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OCTOBER 2013

Q MAGAZINE

featuring  
DRIFT LEE PHOTOGRAPHY  
Some Guys Love Guys - Get Used To It



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## q comment: SPIEGELWORLD

Since EMPIRE by Spiegelworld opened its Australian tour in Sydney in January this year, it has been seen by over 130,000 people around the country with rave reviews, sold out performances and standing ovations. Spiegelworld is delighted to announce that EMPIRE will return to Sydney's Entertainment Quarter in the beautiful spiegeltent from January 7 2014 and to the rooftop of Crown in Melbourne under the beautiful spiegeltent from March 11 2014..

Tickets are on sale now at [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au).

The return seasons of EMPIRE follows spectacular engagements previously in Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide that left audiences amazed and breathless.

Presented in Spiegelworld's 700-seat antique spiegeltent, EMPIRE smashes the boundaries of circus, cabaret, vaudeville and burlesque, reinventing the genres for a 21st century audience. Featuring the sexiest, most daring artists from across the globe, the show had its world premiere season in New York City during the summer of 2012, where it was the first tented show ever seen in Times Square.



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# q feature: DRIFT LEE

Drift Lee was born in Yass N.S.W in 1982, and currently resides in Melbourne.

In her final year of study, doing a diploma in photo imaging Drift is embarking on a creative endeavor, as one of Melbourne's up and coming emerging photographers. She first discovered her mother's camera when she was 12 and began taking pictures around the house of her younger siblings, chasing them frantically, and begging them to pose.

*"As a teen I never did well in school, as I was always distracted by my own creative thoughts. I would often run away in my imagination, dreaming up concepts and themes for little shoots. Growing up in a small town as the underdog was never easy, so my imagination was my only true outlet and friend".*

When she was 18 she moved to London, where she was surrounded by a sea of diversity and uniqueness, which later led to a humbled fascination with the human form and face. She earned her living in London for 6 years painting faces, and performing in various clubs.

*"London was a great time for me, as it opened me up creatively and was a great platform of self expression. It was a place where I felt very free and where I truly started to find my own voice".*

After 6 years of living abroad it was time for Drift to move back to her native Melbourne, where she continued to explore and express her creativity.

*"I've always dabbled in various things over the years, but looking back, one of the only things I've ever truly loved doing is creating something very beautiful, and then capturing it in camera".*

**Favourite Movie: Breakfast at Tiffanies**

**Vice: Chocolate**

**Your Hero: My mum**

**Biggest Inspiration: The mystery and magik of the universe.**

**Best Advice ever given: "You gotta love yourself...when you love yourself, you can love the world".**

Please contact: [driftlee7@hotmail.com](mailto:driftlee7@hotmail.com) for further information. Web : [www.driftleephotography.com](http://www.driftleephotography.com)



# q photo book: ABBA FANS REJOICE

UNIQUE DIRECT-TO-FAN PRE-SALE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED FOR 'ABBA – THE OFFICIAL PHOTO BOOK'

PledgeMusic will be working with one of Europe's leading photographic publishing houses - Max Ström Publishing - on the international launch of the 'Super Trouper' collector's edition of ABBA - The Official Photo Book, the first authorised photographic biography of one of the best-selling music acts of all time.

In choosing PledgeMusic's direct-to-fan platform, Max Ström Publishing is giving ABBA fans the opportunity to pre-order the special 'Super Trouper' collector's edition of ABBA – The Official Photo Book: for delivery in March ahead of the publication of the main consumer version which will be available in more than 20 countries in 2014, to coincide with the 40th anniversary of ABBA's Eurovision win and resulting international breakthrough.

The 'Super Trouper' collector's edition of ABBA – The Official Photo Book has a limited print-run of 5,000 copies, each individually numbered and signed by the authors: award-winning picture editor, Bengt Wanselius, and leading Swedish writer, Petter Karlsson. The collector's edition's 460 pages feature more than 600 pictures (100 of which are previously unseen), 40 bonus pages of images (not available in the main consumer version), and is delivered in a presentation box. This will also contain a section with all the names of the dedicated fans who made the limited edition possible by ordering the book before 15th December 2013. Fans who pre-order the book will also gain access to private 'Pledgers-only' updates from the making of the book.

The collector's edition also features a DVD with a specially produced documentary on ABBA in pictures, and is included with a numbered print which is a rare alternative shot from the cover session for the Super Trouper album (1980) printed on high-quality photographic paper.

Frida: "I am thrilled with all of these pictures, some of which I am seeing now for the very first time. The book provides a real trip down memory lane."

PledgeMusic Managing Director Malcolm Dunbar comments, "We are honoured that Max Ström has chosen PledgeMusic's technology and platform to deliver this unique tribute to one of the world's most iconic bands. ABBA - The Official Photo Book has the endorsement of all four members and this way of delivering it will give fans an unparalleled insight into the career of the one of the world's most respected and successful bands."

Jeppe Wikström, publisher at Stockholm and London-based Max Ström comments, "ABBA - The Official Photo Book will provide the definitive photographic documentation of the story of one of the world's most popular bands. We are delighted to be working with PledgeMusic to market the limited edition Super Trouper edition for the band's super fans."

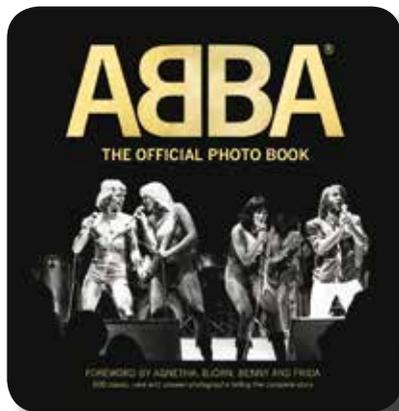
ABBA - The Official Photo Book has the full co-operation of Agnetha Fältskog, Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson and Frida Lyngstad, who have contributed a foreword (as well as personal commentaries on many of the images featured) and charts the four members careers before the formation of the band as well as the band's career from their winning performance at 1974's Eurovision Song Contest to the present day. The book contains more than 600 pictures, more than 100 of which have never previously been published. These images include private photographs, behind-the-scenes tour shots, unpublished photos by eminent photographers and photos of all four members taken in recent months.

Max Ström Publishing has worked with award-winning picture editor, Bengt Wanselius, and Petter Karlsson, one of Sweden's most talented writers, to create this unique book, more than 400 pages-thick, and in the format of a classic LP. It is printed on high quality photo-book paper and is designed by Patric Leo who also designed Benny Andersson's latest records.

PledgeMusic is the leading international direct-to-fan platform offering artists a unique way to engage their fans in the music making process whilst interacting with PledgeMusic's global audience of music consumers. Since its inception in 2009 PledgeMusic has worked with labels and artists to deliver high impact campaigns focusing on quality messaging, content and presentation, resulting in ten top 40 albums to date with top 5 chart placings in the UK, Europe, Canada and Australia. Successful campaigns have included Slash, Bring Me The Horizon, Ginger Wildheart, Ben Folds Five, Killing Joke, Emmy The Great and Rachel Yamagata amongst others.

The Super Trouper Edition of ABBA – The Official Photo Book will cost £195 (\$365 USD / 240 Euros – subject to exchange rates, prices inclusive of delivery to door)

To pre-order the Super Trouper collector's edition of ABBA - The Official Photo Book, visit – [www.pledgemusic.com](http://www.pledgemusic.com)



# q gay files: with MATTEO SNOOKS

## My Boyfriend's a Drag

Have you slipped weave over heels for someone so amazing that sharing your occupation may send them packing..? Is your man and circle of friends in love with the persona you have created? Do they feed off your scene reputation without any idea of who you really are...? For some reason, when it comes to relationships, having an eye for glitter and sequins can create a little controversy.

