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JUNE 2024



Q MAGAZINE

ALIVE



FEATURING

WHERE LOVE LIVES

HAPPY 2ND BIRTHDAY



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q feature: HAPPY 2ND BIRTHDAY TO WHERE LOVE LIVES

Love knows no boundaries, and neither do Where Love Lives events. People from all walks of life create a truly inclusive and welcoming atmosphere designed for people of all ages and diversities. Whether you're gay, straight, transgender, or somewhere in between, everyone is welcome to join for events filled with joy, acceptance, and unity.

Amazing performances, electrifying music, and a vibrant atmosphere will leave you feeling inspired and uplifted. A carefully curated lineup of talented artists will captivate you with their unique expressions and creativity.



Where Love Lives events allow the freedom to connect with like-minded individuals who share your passion for love and acceptance. It's the perfect environment to make new friends and forge meaningful connections that will last a lifetime. Our events are gatherings for the love of HOUSE and DISCO music, stunning visuals and an inclusive atmosphere.

We believe together we can create a world where love truly lives.

FEATURE ACT for 2nd BIRTHDAY

GROOVE CITY are a Sydney based duo that have been dominating the Disco world. Two funky boys with a deep love for disco, dancing and sharing that love with everyone and anyone who wants to be a part of the Groove.

What kinda tunes we talkin'?

Modern groove meets vintage funk. A love child of Chic and Jamiroquai.

After making some serious noise in the Sydney club scene with their interactive DJ set and lavish outfits, the GC boys landed themselves some big festival slots that quickly turned the DJ set into a multi-layered Disco experience.

Since then, they've gone on to sell out venues around the country bringing a huge energy to every stage they step foot on.

Groove City have featured on the same bill as Flight Facilities, Confidence Man, Client Liaison, Total Giovanni, Bag Raiders & Sneaky Sound System and delivered their Disco throwback experience at some of Australia's most respected Festivals, including Splendour in the Grass, Groovin' the Moo, Spilt Milk, Lost Paradise, AO Live & Secret Garden.

They've solidified themselves as a one-stop-shop for generating Studio 54-esque dancefloors, and setting the tone of the party as soon as they walk through the door.

Expect a night of disco house, glam and glittering gorgeousness! DJ SET TIMES

CARMINE ROMANO - 9pm

till Midnight - HOUSE SET

GROOVE CITY - Midnight till

2am - DISCO SET

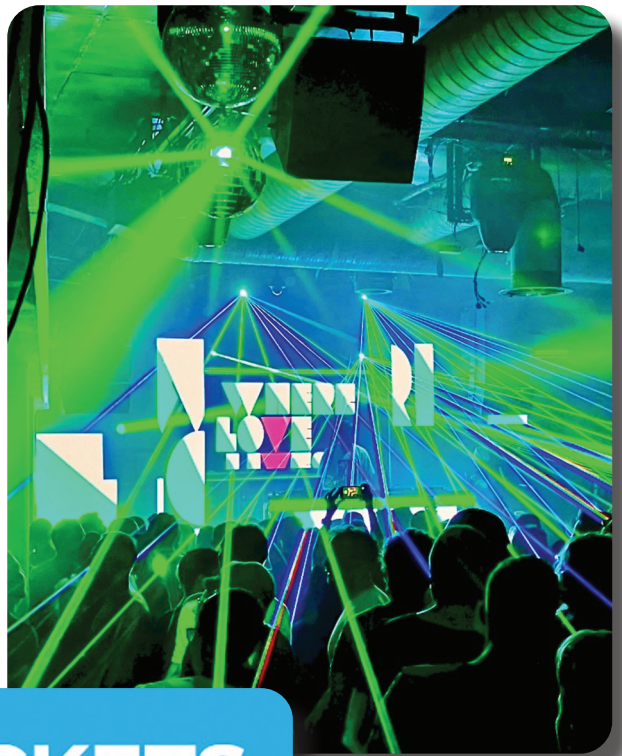
ANUBIS - 2.15am till 4am -

UNDERGROUND DISCO

HOUSE SET JARRAD LEES

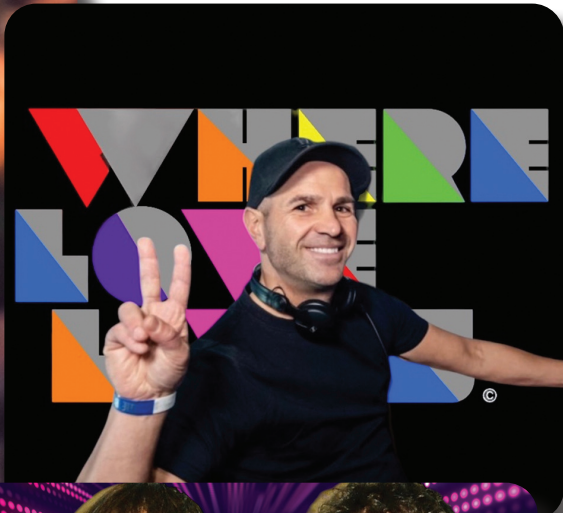
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Complimentary drink and nibbles from 9pm til 10.30pm.



