



JUNE 2010

Q MAGAZINE

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Enjoyed Nationally
& Internationally!



featuring
THE KINGS &
QUEENS OF
MELBOURNE

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q comment: SYDNEY DANCE CO.,

Following a season at the prestigious Biennale di Danza in Venice and a performance at the World Expo in Shanghai in June, Sydney Dance Company's stunning work by Rafael Bonachela *we unfold* will have its Melbourne premiere at the Arts Centre, Playhouse from 9 to 13 November 2010, for a strictly limited season of 7 performances only.

In 2009, Sydney Dance Company enthralled dance lovers with its first Melbourne season under the guidance of new Artistic Director, Rafael Bonachela. His 360° was critically acclaimed and sold every last ticket.

Barcelona-born Bonachela came to Sydney Dance Company as a guest choreographer in 2008 at which time he created 360° and was then appointed Artistic Director the following year. *we unfold* was his first creation as Artistic Director and as such, represents a defining and important moment in the history of Sydney Dance Company. This production, a collective work of exploration and discovery, captures the unfolding of a new beginning both for the Company as a whole and for its dancers, many of whom were involved in the initial creative process.

we unfold features powerful video art by Sydney artist Daniel Askill, the delicately understated costumes of Jordan Askill and lighting design by Hugh Taranto.

Sydney Dance Company is regarded as one of Australia's most exciting contemporary dance companies and one of the country's most original and vibrant arts organisations. Performing each year nationally and internationally, they have become one of the most in-demand Australian performing arts companies and strive to be an active proponent of Australian dance around the world. The Company's dancers are acclaimed for their technical finesse and artistry.

Sydney Dance Company presents Rafael Bonachela's *we unfold* 9 -13 November 2010 the Arts Centre, the Playhouse Tuesday - Saturday 8pm Wednesday 1pm matinee Saturday 4pm matinee \$40- \$70 BOOKINGS theartscentre.com.au*, Ticketmaster 1300 182 183 the Arts Centre Box Office and Ticketmaster outlets. *transaction fee applies



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q feature: **KINGS & QUEENS UNITE**



Royalty is thriving in Fitzroy! Drag royalty that is, with King Rocco D'Amore and Queen Anita Beer reigning supreme on the stage at *Neverwhere* on Sunday nights. And their loyal subjects can't get enough!

The history-making duo is the first Drag King and Queen to host together on any stage in Melbourne.

Sundays "All Dragged Up and Nowhere to Show" at *Neverwhere* sees them co-hosting a night of Drag & Frivolity, where the talent of up and coming drag performers is showcased.

Neverwhere's NON-queer owner Haans Siver, again showing her support for the LGBT community and Rocco are the brains behind Melbourne Drag's latest big thing.

"I wanted to create an atmosphere for drag that was open to all Kings and Queens. Drag in the true sense of Drag," said Rocco. "I also wanted to co-host with a Queen, as I thought that was a really good way of merging the two. Haans came up with the title 'All dragged up and Nowhere to show' which I thought was perfect, and we just went from there. Once we had Anita in, it just went off. I knew from the first time we performed together, we would get on like a house on fire," Anita agrees whole-heartedly. Says Rocco, "I think we get each other, in the sense we know...limits and stuff." Anita interjects with her trademark wicked laugh, "You're much more conservative than I am". "But that's my character," says Rocco, "and it works. You gotta have the good cop, bad cop scenario."

Laughs Anita, "I love a good Sunday Session. You come in hungover and you just have a blast."

"Yeah it's the best," agrees Rocco. "We like the idea that on a Sunday it's so relaxed and we can play with different ideas."

'All Dragged Up' is fast becoming one of the Melbourne Drag scene's most popular nights.

"It's encouraging a lot of people who have thought about doing drag to come and give it a go," says Rocco. "They find that they're enjoying it, and feel entitled to call themselves a drag Queen or drag King."

"At some of the other venues," says Anita, "the shows are so big and amazing, there's so much work put into them, that potential Kings and Queens are looking at these shows and feeling that it's all so out of reach. What we're providing here is like a stepping-stone to help them along. Just bring a CD, costume, wig and your own eyelashes! And your friends, you can even bring your parents. I'll try not to swear as much!"

Off stage, Rocco and Anita are both qualified hairdressers. They also both hail from interstate and have made Melbourne their home. Both resoundingly agree that Melbourne is the drag capital of Australia.

"You can go out 6 nights a week and see drag in Melbourne," says Anita. "People should come down and see what we are doing at *Neverwhere*. It's not your usual stuff, and that's good."

Rocco believes the Melbourne King drag scene is thriving more than any other state. Fresh from performing in Sydney with George Michael at this year's Mardi Gras, he said, "It's good for me, as it's exposed the idea of a drag King into the queer community. I don't

know whether we're viewed as a novelty or just a bad smell, but on the whole, interest from the Queens has been positive. I think they're happy the girls are giving it a go."

"I started my drag career in Sydney where I shared the stage with Queens such as Maud Boat, Chelsea Bun and Mitzi McIntosh. We did a lot of big production numbers, but when I came to Melbourne there was nothing else on the scene like it – zero. I wanted to introduce the idea of Kings and Queens performing together to Melbourne. It was a dream I had for five years and finally it happened."

"I think it's something we should embrace," says Anita. "The gay community has a great culture of dressing up and performing, gender lines are blurred, and diversity is celebrated. I just love that the Kings are so experimental; they're changing ideas all the time and people are finally talking about it. The response from all the young Kings and Queens has been amazing; they all just want to have a go. They're so eager, they arrive early and they just want to perform."

"We're introducing "baby Drag" to drag Kings and Queens on stage together," says Rocco. "They walk into the venue, it may be the first time they've seen drag. They see this rapport between a King and Queen." At the moment we're the only venue out there that provides mixed performances."

If the Sunday night crowds at Neverwhere are anything to go by, I think we'll be seeing a lot more of the genre. Rocco and Anita are both seasoned performers, with Anita (a former Miss Melbourne Drag Winner) having just returned as the host and star of the latest "Divine Divas" national tour. The pair's 'All Dragged Up' performances are unscripted, their natural chemistry working its magic to provide plenty of laughs and hi-jinx to enthral and delight their audience.

"Everything we do is completely spontaneous," says Anita. "It's great. That's the rawness of our night and the brilliant angle of what we do. At Neverwhere you're spoilt for choice, with shows, games, prizes, drink specials and more. All that's missing is a jumping castle!"

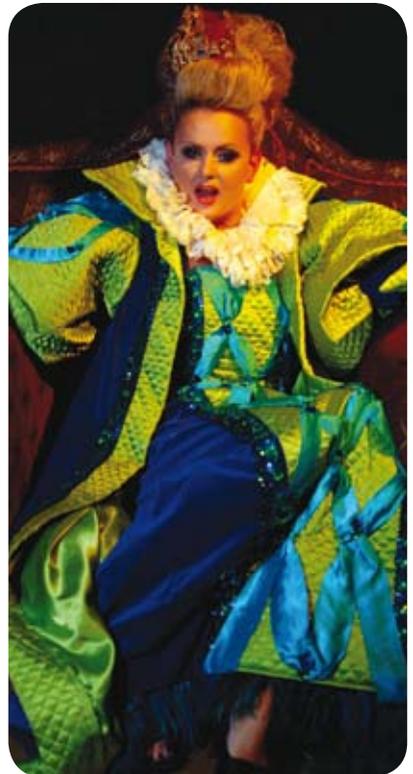
The success of 'All Dragged Up' Sundays spawned the emergence of monthly Saturday 'Themed Nights'. The most recent was an 'All mixed-up' with punters encouraged to 'swap' genders for the night: Rocco 'femmed-up'; Anita 'buched-up'; and the results were hilarious - with both unrecognisable to the regular crowd.

"We decided to have these once-a-month special theme nights to showcase the talent that was coming out of 'All Dragged Up' and give them a proper set up of main stage drag performing," explains Rocco. "They also get paid for their appearance. It really helps boost their confidence as a performer and lets them know they can do it."