Being an entertainer can get you into situations that most people wouldn't find themselves. Having a connection with the scene can be positively accepted or put down with a little Nazi negativity. I never told boys that I did drag, which left me feeling unsatisfied and anxious. I used to lie for the first couple of weeks when dating, and I know my fellow sissy's in Melbourne have gone through the same thing; strutting back into the closet, all due to the 6 inch clear heels...

Yes, I have been dumped for pulling my man bits south towards the Grand Canyon, which made me a little upset, but now looking back, I find it quite amusing! I was told that drag would not be supported and if anyone is experiencing the same rejection, all I can say is: if a guy can't deal with your fabulous other half, it's his own insecurities and not your problem...

Whether you dress like a chick or wear a Mickey Mouse costume, ... basically it comes down to one thing; doing a job! Just like wearing a suit to the office. Drag Queens don't want to be real women... That's a different story. It's an expression of creative art and fabulous acting that's part of our personality.

I have been lucky and had boyfriends who supported my work, and at the same time were inspirational in sharing their ideas. However some guys have dated me, in order to feel better about themselves... When out for coffee, if your man and friends only talk about everything disco...drop an intellectual line or change the topic to see the response, if they're speechless and look dumbfounded... get that bill hunny! But is being CAMP liquidating our masculinity?

As gay men we don't have to conform to traditional gender roles. According to research on gender identity, the androgynous man is more balanced and mentally healthier than a macho man. We all want equality; to be free from discrimination! However it's a slap in the face when we experience prejudices within our own community! How many times do you hear, "I'm into manly men"...? If that's the case, good luck to you; But babes if u wanna F\*\*\* a straight acting guy, I suggest you invest in some lippy and I guarantee your footy player fantasy will evolve before your very eyes.... And I mean within 15 minutes or however long it takes for you to paint a quick face... try dimming the lights...Drag has its kinky side with the heterosexuals.

Like every job we sometimes; CBF socialising, putting on fake smiles for strangers whose only interest is venting about their devastating life, or listening to back stage antics. We multitask from counsellors to playing cupid and we too require motivation during tough times. A little advice to you boys who are dating a drag Queen; ... give her a little space if she TURNS... and don't take it personally.

Drag is our creation of heaven that we all do for different reasons, and nobody should judge our interests. On a random note... Just remember that whether you face or have your back towards the taps in the shower shouldn't matter, as long as you're happy running around getting wet.



# INTRODUCING



**Q Plus+ is Q Magazine's very own deals and offers website in partnership with the Plus+ Shopper Network.**

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# q money: with EVAN DAVIS

Wow, it has been a crazy few weeks for me. I have been recruiting for a new operations manager for my mortgage broking business. I have received dozens of CVs, culled them back to the best applicants and had interviews with the best candidates.

Interviewing is hard time consuming work but then so is applying for and getting the right job. Below are some of my thoughts on how to prepare for your interview or things to consider when you are in line for the next top job.

A common question interviewers pose to prospective job candidates is "Aren't you overqualified?". This demonstrates a concern about your commitment to the position.

Make sure that you ask probing questions about the company, sound interested and, most importantly, express long term aspirations you have directly related to the job position and the business/company.

If the interviewer suspects you're keen to take the next better thing that comes along they may be reluctant to employ you! There's no need to lie, however don't tell them you're true aspiration is in some distant field and that's really what makes you happy - they'll rightly assume you'll jump ship at the first port.

Do you know what K.P.I.s are? Lots of people don't...so find out! Your knowledge of K.P.I.s (Key Performance Indicators) will demonstrate that you can measure, target and realise targets set by you, your team or business/company.

Do some homework prior to the interview and memorise some important K.P.I.s from previous roles. Are you worth the salary? Demonstrate some balls here, but don't be cocky. Boldness wins the day where some interview questions are concerned! Play up your success in previous roles.

Whether you've cut costs or introduced a new administration system, let the interviewer know. If you are prepared to verbally demonstrate your value during the interview why wouldn't they assume you'll earn your salary?

"Do you worship Satan? Are you Buddhist? Are you Gay/Straight? I like Tony Abbott, Do you?" Feel free to decline to answer...none of these things affect your ability to behave like a professional and excel in whatever position you're applying for. If you're painted in to a corner, be diplomatic and non-committal... unfortunately prejudices still exist in many realms of daily life but there is no reason on your part why it should affect your job prospects.

Anyway, you get the picture! There are many, many other things I could write about but your success really comes down to a combination of common-sense, a dash of wit, and a soupçon of charisma...qualifications and experience can't hurt either!

Remember to do your homework prior to the meeting and even check out the recruitment/employment section at your local bookstore or library. Naturally there are great resources online too.

In closing let me rattle off list of who you don't want to be in an interview situation: The over-dresser, the under-dresser, the fragrant applicant, the stinky applicant, the sycophant, the fast talker, the nervous-agree-with-every-statement-by-desperately-laughingguy...

Best of luck with your new job!



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# q calendar: MEN IN THE ALPS

A colourful charity male erotica calendar  
MEN IN THE ALPS

The latest Edition 2014 of the charity male erotica calendar MEN IN THE ALPS is available now at [www.men-in-the-alps.com](http://www.men-in-the-alps.com).

MEN IN THE ALPS is a 100 % charity project. All participants, models, photographers and members of the staff are not paid for their work. The complete sales-incomes (minus costs for printing and shipment) are donated to non-profit organisations in the field of AIDS help and consultancy. With the last 9 editions they collected more than 100.000 EUR (approx. 140.000 USD).

Our last edition is dedicated to the rainbow colours and international greetings. The shootings took place in the Italian and Austrian Alps as well as in Bavaria. In the 2014 Edition 21 amateur models from all over the Alpine Arch participated.

Price per copy = 15 EUR (20 USD) + shipment costs.



They invite you to have a look at their calendar gallery on [www.men-in-the-alps.com](http://www.men-in-the-alps.com).

Also take a look at their Making-of-Clip (<http://vimeo.com/74737900>) and their Music-Clip "It's a beautiful day" (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KJFKywhW2w&feature=youtu.be>).



# q youth: with **TASMAN ANDERSON**

Firstly, I'm going to apologise now for turning this column into a love and dating section that would give Dear Abby a run for her money. I just really couldn't help wondering whether the Disney movies were right about love and whether there is any truth behind the myth of soul mates.



I'm sure this isn't the first time you've heard the term soul mates. It's that belief that there is one special person out in the world that is made just for you. It's the one person that loves your flaws, supports your dreams and loves you unconditionally. They are the ying to your yang, the Romeo to your Juliet, the Kurt to your Blaine (GLEE reference? Guilty, of course). But is this a real thing or simply a myth created by hopeless romantics?

I like to think that soul mates do exist and no, I'm not just saying that because I am a hopeless romantic. I say that because I think my Mum and Dad are soul mates. For my entire life, I've never seen them anything but happy and on the rare occasions that life would deal them a hard blow, they were sad or angry together but never at each other. It would be foolish of me to say that this is the case for every relationship considering I see more verbal domestics in daily life than I could ever hope for on Home and Away, but doesn't that just add more weight to my argument? How is it that one couple can work so well together when the ones surrounding them are just bombs waiting to explode?

I don't pretend to understand love because I can't really comprehend something I have never had before. However, I do believe there are certain levels to love. If I were to rank them, soul mates would be the highest with crushes being the lowest. You also have temporary love, lost love, unrequited love, long lasting love and convenient love. Simply put, love is no longer a singular thing. I'm not trying to discriminate or anything like that, but I don't think the love shared between teenage lovers is the same as the love shared between an elderly couple who have spent decades together.

Like any rule, there are exceptions and I think those come in the form of soul mates.

