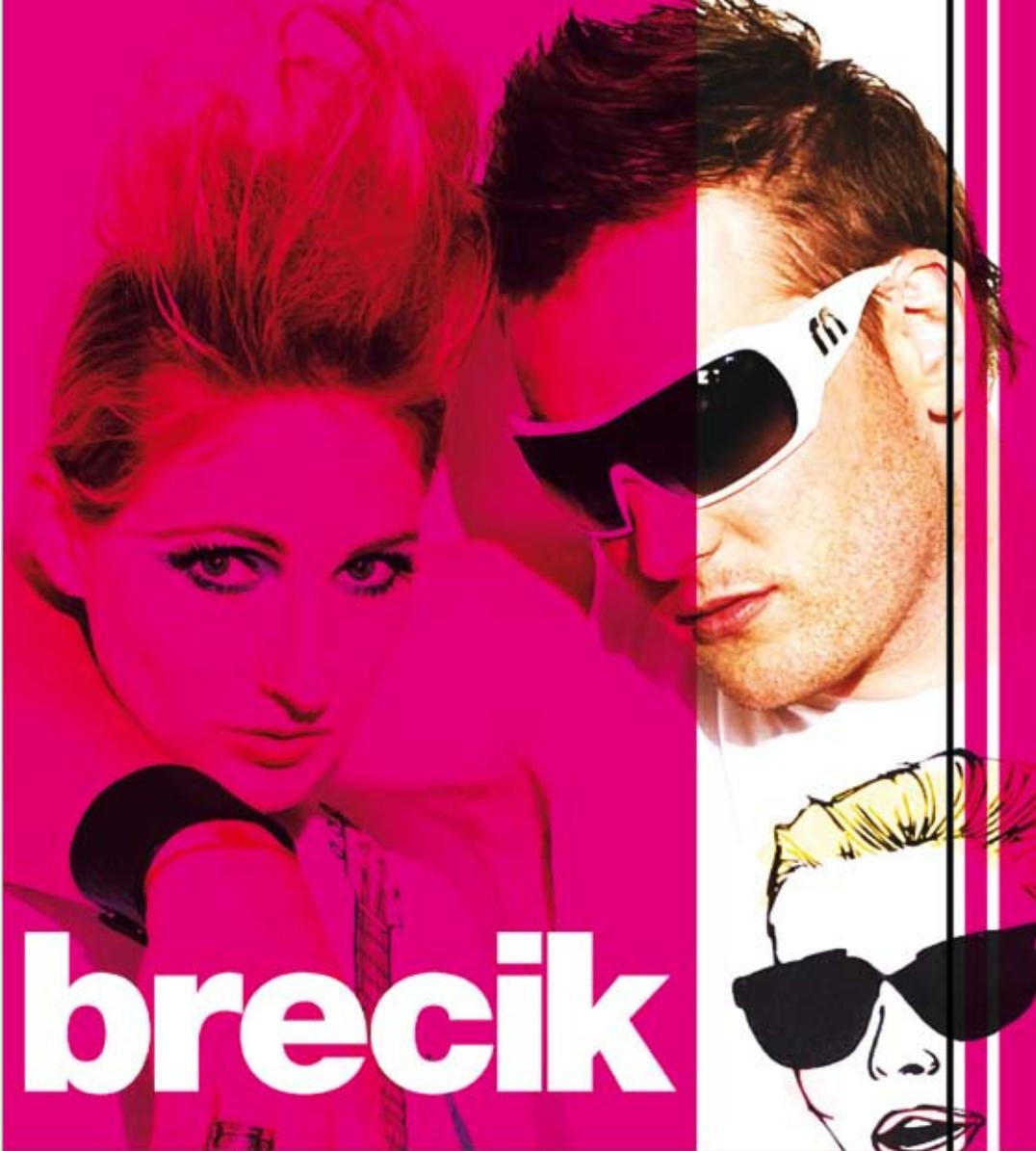
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# q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**





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# q music: **TEN OF AUSSIE'S FINEST**

I recently had the wonderful opportunity to speak with the Musical Director of The Ten Tenors, Graham Foote (currently in the USA) and, as this was the first time I had spoken with anyone from the group, started by asking about their origins.

It all started back in 1995 when a group of guys from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music put together a group for the ten year anniversary of Channel 10 in Brisbane. The feedback was so overwhelming that a couple of years later that some of the founding members left their courses at the "Con" and started a tour of outback Queensland. Ever since then it sort of increased exponentially hitting the International market for the first time during a Eurovision Song Contest in 2002.

