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MARCH 2011

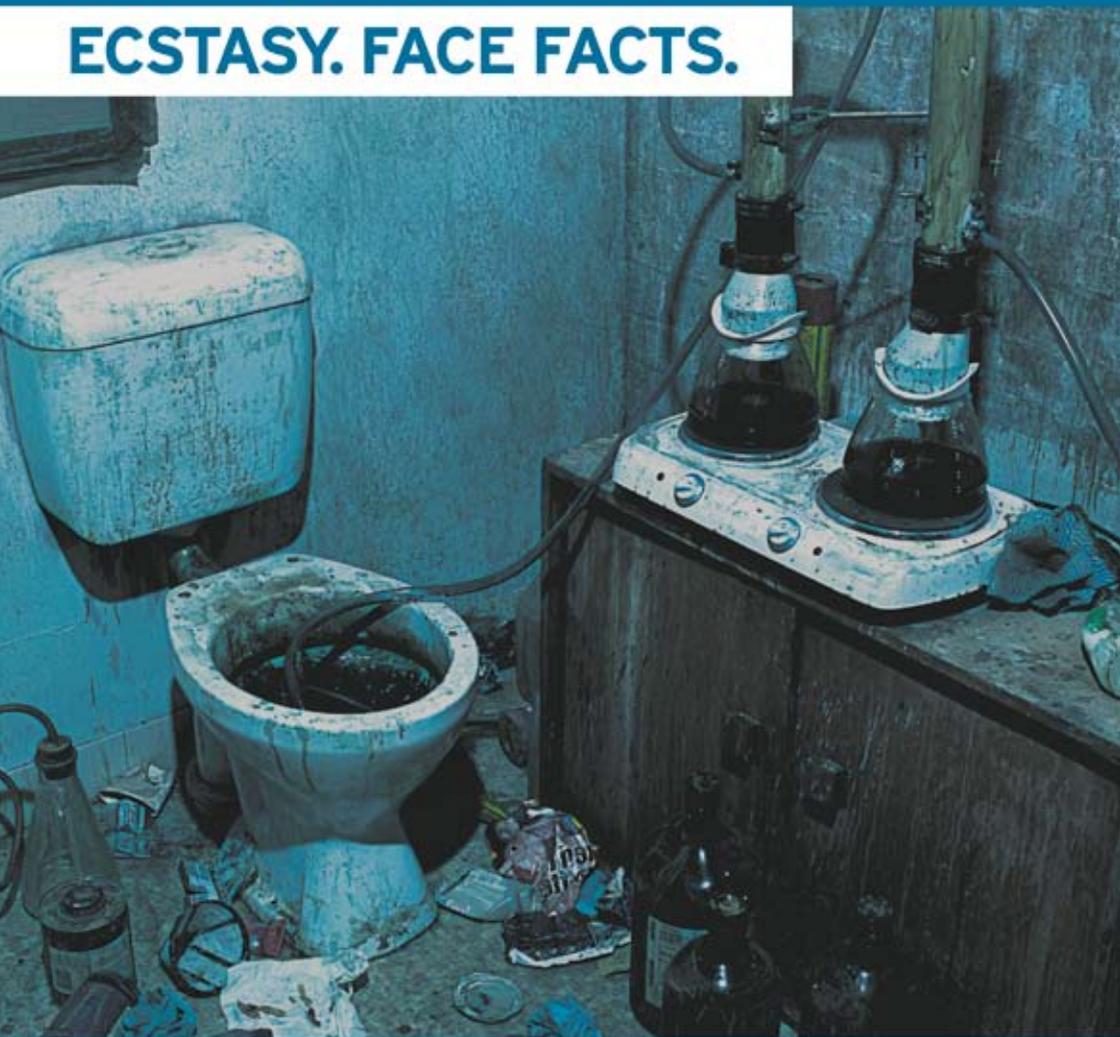
Q MAGAZINE

featuring
JEN BRISTER

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q comment: 21 YEARS OF MQFF

Xavier Dolan's *Heartbeats* and Gregg Araki's *Kaboom* will be just two highly anticipated films in this year's line-up for the Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF) which comes of age in 2011, turning 21! One of the largest queer film festivals in the world, the MQFF screens challenging and entertaining queer-themed films from around the globe. Screening at several venues across Melbourne including the Australian Centre for the Moving Image from 17 - 27 March, the MQFF will showcase a stand-out program from the international festival circuit, as well as some gems from our home-grown filmmakers.