Humans aren't supposed to be alone in the long term. Sure, they should be able to function independently and be their own person but we're social creatures.

We crave touch and comfort from others and going without it for a long period of time can be dangerous. We desire communication because without it, we cease to understand our place in the world. Whether or not you want one, relationships are important.

So if humans aren't supposed to be alone then why can't there be some truth to the soul mates myth? Why can't there be that one person that understands us better than we can understand ourselves? Honestly, what harm could come out of believing in something so comforting? Ultimately, I think there is someone out there specifically designed for us. There is something out there that finds our scars beautiful or our flaws interesting.

Believing is the easy part; it's all about finding them that really matters. Honestly, I wouldn't worry too much though. Whether it's tomorrow or ten years from now, you'll eventually find them because they are already a part of you, you'll just be slotting together the two halves to create the whole (if that's not the cheesiest thing I've ever written than I don't know what is).

[www.rushpopperstore.com.au](http://www.rushpopperstore.com.au)

# q fitness: with CHRIS GREGORIOU

How to get a six pack. Do you do a thousands sit ups and see zero results....? Forget everything you've heard about how to sculpt your abs.

## Myth #1 – You Can Run Off Your Belly Fat

M: Running for hours is a waste of time.

A: Cut the 2 hour cardio session to a 20 minute sprint, or jump rope interval training.

## Myth #2 – Sit-ups Are An Effective Abdominal Exercise

M: You cant "spot reduce" fat on your stomach, and sit-ups only engage a percentage of your abdominal muscles. You can also put a strain on your lower back and hip-flexors

A: Get off your back & start doing full body exercises that utilise large muscle groups (mass) - will do much much more for you and strengthen your core. Planks are great and far more kind to your back when compared to sit-ups.

## Myth #3 – You Need A Gym To Lose Weight

M: We have more gyms now than we've ever had in the history of time. And people are still out of shape and overweight. In fact we're getting fatter!

A: You don't need a gym to lose weight and get a six pack - you just need to move. Get outside, play, do natural movements with bodyweight exercises.

## Myth #4 – There's "One" Killer Ab Exercise

A: There is no one killer exercise to get your abs to show up. Here's the truth. Abs are a body fat percentage game!

Most people need to get to sub-10% body fat before your abs will show and that happens through diet – not anything else. The annoying and difficult truth is that abs are made in the kitchen. If you want to believe anything differently, you're going to be very, very disappointed and spend way too much money on late-night infomercial products selling you the "next breakthrough workout." Sorry the Abb Blaster 2000 is a waste of money and time. So look at what your eating, trust me, we 'are what we eat'. Sorry thats cheesy but true to some extent. If you won't change how you cook, you won't change how you look. Sorry, for bursting your bubble, but that's the truth.

For more information, checkout to [www.metrobodyfitness.com.au](http://www.metrobodyfitness.com.au)



# q exhibition: ALL THAT GLITTERS

The most show-stopping examples of stage costume from Arts Centre Melbourne's Performing Arts Collection including costumes worn by Dame Edna Everage, Kylie Minogue and Dame Nellie Melba, will be showcased in All That Glitters, a new free exhibition in Gallery I at Arts Centre Melbourne.

The exhibition, which features couture-standard costumes, elaborate costume jewellery, costume designs, photographs and behind the scenes footage, celebrates the vision, creativity and skill of those who created them and the show-stopping performances that brought them to life. Stunning costume jewellery on show will offer a historic glimpse at the captivating stage persona of performers such as Nellie Stewart, Queenie Paul and Esme Levante whose appearances lit up the Australian stage in the first half of the 20th Century. Treasured jewellery pieces, including an jewel encrusted armband and an elaborate headpiece from a famously extravagant production of Aida first seen in Australia in the 1930s, will feature in the exhibition.

The exhibition items are drawn entirely from the Arts Centre Melbourne Performing Arts Collection, Australia's largest and most important collection of performing arts history and traditions. This collection comprises more than 520,000 items documenting nearly 200 years of performance in Australia across theatre, music, dance, circus and opera, and is featured in exhibitions that attract over 600,000 visits a year.

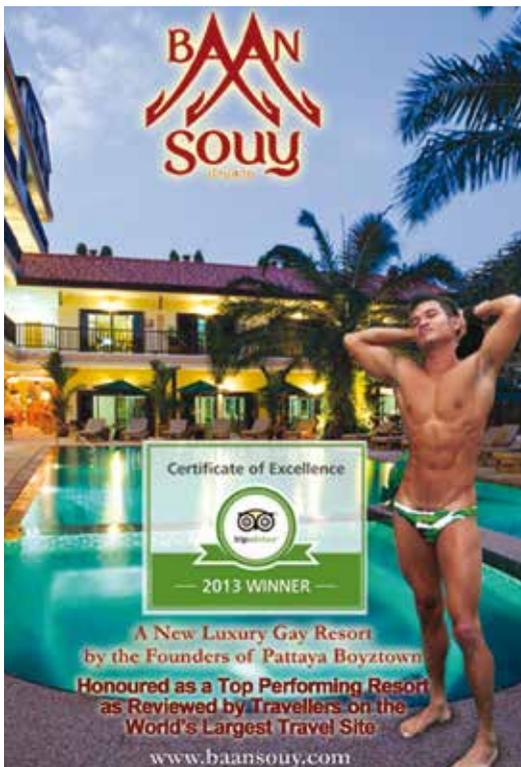


All That Glitters: Arts Centre Melbourne, Gallery I

November 16 2013 – February 23 2014. A FREE exhibition

For more information and to purchase tickets visit [artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://artscentremelbourne.com.au), phone 1300 182 183 or follow Arts Centre Melbourne on facebook and twitter.

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# q theatre: CHAPEL OFF CHAPEL

## LAB KELPIE presents FAT PIG By Neil LaBute

Boombah. Heifer. Bushpig. How many insults can you hear before you have to stand up and defend the woman you love? Tom faces just that question when he falls for Helen, a bright, funny, sexy woman who just happens to be plus-sized.

Forced to explain his new relationship to his shallow (and shockingly funny) friends, Tom finally comes to terms with his own preconceptions of the importance of good looks. LAB KELPIE have assembled a stellar cast including two-time Green Room Award nominee Lyall Brooks (The Pride, The Heretic), Cassandra Magrath (Wolf Creek, SeaChange), Logie winner Patrick Harvey (Neighbours) and the gorgeous Lulu McClatchy (Bogan Pride) as Helen. This Melbourne premiere is directed by the brilliant AFI and Logie nominated actor Daniel Frederiksen.



9-20 October Tuesday-Saturday 8pm; Sunday 6pm; Matinee Saturday 4pm  
\$37.50 Full; \$30 Concession; \$25 Preview (9/10/13)

## Pursued By Bear Inc presents NEXT TO NORMAL

Nominated for eleven Tony Awards and receiving the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. With a thrilling contemporary score, Next To Normal centres around a mother suffering bipolar disorder with delusional episodes, plagued by anxieties which stem from a family tragedy 16 years ago. Exploring what it really is to be a family, Next To Normal chronicles how her condition and its various treatments affect her family as they attempt to take care of themselves and each other.

Presented in collaboration with Mental Health Awareness Month.

24-27 October  
Thursday - Saturday 7:30pm, Sunday 5pm, Matinee Saturday 2pm  
\$35 Full, \$30 Concession and Group 10+



## ARTIST TALKS | An Afternoon With...

A great way to enjoy a Monday afternoon. Meet an outstanding selection of special guests as they discuss their lives with host ROBERT CHUTER.