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2nd BIRTHDAY

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CARMINE ROMANO 9-12PM | (HOUSE SET)

GROOVE CITY | 12AM-2AM

ANUBIS | UNDERGROUND DISCO HOUSE SET | 2:15AM-4AM

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q opinion: with ISABELLA FELS

Peter. How I've had to put up with too many bad men called Peter over the years. It's a name I have grown to hate. I was never even a mate of them. In fact, I detested them all. Boyfriends, mere acquaintances, shop assistants, school fellows, psychiatrists, the whole wretched lot of them.

They all caused me pain in their own way. In some ways they got their own way. In other words, they would make me pay. They even led me astray with broken promises that they were here to stay whilst leaving me the very next day.

They were all bastards. This included the hard-headed psychiatrists putting me in the dreaded mental hospital against my own will. I think they even got a kick out of this. One of my unfeeling psychiatrists said in no uncertain terms that I had no self-control and would never be able to work a simple job. I think he fully delighted in telling me this. All these bad psychiatrists called Peter got on my worst side with all their nasty and snide remarks.

I was better off laying low, giving the other 'Peters' a throbbing head job over my sexy blow-dried hair. This gave me more relief than the powerful anti-depressants I was given. It made me feel much better for the moment, however, I was in for a wild ride and the ruination of my love life with all these terrible 'Peters' who were my so-called boyfriends.

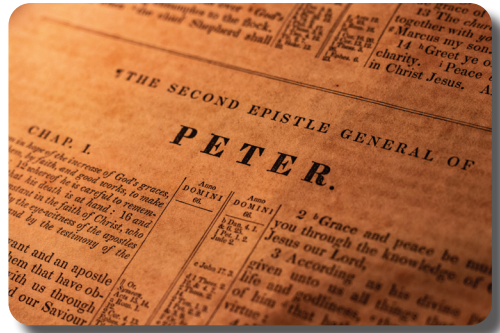
I soon saw the psychiatrists cared about me less than the horrible boyfriends who at least were not so warped and wrapped up in money. However, none of them bothered to wrap me up a single present either for valentine's day, my birthday and xmas combined if the relationship even lasted that long. I was never made to feel truly special. I was lucky enough to just be the other woman

I was always putting out but all I got back was being chucked out of their car in the dead of night. This was a real blow especially after I had given them a great blow job. Many of the peters in my life made me sob. They robbed me of my innocence with all their blatant lies and betrayal. I could really have been put up for sale with all my sexual favours. As they joked about me to their mates or even denied my existence altogether, I never felt taken seriously.

With the psychiatrists I felt even less taken seriously. I felt like the lowest of the low when they said I'd never get better. It felt even worse than the peters I slumbered with into the hours of the early morning only to be kicked out of bed first thing. I felt drugged out and dredged up with my heartless unfeeling psychiatrists. They drove me to hell and back, at the same time slug me with all their hefty bills and almost poisonous pills. They left me shrivelled to a pulp.

With the other 'Peters' I also couldn't win. Being with them was also a mistake. They put me down, always made me feel bad. They did not even try to woo or win me over. This was totally insulting. Overall, I didn't get a good bedside manner with the boyfriends or the psychiatrists. They were out for what they could get - whether it be sex or money. I could safely bet they all didn't give a damn about me. It was all about them and their precious ego and how many points they could rack up either on their bedpost or in their notebook.

There was simply no give and take. As I slowly started to wake up to them all, either on the psychiatrist's couch or in their flashing red primal car, I finally realised that they were up to no good and my only choice was to leave them all behind. As I said goodbye to them all I felt totally 'petered' and filtered out. I had had my fill. I could now finally concentrate totally on me.