Centrepiece screenings include; the second feature from 21-year-old French Canadian Xavier Dolan *Heartbeats* which wowed audiences at the 2010 Sydney Film Festival winning the top prize; *The Last Summer of La Boyita* (Julia Solomonoff), a compassionate Argentinian drama about childhood friendship and discovery; and *Undertow* by Javier Fuentes-León. There are also a wealth of films direct from the international festival circuit including; Gregg Araki's *Kaboom* (USA), which screened at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival; having screened in Official Selection at Sundance and Opening Night at San Francisco Film Festival, *La Mission* (Peter Bratt) reconstructs the 'tough boy' attitude from the mean streets of LA to San Francisco's working-class Mission District; meanwhile *The Secret Diaries of Miss Anne Lister* (James Kent) has been opening and closing queer film festivals the world over.

Program and ticketing information is available at www.mqff.com.au



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q feature: FUNNY GIRL - JEN BRISTER

Fresh off the plane from South London where she enjoys inhaling carbon monoxide fumes while riding her bike, watching Cagney & Lacey re-runs and eating butter, Jen Brister is set to bring her high-energy comedy to Melbourne audiences. Jen's new show, *Jen Brister is British(ish)* takes a fast paced romp through Jen's life exploring her British and Spanish roots. It's an energetic ride through a series of anecdotes on life, including her time in a focus group watching porn for 70 minutes with five strangers. She inhabits the characters in her life - their voices, their foibles and their fabulousness. We caught up with her and started by finding out some personal stuff about this very funny lady.

I was born in a suburb of London called Kingston upon Thames, the kind of place you move to if you want kids, have kids, thinking about wanting/having kids. I grew up there but moved to London when I was 18. I've lived all over that fair city but I'm currently residing in Archway in North London with my girlfriend. However like many a UK lesbian we're moving to Brighton in the Summer, where the sun rarely shines, the beach is a pile of pebbles and the shoes are vegan (yes, they actually have a vegan shoe shop).



When did you come out and has your sexuality ever been a hindrance to you?

I actually came out in Australia where I was living in 1998, prior to that I told everyone I was 'bi sexual' yeah yeah I know. After a friend got me dancing in the Mardi Gras Parade in a gold lame boob tube, mini skirt & a lot of gold paint, I felt very little could embarrass me. So since that heady day I have been 'out', even on stage. I've never felt my sexuality has limited me personally or professionally, but I know as a gay woman I still come under the banner of 'novelty act.' However I believe that comedy transcends most boundaries and social barriers. If you can make someone laugh, even if there a die hard homophobe, for that 20 minutes they're homophobia will evaporate. As a comic I don't have the same limitations that a lot of actors do, and I'm relieved because I was in the closet for too long and I'm not prepared to go back in there for anyone. Besides which, I imagine it would be quite dusty.

How long have you been working in the wonderful world of comedy?

Far longer than I'd like to admit. I tried comedy on the open mike circuit for about 3 years, never really committing to it, but in 2004 I started to get paid and earn a living so since then I have been gigging all over the shop. Basically I'm a show off who needs an unnatural amount of attention from complete strangers as an affirmation that I have talent. It's all very healthy.

Is this your first time in Australia and how do you find the audiences here in comparison to those in the Mother Country?

This is my second time in Australia and I'm excited to be here again. I think the Aussies and Brits have a very similar sense of humour. In Australia you have a lot of our comedy shows and in the UK we love Kath & Kim, Summer Heights High & my all time comedy favourite, Neighbours. I think the main difference between the two nations is that Aussies are...well...happy.

Do you have any words of advice for young people who may be questioning their sexuality and thinking of coming out?

Coming out is personal and there is no 'right' or 'wrong' time, there's just the time that you're ready. It's not easy but find someone you trust and talk it through with them, you'll be surprised at how few people judge you. Also, there are loads of groups out there where you can meet other gay & bi sexual young people. I was worried about telling my Mum, but when I did, all she said was, "Thank God, I thought you were going to tell me you were a vegetarian!"

What do you think you'll be doing in five years from now?

I would like to be a Mum in the next couple of years, I bought a couple of DIY kits and a petri dish so we'll see what happens. I also hope to have my own show in the UK, a few successful tours under my belt and all the oysters and Ferrero Rocher I can eat. You do have Ferrero Rocher in Oz right?