Monday 14 October – 2pm | Sally Bourne (Singer/Actor/Writer/Comedian) & Benjamin Hancock (Dancer/Choreographer)

Sally Bourne: For over 30 years Sally Bourne has performed in musical theatre, cabaret, comedy and on television. Her career began aged twelve, when cast in the title role in the original Australian production of ANNIE. She was also in the original Australian cast of the musical NINE and joined the cast of LES MISERABLES before moving to London in 1991, where she worked in the West End, for over 12 years.

Benjamin Hancock: Benjamin is a Melbourne-based dancer who graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) with a Bachelor of Dance in 2008 and was the recipient of the inaugural choreographic award in his final year. As a performer, he has worked with a wide range of artists including Chunky Move, Cobie Orger, Francis Rings, Katie Noonan & The Captains, Lucy Guerin Inc, Martin del Amo, Narelle Benjamin, Sue Healey, and Supple Fox.

Monday 28 October – 2pm | David Bridie (Singer/Songwriter/Composer)

Seven time ARIA award winning songwriter and composer David Bridie has enjoyed a distinguished career as one of Australia's most innovative artists. As an international soundtrack composer, producer, lyricist, uniquely Australian songwriter and singer, David Bridie has certainly stamped his mark. A founding member and songwriter of critically acclaimed musical groups Not Drowning Waving and My Friend The Chocolate Cake whose success both in Australia and across the world is well documented. David Bridie has also released a number of solo albums Act of Free Choice (2000), Hotel Radio(2002) Succumb (2008) and most recently he released his amazing new album Wake which critics have been calling his best solo work yet.

Tickets: \$5.50 and are available from the Box Office on the day.

Chapel Off Chapel | Box Office 03 8290 7000 | Fax 03 9533 8517  
12 Little Chapel Street, Prahran VIC 3181 | [www.chapeloffchapel.com.au](http://www.chapeloffchapel.com.au)

# q cuisine: with NATHAN MILLER



They say, a change is as good as a holiday, so recently when the Ayelsbury on Lonsdale St, changed their complete philosophy to accommodate a growing trend of funky, honest and simple food styled establishments, Bomba Tapas Bar & Rooftop was born.

The semi open space Rooftop is funky, with a slight hint of seriousness. If you are looking for somewhere to escape from the younger hipsters, this place is exactly where to sojourn, to enjoy a great selection of wines and sprits.

After some valuable time upstairs discussing the world, you feel right at home when transported back downstairs to dine. Fair selections of honest dishes created by the very talented Jesse Gerner and Andrew Fisk are on offer. They both have a love of all things Spanish from their work and travel, and will be serving fresh, festive, punchy food that is designed to share.

The menu at Bomba consist of 35 plus sharing plates, ensuring you will find a number of plates that get your mind blown and your creative juices flowing.

Fisk's wessex saddleback pickled pork belly: Quail with pistachio & buck wheat: Braised duck & pork paella with peas, are just a taste of the remarkable dishes on offer. There is always one dish on a menu that truly stands out from the others, in this case it was the charcoal grilled 6+ score wagu rump cap with mojo verde & horseradish. The beef simply melted away in my mouth, as it delicately combined with the pungency of the horseradish, giving a feel of ecstasy.

The atmosphere at Bomba is simple, remembering to be honest with the building, the food, the staff and the service.

The wine selection resembled that from afar, and with the great knowledge of the floor staff, they will easily match your wines to your food selection.

So when your next in the city and looking for a place to drop by for a drink with work mates, friends, or showing visitors around town. Be sure to put Bomba Tapas & Rooftop Bar on your list.

## Restaurant hours

Monday – Sunday 5pm-11pm

Rooftop hours Tapas Monday – Sunday  
3pm - late

For more information on Bomba, or other great places to dine, visit [www.ramblingrelish.com](http://www.ramblingrelish.com)



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# q circus: NICA SHOWCASE 2013

Australia's centre of excellence in contemporary circus arts National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) presents  
CIRCUS SHOWCASE 2013

Catch a glimpse of the circus stars of tomorrow

The future of contemporary Australian circus can be seen right now. Circus Showcase 2013 will be presented at the National Institute of Circus Arts in Prahran from 27 November to 7 December.

Circus Showcase 2013 invites audiences to take an exclusive peek at the country's finest up-and-coming circus stars. The cast comprises 23 final year students about to graduate from Australia's only Bachelor of Circus Arts. The show is co-directed by NICA's Head of Performance, Megan Jones and NICA's Head of Movement, Meredith Kitchen. Megan has a formidable 30 year career as an actor, director and performing arts educator. Meredith started teaching at NICA after a dance career with the Australian Dance Theatre, Dance North and France's Compagnie Philippe Genty. Together they also directed NICA's hugely successful productions One False Move (2013), Made to Fit (2012) and CODA (2011).



NICA's artists test the limits of physical strength and endurance and present jaw-dropping feats of sublime beauty with a wide range of circus apparatus including tightwire, cloudswing, hula hoops, vertical rope, juggling, adagio, roué cyr, swinging trapeze, Chinese pole, clowning, hand balancing, roman rings, aerial hoop, swinging pole and tissu.

NICA is Australia's Centre of Excellence for training in contemporary circus arts. It is one of eight national arts training institutes and offers Australia's only Bachelor of Circus Arts. Graduates of NICA have gone on to pursue exciting careers both locally and internationally, as well as contributing to the development of Melbourne's vibrant circus arts industry. The course is accredited by Swinburne University of Technology and attracts applicants from across Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific, USA and South America.

*Tickets for Circus Showcase 2013 are on sale now at [www.nica.com.au](http://www.nica.com.au)*

**NICA National Circus Centre**  
39 - 59 Green Street, Prahran

**Session dates and times:**

**Evenings: 27, 28, 29, 30 Nov and 4,5,6,7 Dec at 7.30pm**

**School matinees: Fri 29 Nov & Wed 4 Dec at 1.00pm**

**Saturday matinees: 30 Nov and 7 Dec at 1.30pm**

**Adult \$30 / Conc \$25 / Child U16 \$20**

**Family (2 adults & 2 children) \$80**

**Groups (min 10) \$20pp**

**Primary & Secondary school groups (min 20) \$15pp**

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TRANSPHOBIA & BIPHOBIA. ALWAYS.**

# q celebrations: HONG KONG STYLE

From October through December Hong Kong's winter celebrations will offer visitors a plethora of festive experiences to delight the senses in a true East-meets-West style. The celebrations will commence on October 31 when the city celebrates its culinary heritage during the annual Hong Kong Wine and Dine festivities, which commences with the Wine and Dine Festival (October 31 - November 3).

The Festival, currently in its fifth year, will this year be held at a stunning new location on Hong Kong Island's Central harbour front. It will include hundreds of booths featuring top international wines and delicious local cuisine and visitors will also be able to enjoy a wide selection of premium wines, fine food and wine tasting classes at the Grand Tasting Pavilion.

The Festival is sure to entice the taste buds of lovers of fine food and wine and will usher in the month-long Wine and Dine celebrations, throughout November, in the city's popular dining districts. Visitors will be able to enjoy special wine and dining offers in the city's restaurants, as well as, wine and dine themed tours, street carnivals and wine classes.

Hong Kong will then embrace the spirit of Christmas during the Hong Kong WinterFest (December - January 1) with lavish festive lights and decorations on display, a Tiffany & Co. themed Christmas tree, Christmas villages and best of all, winter sales throughout the city's shopping malls and department stores.

To conclude the winter celebrations Hong Kong will welcome in the New Year with a spectacular pyrotechnics display over Victoria Harbour on December 31.

During Hong Kong's cooler months (November - February) the city invites nature lovers to explore the outdoors with a series of guided hiking tours which allows visitors to discover the many and varied trails that feature across Hong Kong's urban areas and outlying islands.