Haans, Neverwhere owner and resident hottie behind the bar agreed. "It's amazing to see people blossom in this way, to watch their confidence grow and see their performance become more polished as the weeks progress."

"Instead of singing into the hairbrush in front of the bathroom mirror at home, they can come to Neverwhere and do it for us," says Anita. "We're very approachable and encouraging. Why do it by yourself, I say. Share your talent on the stage with us. Don't be shy, it's like a nice, safe, happy home."

"Yeah," laughs Rocco. "It's like a Drag Academy, cos we can't do this forever!"



q community: WHAT'S HAPPENING

Pink Sofa Cup Launches Website and Forms Alliance With Major Sponsor. Pink Sofa Cup is an event held annually now for two years. It is a weekend hosted each year during November for Lesbians to socialise in a friendly, fun and safe environment participating in golf, tennis or simply spectating and socialising. Held in a different state each year, the Pink Sofa Cup already has regular attendees who've experienced the friendly individual and state rivalry. You don't have to belong to any club, you can also attend to enjoy the activities and socialise with other women in our diverse Australian lesbian community.



pink sofa cup
friends • fun • sport

Tamara Jungwirth from the Ace Girls Tennis Team said "The Pink Sofa Cup provides an avenue for inclusive team-based sports competition at all levels of play. With friendly engagement off the court, and spirited competition on the court, this is an event which I am thrilled to see is growing each year. As tournament director for tennis at the Asia Pacific Outgames in 2007 and coach of the Ace Girls tennis team in Melbourne, I believe that our community thrives through the health, fitness and social benefits derived through participation in sport. The Pink Sofa Cup is leading the way in Australia, providing a key sporting event in the lesbian calendar. I encourage everyone to register, bring your friends, and enjoy a great weekend."

The Pink Sofa Cup is proudly sponsored by the online social and dating community for lesbians, PinkSofa.com.

This sponsorship association led to the event founders, Michelle Rigg and Bronwyn Coombes, and PinkSofa.com forming an alliance in February of this year which will see the event continue to grow and expand to include other sports allowing wider participation for Lesbians.

2010 sees the significant inclusion of Golf and Tennis with the Pink Sofa Cup expanding to a two day event. The event is being held on the 6 & 7 November in Sydney. The website www.pinksofacup.com.au provides full event details and history of the cup. It also includes a variety of links to other Lesbian sporting and community groups, along with a video, produced by Demetra Giannakopoulos, of the 2009 event held in Melbourne.

Michelle & Bronny along with Liz James from PinkSofa.com are excited about the future growth and prospects of the cup with plans already under way for 2011.

For information on the Pink Sofa Cup www.pinksofa.com.au or phone 08 9463 7811.

Coming Out Australia will be running a short 4 week course on "Coming Out" for anyone wanting to attend a workshop and learn more about "Coming Out".



The workshop will be conducted in North Fitzroy, Melbourne and start on 10th June 2010. It is an evening workshop starting at 7pm and run for 2-3 hours depending on the number of participants. It is a casual informal workshop, with discussions, group activities and more. For more information or if you want an individual workshop please contact Coming Out Australia via their website. Discretion and confidentiality is assured. Go to <http://www.comingout.com.au> for more information.

Coming Out Australia has created a new support group for gay men and women who have had children through a heterosexual relationship.

The group is newly created and is in the process of being formed. It is also there for anyone who is in a relationship with someone who has children. The new group is called "GLOCKIDS" Gays and Lesbians Of Co-parent Kids. It will be based in Melbourne.



If you are interested in joining the group go to www.glockids.org

q money: with EVAN DAVIS

A friend of mine is moving to regional Victoria. This is for a calmer lifestyle and to build her dream home. I won't say where. Though, having heard the description of the place, I imagine the young ladies have higher sperm counts than the young blokes. In other words, a place with nothing else to do...

We relaxed on her sofa, drank wine and she showed me the plans for her new house. We were interrupted by a crash from her children's bedroom. Screaming followed. A territorial dispute had broken out over their shared space.

"WHERE DO YOU TWO WANT TO BE BURIED?," my friend yelled as she left the room to start her own brand of mediation.

Financially speaking, it is a great time to build your first home. There will be a continuation of the first home owners grant and boost. The potential payments are reduced from the previous grants though are still helpful.

Put simply, if you've never owned your own home before you should be eligible for \$7,000 toward the purchase. If the property is newly completed or you have constructed your home you will also be eligible for \$13,000 as an additional payment.

These grants are for contracts to buy and/or build which have been entered into (signed) from the 1/7/2010 to the 30/6/2011. Should you crave the country air and more space there is an additional payment of \$6,500 for building in a regional area. As with all things, there are conditions. So to know where you stand, refer to the state revenue office of Victoria at www.sro.vic.gov.au

Building or buying new can also save you on the stamp duty. In the case of a new property the government stamp duty is only calculated on the land value of the transaction. So if your land costs \$200 000 and the build was \$200 000 you pay stamp duty on \$200 000 not \$400 000. This is a saving of \$10,000 on the stamp duty! The same is also true for an off the plan purchase in Victoria.

When building a home, it is important to think of the costs and how they may impact on your budget. Unless you are loaded, talk to a mortgage broker to make sure that you get the right loan. Some lenders like RAMS Home Loans specialise in construction and offer higher loan to value ratios with some of the lowest rates available.

Also factor into your budget the increase cost of the mortgage on top of your rent. While you are building you will need to be able to service a loan that is increasing while you are still paying your rent or board.

The greatest joy of a new home is making your own mark. You have the ability to create your own space and live in a fresh environment. Though, it is also possible to make your mark on rental property.

My friend and her children were proving this to the detriment of her landlord.

The noise from the bedroom was escalating.



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q competition: IT'S CIRCUS OZ TIME

Circus Oz announces return of BIG TOP SNAPSHOT COMPETITION

Circus Oz is a legendary, world-famous, globe-roving icon. The company's shows are always raw, diverse, inspired, spectacular, fantastic for families, and very funny as well! Each year the Circus Oz Big Top sets up at Birrarung Marr, lighting up the city skyline and creating a carnival atmosphere during Melbourne's chilly winter. And for the second year, Melbourne's photographic enthusiasts are invited to capture this essence of Circus Oz on film.



In 2009, Circus Oz launched the inaugural Big Top Snapshot Competition, calling on photographers from all over Melbourne to snap the famous Circus Oz Big Top and send in their best result for a chance to win great prizes. A range of entries was received with shots of the famous Big Top at night, during the day, from above, from the ground, in colour and in black and white.

In 2010, Circus Oz has teamed with Michael's again for the Circus Oz Big Top Snapshot Competition and is opening its doors wider with even more categories.

In addition to a category for amateur photographers, a new category has been introduced for secondary students, as well as a new short film category. The theme for 2010 is "Circus Oz: See It To Believe It!" and entrants are encouraged to be as creative as possible in their interpretation.

While last year photographers were restricted to exterior views of the Big Top, competition entrants will this year be given unprecedented access inside Circus Oz's world.

Entrants will be invited to attend the official media call just prior to Circus Oz's Melbourne season at Birrarung Marr (June 16 to July 11).

The media call will be held on Wednesday 16 June at 11 am.

This will be an opportunity to film and photograph a selection of acts performed inside the Big Top, as well as the fascinating behind-the-scenes atmosphere that takes place before any Circus Oz performance season.

The competition will culminate in an exhibition of the finalists' photographs and short films at Michaels Gallery Melbourne later this year. Entrants will also be in the running to win amazing prizes courtesy of Michaels and Canon.



Photographer: Andrea Rotondella
Circus Oz: Big Top Snapshot competition amateur photographer entrant
Circus Oz Big Top, Melbourne Season 2009

So what are you waiting for? For further details on how to enter the 2010 Big Top Snapshot competition and to register for the media call, visit www.circusoz.com/bigtopsnapshot.

q choir: **TASMANIA HOSTS**



More than 1000 singers including dozens of choirs and individuals from around the country are getting ready to head south to Hobart this winter when Australia's premier festival of choirs, the Festival of Voices, returns from 7 to 11 July.