Tuxedo Cat, Blue Room @ The Basement, 335 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

Date: Thursday 31 March (Preview) Friday 1 April - Sunday 24 April

Bookings: 1300 660 013 or Ticketek - call 132 849

q movies: **LITTLE JOHNNY**

Little Johnny jokes are a mainstay of the classic comedy repertoire, having been told from one generation to another at pubs, school grounds, backyard barbecues and locker rooms across the planet. Featuring the voices of Kevin "Bloody" Wilson and Genevieve Morris, a new Australian featurelength animated film now pays homage to this series of timeless and side-splitting gags by introducing the world to the feisty, nine year old, redheaded boy who just may have started it all.



Little Johnny The Movie celebrates its world premiere with a limited season of cinema screenings as part of the 2011 Melbourne International Comedy Festival, from 1 to 24 April at the Greater Union Cinemas in Russell Street.

The team behind the hit Paul Hogan comedies, *Strange Bedfellows* and *Charlie & Boots*, have created a very funny film which pioneers a whole new genre in Australian cinema and finally gives adults the opportunity to be kids again. Beautifully realised animation gives a respectful nod to the classic craft of the *Merrie Melodies* cartoon series. Tipping its hat to *Ginger Meggs* and *Dad & Dave*, a 'mockumentary' storyline tells the gripping 'true blue' action tale of a street-smart little boy who is always getting into trouble but would do anything to win the affection of his sweetheart. And the jokes keep flying in ways which would make *Aunty Jack* blush and *The Family Guy* squirm. Through the discovery of reels and reels of long-lost home movies, we find the surprising source of inspiration for some of the funniest jokes ever told. The year is 1967 and in the Victorian rural town of Gallangatta, the day to day life of Little Johnny and his dysfunctional family flicker onto the screen. To the dismay of his parents and teachers, Little Johnny innocently tells it like it is, with the mouth of a sailor and at the most inappropriate moments. It's not until we meet his down-to-earth, big-hearted Uncle Kev that we get an understanding of perhaps why Little Johnny is the way he is.

Providing the voices behind these hilarious characters, the producers have assembled a brilliant cast of Australian comedians featuring Comedy Inc star Genevieve Morris as Little Johnny, a national icon following her role as bank manager Barbara in the recent ANZ television commercials. Popular stand-up comedian and star of *Busting Out!*, Bev Killick, plays Aunty Mavis. And in a role specially created for him, Australian comedy legend Kevin "Bloody" Wilson plays Uncle Kev, Little Johnny's dodgy moral compass in life. One of the most popular, funniest, hardest working and least politically correct comedians in the country, Wilson also contributes original songs to the movie which carry the no-holds-barred hallmark of his many top-selling albums.

While *Little Johnny The Movie* features a collection of bawdy jokes you wouldn't tell your grandmother, the humour in fact reminds us of a more innocent time. The essence of Little Johnny's charm is that he is a wide-eyed kid who simply describes the world as he sees and hears it. Throw in a sweet love story, a quixotic quest to own the Super Deluxe Glide-O-Matic Dragster bicycle and even a billy cart race showdown which betters the very best episodes of *Road Runner* or *The Whacky Races*, and you have one of the most fun nights you've had at the pictures in years.

For more information visit www.LittleJohnnyTheMovie.com

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Q money: with EVAN DAVIS

G'day and Welcome to Q Money. Investment advisors and mothers around the world have long been espousing the novel idea of saving money. If you put the money away, don't spend and have chosen a reasonably stable investment, then you might just have more money to show for it a little later.

Last September I wrote about the new ING DIRECT transaction account the 'Orange Everyday'. This generated some interest with some of this column's readers. I have decided to look into other finance products from ING DIRECT. Under the instruction of my mother, this month specifically cash savings. The column this month, will therefore take on a sponsored Orange hue as I explore Term Deposits from ING DIRECT, which are hot at the moment.

As competition in the banking industry heats up, we've started to hear a lot more about Term Deposits, in fact personal Term Deposits are the fastest growing segment in the savings market. This is hardly surprising with the volatility of non cash based investment in recent years.

In fact, it has grown by 112% since 2007, a growth of \$114 billion (CANSTAR CANNEX), and makes up the largest portion (44%) of the personal deposit market.

The reasons for this increase in popularity is obvious, you can lock away a sum of money and earn a guaranteed high rate of interest after a certain period of time. Much of this growth kicked off from mid 2007, as banks began to increase competition for deposits with customers continuing to benefit from some great rates.

Head of savings at ING DIRECT, Brett Morgan, says "putting your money away for a certain amount of time has its budgeting benefits - while you're not tempted to spend that money, it's earning you a great rate of interest."

The company who shook up the Savings and Transaction market with the launch of the Savings Maximiser in 1999 and Orange Everyday account last year also offers a Term Deposit product and has one of the most competitive offers in the market.