To assist hikers the HKTb has produced a guidebook full of practical tips and the E-version can be downloaded at: [http://www.discoverhongkong.com/common/images/see-do/events-festivals/highlight-events/great-outdoor/2012\\_GOHK\\_guide.pdf](http://www.discoverhongkong.com/common/images/see-do/events-festivals/highlight-events/great-outdoor/2012_GOHK_guide.pdf)

For further details on Hong Kong's Winter festivities visit: [www.discoverhongkong.com/au](http://www.discoverhongkong.com/au)



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## Trans Health Survey - People Wanted

Transsexual? Transgender?  
Sistergirl? Genderqueer?

Researchers from Curtin University are looking for trans people to take part in an anonymous internet survey of mental health and wellbeing.



Find out more here: [transoz.org](http://transoz.org)  
**Make tomorrow better.**



# q celebrate: **WORLDPRIDE 2014**

WorldPride 2014 Toronto is fast approaching, and Toronto has been busily preparing for your visit! We are thrilled to be hosting this international celebration of community and culture, particularly at a time when the importance of the global LGBTI communities rising up and celebrating together is so clear.

The theme of the event is "Rise Up!" and that's what we're asking you to join people from around the world in doing in Toronto: rise up in celebration, rise up in music, love, equality and diversity.

Toronto is already host to one of the world's largest and most successful Pride festivals, with over 1.2 million participants in 2013, featuring the annual Pride Parade, Dyke March, and Trans March, and a cultural festival with over 300 performers on 8 free-to-attend outdoor, open-air stages.

In 2014, to mark the first WorldPride celebration in North America, Pride Toronto is going even further—much further, to ensure a Pride you will never forget.

In addition to Pride Toronto's regular Pride activities and events, WorldPride will feature a spectacular opening ceremony in the City's largest public square, with top-tier entertainment and a dazzling light show. The week will include an important LGBTI human rights conference with participants from dozens of countries all over the world, sharing their stories and learning from each other. It will all culminate in closing ceremony featuring major artists and handover to the next WorldPride city: Madrid, Spain, which will host the event in 2017.

As a community, we are making great strides in global LGBTI rights in many places, but continue to face significant struggles. WorldPride 2014 Toronto will also recognize international achievements in support of the LGBTI communities when it bestows the WorldPride Award at a gala awards ceremony.

Toronto's cultural scene, and in fact the whole city, will have a role in welcoming you to visit us and celebrate together. We are working with some of Canada's top cultural institutions, like galleries, museum, theatres and even other festivals, to ensure there are more LGBTI offerings, in more places, than one person could possibly take in. And everyone is eager to impress you when you're here!

We will invite you to more than a parade and festival in the city's core while you're here. We're working with local organizations to ensure our Pride is everywhere across the city, in every community. With 50 per cent of its population born outside of Canada, Toronto is the perfect city to host the world and make you feel welcome in an LGBTI community that will feel like home.

While you're here, we hope you stay a bit and visit some of the inviting regions of our province, Ontario, including Niagara Falls, wine country, and our nation's beautiful capital, Ottawa. Toronto is a complete destination in itself, but is also a great hub for seeing so much more.

Toronto welcomes the world for WorldPride in 2014. We hope to see you here!





# TORONTO. FEEL WELCOME EVERYWHERE.

Get ready. WorldPride is coming. We've invited the world to an international celebration of LGBTQ culture and human rights. For ten days, Toronto will completely transform - streets will turn into parades, parks into parties and strangers into friends. Because next year when we celebrate WorldPride, our pride will know no bounds.

Visit [WP14TO.com](http://WP14TO.com) for a chance to win a trip to Toronto for WorldPride.



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# q drag: POLLY FILLA

Polly Filla always gives an amazing performance. She is no drag performer who simply lip syncs the latest Ga Ga or Beyoncé. Alan Mayberry caught up with her at the GH to find out more about the creation of her onstage magic.

*'I was born in the wagon of a travelling show'...* Well, almost! I was born in Wellington, the capital of New Zealand, where I lived for 28 years until moving to Melbourne! I went to school in Wellington, and dropped out in the final year of high school, then worked for a year or so before studying Fashion Design at university. I was actually still going to school and going out in drag at the weekends! The drinking age was 20 in NZ back then, and we figured no one would ever ID two under-age gay boys in drag – and they never did!

From an early age I knew I was different from the other little boys, though I didn't make the connection to sexuality until puberty. I really related to the witches in the *HR PuffinStuf* movie – they weren't really evil or scary – just misunderstood because they were different ... and wore fabulous costumes!

I always say that I came out twice – first as a gay man, and secondly as a drag queen. Around puberty I found the boys were all admiring girls, while I was busy admiring the boys. I didn't even know why – I just used think boys were sexier than girls. Then I learned there was a word for people like me: FAGGOT. And faggots were sick and disgusting and wrong. I had some very difficult teenage years and kept myself occupied getting involved in as many theatre productions as possible, in denial about my sexuality.

I'd been doing magic and clowning and street theatre, and I loved old disco songs and sequins and feather boas and playing around with make-up and wigs, and making costumes and play acting, but had always felt constrained by a script. And then one day I saw *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert!* Suddenly, it was like this massive epiphany. Everything just went click – I saw myself on screen and just knew that that's what I was born to do. It was a total creative outlet through music, performance, comedy, mime, costume design, make-up art and impersonation. I can be anyone and anything I want to be when I do drag.

I'd always been drawn to the stage – my first role was playing a currant bun in a baker's shop, and Father Christmas in our kinder Christmas pageant. At the age of 10 I joined an after-school drama group and my first 'proper' role was playing an Oompa Loompa in the end of year play *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. After that, I had the bug badly and did everything from holiday pantos to Shakespeare to Dylan Thomas's *Under Milkwood*.

My first professional 'paid' performance was actually as a clown at childrens' birthday parties when I was still in high school. I copped a lot of flack at school for being 'a clown' – however, the kids soon shut up when I revealed I was earning \$50 per show, while they were on the minimum wage stacking shelves at the supermarket. Fast forward 17 years and I'm still wearing silly costumes, wigs and giant shoes and running around on stage making people laugh!

My first actual drag performance was at a fund-raising dance party – a friend and I performed two numbers: *Waterloo* by ABBA, followed by a new song by a little-known girl group: *Wannabe* by the Spice Girls!

In my mind there are many highlights of my drag career – hosting Wellington City's New Years Eve Countdown in Civic Square (the equivalent of Fed. Square) for 3 years, winning the Wellington Cup Avant Garde Section Fashion Award 4 years running (like the Melbourne Cup), costuming a 13-part TV series, touring my solo theatre show *Kitsch in Synch* and winning the 'Best Costumier' ALSO award.



One real stand out was performing to a 3000+ capacity crowd, everyone from tiny tots to grandparents, in the Botanical Gardens Soundshell at my public farewell performance in Wellington. I received a standing ovation and was completely moved to tears. Annually for four years, the Wellington City Council completely believed in me that I would produce a 90 minute-long, G-rated, energetic dragstravaganza that they asked me back each year for 4 years – and people would bring their kids, parents and grandparents.



I recently made the change from being a financially struggling freelance costume maker to a customer service role in a call centre. Not as creative a position, however it's still a challenging role – and its a bit more peace of mind knowing you'll be able to pay the rent each week!

I'm still creating costumes and producing and performing most weekends on top of my day job.

My drag persona's age is definitely older than my actual age. Polly Filla is this kooky post-modern retro character aged somewhere between 40 and death; part Auntie Mame, Part Witchiepoo, living in a Barbie dream house in Stepford with Ann Miller's wardrobe. (I completely adore those older musicals with fabulous Gowns by Jean Louis, Bob Mackie and Orry Kelly) TV variety specials from the 60s and 70s that you can watch on you tube (*Comedic Tragedy*, *Valley of the Dolls*, Miss Hannigan from *Annie*).