Under the artistic direction of Jaspa Wood, the festival offers a rare opportunity for anyone with a passion for singing to spend five days learning from and working with some of the best choral teachers in the world. The intensive workshops culminate in public performances in major venues including the Federation Concert Hall, St. David's Cathedral and Hobart Town Hall.

Melbourne-based Stephen Taberner will play a key role this year, including teaching short courses in Singing for Blokes and Singing Like a Bloke, as well as leading this year's FoV 936 Flash Mob Choir in an all-in performance of Under the Milky Way Tonight at the Festival's traditional Saturday evening Bonfire and Big Sing event at Hobart's iconic Salamanca Place on 10 July.

Full program details & bookings at: www.festivalofvoices.com

q people: **with MARC J PORTER**



Recently on seeing worldwide chart success from American Idol runner up Adam Lambert, it got me thinking, are gay musicians finally going mainstream and not letting George Michael be the sole flag flyer?

Adam Lambert's album debuted very high in the US a few months back, given his very out there performance at the American Music Awards in which he gyrated with a myriad of male dancers leaving many to think, uh oh, he's over before he began - as the USA can't handle this type of performer.

All were wrong, Adam is embarking on a cross country tour of America to be followed

by a worldwide tour in 2011, and boy can the guy sing.

This then takes me to another American singer Jay Brannan, who starred in the infamous film Shortbus. Jay is a folk singer/songwriter and is pretty amazing, but has a small but solid following. Whilst he's never charted in the top 10 in his home country or anywhere, he performs worldwide including Australia on a regular basis, he completely sells out tours from Des Moines to Iowa, Amsterdam to the Netherlands.

These 2 guys are amazing singers and performers and they are absolutely transcending gay singer stereotypes and are being embraced by all.

Why are gay singers suddenly being accepted? For years all we had was George Michael, and whilst he was great once, now he's always known for controversy and reinforcing to people that all gay men are grindr-using tramps. So not the case with Adam and Jay. They are honest, approachable, level headed and besides Adam dancing up a storm on American tv which caused about 5 minutes of gossip, they keep out of bad press.

I have both boys' albums and they are worth the listen if you want music free of overhype and marketing.



q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

The sunny shores of Queensland have beckoned me recently. I am not a great fan of the great state of Queensland and a lack of sun prevented me from doing anything outdoorsy. What I did find were some awesome dining spots for lunch and dinner, and I would suggest that if you are north of the border conducting penance as I was, then you should try to hit at least one of the following.

The Marque Hotel in George Street in Brisbane's CBD was known in another life as the Chifley, underwent a redesign and refit in 2007. It's a modern, kind of cool venue where the focus is on comfort, and location wise is ideal, right in the middle of the CBD. It has become quite the place to be seen at for lunch. I wonder if it is necessary but this is silver service with personality.

I wanted to hit the char grill menu...but sadly, I was too easily wooed by the Wagyu beef brisket, slow-cooked and topped with porcini mushrooms and rested on some stunning soft polenta.

The food at 103 is an Asian and French influenced Mod Oz menu with some wonderful delights. Chef David Stoddart is a 5 Star Hotel wunderkind, who has worked in the US and UK, and has cooked for luminaries, like the King and Queen of Jordan.

103 at the Marque is open every day for breakfast, with lunch and dinner available from Monday to Friday. Check it out.

Brett's Wharf is in Hamilton, and is overseen by spritely little leprechaun, Alistair McLeod. Alistair has been seen on Masterchef and Ready Steady Cook, and his business incorporating restaurant, catering and the river room, offers a diverse, modern menu. Fresh seasonal produce is Alistair's focus, and the seafood plate is well worth the very reasonable \$60 per person. Prawns, oysters, calamari, Thai fish cakes, whiting...with a crab cake and a salmon brandade. Enough to feed the most discerning of you.

Also try the Bendele duck with crushed peas, pear and almond. Alastair's focus is on using locally sourced products and has excellent relationships with fishmongers and producers alike. This means he simply puts wonderful fresh produce on the table, without fussing too much with it.

Brett's Wharf is at 449 Kingsford Smith Drive in Hamilton, not too far from the airport, on the Brisbane River.

Era is in South Brisbane and offers a modern menu with great food and great wine. This is another perfect lunch venue that was voted in the top ten in Brisbane in 2009. Its wine list has been recognised as one of the best and was also awarded a chefs hate at the inaugural Brisbane Good Food Guide Awards in 2008/2009. Lets just say that this is one place that is being well recognised by those that matter.

With award-winning chef Marcus Turner serving meticulously prepared and beautifully presented meals, you can enjoy a fine dining experience in a Brisbane restaurant that accommodates every taste and every occasion.

For just \$85 without wine and \$130 with wine, there is a wonderful degustation menu that was enjoyed with gusto. Quail breasts with de puy lentils, salsa verde and an orange reduction was one of the highlights. Black Angus beef fillet with truffled dauphinoise mash and a red wine sauce was also amazing.

Brisbane has long been derided as a bit of a cultural backwater and has not been the bastion of fine dining that perhaps Melbourne and Sydney are, but as it grows and becomes more cosmopolitan, so too does it food and wine scene.

Well worth the visit are these three options, as is Suburban in Mount Gravatt for a great suburban experience and Kabuki in the city offering terrific Japanese food. These last two are recommended by locals and I think that anything the locals love, visitors love as well.

For more information or to keep up to date, Cravings is on JOY 94.9 in Melbourne every Saturday from 1 - 2pm, or you can listen online at www.joy.org.au/listenlive, or email Pete at pete.dillon@kooki.com.au





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q youth: with TASMAN ANDERSON

Usually on a Wednesday night you'd find me at home battling through the mountain of assignments and revision that has been handed to me in my final year of High School. But for the past month or so I've been completely absorbed by Queer Radio in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley.

Of course to those who don't live in Brisbane or have never heard of *Queer Radio*, it is a part of the 4zzz FM's Wednesday night line up, following after *Dykes on Mykes*. Since 1978 4ZZZ (102.1fm) has continually presented programs that supported the GBLT community. In September 1992, the weekly Lesbian and Gay program, *Gay Waves* changed its name and became a Wednesday night cycle every three weeks consisting of *Queer Radio*, which would spend one of the two Wednesdays focused on Gay men's issues. The second Wednesday would be allocated for all GBLT's and *The Lesbian Show* which was produced by and for women would complete the cycle.

The *Queer Radio* instalments veered in a different direction to various other stations by dealing with specific topics and invited guests. *The Lesbian Show* changed its name to *Dykes on Mykes* in the mid-90's and having received such good ratings 4ZZZ allocated both shows a weekly two hour slot in August 2002.



Both shows continue to promote and encourage involvement in community groups and events. Queer Radio presenters Mark and Tim, believe the segments are a great way of gaining self-confidence and meeting new people with similar interests. Another particular audience that the two shows help with are the people of all ages, genders and locations who are thinking of coming out with their sexuality. The radio station also offers access to a huge network of support with absolute discretion.

The first time I heard of both programs was when I was just beginning to get into the local Gay Days and Rallies that were spread across Brisbane last year. An informant from Open Doors explained the program to me and how it may help with any questions I had on the GBLT community. I have to admit, I'm glad he did. I found it absolutely fascinating and immediately incorporated it into my Wednesday night routine. I contacted Mark, the presenter of the show in the hope to do work experience. However, school commitments kept me from it and I eventually lost contact with both the show and Mark.

You can imagine my excitement when my fellow rally organiser Sean, told me that we were heading to Queer radio after our same sex marriage rally meeting where we had been planning the next march. Sean was asked to join the presenters of the show to discuss the past rally and the speech that he performed to an audience well into its hundreds. After a nerve inducing start to the interview, Sean discussed the upcoming rally which has been promised to be bigger and better than the previous ones.