After that it snow-balled into us now touring for eleven months of the year, releasing albums across the globe, and performing everywhere - something I can personally take no credit for as I was ten years old when it all started.

## **So when did you join the group?**

At the end of 2007. It's been a whirlwind introduction to a totally different lifestyle: being on tour buses, spending half your life in an airport and an airplane. It's quite surreal sometimes; you have to pinch yourself to see if it's all real, but it's such a lot of fun.

## **You have been extensively touring since joining the group. Has there been a stand-out place that you have been to?**

The most memorable place for me so far has been Cape Town in South Africa. It's just an unbelievable city. The most phenomenal place; incredibly generous people, really nice vibe, and stunningly beautiful. It would be one of the few places that I would think about upping camp and moving to (if I ever had the opportunity to do so).

## **When choosing the songs for an album (given that this task is difficult for solo artists) how do you (as ten people) do it?**

Everyone is equal in the group (all Tenors are equal, just some are more equal than others)...but seriously, everyone does have an input into the group and that was what struck me when I first joined. We have it down to a fairly fine art now - we have to do quite often (particularly when touring) from which hotel to stay in, catering riders, to travel preferences. In regard to song choices though, we have come up with quite a good concept. We all throw around song ideas and choose a common theme from them...and you would be amazed how the beginning of an album starts to arise quite quickly from this process.

## **Taking into consideration the general mixture of voices required to give a balanced sound (top, middle and bottom end). What is the split with The Ten Tenors?**

The amazing thing with the success of this group is that we really are ten tenors (until quite recently when we had a guy who was quite a baritone). The beautiful thing about the tenor voice though is that there is such a wide range of timbre, tone and range (to a lesser degree). All of our arrangements are written for a tenor voice - they never go down in to really low registers. There are some guys who spend most of their time in the lower end but that's just for harmonic interest.

Part of being a member of the creative team is also identifying each person's vocal strengths. The way the group is split up is that we don't all have exclusively operatic voices. We also have a range of musical theatre voices and even a guy who is quite heavily trained in rock singing. So it is a matter of choosing the right voice for the right part of a song.

## **Finally, what sort of material should we expect to hear in your upcoming Australia tour (see dates next page)?**

I recently took over as Musical Director and I re-designed the show to cater for our Australian fans. Some of the classical repertoire that we have become known for has been placed back into the show as well as some of the more contemporary hits we have done. The show will then take the audience through the songbook of the American 20th century (Moon River, What a Wonderful World), a little bit of musical theatre (You'll Never Walk Alone), right the way through to Queen (Bohemian Rhapsody), Simon & Garfunkel - so we've really covered that wide eclecticism that we've covered with the vocal sound and extended that to the repertoire as well. It's still fundamentally classical in nature but it's drawn from a wide variety of sources.



# q tours: THE TEN TENORS

THE TEN TENORS TO TOUR AUSTRALIA IN JUNE/JULY 2009

The Ten Tenors will be touring Australia in June/July 2009 beginning in the Gold Coast on 29 June, recently announced by Warner Music.

The tour will feature music from their latest studio album, 'Nostalgica' which was released on Saturday 25 October.

Tenor Stewart Morris said that the album was inspired by requests from fans at their performances over the past years and that the 'Nostalgica' tour will therefore be a special, interactive experience.

"Nostalgica was very much inspired by and dedicated to our fans. They songs were chosen because we were getting overwhelming requests for them during shows. This tour will be packed full of classics that everyone enjoys and we cannot wait to come home and perform!"



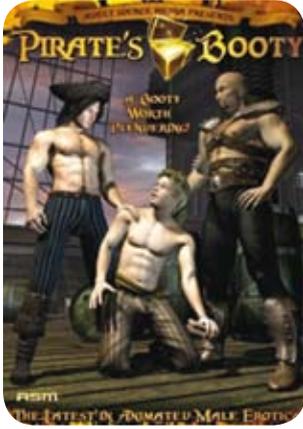
'Nostalgica' is an album full of classics from the 20th Century, produced by Grammy Award winning producer, Simon Franglen, in collaboration with The Ten Tenors' Musical Directors Drew Graham and Craig Hendry, and backed by magnificent orchestral arrangements by Steven Baker. The collection ranges from Mexican best-sellers to post-war classics to jazz, including 'Granada', 'You'll Never Walk Alone' and the Louis Armstrong classic, 'What A Wonderful World'. Also included is their all-time, most requested song, Irish favourite, 'Danny Boy'. The group has come a long way since humble beginnings as uni students at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, performing as a way to earn some pocket money, to becoming one of the most successful worldwide touring acts today, averaging 250 international concerts each year.