It has a rate of 6.5 per cent (as at 22 Feb) for a one year term and offers a loyalty bonus of 0.10 per cent if you choose to renew your term. This is potentially a great incentive for property buyers who don't need to have access to their money while they are looking for the right property to buy.

ING DIRECT has just made its Term Deposit even more flexible by allowing customer to choose the date of their term to suit their lifestyle or financial circumstances - from 30 days to 365 days. This is a unique option that offers greater flexibility than many other term deposit products in the market place at the moment.

"Allowing customers to select a date is an innovation in this space and is in direct response to growing and changing customer demand. It's also a great way for customers to dip their toe in the water before committing to a longer term product," says Morgan.

If you have some money that is currently NOT hard at work for you then why not consider whacking it into an ING DIRECT Term Deposit? With the great rate on offer at the moment, you could find yourself that much closer to whatever it is you are saving for.



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q people: PHILLIPPE DELAUAUX

an interview by Marc J Porter



Philippe Delavaux has graced many a porn dvd over the past few years. This Belgian porn star has gone all the way to America and back during his career and recently agreed to an interview with Q to share his thoughts on why he chose to star in porn and what does one do when being in front of the camera gets tiring.

Was porn always something you wanted to try?

No When I was 18years I never thought I will be doing adult movies. It just happened this way. I was model before for underwear and clothing in Miami South Beach where I lived before. I wanted to go back to my family and friends in Europe and after doing some model work in Europe I wanted to do something more exciting. I'm addicted to sex and I love the camera, so I made my first nude pics with my webcam at home and sent them to some of the best gay porn studios in the world I found on Wikipedia and few hours later I got feedback from the studios that they were interested to work with me. The same weekend I was going for the first time to live porn shows in a gay club in Antwerp Belgium. I talked with the models and saw the shows, and from that moment I knew this is what I wanted to do. Because they are also normal guys with a private live and a great personality. A few days later I took the plane to London for my first 2 movies with the studio Eurocreme.

Tell us about your background and where you are from?

Well my family is from Belgium. I also have some family from Hungary too. Belgium. I'm born in Antwerp, my family had a night club and I grow up in the night life. From a young age I was around lots of people and my family is all open minded, so they have no problem with my job, my friends and family they all support me. I never hide what I'm doing. I'm just who I am and I proud of it. I don't care what other people think about me, I just do what I like and I want

What has been a highlight so far working in this industry?

My American tour I've worked for Colt studios, and with Cody Cummings, I have lusted after him for years and it was so exciting to actually get paid to do a scene with him. Also a movie in Canada last August in Toronto was amazing, the biggest production I have worked for so far. The movie isn't out yet but I'm looking forward to seeing it in shops all over the world.

Who has been your favourite scene partner and why?

Hard to say, Cody Cummings was amazing and also Hayden Stephens from Colt Studios, I like scenes with masculine men different from myself.

Your face appears on porn covers worldwide, how does this make you feel?

It feels great. It's also funny when I fly somewhere in the world and I see myself on the front of a magazine or on a dvd cover. Sometimes I don't even realise what cover I'm on or what magazine I'm appearing in next but its great I can do porn on this high level worldwide.

Do your family and friends know of your career or is it no-ones business?

Yes everyone knows it, I'm open minded and I don't hide things, I'm just who I am.

Is there anyone special in your life and if so, how do they handle the porn star Philippe?

Yes my family. Also my two best friends my ex boyfriend Djani and my best girlfriend Vicky she is just so crazy and funny and they are there always for me. Also I have a very good relationship with photographer Marc Drofman. I don't have that many friends, just have a small group of people I can trust. Lots of people know me, but I'm careful to keep away from porn groupies.

What does the future hold, will you continue to appear in porn or is there a next chapter?

Yes there is a next chapter. I will start my own movie studio. I will be producer too. So when I'm getting older I still can make money from porn but behind the scenes. Also the reason I want to do it myself is because many models are not tested for HIV. We use condoms but most studios don't test the models. Two friends who are porn stars got HIV because of lax testing. I don't want that. I have respect for my models so I will test them before the scenes at the hospital and we will use condoms.

Any message for your Australian fans?

I heard Australia is an amazing, nice country with nice nature and oceans, hot people. I'm excited to come for a holiday to Australia in 2011. I heard Australian people are very friendly people.

q food & lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

There are many things to love about how one's mind works in odd ways. Often, for example, I know I am full but the old and shameless sin of gluttony thumps its presence. This did occur recently as I discovered the august organisation known as the 'Society of Eating and Drinking!'