For those who are unaware of Australian legislation, the Marriage Act 1961 defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman entered into for life. This has caused same-sex couples agony as they are unable to join in matrimony. It is truly upsetting to see that for a land which is open to so many different cultures and beliefs, that we are still unable to accept those who are Gay. To me, it is nothing short of a disgrace, a disgusting legislation that is causing people to find their love for the same-sex to be an unacceptable abomination.



I know I must sound like a broken record with most of my previous editorials discussing same-sex marriage. However, rallies are and will continue to be the most effective method to show the government just how many of us are appalled by the current definition of marriage. There is nothing stopping you from joining together and supporting a cause that we all know is long overdue.

Just like last March and the month before, there will be yet another rally, expected to be bigger and better in the Brisbane City's Queens Park on Saturday August 14th at 1pm. This rally will mark the 6th anniversary of the ban on same sex marriage and will include both illegal marriages and massive crowds. So if you haven't taken part before, then join us now. Don't be scared to fight for something you believe in because if we all did that, then being Gay would still be illegal. For more information on the rally visit: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/event.php?eid=121421167880153> or tune into Queer Radio (102.1fm) on Wednesday nights at 9:00pm.

Q epicure: with PAUL PANAYI

Samurai
804 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn (03) 9819 4858

Japanese

When asking around for the cheap and cheerful places to eat in Melbourne, Samurai on Glenferrie Road is a name that pops up frequently. By almost all accounts, it was the place to go in this part of the city for good Japanese food on a budget. Expect to leave full and fully-flavoured, I was told, but also to be shepherded out in double-quick time as staff attempted to make room for the next group of well-rehearsed locals or tipped-off tourists. It was an exciting, almost illicit image that made me keen to try the place out.

Arriving early, at around 6 pm on a Saturday evening, we were quickly afforded a central table in the still uncluttered dining room. Yes, it was small enough to meet and greet elbows with most of my neighbours, but with smiling staff and simple, softly coloured surroundings, I felt quickly at ease. And, though waiters did somewhat beehive between tables, keen to take orders as quickly as possible, I was able to read that more as practical than pushy, especially pre-theatre booking as my group were.

Onto the food itself, which arrived in next to no time. Where other restaurants may have doubled or tripled their prices for more of pomp or presentation, the food at Samurai was as unobtrusive as the service, as simple as the soft interior, and yet full of all the things I want from my meals out; interesting textures, clever combinations and cracking flavours.

Agedashi tofu, for example, was two slices of fried tofu that were of a joyous, almost jelly consistency which came swamped in a delicious dashi soup that tickled all along my tastebuds. Another entrée found chunks of char-grilled eggplant, heavy in a thick miso sauce that gave each mouthful a knockout piquancy and punch.

The mains we tried were similarly brutish and brilliant. Assorted sushi pieces were casually presented but jewelled with the kind of fresh, tasty fish that many other Japanese restaurants can only point to on their posters, while Chukadon was sliced chicken and vegetables in an effortlessly glamorous chef's special sauce. Once again, the so-sticky rice that was served on the side was a perfect balance of both taste and texture for the slightly salty, slightly crunchy meat of this dish.

With change from \$20 in my pocket, I walked out of Samurai feeling as though I had indeed discovered a secret, imaginative world where great, exotic food could still be easily accessible and affordable. Looking at the long queue already forming to get in well before 7 pm, I realised I was not the only one.



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q theatre: JUNE AT THE BUTTERFLY



Adelaide Cabaret Festival shows at The Butterfly Club

In June we feature several hot shows from the Adelaide Cabaret Festival, including:

- Musical Genius and Sex Symbol, Earl Okin (UK), 18-20 June
- the sell-out 2009 Edinburgh Festival hit 'Cabaret Whore' with Sarah-Louise Young (UK), 18&19 June
- the enfant terrible of the New York cabaret scene, Kim Smith (USA), is coming home to where his journey to international acclaim began, 24-27 June

All shows are now on sale and will sell out fast.

Cabaret cocktail of the month:

'The Orgasm', in celebration of Isabel Hertaeg's show being named as one of Adelaide Fringe's Top 3 Shows by the Advertiser. It's with us 10-13 June.



Looking ahead – the Melbourne Cabaret Festival:

40 performances in 4 days. Non-stop cabaret with Toni Lamond AM, Eddie Perfect & the Brodsky Quartet (UK), Mic Conway, Steve Ross (New York), Jon Jackson, Sammy J, Sally Bourne, Susan-Ann Walker, Yana Alana, Martin Martini, Mikangelo, The Beautiful Losers, plus many others.



An Opening Gala hosted by Alan Brough on Wednesday 21 July will open the festival featuring Toni Lamond AM, Yana Alana and The Paranas, Suade and Jon Jackson and then the main program will run from 22-25 July 2010 at the South Melbourne Town Hall and The Butterfly Club.

Featuring multiple shows nightly in four performance spaces, the Melbourne Cabaret Festival will be a feast of 40 performances for all ages and tastes. See the full line-up at www.melbournecabaret.com



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q performance: **WOLFGANG BAAS**



“Disarm, distract, disengage, in matters of the heart it is funny how quick it can change, make haste and see how autumn turns to winter as the last leaf from trees drops to the ground below...”

Performed by local performance and art identity Wolfgang Baas, In Strangers Bed is a contemporary dance exploration in three parts. Intimate and involved, this performance places audiences in the epicenter of the action, immersed in an inter-perspective installation work.

The story: On a regular weekend, a young man is coming home from celebrating his birthday. Along his way he is confronted by the ultimate evil, as a bomb explodes in Melbourne City. His solace comes from



his lover, a man born without sight, whom is waiting dutifully at home. The changing of the seasons from autumn to winter form a fleeting backdrop, highlighting how nothing in life is ever permanent.

Baas's last work, The Butchery Of Morph And Substance recently played at Gasworks Theatre, and was described by one critic as "offering moments of extreme beauty and discomfort". At Kaye Sera's Bizarre, Baas extends these themes, playing out the emotions and trials of his character in a space no bigger than your own bedroom. This is intimate performance art at the extreme.

Get up close and personal with Wolfgang Baas, an exciting young artist forging ahead with an acclaimed body of work designed to create positive social change through creative practice.

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in bed: with BEN

Why Jason Akermanis is God's Gift to The Gays

Dear Mr Akermanis,

I cannot sincerely thank you enough for your recent comments published in the Herald Sun advising gay players to stay in the closet.

You may not know this now, but your comments, I believe are a tipping point in Australia's history towards making homophobia unacceptable and they couldn't have come at a better time.

Why? Because your comments came just days after IDAHO (International Day Against Homophobia & Transphobia) took place and the same week the AFL Players Association in-conjunction with the Youth Mental Health Foundation and Headspace launched their anti-homophobia campaign.

Your comments were absolutely essential in polarising audiences and inciting debate amongst the community on sexuality in sport. You achieved mainstream media coverage of these issues in a sector of the community that no other gay commentator could have ever hoped to have achieved.

The air time that it resulted in on The Footy Show alone, of whom slammed your comments as not reflective of their own - achieved cut through into a sector in which has previously kept tight lipped about the matter. To have it openly discussed on live television and have high profile football players and commentators show their support if a gay player were to come out was nothing short of astonishing and heart warming.

For gay men to be able to openly discuss their personal lives as you would discuss your personal life without judgement or persecution is the ideal outcome we hope to achieve.

I can't argue on your comments in which you say that it would be hard for a gay player to come out - there is no doubt about that. The fact of the matter is that whether it happens today or tomorrow, it is going to happen whether they or anybody else is ready for it and there is more than enough people (publicly) as we now know in sport who would support them with open arms through whatever challenges they may face.

The sad truth is that without you, this topic would not have gotten the coverage that it needs and deserves and that is why you sir, are God's Gift to the Gays, thank you.