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q community: ELSKA'S BODIES & VOICES

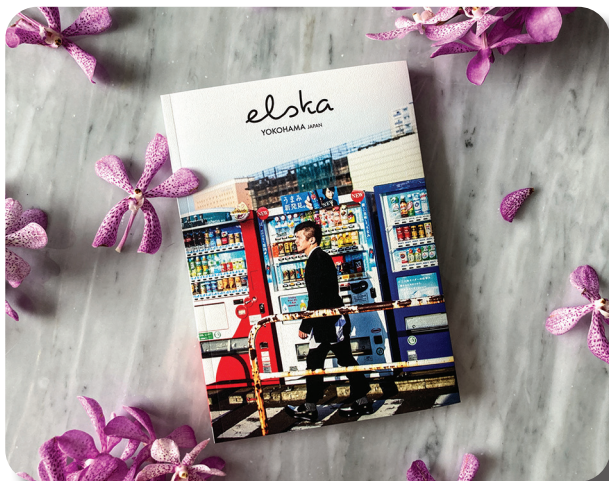
ELSKA GOES TO JAPAN TO SHOWCASE THE MEN OF SECOND-CITY YOKOHAMA

Elska, a project dedicated to sharing the bodies and voices of LGBTQ communities around the world, has ventured to Japan's second-largest city, Yokohama, for its latest edition. Inside, readers can get to know a cross-section of ordinary men from this city's LGBTQ community through a combination of intimate photography shot by Elska chief photographer Liam Campbell and honest stories, contributed by each of the issue's dozen participants.

"When we started getting requests to do an issue in Japan, I knew I'd avoid Tokyo, not that I don't love Tokyo, but rather that I get a thrill from focusing on less expected places," says Elska editor and chief photographer Liam Campbell. "Although Yokohama is the second most populous city in Japan, it is a massively overlooked place, and I wanted to try to correct that in some way. I also wanted to show what queer life is like outside the capital, to perhaps give a sense of Japanese attitudes and customs more generally. Plus, I love Japan and hoped this could be just the first of many issues made in the country."

"Unfortunately, making an Elska here was not at all easy," continues Liam. "In fact, it's actually the most difficult city we've ever tackled for Elska. Despite Japan being so renowned for its modernity, this doesn't quite extend to attitudes toward homosexuality, nor to the idea of sharing one's personal life publicly. It was rather difficult to find subjects for this issue, but those we did find were not shy to explain in their stories how hard life here can be. For example, multiple stories touch upon how difficult it is to live up to the norms and expectations of being a 'respectable' and 'honourable' person, and how being gay isn't exactly compatible. Ultimately, because of how difficult it was to make this issue, it feels like quite a triumph that it happened at all."

'Elska Yokohama' is 180 pages and is available from a select group of shops around the world as well as for order online from the Elska website. In addition, the companion zine 'Elska Ekstra



q musical: THE BOY FROM OZ

Theatrical presents the
the Tony and Helpmann Award winning
Australian musical

The Boy From Oz

National Theatre Melbourne
20 Carlisle St, St Kilda
6-21 July

Starring in the musical is acclaimed Peter Allen tribute artist Matthew Hadcraft, who has been performing his own Peter Allen show across Australia since 2015.

"There is no one quite like Peter Allen. His infectious energy, love for his audiences, free-wheeling enthusiasm and sense of fun is still so captivating decades after his death. He's a true Australian icon, and I feel very lucky that I get to play him and perform his legendary songs," says Matthew.

Ahead of Pride Month in June, Matthew talks about Peter's coming out journey through his songs.

"Peter came out as a bisexual, and although it's not explicit (he always talks about you/me/us and never used gendered pronouns), you can hear his coming out journey through some of the lyrics in his songs. When you listen to I Honestly Love You, I believe the lyrics speak to his love for a straight man. While in Not The Boy Next Door, Peter says "we made plans but we won't work out if I don't fit in" when talking about coming back to a childhood sweetheart in regional Australia from New York," says Matthew, who identifies as gay.

A musical true story about one of Australia's most beloved entertainers, The Boy From Oz has a true 'Peter Allen in concert' feel to it. The biographical musical follows his fascinating global career and life with Judy Garland and Liza Minelli in bars, nightclubs and concerts across the world.

"Following the huge success of our mostly sold-out production of The Sound of Music, we are really happy to be bringing The Boy From Oz to Melbourne in July. It's been wonderful to see a real community emerge around Theatrical musicals, with so many audience members coming back again and again," says Executive Producer and Theatrical Founder Andrew Gyopar



"I am grateful that we are able to continue staging such well-loved musicals in a historic theatre for an affordable price, with tickets ranging from just \$58-\$79."

From Australia to Asia, to winning an Oscar and selling out performances at Radio City Music Hall in New York, *The Boy From Oz* showcases Peter Allen's one-of-a-kind gift as a musical storyteller with hits like *I Still Call Australia Home*, *I Go To Rio*, *I Honestly Love You* and *Tenterfield Saddler*, about his childhood home town.