The older lady lusting after her spunky dancing boys, completely oblivious to the fact that they're gay.

I've always been inspired by those larger-than-life comedic actresses Carol Burnett and Lily Tomlin. I completely adore Bette Midler – mainly her live material pre Beaches era.

But my drag persona has predominantly been Rosalind Russell's portrayal of two fantastic stage ladies – Mama Rose from *Gypsy*, and Mame Dennis from *Auntie Mame* – frenetic, crazy and totally fabulous!

I love lipsynching spoken word dialogue and obscure numbers – I've never really been interested in lipsynching to the latest pop song, I prefer character and story-telling-driven performances and

period pieces. I think this is what makes my style of drag unique.

To relax I adore going somewhere for dinner with friends, followed by a visit to the theatre, ballet or movies.

You can catch me regularly at SIRCUI every Sunday, The 86 on the first Saturday of the month every other month, and at The GH, DT's Hotel and other venues around town doing guest spots.

What do I hope to be doing in 5 years you ask? I'll be celebrating my 40th birthday somewhere fabulous surrounded by all my friends – wondering where the years went!

# q concert: TWO WORLDS ONE STAGE

Producers John Frost and Phil Bathols today announced that Broadway legend Mandy Patinkin and Opera superstar Nathan Gunn will perform together in Australia in November, combining their musical talents to create a unique and powerful evening of entertainment.

Mandy Patinkin, star of Channel 10's hit series Homeland and one of the most versatile and compelling actors, singers and storytellers of our time, joins forces with one of the world's most in-demand and leading opera baritones, Nathan Gunn for an evening of show tunes, pop music, opera, and Americana song. The Chicago Review-Examiner described the show as "nothing short of genius, giving [concert] goers a night of musical excellence they will long remember."

The duo performs roughly two-dozen songs including solos and duets, some from Mandy's world of Broadway and some showcasing Nathan's operatic brilliance, including Lily's Eyes, Maria, If I Loved You and Rossini's Barber of Seville. They are accompanied on stage by Nathan's wife and music director Julie Jordan Gunn and by Mandy's long time accompanist Paul Ford.  
mandypatinkinlive.com

## AN EVENING WITH MANDY PATINKIN AND NATHAN GUNN



### MELBOURNE

Venue: Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne  
Date: Thursday 21 November  
Time: 8.00pm

Bookings: [artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://artscentremelbourne.com.au) or 1300 182 183, [ticketmaster.com.au](http://ticketmaster.com.au) or 1300 136 166

### SYDNEY

Venue: Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House  
Date: Tuesday 26 November  
Time: 8.00pm

Bookings: [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com) or 02 9250 7777, [ticketmaster.com.au](http://ticketmaster.com.au) or 136 100

### BRISBANE

Venue: Concert Hall, QPAC  
Date: Thursday 28 November  
Time: 8.00pm

Bookings: [qpac.com.au](http://qpac.com.au) or phone 136 246

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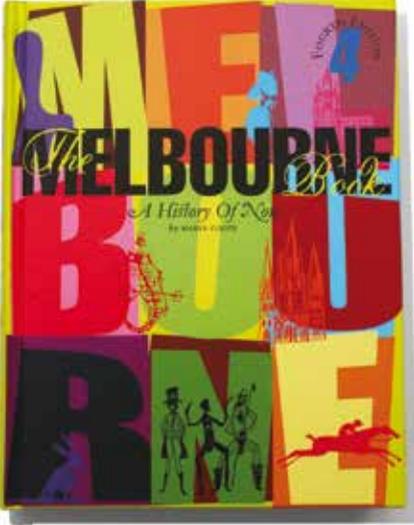
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# q books: MELBOURNE CULTURE

New coffee table book explores  
Melbourne's cultural history

The new release from Melbourne artist, designer & author Maree Coote, *The Melbourne Book: A History of Now* (Melbournestyle \$55.00) shares the unique story of the world's most liveable city – exploring its style, its people and its vivid past, with a collection of interviews and over 700 colour photographs.



Fully revised and updated in its 4th edition, Maree has added new tales to this much-loved collection of stories from Melbourne's past and present, including Germaine Greer, Barry Humphries, Dan Sultan, Eddie Perfect, Molly Meldrum, TV 'King' Graham Kennedy and Dame Edna Everage.

Uncover the real story of Melbourne's politics and personality, the updated facts about footy and fashion, horse-racing and the notoriously changeable weather. The perfect gift for Melburnians, Australian history fans & travellers alike. Now available from all good bookstores.

For more information on Melbournestyle please visit [www.melbournestyle.com.au](http://www.melbournestyle.com.au)



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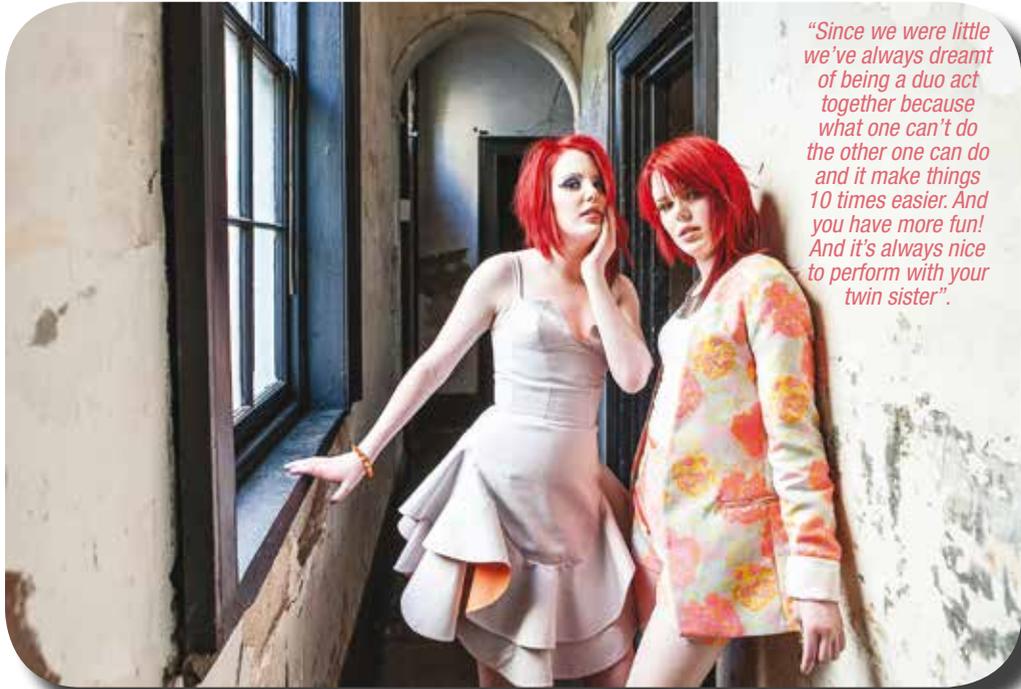
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# q music: SISTERS ARE DOING IT

## RUBYICE SET TO IGNITE J-POP IN AUSTRALIA

J-Pop is a musical genre that is yet to be established in Australia but identical twin sisters Courtney and Brittany Menegon – aka RubyIce – are already at the pointy end of the popular Asian Pop underground movement in the country and proved this when their new single “Can’t Nobody” dropped on September 6.



*“Since we were little we’ve always dreamt of being a duo act together because what one can’t do the other one can do and it make things 10 times easier. And you have more fun! And it’s always nice to perform with your twin sister”.*

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/album/cant-nobody-single/id688131379>

With rich energy and vivacious personalities, the 18 year-old duo have already made an impressive debut earlier this year with their aptly-titled single “Energetic” which has already established them as the “Aussie Jpop duo who are about to take Japan by storm” as proclaimed by Joy FM’s Asia Pop Radio Australia (APRA) show.