Sincerely,
Ben Angel



There's Power in Our Pride.



Please participate in the largest Gay & Lesbian Community Survey in history, and help demonstrate the growing Power in Our Pride.

Our 2009 survey had over 30,000 participants from 25+ countries!

Everyone who completes the survey by June 30, 2010 will be entered into a drawing to win one of 20 Amazon.com credits for \$25, or the Grand Prize of a \$500 Visa gift card!

Please take the survey between May 15 and June 30, 2010, and tell your friends!

www.LGBTsurvey.com

About the Gay & Lesbian Community Survey™: Tremendous strides toward full equality have been achieved by our communities over the past decade. There's Power in Our Pride. Power to make a difference!

- Gay and lesbian survey studies have opened doors (and minds) in leading corporations and organizations, which in turn have recognized the value of their LGBT employees through the establishment of equal hiring policies and domestic partner benefits. This has been a catalyst, leading to sweeping changes in political and social inclusivity.
- Demographic reports also influence marketing investment. Virtually absent until recently, we now see a growing variety of products and services represented in gay media, celebrating our diversity. Ads keep LGBT publications and websites in business, serving their communities with independent news and information.
- Beyond simply advertising, though, these companies support us in many ways, including sponsoring community events and funding community-based charities in order to earn our loyalty.
- Taking an annual pulse on market trends through surveys helps demonstrate the LGBT community's growing power, and influences positive change.



We respect your privacy. All personal survey data is held securely by Community Marketing, Inc., a gay-owned and operated, independent market research and communications firm based in San Francisco, and will not be sold to third parties or used for marketing purposes. CMI was founded in 1992 and is proudly NLGCC-Certified. Thank you!

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q drag: SUE RIDGE

Sue Ridge is always smiling when she's out in drag, because she's having the best time! And this infectious enthusiasm comes across in her every performance. She bounced onto Melbourne's drag stages in 1994. Sondheim's *I'm Still Here* would be the perfect theme for Sue who has been to hell and back over the last decade. Alan Mayberry found out why as Sue headlines at the Xchange on a Friday and in CSS at the Greyhound every Saturday.

I'm a country girl growing up in Cobram, Victoria near the Murray. There are 3 boys in the family – I'm the eldest. I realised I was gay when I was at Cobram High. At 17 I joined the airforce. I wanted to be a chef and was told the easy way was to join the Armed Services and be qualified in 6 months rather than do a 4-year apprenticeship. What they never told me was that once you finish you have to sign on for 6 years! Mandatory sentencing!

I loved my 6 years as a chef at Point Cook. It's great to have a career to fall back on – drag won't last forever once the face starts to fall! I could have been Corporal Ridge if I'd stayed. I was 22 when I left. I had a boyfriend, and was actually living with him off base. By then, I was well and truly locked into the gay scene. It was the early 90s and all a bit scary to me. I used to drive round the Xchange to pluck up enough courage to go in.

It wasn't until 1994 that I thought about performing. Doreen Manganini persuaded me to go on *Doreen's Damaged Discs*. A friend (Fee Fee Bardot) and I were looking through old porno magazines and there was a prostitute called Sue Ridge. We laughed for hours over the name. We performed *Enough is Enough* and brought the house down. 3 Faces was planning a new show in June 1995 to replace The Lipstix and we became part of Drag Squad. Never in a million years when I was standing in the audience at Lipstix did I think that one day I'd be working with Kerrie Le Gore and Candee. It's a matter of being in the right place at the right time. I was really spoilt by starting out in a lavish show like Drag Squad.

When I first started doing drag I always wanted to be a Baby Candee. In fact I've tried to be a cross between Ru Paul and Candee – which is hard for a bloke like me! I love the comedy side of drag.



I make a real effort to get out among the punters. Ever since Drag Squad I've always mixed with the crowd. I've never said that I'm a fantastic performer, but if you have personality on stage and off stage the crowd will respond to you because they feel they know you. You've got to be out there rubbing shoulders, not sitting in the dressing room bitching about the crowd and the management. It's well and good to say you're building mystique by distancing yourself from the audience – but the punters don't want this. As soon as I have finished the show, I'm straight out there with the guys. You can never be too stuck up or think you're too good.

I used to look ahead and ponder what I'd be doing in 5 years time. But now I live from day to day. I used to say there is a 'use by date' for drags but no longer – thank heavens for botox. I do worry when I start to stack on weight. I go on ridiculous diets. Even though I was a chef I live on takeaways.

I had been working quite a lot and started feeling "unwell". I was about to turn 30 and thought this is how 30 year old's felt! I had been for a blood test and while rehearsing at the Xchange the doctor called and said to get to the Alfred ER straight away! Before I knew it I was hooked up to dialysis machine and contemplating the end! Without going into gory details I was diagnosed with renal failure and needed a transplant – Noooo! And before you say anything, no it wasn't the 'partying' – he he! it was actually hereditary. Bad kidneys run in the family. I'm sure the booze actually extended the life of my poor kidneys (at least I'm sure the doctors were going to say that!) I took 6 months away from performing, then just like Cher I did a comeback. Doing shows actually helped, and with the support of family and friends I waited for my new kidney. After 5 years on dialysis I finally received my transplant. I said goodbye to everyone (just in case) and headed off to surgery. The rest is history. Last month we (as in my kidney and I) celebrated our 2 year anniversary. Gone are my big party nights, a few bevies at

the bar and a lot of water now! It has certainly changed my life. And thanks to my many friends who kept my spirits up during the awful ordeal and to managers and owners of various venues around Melbourne who always asked how I was and if they could help, I've decided to deduct the age of the kidney off mine so yay, I'm 16 again!

I'm still a good-time girl! I love being in the spotlight. I've always been a very down to earth kind of drag, never losing sight of the big picture – I'm a man in a dress, and I go out and enjoy it.

I've had the good luck to have worked with Caresse and Sondra for about 13 years. So when I was asked to do the early show with them at the GH about three years ago, I jumped at the chance. We were lucky to get Caresse out of semi retirement (and off the couch!) and with my gal pal Sondra the group was set. It certainly helps to be good friends off the scene as well. We have a great chemistry together and the crowd can see that. We have a tons of fun on and off stage. We all come up with ideas for the show and thanks to our own music maestro Sondra, we're set. I have no idea when it comes to chore and dance moves, so luckily Caresse and Sondra have that covered and just tell me where to stand LOL. I help with the costumes and away we go. With Caresse's great love of football – Carlton, there's been the odd time where we have needed a stand in or stunt double due to a night game, so a BIG big thank you goes to Laura Gravity from the Classics who fills in. With the Classics and CSS as the early show, the crowd can be guaranteed of having a fun and camp "classic" Saturday night. See you all there.



q report: with TOM JONES

Two Thousand and Grindr; a year that was:

In 2009, gay men enlarged their load and not as a result of increased fluid intake or tightening of chastity belts. It was but the gentle touch of a button, which allowed gay men to “Load more Guys” like never before. Launched a little over a year ago, Grindr, a free iPhone application (or “app”), has fast become one of the most popular ways for men to meet men.



For those who are less tech savvy and still spell Grindr with an e, the best description of Grindr comes from Stephen Fry, who talked about the latest cruising application on the television show, Top Gear. “When you load it, up appears all kinds of faces and pictures,” says Fry. “You press them and it goes Hi, I’m Mike and it tells you how close they are.” After Fry’s endorsement, Grindr gained more than 30,000 new British users.

Grindr’s popularity continues to increase with a reported global network of 500,000, growing at a rate of 2,000 new users a day. Australia is the third most popular country with approximately 30,000. Joel Simkhai, the man behind the app, was looking for an easier way to meet other guys. “I’ve always wanted to find a way to talk to the guys I saw in a room but wasn’t able or willing to approach,” says Simkhai. “I have always been curious to find out who my neighbours are and have always wanted to find an easier way to meet locals when I was in a new city.”