Created by talented young thing, Ryan Flaherty (sous chef at Melbourne's iconic The Point at Albert Park), SED as it is known in the online world, is all about collaborations. These collaborations between chefs and front of house staff, along with Ryan, bring gluttony to her knees and leave her quivering and sweating by the door.

The most recent of these events celebrated the remarkable talent of Flaherty and another young buck ready to change the food world, Matthew McCartney of Chateau Yering in the Yarra Valley. Can't wait for this kid to be on the box and wowing us - he is the one to watch says my source (my ever expanding belly).

15 courses of pure indulgence, matched with 12 wines, and each course a revelation of orgasmic proportions. Each course provided a new taste sensation, a new textural feel to food or took me on a journey of blissful romance into a time long forgotten.

The reason I am banging on about this is the power of the mind to evoke memory associated with food. As I sat in Port Melbourne at said gluttonous gathering, I looked upon a palm tree on the oceans edge, and by a trick of light, it appeared to be raining. At that time I was served a beautiful French onion soup, poured over parmesan ice cream, with big chunky, cheesy, garlicky croutons. As I sat and sipped the soup, this vision before me made it look like a cold wintry afternoon, and before I could think about it, I was transported to a cold wintry London day sipping the same soup many years ago at a big flash hotel.

Maybe I am awash with the whimsy of romance, but that little gastronomic trip down memory lane proved to me

that food is all about romance and love. People will tell you it is the same with music - perhaps what you were doing when you first heard a song. But for me, it is all food. Where was I when I first tasted an oyster, what was the first piece of offal that wasn't cooked by an aging female relative, and when red wine of any quality first made its slippery and seductive journey across my palate.

I love the romance of food, the discovery of new tastes and sensations. I love that my work allows me the indulgence of frequently and often enjoying new tastes, smells and food experiences like never before.

This brings me to my next find - a new restaurant that seemingly popped up in the suburb over night. How wondrous this revelation after a few ciders, stumbling into a heady array of flavours that scream Malaysia, Singapore and SE Asia. Wok Noodle is a noodle bar first and foremost, but also somewhere you can sit and be again transported to somewhere a little different from your past. I have a nasi goreng with salted fish - nothing mind blowing about that, but the thing that blew me away was the speed, the efficiency and the ebullience of the service. On further questioning, the gentleman to whom I refer, revealed his recent ancestral lineage contains none other than Dur'e Dara, the woman whose magical and efficient eyes oversaw the floor of Stephanie's for many years. She also has the Nudel Bar in Bourke Street and has had her finger in a great many hospitality pies in Melbourne. Clearly, he has inherited her nous and her skills.

These fanciful journeys that take over one's mind and transport to places long forgotten are the reason I eat.. just usually, not quite so much.

Society of Eating and Drinking can be found at <http://www.sedevents.com.au>. Wok Noodle Bar can be found in Seddon, Victoria

For more ramblings about food, booze and all the wonderful things that we enjoy in our vibrant culinary world, tune into Cravings on JOY 94.9 every Saturday from 1-2pm, or listen online around the country or the world. For any questions, email lifestyle@qmagazine.com.au. Eat well, drink well and forget moderation.



**This month we celebrate
being 7 years young ...**

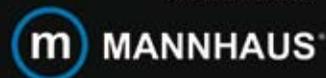
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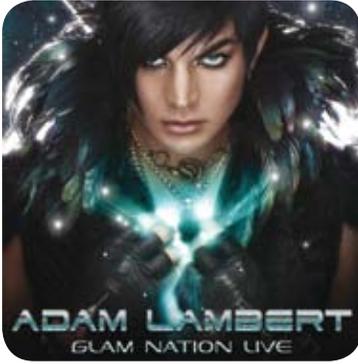
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q music: ADAM & GEORGE



Superstar Adam Lambert has announced plans to release *Glam Nation Live* (19 Recordings / RCA Records), a DVD/CD, on March 18th in Australia. Shot in Indianapolis, Indiana at Clowes Hall on August 31st, 2010 and directed by Doug Spangenberg, the DVD/CD features 12 tracks plus a bonus cut and includes some of Lambert's most beloved performances such as "Ring of Fire", "If I Had You" and the Grammy nominated "Whataya Want From Me"

Lambert, who was nominated for a Grammy for Best Male Pop Vocal Performance, will be showcasing clips from the *Glam Nation Live* CD/DVD on VEVO beginning Friday, February 11th. Starting today, fans can pre-order *Glam Nation Live* as well as an exclusive "Glam Nation Tour Pack" at AdamOfficial.com. Fans can also visit, <http://www.AdamOfficial.com/GlamNation>, the all-new *Glam Nation* section of Adam's website for an in depth look at one of the most sought after tours of 2010.