Featuring a total of 46 songs, *The Boy from Oz* leaps, as does Peter himself, from past to present and back to past all within the familiar context of one of his energy packed concerts.

With a cast of 29 including many talented dancers and ensemble members, the production is the second of three crowd-pleasing musicals staged at the historic 783 seat National Theatre as part of Theatrical's 2024 season, with *A Chorus Line* set to grace the St Kilda stage from 7 September.

Tickets are selling fast via theatrical.com.au

Theatrical is a not-for-profit and registered charity from former 3RRR radio personality and Executive Producer Andrew Gyopar (*Spring Awakening*, *Dogfight*, *Rock of Ages*, *Seussical*, *If/ THEN*, *Freaky Friday*, *American Idiot*). The independent musical theatre company has a mission to combat social isolation by encouraging inclusion, social connections and creative expression through theatre, while promoting diversity and positive mental health and wellbeing.

theatrical.com.au | [@theatricalinc](https://twitter.com/theatricalinc)

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notohomophobia.com.au 

q health: TELL US ABOUT YOUR BUM

Professor Richard Turner is one of a small group of LGBTIQ+ doctors and medical students exploring the impact that anal operations have on the wellbeing of men who have receptive anal intercourse (bottom), and how surgeons address anal sex when treating patients who bottom.

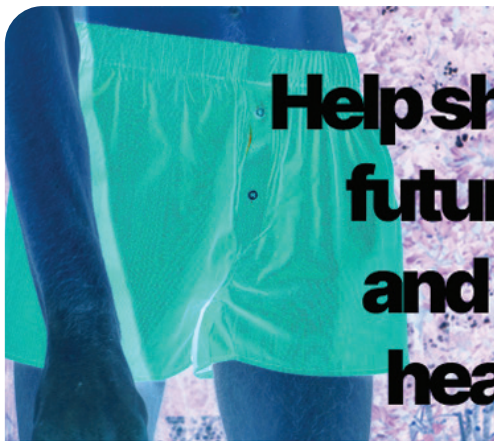
The study will be via mixed methodology with a 10-minute online survey and participation in a short interview. We hope to recruit at least 10 people for the interview and 50 people for the survey - participants do not have to do both.

Recruitment will be through GP and sexual health practices, state-based HIV and LGBTQ+ health organisations, and selected media such as yours.. Patients can do the survey on their phone using a QR code found on the promotional flyer on this or the next page.

Inclusion criteria are:

- Men (cis or trans) who have had receptive anal intercourse with a man within the last 5 years and who have undergone a procedure for an anal, perianal, or low rectal condition by a surgeon within the last 3 years
- live in and consulted a surgeon within Australia
- are over 18yo

The survey can be found here: <https://surveys2.utas.edu.au/index.php/256181>



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- 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER
- RESIDE IN AND SOUGHT TREATMENT IN AUSTRALIA

UTAS ETHICS APPROVAL 29587

MATTHEW.MARINO@UTAS.EDU.AU



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q theatre: SUNSET BOULEVARD

by Q Magazine Beauty & Entertainment Editor

Matty Maxwell

This evening (Wednesday the 29th of May 2024) I had the privilege of attending the red carpet opening of Sunset Boulevard, at Melbourne's Princess Theatre, presented by Opera Australia and GWB Entertainment.

Sarah Brightman played the lead roll of Norma Desmond. Ms Brightman, for those that aren't familiar with her work, is an International singing superstar and UNESCO Artist for Peace Ambassador, and is the world's best selling soprano. She has pioneered the classical crossover music movement and is famed for possessing a vocal range of over three octaves. Sarah is the only artist to have simultaneously topped the Billboard dance and classical music charts. Her voice has rung out from theatres, arenas, cathedrals, world heritage centres and Olympic stadiums, bringing to life some of the world's most beautiful music.

Sarah's work transcends any specific musical genre, synthesising many influences and inspirations into a unique sound and vision. Today, she remains among the world's most prominent performers, with global sales of 30 million units having received more than 180 gold and platinum awards in over 40 countries.

She currently graces the stage of Melbourne's Princess Theatre, which is where I got to see her perform live, completing a bucket list item for myself. Her rendition of Norma Desmond was nothing short of impeccable. Her vocals were sublime, and her acting was just as good. Everything she was selling, we as the audience bought. Tim Draxl played the roll of Joe Gillis, and was also absolutely brilliant, and totally enjoyable to watch. Robert Grubb played Max Von Mayerling - Ms. Desmonds butler of sorts. The operatic prowess witnessed from the aforementioned, was duplicated in ample quantities making the 3 leads a true force to be reckoned with. The entire cast played their rolls well.