But even with this enhanced convenience to meet new guys, hooking up is still seen as a rarity; sought by many, but achieved by only a few. Paul, 38, a regular user of Grindr from Melbourne, says “like the internet hook-up sites, 75 percent of the time it’s simply chatting as opposed to hooking up or dating.” Paul uses Grindr as a form of procrastination, “a good way to waste some time waiting for a tram and having a perve at who else is on.”

But for Michael, 25, a flight attendant from Sydney, Grindr offers more than any internet hook-up sites. He describes one particular experience. “I was in Perth. Early one morning I was feeling a bit toey. I jumped on Grindr and within seconds I was chatting to this hot guy who was 800 metres from the hotel. Within 5 minutes he was in my room. It was all on.” This service is unmatched by any internet hook-up sites, which seem to organise potential matches by the cardinal points of a compass. As Michael also distinguishes, “it seems to be a lot less sleazy than Manhunt or other similar sites. You can’t put up penis pics.”

Grindr does not allow nudity or profanity in ads. This is a result of the content and security regulations enforced by Apple, as Fiona Martin, Public Relations Manager for Apple Computers Australia explains. “We created the process to ensure it protected consumer privacy, avoided apps that degrade the core experience of the phone and protect children. Specifically, pornography is rejected.”

Considering recent iPhone sales figures; Martin estimates “today there are over 7.5 billion iPhone and iPod touch users in the world,” the frequency of Grindr users will no doubt increase, offering users a greater variety of men in a closer proximity.

Never again will we feel like the only gay in the village.

The logo for HIV Connect features a large blue stylized 'C' on the left. To its right, the text 'hiv•sexual health' is in a smaller font, followed by 'Connect' in a large, bold, blue font. Below this, the phone number '1800 038 125' and the hours 'Monday – Friday 10am – 6pm' are displayed. On the right side of the graphic, the text 'Got a question about HIV or sexual health?' is written in a bold, black font.

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WE'RE ROLLING OUT THE PINK CARPET

Join us at the National Theatre in St Kilda for the GLBTIQ community's night of nights – the (also) For All of Us Awards. Enjoy some of the very best queer arts and entertainment, as well as celebrate the major achievements of the individuals, groups and organizations that have made a difference to our community.

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q fitness: with CHRIS GREGORIOU

GET OUT OF BED!

On cold winters mornings, do you jump out of bed full of energy? If that's not you, read on.

Winter is a time of hibernation. Who reading this hasn't snuggled underneath the covers for a little extra sleep on a cold Winter's morning?

Many of us tend to sleep more in winter.

What we don't always realize is how this affects our energy levels.

It is a proven fact that when we are sedentary, important organs slow down. This includes the heart and digestive system, putting the brakes on our metabolism. Further, our tendency to decrease exercise means that we burn less calories each day. Adding to that, we consume more food as we wander around at home or attend indoor gatherings.

The overall result is less energy, larger fat stores and greater waist lines.

It is important to get active over winter. This ensures the body's metabolism remains upbeat and energy consumption levels are sustained. You don't need to join a 'scary' gym. Do some exercise in the privacy of your bedroom (or someone else's), your living room, or a training studio. If you are prepared to toughen it up a little, take it outdoors to the park. The truth is, you won't notice the cold once you get your heart rate up and start to break into a mild sweat.

In addition to increases in energy, a little exercise over Winter has the advantages of:

- greater mind clarity;
- improvement in confidence;
- reduced stress;
- improvement to overall happiness.

There are many other benefits, including an increase in your sex drive! Regular exercise not just improves your energy levels but does a whole lot more than what is seen on the surface.

As Elle Woods famously said in that cinematic classic Legally Blonde, "exercise releases endorphins, endorphins make you happy." Studies show that you can remain in a calmer, more composed state for up to four hours from a single bout of light to moderate exercise such as walking, bike riding or swimming.

It is a vicious cycle to stop exercising in Winter because you are too tired. Start exercising a little and you will find that you have the energy needed to power through Winter.

Go on, your body will thank you for it!



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Note
to
Self

q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

They just don't get it - STILL.

There are some stereotypical images that perpetuate in society that are probably not going to go away. The mincing queen, the butch dyke, the stupid thick-headed macho sports bogan.

People around me knew I was gay before I did (apparently). How? I didn't have any conversations or let on about any sexual attraction or activity. I didn't have a neon sign saying "I am a poofter" - although by the number of times people would tell me "you're a poofter", I might well have thought I was wearing a neon sign they were reading back to me. They weren't. So, as awful as it is, there are some things that we do/say/act/behave/respond to that give out the message of difference. I know I look gay, I'm perfectly fine with it and I have been for most of my life. Some people are not fine with it - not my problem. If I can give you the image of who I am and who I have been most like in my life, I think I am like Lionel in season 2 of 'United States of Tara'. He is completely un-phased by people calling him "faggot" all the time, perfectly at ease with who he is, how he looks and without apology. Many of my close lesbian friends have had similar issues, but not as brutal as the ones that young gay men can face. So when we see sports/media heroes telling us bad things, that's when their problem becomes our problem. Jason Akermanis has done the gay and lesbian community a huge favour. He has shown without doubt that there is a LONG way to go to get homophobia out of sport. He has also reinforced his stereotype, that all footballers are thick-headed dullards. I don't think he's any of those things, but that's not what I am hearing.



I interviewed Eddie McGuire on radio recently and he quite surprised me on one level. Although he did actually apologise for the comments he made at the Winter Olympics, he did admit that straight men in the media and in sport do occasionally get it wrong and say stupid things. I think we have all done that. He also pointed out that with that sort of profile, how difficult it will be for him to do business overseas - good point. Perhaps that's why so many prominent personalities who have shot themselves in the foot making unkind comments and questionable humour about homosexuals are now doing vigorous backpedalling. The interesting point to this is: when I was doing some research about Eddie McGuire (and I really knew bugger all about him) I typed in "Eddie McGuire gay" to see what connections existed and I was surprised to see about 130 pages of Google results with his name and homophobe attached to it. I am quite convinced he isn't, but you get about the same sort of thing if you type in 'Tony Abbott gay'. Don't type in 'Jason Akermanis gay'. There will be a massive server overload and my Tivo won't work.

This is the time in our culture that we may see the sunset of homophobia in sport. The police forces around Australia dealt with it 20 years ago, the Australian Defence Forces are brilliant with gay issues; now let's see the last horrific bastion of male dominated sports face up to their own worst demons.

Do you remember in the 1980's and early 90's the VFL/AFL player had micro stretch shorts? I recall with some amusement when visiting American psychologists (2 of them on separate occasions) referred to the AFL image as "repressed and latent homosexual tendencies". So it's little wonder they have had this homophobic image, perhaps there are some deep seated internalised guilt issues going on? Wink wink. Oh, and the shorts suddenly changed style.

So will it happen? Will we see gay men welcomed to play AFL? And I mean welcomed, not just tolerated. Will we see the NRL respect women as equals? Whilst casting a judgemental gaze across our cultural landscape it behoves us to also look inward at our own gay culture. Some elements of our community could be less ageist, racist, sexist and a helluva lot less misogynistic.

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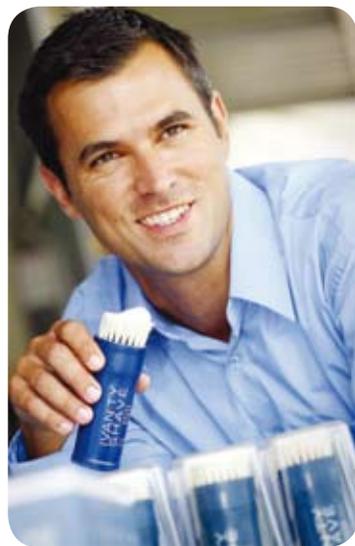
From our good friends at 4V00 we start our giveaways this month. The **Shine Reduction Powder** gives skin a flawless, matte finish by getting rid of shine and oil and minimizing the appearance of pores without drying skin out. The **Face and Body Bronzer** reduce ruddiness and give you a 'fresh from the islands' look, it also moisturizes and improves skin condition. It goes on streak free and dries quickly, leaving skin soft and smooth. The **Lip Maximizing Serum** stimulates collagen and hyaluronic acid to moisturize and plump lips. To keep brows and lashes under control (after trimming-if necessary- please), the **Lash and Brow Styling Glaze** has no competition. So, if you're looking for a new way to bring back a younger appearance or enhance what you've got, pay a visit to www.4voo.com.au

We have 4 packs of these fabulous products to give away this month so email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with **4V00** in the subject line.