Their follow up single “Can’t Nobody” - out now - was written by legendary K-Pop producer Teddy Park who masterminded tracks by high profile chart topping Korean artists including 2NE1 and BigBang.

*“Recording ‘Can’t Nobody’ was the absolute experience of a lifetime for us,” says the pair. “This song is about not giving up, and not allowing people’s false ideas to destroy your dreams. It’s all about standing tall, holding your head high and living your dream”.*

The girls, hailing from the Australian Capital of Canberra, have been performing since age 15 gaining their roots fronting 80s and 90s rock cover band PhuZion.

*“We’re the first J-Pop band act in Australia,” says the pair. “We were introduced to K-Pop at school by an Asian friend when we were about 13 years old. We loved it from the get-go! It was different and unique and we really fell in love with K & J Pop as soon as we heard them.”*

After an appearance on Channel 7’s Australia’s Got Talent in 2012 where the pair made it to the semi-finals, Courtney and Brittany fine tuned their career goals and, with national and international ambitions, embarked on a new journey with a new name, new musical direction and new live show.

Their music is uniquely put together with a cross-cultural Pop/Dance DNA repertoire sourced from noted North Asian composers, arranged with mixed Pan-Asian and Euro influences, and accented by a healthy dose of Ska backbeat which jovially toys with the traditional grammar of club dance rhythms.

# q dance: BANGARRA DANCE CLAN 3

From 20 November to 1 December 2013, Bangarra Dance Theatre presents Dance Clan 3, a new production commissioned by Artistic Director Stephen Page. For the first time, Bangarra has assembled an all-women choreographic team with four of the company's senior female dancers each creating a new work. The resulting program of diverse styles and ideas will be presented as part of the inaugural festival, Corroboree Sydney.

Showcasing fresh voices and stories from the Bangarra family, Dance Clan 3 invites audiences into the heart and soul of Bangarra to experience our inspirational contemporary indigenous culture. Bangarra artists Deborah Brown, Yolande Brown, Tara Gower and Jasmin Sheppard will explore Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander story lines in pieces that will be performed by the entire Bangarra ensemble of 14 dancers.

Says Jasmin Sheppard of the upcoming work, "I discovered my connection with my own identity through dancing with Bangarra – and I'm excited to now have the opportunity to deepen this connection by exploring my own choreographic language and voice. When we perform a story from our hearts and personal experience, you can move people, create change, provoke thought and inspire. My desire is to move with our people into the future whilst respecting where we have come from as Indigenous people."



Artistic Director Stephen Page says of the production, "It's exciting to see the new choreographic voices of Bangarra emerging. The women of Bangarra are deeply connected to their culture and artistry and have strong and powerful voices. I'm eager to see what Dance Clan 3 brings to the evolution of Bangarra's theatrical story-telling."

These raw, exciting performances will be presented in Bangarra's studio theatre on Pier 4 in Walsh Bay. This is a rare opportunity to have an intimate theatrical experience in the company's creative home and with limited capacity and a short season, tickets are bound to sell out quickly.

The creative team for this production will feature composer David Page, designer Jacob Nash, Jennifer Irwin as costume designer and Matt Cox on lighting.

A highlight of Corroboree Sydney, Dance Clan 3 is a rare opportunity for Sydney audiences to have a second Bangarra experience in the one year, following the recent acclaimed season of Blak at the Sydney Opera House in June. Bringing together nine of Sydney's leading cultural organisations under the one banner for the first time, Corroboree Sydney is set to deliver a showcase of the best visual and performing arts from around the nation, sharing the stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. The inaugural festival will be held over 11 days, from 14 to 24 November 2013.

Bangarra is thrilled to be part of Corroboree Sydney with Executive Director Catherine Baldwin stating, "Corroboree Sydney will bring the best of Indigenous arts and culture to life in the city, situated in iconic cultural institutions around Sydney Harbour. It's a good opportunity for people to have direct access to Aboriginal artists and to experience their work, and even participate in cultural workshops and performances. Bangarra is proud to be associated with Corroboree Sydney and we welcome everyone into our home at Walsh Bay."

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Stephen Page, Bangarra Dance Theatre is acclaimed for its performances throughout Australia and internationally most recently in New York, Mongolia and Vietnam. Bangarra Dance Theatre is Australia's premier national Indigenous performing arts company. The company has strived to maintain the cultural integrity and spirit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tradition, combining it with contemporary stories, dance and music. Bangarra creates dynamic, moving theatrical experiences and delivers these experiences to audiences across Australia and around the world.

For further information go to [www.bangarra.com.au](http://www.bangarra.com.au)

November 20 – December 1, 2013  
Studio Theatre, Pier 4, 15 Hickson Road, Walsh Bay, Sydney  
\$49 full, \$35 concession (valid concession cards only) plus transaction fees  
Bookings: [bangarra.com.au/performance/danceclan3](http://bangarra.com.au/performance/danceclan3)

# q win: OCTOBER IS VERY SPECIAL

[Shock.com.au](http://Shock.com.au)

Australia's most successful TV drama of the year is available on DVD from November 18.

Wentworth is a dynamic, often confronting, drama series. Wentworth is a dynamic, often confronting, drama series.

Set in the present day, it is a modern adaptation of Prisoner that contemporises legendary characters and their stories for today's audience. The audience will be introduced to Bea all over again and meet her allies and enemies in the form of iconic inmates: Doreen Anderson, Liz Birdsworth and Franky Doyle, and there are new faces such as Jacs Holt, the ruthless matriarch of a crime family who now reigns over Wentworth.

This ten-part series takes the viewer inside to an uncompromising environment that explores the politics of women in a world without men, and how such a threatening experience both challenges and often changes those confined and working behind the razor wire.

Each episode explores an individual character's backstory providing an insight to what makes them tick and the circumstances that led them to Wentworth. In doing so we discover that the difference between an inmate and an officer is sometimes simply geography, because they're all prisoners in surprisingly different ways.

Like the original Prisoner, Wentworth is, at its heart, a series about survival, a character drama featuring women living in a pressure cooker environment. Despite the rivalries and power struggles, this family of misfits and rebels are forced to forge unlikely friendships and allegiances if they want to survive their time inside

Available with free shipping from [Screenpop.com.au](http://Screenpop.com.au) and where all good DVDs are sold.

We have five sets to give away. Email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) with **WENTWORTH** in the subject line to win. Make sure you enter as these will be very popular.



\* 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.

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# q scene: OUT & ABOUT



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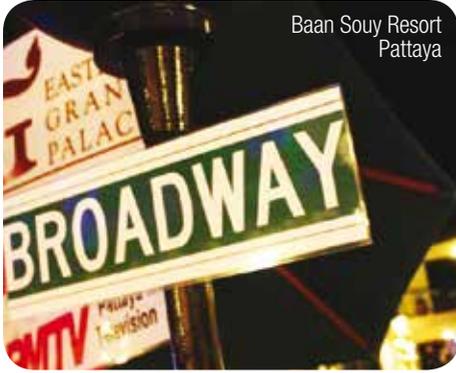
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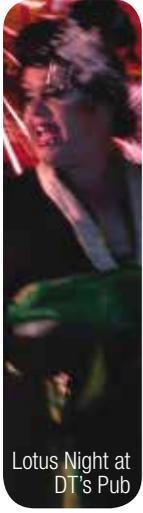