Staging was second to none. Sets were seamless and a very impressive compliment to the actors performances. Lighting also was totally complimentary to the overall feel and atmosphere of the production.

All in all, a totally enjoyable performance that people from all walks of life can, and will, enjoy greatly.

Sunset Boulevard is playing now at the Princess Theatre, then is playing at the Sydney Opera House from August 28th. If you have an opportunity to see this production, I totally recommend you do, it's fabulous.

Feel free to whet your appetite by viewing [this YouTube vision](#) or find out everything you need to know to arrange a great night at the theatre, [click here](#).



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q life: with GABRIEL TABASCO

The Greek Ambassador's Son: Chapter 3: Drinks and the Dance Floor

I was standing in line waiting to get into the Dungeon, the biggest and best gay club in Athens.

'Who's that?' I asked Bountiful Sublime, a well-known drag queen, who was lurking around the people waiting to get in and turning away anyone not trendy enough for the club. 'Oh honey no. No way. He's out of your league. He's the most powerful man in town. He only goes for the big, butch sisters. Or on second thought, he might go for you. You'd be his midnight snack. That is after he has your boyfriend for breakfast and friends for dinner.' She cackled and after finishing her monologue Bountiful Sublime lit her cigarette, blew the smoke in my face and walked away in her gold sequined high-heels patrolling the queue for any 'undesirables' as she referred to people she did not find attractive.

Who exactly was the most powerful person in Athens? Not the Prime Minister. Not the Mayor. It was the Man-Eater.

'Let me tell you a little something about the Man-Eater,' said Bountiful Sublime, coming back and talking to me after plucking a few people out of the queue and sending them home.

*He wears the kind of shoes
That walk all over you
He'll never speak to you
Unless you beg him to*

*If needed he will wield
A knife, to stab you in the back
He's always in a good mood
Thanks to the crack he does*

*He thinks he's super cool
He barely made it through school
He's seeking sex and fame
He's fun, but I advise you to stay away*

Bountiful Sublime pointed him out to me and continued singing the Man-Eater's praises.

'The Man-Eater has made love to everyone in town. People love to hate him. Everyone in Athens wants to have the power he has. He is the gatekeeper to Athens' most popular club. One gesture would not only determine your night out but your position on the social food chain. A simple nod of the head would mean you are in, he'd let you into clubbers' heaven and your status for that night at least would be elevated. Flamboyantly dressed girls and male fashionistas entered the club in a heartbeat; not his heartbeat, he doesn't have a heart. A shake of the head, a quick glance on the clipboard and a 'sorry, no table, no room' means your night is ruined. Imagine being publicly rejected and having to saunter silently through the crowd. Better go home, curl up and die.'

I heard stories of this man but thought it was nothing but nightclub urban legend and here was Athens' primadonna drag queen confirming the rumours. I had heard stories that the Man-Eater could be cruel when selecting who would enter the club. To a group of three friends he would say: 'you can go in but you have to choose only one of your friends to accompany you. The others should go away. Who do you choose?' Some people actually chose a friend leaving the others outside hurt and embarrassed in front of people who had seen and enjoyed the whole spectacle.

When the Man-Eater was not acting as a gatekeeper he behaved as a stylist and loudly dispensed his comments to people in the line.

'We are not a dumpster,' he told one girl.

'I know,' she said quietly, hoping she would be granted access.

'If you know that we are not a dumpster, why are you dressed like trash?'

People say she needed therapy after that.

Other times, usually to groups of boys, the Man-Eater refused to grant admittance into the club because the person was not 'appropriately' dressed.

'You look poor. Go home. Get changed and then come back.'

Desperate to get into the club, the boys went home and returned wearing another shirt or shoes.

The Man-Eater, in his endless cruelty still refused them entry and so the boys ended up swearing at him having wasted their whole night getting ready twice only to be refused entry into a club.

Eventually the Man-Eater's behaviour got him in trouble. People who recognized him in the street attacked him. Some vandalised his car when it was parked outside a restaurant he was eating at. He was sworn at and spat at in the street. People went as far as creating a petition to have him removed from the club he worked at. Forums were dedicated to him with people writing how much they hated him.

When I bumped into Bountiful Sublime and joined her

crowd, I always got in. That was before Bountiful Sublime snagged one of his boyfriends and she was no longer granted access. But before half of Athens was blacklisted and were banned from the club, my friends and I made it beyond those gates and into the fortress that was the Dungeon, which until 6am was our world. And where anything felt possible with drinks on the dance floor.