INVANITY SHAVE

Ivan Rusev has been working on a concept to simplify the way that he shaves with all the benefits of the luxury classic shave. The result is the Ivanity Shave. The product has a natural fibre brush joined to a base with shave cream that dispenses through the shave brush. Suffering the problem of ingrown hairs from shaving, Ivan sought the assistance of family members that have been in the skincare industry for many generations. The solution was to use a shaving brush. This allows the whiskers on your face to lift, therefore making it easier for the razor to glide along the face creating a close shave reducing ingrown hairs. Then came the next problem, the time consumed each morning by this exercise as well as the mess that was created. In search of another solution, Ivan thought there had to be a more efficient way to make your shaving experience, a quality one. For more information on the product visit ivanityshave.com

To get your hands on one of twenty Ivanity Shave products we have for you this month email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with **ivanity shave** in the subject line.



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* 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.

q cuisine: with CHEF NATHAN



Winter not only brings us shorter days and longer nights; it brings a season when I know I tend to spend more time in the kitchen cooking and exploring some old favorites.

Cooking also back so many fond memories of getting into the kitchen with my grandmother and just watching how she would create/produce these amazing dishes without a recipe, or even weighing products. I would then spend hours upon hours trying to recreate these dishes. It wasn't until years later that I learnt the art of just going with the flow and exploring new flavours and tastes.

Hence the secret to a Great Cook/Chef!

So this month I am sharing my version of my Grandmothers Chicken Provençal.

Ingredients (serves 4)

4 chicken breast fillets, trimmed
1/3 cup plain flour
50g butter, chopped
1 medium brown onion, finely chopped
1/2 cup dry sherry
400g can diced tomatoes
1/4 cup kalamata olives
2 tablespoons chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves
Steamed potatoes and broccolini, to serve

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180°C/160°C fan-forced. Place flour in a snap-lock bag. Season with salt and pepper. Add chicken breasts, 2 at a time, shaking to coat.

Shake off excess. Place on a plate.

2. Melt butter in a frying pan over medium-high heat. Add chicken. Cook for 2 to 3 minutes each side or until golden.

Transfer to a 5cm-deep, 20cm x 30cm (base) baking dish.

3. Reduce heat to medium-low. Add onion to pan. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes or until softened. Increase heat to medium-high. Add sherry. Bring to the boil. Boil for 1 minute. Add tomatoes. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 to 6 minutes or until boiling.

Spoon tomato mixture over chicken. Cover.

4. Bake for 30 minutes or until chicken is cooked through, adding olives for the last 5 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley. Serve with potatoes and broccolini.

Enjoy
Chef Nathan

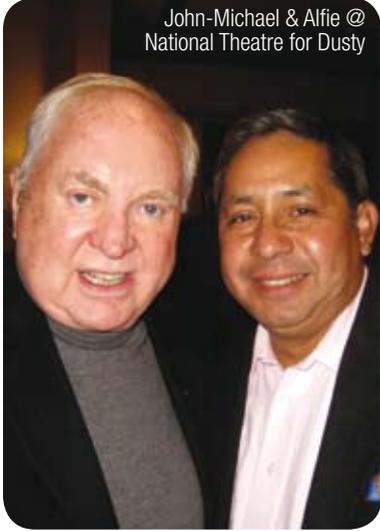


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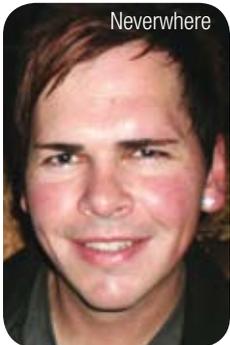
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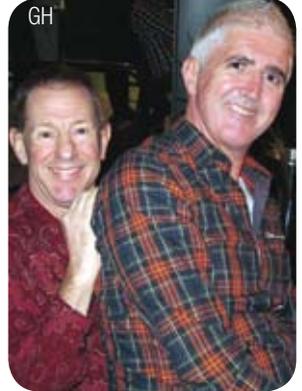


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q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**



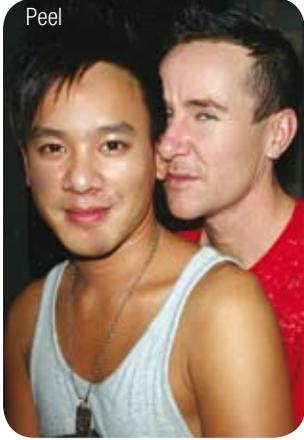


Priscillas



Peel

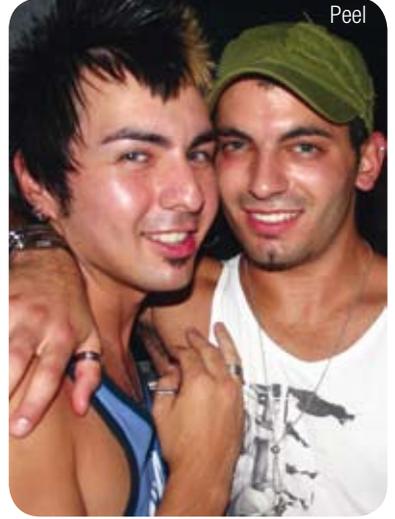
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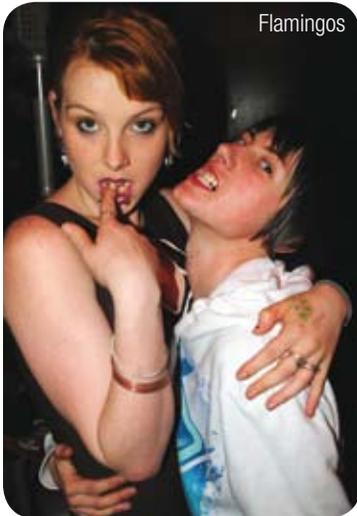
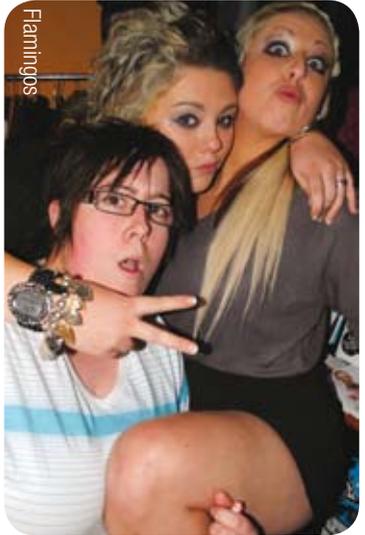


Peel



Peel

q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**





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THE RED CARPET
FOR ALL**

**KINGS AND QUEENS,
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with OUR VERY OWN pop princess
DJ KAT ON THE DECKS
with DJ MISTAL AND DJ JAYCE

**Fridays & Saturdays 10pm til late
ALL WELCOME**

q circus: WE ALL FALL DOWN

National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) presents We All Fall Down. A new circus show that explores the fantastic, curious and joyous adventures of childhood...Escape the mundane and be inspired by a child's playful world of make-believe with the National Institute of Circus Arts' latest show We All Fall Down. From June 15 to 26, NICA's second year students extend the creative potential of circus by drawing on the memories, both fun and frightening, that stay with us for a lifetime.