Lambert's debut album *For Your Entertainment* (19 Entertainment / RCA Records) has sold over 1 million copies worldwide since making its debut at #3 on the Billboard Top 200 chart in November 2009. He is first American Idol to ever tour the world in support of their debut album in the year following their Idol season. Lambert's hit single "Whataya Want From Me," written by Pink and Max Martin, became his first #1 hit on the Billboard charts, topping the Hot Singles Sales survey as well as Hot Dance Singles Sales chart in the US. "Whataya Want From Me" has also become an international hit, going top 10 in Australia, Sweden, South Africa, New Zealand, Denmark, Hungary, Czech Republic, Poland, Argentina and Finland and reaching #1 airplay in Canada, Germany & Singapore. "If I Had You" also charted Top 10 in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Finland, South Africa and Canada.

In Australia, *For Your Entertainment* is now double platinum and both "Whataya Want From Me" and "If I Had You" were top 5 double platinum singles. Lambert visited Australia twice in 2010 – performing at the Mardi Gras party and also a sold out East Coast tour. Lambert's performances on Season 8 of *American Idol* are already legendary, his live televised collaborations with Queen and KISS were a highlight of his season and his stunning performances of songs including "Mad World," "The Tracks Of My Tears," "Ring Of Fire" and "Whole Lotta Love" are still widely regarded as some of the most captivating moments in Idol history.

Sony Music has also announced that they will be reissuing George Michael's iconic album, *Faith*, remastered - available in multiple special formats including Limited Edition Numbered Collectors Box Set.



When George Michael released his debut solo album *Faith* in 1987 it instantly caught the imagination of the entire pop world, becoming a milestone in both George Michael's career and in popular culture. It remains a high point in pop music, as well as a measure for any artist wanting to cross musical genres and gather both popular and critical appeal. The album confirmed George's status as a songwriter of outstanding ability and emotional depth and it propelled him to superstar status equal to that of Elton John, Paul McCartney, Michael Jackson and Madonna. After hitting the Number One spot in the UK, the USA and many other countries across the globe, *Faith* went on to sell over 20 million albums worldwide. It became the best selling US album of 1988 and was awarded the prestigious Diamond Award for sales of 10 million copies. *Faith* rapidly became a record-breaking phenomenon, not only producing six Number One singles in the US but also putting George Michael on the map as the first white male artist to hit Number One on the US R&B chart. *Faith* features some of George's greatest songs including *Father Figure*, *One More Try*, *Faith*, *Kissing A Fool* and *I Want Your Sex*.

To date, George Michael has sold over 100 million records throughout the world; his music sounds as fresh as it did when *Faith* was first released in 1987. So much so, in fact, that George Michael's songs - including tracks from *Faith* - recently featured in the hit US TV show *Eli Stone*. As well as appearing on the show himself, George's songs were used as a theme for each episode. Today, George Michael continues to inspire young talent and his influence can be heard amongst many of today's pop and R&B artists. The remastered, reissued *Faith* will not only delight George's legions of fans across the world, but it will continue to influence a whole new generation of musicians. For further information visit www.georgemichael.com or www.sonymusic.com

q hotels: BULGARI'S LONDON

Agreement signed for a Bulgari Hotel in London Knightsbridge

Bulgari Hotels & Resorts recently signed an agreement for the new Bulgari Hotel in London due to open in spring 2012. The luxury hotel located in Knightsbridge, the most prestigious area of Central London by Hyde Park, is the third hotel project of Bulgari Hotels & Resorts, following the opening of the Bulgari Hotel in Milan in 2004 and of the Bulgari Resort in Bali in 2006.

The Bulgari Hotel in London was designed for Bulgari by the renowned architectural firm Antonio Citterio, Patricia Viel & Partners, with Squire and Partners as the local architect for the project. With the contemporary style and outstanding service and design for which Bulgari is famous, the hotel will feature sleek lines and refined colour combinations created using a variety of marbles, fine woods, and unique details. Silver is the dominant theme of the interior design. The ancient yet timeless metal - a tribute to Bulgari's origins as a silversmith and to Britain's noble manufacturing traditions - expresses understated, poised elegance in line with the style of the other Bulgari Hotels.