Baan Souy Resort  
Pattaya

# q scene: OUT & ABOUT



# q scene: OUT & ABOUT



Lotus Night at DT's Pub



Lotus Night at DT's Pub



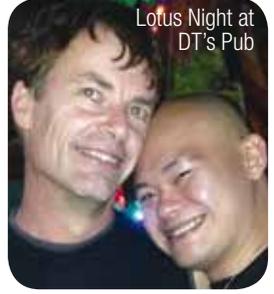
Lotus Night at DT's Pub



Lotus Night at DT's Pub



Lotus Night at DT's Pub



Lotus Night at DT's Pub



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**Period House Auction**  
**9th November, 2013 (12.30)**  
**21 Castle Street, Williamstown**  
**Melbourne 3016**  
[google/view 21 castle street williamstown](https://www.google.com/maps/place/21+castle+street+williamstown)  
Polished floors,  
2 bedrooms, 3rd b/room/study  
euro laundry, modern b/room & kitchen  
stainless steel appliances  
**Contact:**  
**Hocking Stuart Williamstown**

# q travel: with BARRIE MAHONEY

'Tweeters from the Atlantic'

*Barrie Mahoney was a head teacher and school inspector in the UK, as well as a reporter in Spain, before moving to the Canary Islands to launch and edit a new English language newspaper. He is still enjoying life in the sun as a columnist and author, and continues to write a series of popular novels, books for expats, as well as designing mobile apps and websites to promote the Canary Islands.*



## The Silly Season and the Savage Islands

For expats living in Spain, the current diplomatic spats between Spain and the UK about Gibraltar are uncomfortable, and potentially worrying. The previously very good relations between Madrid and London have been overshadowed by an often-heated dispute over territory that has lingered for many years. Many observers claim that the current territorial arguments are due to political and economic tensions in both countries, political and financial scandals in Spain, all embraced in the heady mix of the August 'Silly Season'. Whatever the reasons, frosty relations between countries are always unwelcome news for expats.

Recent news reports of another, and similar dispute, this time between Spain and Portugal, relating to Portugal's Savage Islands, are both interesting and relevant at this particular time. Although vaguely aware of the Savage Islands, I was not aware of any international hostilities until recently. Little public and media attention has been given to this issue, which has troubling international dimensions.

It appears that Spain has quietly lodged an appeal with the United Nations to have the islands, which are Portugal's southernmost territory, reclassified as rocks and not islands. This is not merely a question of semantics, because the main purpose is to reduce Portugal's exclusive economic zone, which is currently the largest in Europe, and a move that would allow Spanish fishing vessels based in the Canary Islands to fish closer to the Portuguese island of Madeira.

The Savage Islands are located between Spain's Canary Islands and Portugal's Madeira, which allows Portugal's territorial waters to reach within 40 nautical miles of the Spanish territory. In terms of distance, the Savage Islands are closer to the Canary Islands than Madeira. The Savage Islands have been a Portuguese territory since 1438, unlike the Canary Islands that were colonised by the Spanish. Humans had never been known to set foot in the Savage Islands before the Portuguese discovered it. Interestingly, the islands also have a reputation as the treasure islands of pirates, and there are many stories of hunting for treasure. According to a number of documents, serious digs have been attempted in recent years to recover the hidden treasure, but nothing was found.

In more recent times, in 1938, the Permanent Commission of International Maritime Law gave sovereignty of the Savage Islands to Portugal and in 1959, the World Wildlife Fund became interested in the islands and signed a contract with the owner, Luis Rocha Machado. However, in 1971 the Portuguese government intervened and acquired the islands, converting them into a nature reserve.

In 1978, the Savage Islands became part of the Madeira Nature Park, which is one of the oldest nature reserves in Portugal, and in 2002, part of the nature reserve was nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A small team of wardens currently inhabits the islands. Over the years, the Portuguese navy has seized a number of Spanish fishing vessels for breaching their territorial waters.

In Spain and the Canary Islands, fishermen firmly believe that these islands should be reclassified as rocks. Although the Spanish Government publicly states that they do not have an issue over the sovereignty of the Savage Islands, their reclassification would effectively remove 700 years of Portugal's sovereign rights to the islands.

Portugal is currently responding to Spain's actions with its own submission to the United Nations that contests Spanish claims. In order to underline the point regarding sovereignty, the President of Portugal, Cavaco Silva, recently paid a surprise visit to the islands where he was the first Portuguese head of state to spend a night on the islands, admittedly in the relative comfort of a frigate parked nearby.

The United Nations is expected to issue a verdict on the Savage Islands in 2015. It will be interesting to see if the UN supports the claims of an unpopular Spanish Government towards the Savage Islands, which some claim are similar to the diversionary tactics of the Gibraltar issue. Thank goodness the "Silly Season" is over for another year.

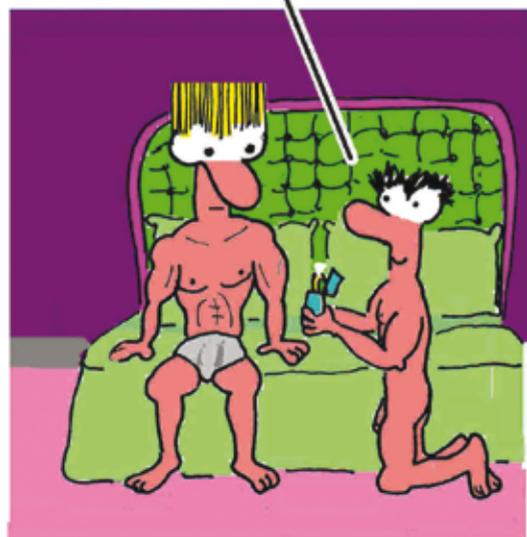
*If you enjoyed this article, take a look at Barrie's websites: [www.barriemahoney.com](http://www.barriemahoney.com) and [www.thecanaryislander.com](http://www.thecanaryislander.com) or read his latest book, 'Tweeters from the Atlantic' (ISBN: 978 1480033986).*

*Available as paperback, Kindle and iBooks. iPhone/iPad and Android Apps: ExpattInfo, CanaryIsle and CanaryGay now available.*

# Gaylord Blade

Young, Gay & Hot-to-trot

Marry me, Gaylord.....



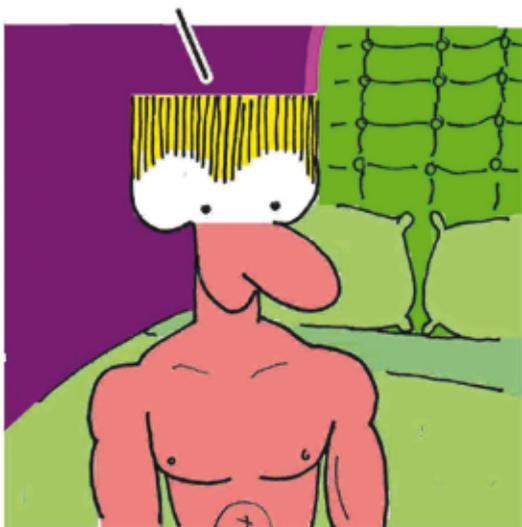
..... shove your love-muscle up my rectum and splurt your hot juice all over my spleen EVERY night



Well, Jack, while I'm not what you'd call the marrying kind.... I sure do love POETRY .....



..... put those pretty words about "every night" & "love muscle" in a pre-nup and let my solicitor see it





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SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

HALLOWEEN  
PARTY



FEATURING ART SIMONE (Melb) & DANCERS,  
DJ MISTAL & DJ NICK JAY (UK, NZ, Syd, Melb)

FREE DRINK FOR EVERYONE UPON ENTRY  
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SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

BACK TO THE 80s PARTY!  
DJs DRINK SPECIALS & MORE!

FLAMINGOS FLIRTY FRIDAYS - FROM 10PM!  
FREE ENTRY BEFORE 11PM! DRINK SPECIALS!  
SATURDAYS FROM 10PM.

SHOWS, RESIDENTS DJ MISTAL, DJ NICK JAY & GUEST DJS.