Within the chaos of a child's bedroom, ordinary objects take on a new life as a seesaw becomes a teeterboard, a bedsheet becomes a tissu and a swing becomes a trapeze. The exuberant cast takes us on a magic carpet ride of aerial antics as they fly through the air with topsy turvy circus tricks that defy the laws of gravity. This world premiere production is a collaboration between guest director Debra Batton, second year NICA students who will draw on the expertise of NICA's resident circus trainers, and an exceptional creative team including long time Musical Director of Circus Oz, Chris Lewis.



Returning to Melbourne to direct We All Fall Down after more than a decade in Sydney as the Artistic Director of acclaimed physical theatre company Legs on the Wall, Debra has won two Helpmann Awards, (On the Case, Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Cultural Festival), one Angel Award (All Of Me, Edinburgh Fringe) and an Australian Sports Award for contributions to gymnastics. As well as creating new work for Legs on the Wall she has performed, directed or choreographed work for the Sydney Olympic Games Opening Ceremony, Opera Australia, Australian Theatre for Young People, Circus Oz, Kneehigh Theatre in the U.K. and Axis theatre in Canada to name a few. Batton says of the new production, "Childhood and the circus make perfect companions. This cast of eighteen talented and creative young performers are courageously playful with their magic-making circus skills".

Inspired by the creativity, resilience and courage of children, We All Fall Down features Australia's best young circus artists-in-the-making and will enchant and delight adults and children alike. Season dates: 15 - 26 June 2010 - NICA National Circus Centre, Green Street Prahran - Book online at: www.nica.com.au

q pride: PRIDEWA 2010 - BE THERE

PRIDE COMES OF AGE - "21 – Looking through the Keyhole" - PrideWA Committee Outlines Festival for 2010. The 2010 PrideWA Committee has announced dates for Pride's major events following its annual planning weekend.

The planning weekend was aimed at making new committee members aware of Pride's history and their new responsibilities as a Pride Committee member. The Committee also set goals for the year and developed strategies for their achievement.



Charles Denham Male Co-President said "This year will be an exciting year - with lots of work ahead for the committee. Whilst there are many challenges confronting Pride, the two key challenges are financial sustainability and infrastructure funding. This year will also see a focus on the Youth of our community who have not previously been included and who are the key to the future of Pride".

Pride recently held several community forums seeking feedback and fresh ideas from Pride Members and other community members and organisations. As a result of the feedback it was recognised that change is needed.

The Festival has been shortened to three weeks for 2010 with a vision of staging a more focused and higher quality calendar of events. This year will see the Pride Community celebrate the 21st staging of the Pride Festival and the Pride Committee is determined to both celebrate it in style and take it to a spectacular new level.

The theme for this year is "21 - Looking through the Keyhole" and the dates for Prides major events in 2010 are: PRIDE QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 9 JULY 2010 / PRIDE BALL and GLAMMYS - SATURDAY 28 AUGUST 2010 / PRIDE LAUNCH - 23 SEPTEMBER 2010 / FAIRDAY - SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER 2010 / PRIDE PARADE - SATURDAY 30 OCTOBER 2010

Go to www.pride@pridewa.asn.au for updated information or email pride@pridewa.asn.au if you want to volunteer.



Neverwhere's 2nd Birthday is ... A night of mystery and magic

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Hosted by Rocco D'Amore
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Saturday 17 July 2010 8pm

\$5 concession and \$10 entry after 9

VIP PARTY *free champ, upon arrival 6-8 invite only*

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q travel: **with BARRIE MAHONEY**

'Tweeters from the Atlantic'



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

What Does a Scotsman Wear Beneath His Kilt?

It was another windy day at the airport. Nothing, particularly unusual in that, Canarian residents might say. After all, it is the continuous gentle breezes that makes Gran Canaria such an idyllic place to live. Without these breezes, the island would be far too hot a place to live, let alone to work, during the summer months.

If you are an expat, you will possibly recognise that much of our lives tends to focus around the airport. Collecting friends and family from the airport is always a great delight, although returning them is often a very different matter. At other times, for me, regular visits to the airport are necessary to collect letters and parcels, as well as to have coffee in one of the rather good coffee shops in the airport.

I am often entertained by the antics of visitors arriving and leaving the island, and a few minutes watching returning holiday-makers in those endless queues at the Thomas Cook or Thomson check-in desks often brings its own rich rewards! I am continually amazed by the way in which those calm tour representatives mostly manage to keep their tempers under control! Recently however, my attention was drawn to the check-in desk for the flight to Morocco. It was, as usual, full of chattering men and women many of whom were dressed in elegant robes. Again, as usual, they were surrounded by massive boxes containing television sets, refrigerators, microwave ovens and washing machines. Certainly it is clear that they have a more generous baggage allowance than most of us are given for flights to the UK.

My eyes fell upon an elegant middle aged man dressed in a brilliant white robe edged with gold braiding (a jellaba). It looked splendid and, in many ways, reminded me of a bride-to-be. Apart from the greying hair and beard, that is! This gentleman was clearly bored and being accompanied by several other men, who looked as if they were servants or aides, strode away from his collection of boxes and headed towards the door of the airport. He rummaged inside his splendid robe, no doubt in order to locate a packet of cigarettes or his mobile phone, and lo and behold an enormous gust of wind swept around him and lifted this gentleman's robes high above him!

Initially the gentleman looked a little embarrassed, but regaining his usual regal serenity managed to pull the offending garment once more fully around him and immediately headed for the safety of the inside of the airport - the need for a smoke now forgotten for the time being. I can now reveal the answer to the question that I am sure you have been wondering. What was he wearing beneath his glamorous robe?

Pantaloons! The gentleman was wearing baggy, flowing, purple pantaloons that looked remarkably similar to those worn by Aladdin in the pantomime, cartoon and story books. They also looked very much like a pair of curtains that I remember my Auntie Gertie having in her dining room...

So, what of the Scotsman and the kilt? Sorry, actually it was just a ruse to get you to read beneath the title! After all, 'What does a Moroccan wear beneath his jellaba?' sounds nowhere near as interesting as 'What Does a Scotsman wear beneath his kilt' does it?



If you enjoyed this article, take a look at Barrie's websites: www.bariemahoney.com and www.thecanaryislander.com or read his latest novel, 'Journeys and Jigsaws' (ISBN: 9781843865384).

Gaylord Blade

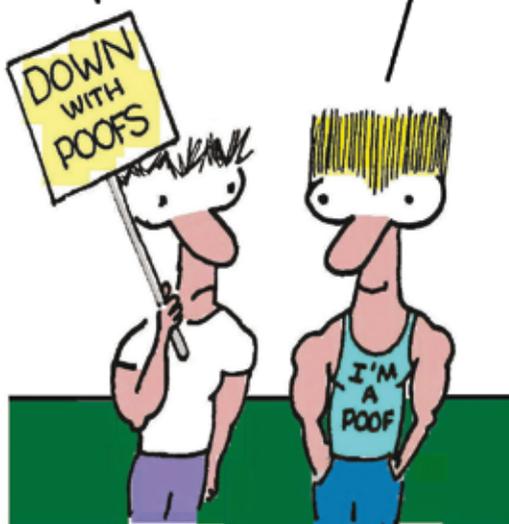
Young, GAY and Hot to Trot

DOWN WITH POOFS
DOWN WITH POOFS

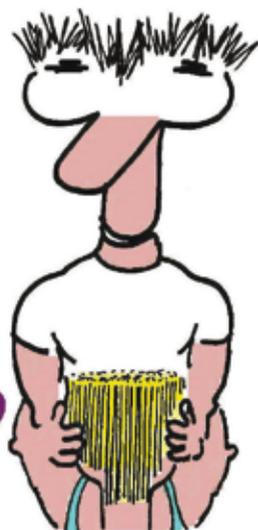


Oooops!

DOWN I Go!!



SLURP
SLURP
SLURP



Hate is often a plea for a
long overdue blow-job



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LOTUS NIGHT

ASIAN INSPIRED, ALL WELCOME



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WITH DJ ATUA SPINNING THE SCENE'S
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