The club was filled with rich kids in their own private Pepsi ad. They were the stars of their own real life reality TV show. There were twinks who were giggly and silly. They enjoyed wearing bright colours, tight clothes and anything that sparkled.



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Certain characters stood out in the club. There was one man in his late 40s who thought himself to be Britney Spears and as the night wore on he stripped down to his PVC pants and danced to bubble-gum pop. He was a bored civil servant so dancing in a small piece of clothing, as his body swayed to the music was his only outlet. Initially I thought he was on drugs but every Saturday he performed the same routine. I wondered why the Man-Eater, who was so strict on face control, would let him in. Watching the faces of the people in the club, I realised that it was so people could laugh at him. Though no one did. People cheered him on.

On one occasion the DJ played Hot Chocolate's "You Can Keep Your Hat On" and three boys in their early 20s, one tall and chubby, the other two short and toned, stripped completely naked. Unfortunately, none of them got an erection. Most men looked on in amazement, as they stood there starkers. Some straight men grimaced not knowing what to do and where to look. Such events were more entertaining than actual real life porn-stars and strippers that the club brought in to entertain us. Strip-shows entertained people for a while, but they were too orchestrated. However when normal people danced naked, such as a friend of a friend then the event was much more appealing.

There was Mai Tai, a nasty queen who worked in retail. It was commonly said that he enjoyed two men inside him at once. He claimed to have lost his virginity at 18 and since then, during the four years of sex, up to the age of 22, has bedded over 3000 men. Which worked out to 2.05 men per day. The analysis is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \text{ years} \times 365 \text{ days} &= 1095 \text{ days} \\ 3000 \text{ men} / 1095 \text{ days} &= 2.74 \text{ men per day} \\ \text{Yeah. Right!} \end{aligned}$$

The 'star' or the club was a drag queen known as Gina (real name Stelios). Gina was a good-looking man who looked even better as a woman. She styled herself, both the apparel she wore and attitude

she had on Madonna. It was rumoured that not only did Gina come from a rich and well-established family but she also had a huge penis. It was further believed that married straight men paid her to fuck them. Once when I was drunk I told her that I liked her style, and I meant it. She looked at me nastily, flicked back her hair and walked away. Then I ran into the bathroom and threw up. I had too much to drink.

The bathrooms were not just for throwing up. Mostly they were used as temporary love-shacks. I had a threesome with two Hungarians in the toilet cubicle. We were so drunk, only one of them could come. I met a hot Middle Eastern man and proceeded to have sex with him in the toilets after the club had closed for the night at 6am. Bountiful Sublime, who was patrolling the shut down shift, walked in and saw my shoes poking from under the door and screeched in laughter. I liked the man but I never saw him again because my phone was stolen by a drug dealer that Bountiful Sublime knew. She also knew someone else who was able to get it back for me and by Monday morning I had my phone again.

There were further embarrassing situations. One weekend I got so drunk I stumbled into the Dark Room thinking it was the toilets. As a result I accidentally switched on the lights. All of a sudden the light showed a dozen half-naked men who were standing around the room with their penises erect as other men were going down on them. Men looked around, nervous and shocked at having his identities revealed.

'Oops. Sorry,' I said. 'Please continue,' and switched off the light.

During the big New Year's bash there was a pickpocket who stole nine mobiles, as well as the phone of Matthew, my clubbing buddy.

'What shall I do now?' he asked, upset.

'Get new friends,' I replied.

'That's not funny,' he bit back.

However the person who bit back the hardest was a short, mannish lesbian who caught the thief while he was stealing a phone. After following a crowd to the car park we discovered that the lesbian and her friends found a rope, tied it around his neck and proceeded to push him around the car park, yelling insults and swearing.

'What have I done?' he protested. 'All I did was steal a few phones. Why are you treating me this way?'

'A few phones?' shouted the leader of the lesbian pack 'a few phones? Get over here so I can teach you a lesson' she yelled and proceeded to hit him.

Other than lesbians abusing the poor man by tying a rope round the neck of a pickpocket, the club was usually a great place to hang out although its demise eventually and inevitably followed. Instead of being a gay bar it somehow evolved into an all-inclusive bar, which meant its gay patrons went elsewhere. The Man-Eater eventually left to be the one token man among three women at a talk show on TV. The clubs' new gatekeeper allowed in people who not only were not gay but were troublemakers.

If you chose to be a faithful partygoer at the club then you could have a good time, which meant drinking copious amounts of alcohol. One night I was drinking so much that the bar-woman at the bar told me she wouldn't serve me.