"We would like to thank the fans for their support of the 'Nostalgica' – these songs really are our gift to the fans," said Morris. "It's going to be great to share them in person in June and July."

## TOUR DATES:

**GOLD COAST** Gold Coast Arts Centre Mon 29 June Book now: 07 5588 4000 [www.gcac.com.au](http://www.gcac.com.au)  
**BRISBANE** Brisbane Convention Centre Thurs 2 July Book now: Ticketek 132849 [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au)  
**MACKAY** Entertainment Centre Fri 3 July Book now: 07 4961 9700 [www.mackayentertainment.com.au](http://www.mackayentertainment.com.au)  
**DERWENT** Derwent Centre Tues 7 July Book now: 03 6273 0233 [www.derwent.com.au](http://www.derwent.com.au)  
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**CAIRNS** Cairns Convention Centre Sat 4 July Book now: 07 4031 9555 [www.cairnsconvention.com.au](http://www.cairnsconvention.com.au)  
**CANBERRA** Canberra Theatre Thur 9 July Book now: 02 6275 2700 [www.canberratheatre.org.au](http://www.canberratheatre.org.au)  
**MELBOURNE** Arts Centre, Hamer Hall Weds 8 July  
Book now: Ticketmaster 1300 136 166 [www.ticketmaster.com.au](http://www.ticketmaster.com.au)  
**SYDNEY** State Theatre Fri 17 July  
Book now: Ticketmaster 136 100 [www.ticketmaster.com.au](http://www.ticketmaster.com.au)

# q videos: TAKE A LOOK AT THESE



**Adult Source Media** presents its first full-length, fantasy-based gay adult CGI movie. Featuring the most realistic looking characters short of live actors, the action has to be seen to be believed.

Sail away with Captain Jack Swallows and his crew as they set sail on the rough seas and encounter even rougher hardcore sex along the way! Throw in a spirit who possesses each crew member and releases the inner 'plunderer' in them and you've got the makings for a raunchy good time.

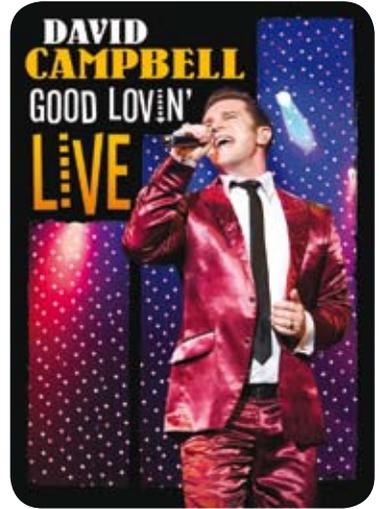
I was a little dubious about this release however once I started watching it realised that it is very erotic. Certainly a good addition to anyone's porn collection.

**David Campbell's** sensational new DVD, 'GOOD LOVIN' LIVE', has debuted at number one (1) on the National Aria DVD music charts. The number 1 chart position was a fantastic way to celebrate the end of

the 'Good Lovin' nationwide tour, which saw Campbell on the road, for over two (2) months playing sold out shows all over the country almost every night.

The DVD showcases the memorable Sydney State Theatre performance which Campbell performed with a full band & horn section. The DVD includes all the hits from Campbell's previous 3 albums, 'Swing Sessions', 'Swing Sessions 2' and 'Good Lovin'. Highlights from the DVD include, Good Lovin (The Young Rascals), Suspicious Minds (Elvis Presley), Devil with a Blue Dress on (Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels) & You've Lost that Lovin' Feeling (the Righteous Brothers). The DVD also features some very special backstage footage and allows fans to take a peak into David's life on the road with his band.

David Campbell's ' Good Lovin' album and LIVE DVD is out now through **Sony Music**.



# q business: IZETT STREET EXPANDS



**CJ** - the owner of **INYA** (formerly the Shaft Store) has recently taken over another gay business - **Faboo** - and has already set plans of expansion in motion.