The Bulgari Hotel, London has been designed to incorporate the highest standards of environmental sustainability, and it has already been awarded Best Hotel and Best Development at the prestigious UK Property Awards 2010 in association with Bloomberg Television. The hotel, with its 85 rooms and suites - including seven extraordinary Bulgari suites, each more than 200 square meters large - will offer a unique combination of refined amenities and exclusive services. Its restaurant and bar have been designed to become the destination of choice in Knightsbridge. The hotel will also feature a large ballroom, a private cinema and a 2,000 square meter Spa and fitness centre with 25 meter indoor pool .



Francesco Trapani, CEO of Bulgari Group, said, "We are extremely proud to be able to

open a Bulgari Hotel in the heart of London, something that we have wanted to do for a long time. This hotel - the first new build luxury hotel in London for over 40 years - will be another important element in the Bulgari Hotels & Resorts project. I'm convinced that it will be a further statement of our brand in the UK, which is a strategic market for luxury goods."

Antonio Citterio said, "Constructing a new building in this part of London is an extraordinary achievement because the city tends to be extremely conservative due to its consolidated urban plan. The architectural style of the project reflects the rigour of the Bulgari Hotel in Milan: its classic, solid, contemporary style will consolidate the urban landscape in an area of London that is undergoing a profound transformation. In this sense, the use of Portland stone and bronze, which are typical materials of the architectural style of public buildings in London, and the meticulous facade design reveal a rigorous, modern approach to the theme."

Lord (David) Puttnam, Chairman of Prime Development, said: "We are delighted to be working with Bulgari on this extremely exciting project. The hard work and dedication of everyone involved means we are firmly on track for the delivery of an outstanding product which will raise the bar for standards of service and elegance within the Knightsbridge luxury hotel market while maintaining a modern approach to sustainability. The vision behind the Bulgari hotel and the attention to detail that characterises its design and construction epitomise the hard work and commitment to excellence that has typified this project from the start. I look forward to its opening in 2012"

**BULGARI HOTEL
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OPENING: Spring 2012 (April/May) - in time for WorldPride 2012 & The Olympics

q festivals: FREO COMES ALIVE

It's huge – in fact, it is Australia biggest and most entertaining street arts festival! Fremantle Street Arts Festival – 23-26 April 2011

FREMANTLE Street Arts Festival is a bellyaching, awe-inspiring, mind blowing and wonder filled way to spend this year's extra long Easter weekend. Each year Fremantle is the place to be during Easter when the curtains rise on Australia's biggest and best street performing festival. Twenty-two of the best street performers from around the globe are heading to 'Freo' to perform more than 150 shows over four days.

The cafes, pubs, parks and restaurants will be overflowing as the heart of Fremantle is closed to traffic while over 100,000 people flock to the port city to be dazzled, shocked and entertained as they witness the impish, irreverent and down right hilarious antics of these highly talented and award-winning performers.

The Fremantle Street Arts Festival started in 1999.

Fremantle Mayor Dr Brad Pettitt said the event had built up an enviable reputation over the past 13 years as the country's premier street performing festival.

"It just works in Fremantle," he said. "We have the beautiful old buildings, the port, the restaurants, the pubs and a culture of nurturing the arts. It all comes together to create an amazing atmosphere – it's the special Freo magic".

There will be more than 150 performances from the world's most sought after artists who will present the best free shows ever seen on the streets of Australia. Fremantle Streets Arts Festival offers circus, cabaret, musical, vaudeville, comedy and so much more. Wander the streets, taking in one amazing performance after another for the best Easter entertainment imaginable. Crossing international, cultural and age boarders over four huge days, the performers will entertain you, make you laugh and leave you with the natural high only a great time can give you.

Stalker (NSW) performs Elevate –A highly disciplined, physically rigorous, spectacular work that incorporates street dancing, acrobatics and the daring of break dance with Stalker's spectacular performance. Stalker has performed at festivals worldwide and are regarded as one of the country's premier physical theatre companies.

HomoCatodicus (France) – An Australian premiere, the head monitor men are a combination of video walking puppetry comedy and high-tech theatre.

USA Breakdancers (USA) Hot favourites on the international festival circuit, this spectacular show is packed with acrobatic stunts, hilarious antics and the hottest dance moves around. Combining comedic talents with cutting-edge dance choreography the USA Breakdancers deliver an unforgettable experience that has crowds all over the world cheering for more.

Funny Bones (Tokyo & UK) This unique Japanese and English combination features amazing giant puppetry, circus skills, comedy magic, mime, hat juggling, voice percussion, break dancing, and forever-new routines in an up-tempo style that changes to suit any atmosphere internationally.