'What? You won't give me another Vodka and Coke? I've only had four.'

'Sorry. My boss told me not to serve you.'

'What?'

'I'm sorry but... my boss told me you can't drink anymore,' she said feeling a little bad. I could see an older man in his 70s sitting in the corner of the bar. He was one of the owners. He must have sensed I was drunk and did not want any trouble. I stared at him a few moments longer than I should have then turned to the bar-woman.

'Oh. Alright then,' I said smiling sweetly and walked away. Instead of getting angry and asking to speak with the manager I walked over to the second bar at the opposite side of the club.

I smiled and asked for a Vodka and Coke. The barman nodded. 'Actually, may I have a double?'

He handed me my drink with a smile and then said, 'it's on the house.'

I was delighted that somehow the staff had outwitted their manager. I guzzled them down gratefully. Justice was served! It's true what they say that the best things in life are free. If it's Vodka and Coke then even better.

*Those nightclub bitches can't hold a flame to you
You drink like a fish on the dance floor
Then in the toilets you screw
Any Tom, Dick and Harry. Then you drink some more*



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q event: OZ COMIC-CON MELBOURNE

Superstar Lineup to Grace Oz Comic-Con Melbourne This June
An Epic Weekend With Stars From Star Trek, Supernatural, Once Upon a Time, Wynonna Earp and Anime in Attendance



Gear up Melbourne, it's your turn! Set to take place at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) on June 8th and 9th, Oz Comic-Con is one of the only places to experience and revel in the glory of pop culture with the community under one roof.

No matter what fandom they belong to, attendees will be treated to a spectacular weekend featuring everything from jaw-dropping activations and exhibitors to workshops, competitions and hands-on opportunities like no other. Having also unveiled the celebrity guest lineup for the weekend, Oz Comic-Con will be bringing familiar faces from stage, screen and page to the art capital of Australia, including:

- Brian Beacock (Dragon Ball Super, Blue Exorcist)
- Christina Kelly (One Piece, Chainsaw Man)
- Emilie de Ravin (Roswell, Lost, Once Upon A Time)
- Jim Beaver (Supernatural, Deadwood, The Boys)
- John Barrowman (Doctor Who, Torchwood, Arrowverse)
- Melanie Scrofano (Wynonna Earp, Star Trek: Strange New Worlds)
- Patricia Tallman (Star Trek, Babylon 5, Night of the Living Dead)
- Stephanie Nadolny (Dragon Ball Franchise)
- Tiya Sircar (Star Wars: Rebels, The Good Place)

A growing list of local heroes from the literary and illustration worlds will also be in attendance, currently including the likes of Alex Trpcevski, Christof Bogacs, Daniel Reed, David Hazan, Dean Rankine, Ellie Marney, Gary Proudley, Jake Bartok, Joshua Sky and Owen Heitmann. Additionally, the cosplay lineup will host JusZ Cosplay, Rhyleep, Nadiabewwy, Edo Cosplay, Nianiecos and Vanilathrila_, who will be hauling a wealth of knowledge from their years of tinkering and bringing characters to life.

Speaking of cosplay, there is an opportunity to enter one of the most prestigious cosplay contests in Australia, the Australian Championships of Cosplay, which highlights the immense talent and craftsmanship from every stretch of the country. This will be the third installment of the year, with qualifying winners battling it out in the final round in Sydney for the chance to be crowned Australian Champion of Cosplay for 2024.

Alongside the Lip Sync and So You Think You Can Just Dance competitions, attendees can expect a full weekend bursting with energy, including staple pillars such as film & TV guest talks and workshop panels, free play gaming opportunities, cosplay parades and lashings of retail opportunities with exclusive pop culture merchandise that can't be found anywhere else.

For more information about the event, guest announcements and to purchase tickets, please visit: <https://ozcomiccon.com/melbourne>

Oz Comic-Con Melbourne
June 8th & 9th
Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC)

q world: ELSKA'S PARIS HIGHLIGHT

Elska Magazine, a publication dedicated to sharing the bodies and voices of LGBTQ communities around the world, has put the spotlight on Paris for its latest issue. Inside readers can get up close and personal with a cross section of beautifully ordinary local men from one of the world's most legendary capitals.

"It was essential that one day we'd make an issue in Paris, it's just one of those great world cities," says Elska editor and chief photographer Liam Campbell. "But it was a little intimidating to approach a place with such a reputation, and one that evokes so much stereotype and expectation. The 'City of Light,' the 'City of Love,' the city of rude waiters and mile-long museum queues... I decided that the best way to approach Paris was to go without any plans, to just meet whoever was up for meeting us and to let them guide us through their city and their lives."