The old Faboo store is now a clearance store with heavily discounted t-shirts and novelties to make room for some very special changes. The store will transform into a store jammed packed with novelty items, a great range of kids t-shirts, monopoly games, and a kids & adult costume retail outlet. The funky new Faboo store (just five doors down) will feature a huge range of adult t-shirts, Ombre underwear for men, a huge range of rainbow products (pins, stickers, flags etc), and unique jewellery deigned for guys and girls.

"I am so pleased to be able to continue the Faboo name that Mark and Normie established in Melbourne, keeping the wonderful range plus building on the whole concept", CJ said of his new purchase.

**INYA** - arguably Melbourne's best adult book and toy store - continues in the middle of the two with an extensive range of adult toys / magazines and books / dvds / calendars / bandangles / aromas and accessories.



# q fashion: STEVIEBOI SHADES

Baltimore, MD, May 08, 2009 - StevieBoi.com has introduced the new Line of SB sunglasses Apparel & Accessories. StevieBoi.com is official and grabbing attention World wide. StevieBoi.com features a unique selection of sunglasses that has a strong, bold and interesting look.



SB Accessories-Clothing and Trendsetting is official. Stevie Boi is the owner and user of SB-Clothing. Since the beginning of 2007, Steven C. Strawder has sold his Apparel line entitled (TOxic). His clothing line was sold alongside Bluecotton.com. Successfully pulling in figures to

outstand a seasonal trend. Stevie Boi decided to take a serious approach towards marketing his own name brand. So he created

StevieBoi.com. StevieBoi.com features unique accessories Apparel and Trendsetting styles By Steven him self. The most popular part of StevieBoi.com is the sunglasses section Pulling in over Three thousand views in just the first eight hours of a day, Stevieboi.com proves to be the most unique site and well known here in the US and overseas.

"The most important thing in my life is my art work," said Steven Strawder, Owner and director of StevieBoi.com. "I just want people to feel beautiful even during the recession that's why I offer low prices on all of my products."

For additional information on the SB Accessories Clothing & Apparel Please, contact CustomerService@StevieBoi.com or visit [www.StevieBoi.com](http://www.StevieBoi.com).



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# q coffee: THE DIMATTINA WAY

The Dimattina name represents one of Australia's oldest, traditional coffee-roasting families. It's also a passion that can be traced back to 1954, when the family began servicing the demand for coffee following the wave of post-war immigrants to arrive in Melbourne.

Today, Dimattina Coffee's success lies in its heritage and passion for creating a truly unique coffee experience. That it has endeared itself to coffee purists around the country speaks for itself.

The respected national brand's new sales and marketing retail headquarters, now opened in South Melbourne, is already being lauded as the 'home of coffee' in Melbourne. Housed in a charming heritage-listed location, complete with French provincial awnings, it is fast becoming a second home for anyone with a penchant for exceptional coffee.

The South Melbourne (corner Clarendon and Market Sts) café also encompasses a domestic and commercial showroom, Barista training facilities and a stunning front-of-shop café. Accredited trainers are on hand to take existing and potential clients through the entire coffee experience - the whole process of roasting, cupping, using the equipment through to barista training (from beginners to those wanting to take their coffee making to the next level). The café also extends to both bulk and consumer retails sales.

The café features a bespoke Dutch-made Mirage coffee machine, as well as a stunning Victoria Arduino Venus Century Espresso Machine - of the 100 manufactured, the first one was actually presented to Pope Benedict XVI for his personal use.

The café also plays host to events such as coffee appreciation nights and the like, and boasts a stylish, intimate lower-level "Ronnie Wood Room" lounge area that charming ambience aside, offers somewhat of a nostalgic tribute to bands of the era.

## WHO THEY ARE:

*It all began with Frank Dimattina Senior, and his three nephews; Joe, Dominic and Anthony. With their passion and enthusiasm for roasting coffee, the Melbourne café strips became the Dimattina's domain and a coffee family was born.*

*A generation later and the family is still roasting coffee, with the sons of the fathers breathing new life and personality into the family trade. New ideas came thick and fast from Simon (Joe). Exotic new beans were introduced by Robert (Dominic). While Paul (Anthony), full of life and energy, became the face of Dimattina Coffee. But they would also need someone else. A master roaster to craft individual blends, tailored to the tastes of Melbourne's growing café scene. That man was Lino Bettiol. A person who could speak the language of coffee. And so it was that Lino became part of Dimattina.*

*The Dimattina's still small batch roast coffee in the traditional family way. As the beans slowly crackle and change colour, they meticulously check every stage, from start to finish. Precision that makes each and every cup of Dimattina Coffee special.*

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