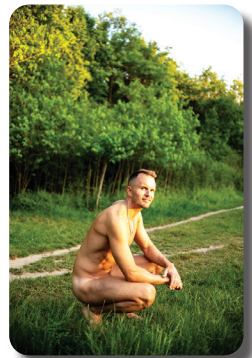
"I tend to assume that most stereotypes are wrong, but overall the result of my trip matched the mythology, especially in terms of the romance factor" continues Liam. This city is gorgeous and the people are certainly beautiful, but it is in the way they carry themselves, express themselves, reveal their love for Paris and for each other that really seduces. This is especially apparent in the stories that each of the men wrote for us. It's not necessarily that these are love stories, but the way they communicate simply drips with warmth and allure. They really make you fall in love with Paris, with them."

Inside 'Elska Paris' readers will meet ten local men who are part of the city's LGBTQ community. Each was photographed in their own neighbourhoods and in their own homes, revealing some of their city, their style, and their selves. The photography provides a truly intimate and revealing way to get to know a slice of Parisian gay life, which is then taken further by the inclusion of honest and personal stories penned by each of the participating men.

Some of the men you'll meet include:

- Romain D, who invites us to join him on a very Parisian sort of first date that includes drinks, dinner, and beyond;
- John B, who takes us on a trip to the East, where he talks of his falling for three boys — one in Belarus, one in Ukraine, and one in Poland;
- Guillaume G, who shows us how Paris made his colours shine, shaping him into the person he is today;
- Max D, who reveals what it's like on a Friday night at a typical Paris gay club, and what it's like to feel like you don't really belong there;
- Xavier A, who delves into the origins of his desire, not just why he loves men but why he loves them so intensely

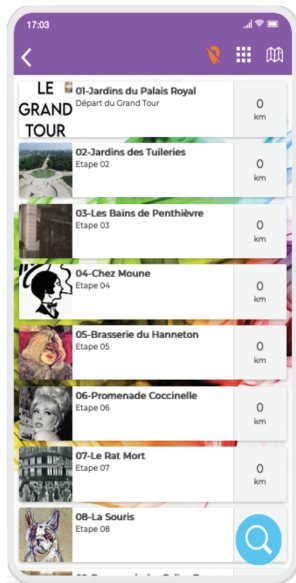
More information may also be found on the Elska website: www.elskamagazine.com



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GAYLORD BLADE

Jesus! What are you doing here? :



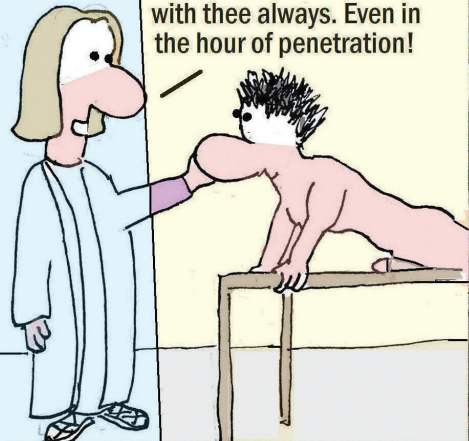
I am showing a "straight" friend the many joys of Gay sex!



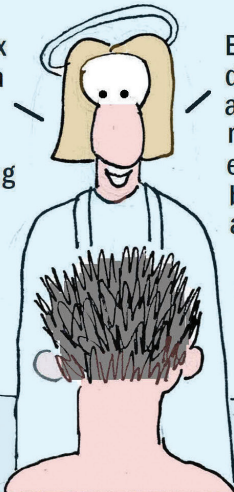
I'm here to help! My Father imbued straight men with way too much fear of sodomy!



Fear not, hottie. For I am with thee always. Even in the hour of penetration!



I created sex and I'd be a poor God if I punished you for loving a gift that I gave you!

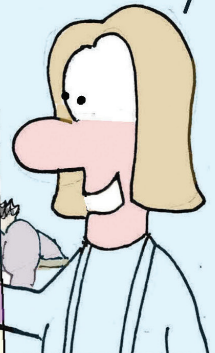


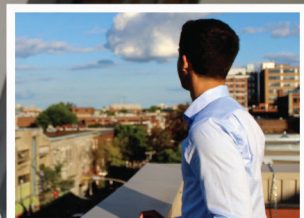
Enjoying a dick up your ass is as natural as eating vagina but with no aftertaste

Does this visit count as the Second Coming?



Second Coming? In a way I guess. I was hoping for sloppy seconds!





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