Leapin' Louie (Utah USA) High-energy spoken and physical comedy, audience participation, combined with wild tricks: spinning a 70 foot lasso around himself, whipping a target out of a volunteers hands, setting his head on fire on the 6 foot unicycle and much more.

Married Men (UK) A smorgasbord of freshly delivered physical and verbal comedy garnished with a fine selection of "gentleman juggling", seasoned with charm, finesse and a bit of domestic upheaval.

Fremantle Street Arts Festival is proudly supported by Eventscorp and Tourism Western Australia. All performances are free and held at Healthway smoke-free pitches across the city. For more information visit www.fremantle.wa.gov.au





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q youth: with TASMAN ANDERSON

How do you know you're no longer a kid? University! That's right; I finally graduated high school and entered the big scary world of responsibility. Some may think I'm exaggerating but when it comes to university, the old rules no longer apply.



Every single one of you reading this would have experienced high school in one form or another. I'm sure you remember how strict it truly was. You were never able to use your mobile phone, you had to wear a uniform and missing class was frowned upon. But now that high school is over and university has begun, freedom is overflowing. No longer are you restricted to hiding your phone during lunchtimes in fear that it will be taken off you. No longer must you wear a uniform every day and no longer are you hounded if you miss a class. Your future is in your own hands and whatever you choose to do while university is completely your choice.

Maybe while you were in high school you were class president or a member of the honour society. Maybe you graduated top of your grade or perhaps you were even valedictorian. Regardless of what you did in high school, it as you make transition to university it won't really matter. Whatever you achieved in high school (of didn't achieve) doesn't automatically apply to university.

There are various reasons why students drop out of university before they complete their bachelor. Too much fun and no studying and a sense of not belonging, isolation and home sickness are among the major ones that affect each student in various ways. Furthermore, financial constraints, person family issues and lack of advising also affect numerous students. However, with these little titbits of advice, any person will be capable of making it through university unscathed and thrive off the excitement, joy and anticipation that college life can offer.

- 1. Make sure you attend Orientation Week:** Do you really need to go on yet another campus tour or sit in on a welcome meeting? Yes. The faster you learn exactly where your classes are, the more comfortable you'll feel and the better prepared you'll be when you may need to need a new building.
- 2. Get Organised:** In high school, the teachers would often guide you through all the homework and due dates of assessment. However, in college the professors and tutors post the assignments often all at once and expect you to be prepared for it, regardless of whether you have experience or not. My tip for you would be to buy an organiser or obtain a school diary. Do whatever it takes for you to know exactly when an assignment is due.
- 3. Find Your Personal Study Space:** My personal place is the Journalism lounge for students. Yours could be the library, lunch tables or even an empty auditorium. Just find a place that works for you – your overall grade will love you for it.
- 4. Attend Your Classes:** You might think it's an obvious tip but we have all experienced that temptation of sleeping in and skipping that early class that just seems so boring and unimportant. Try your absolute hardest to avoid this. Besides learning the material by attending classes, you'll also receive crucial information from professors about what to expect on tests and changes in anything related to your coursework.
- 5. Create A Healthy Balance:** College life is a crazy mixture of social and academic events. Do whatever you can to not tip the balance in each one. There is nothing worse than breaking down as you messed up an assignment or partied too hard the night before an important class.
- 6. Strive for good grades:** I know you'd all be doing this anyway but while good grades may have come naturally to you in high school, you will have to earn them in college - and that means setting serious goals for yourself and making sure you put in hard work and time into each piece.
- 7. Make connections with students in your classes:** The hardest thing I found about university was making new friends. I was on my own and it felt like the weight of the world was crushing me. My advice is to spend your first week creating a network of friends, that way you won't feel as if you are on your own with everything.
- 8. Learn to cope with homesickness:** Having late classes has kept me from seeing my family every day, so my advice is to fight against the feeling of homesickness. It's never easy to deal with seeing less of your family and it's only natural that there will be times when you miss them. Find a way to deal with these feelings by making phone calls home and planning holidays together.

9. Keep track of your money: I have just experienced the 'college expense' and trust me it's not pretty. If you've never had to create a budget before, now is definitely the time to do so. Make sure you spend only what you can afford and avoid acquiring a credit card.

10. Be prepared to feel overwhelmed: It's okay to feel under pressure. There's a lot going in your life right now and you need to expect moments where it seems like it's just too much. Seek help whenever you need it and make sure you make time to relax and take a break.

University is never going to be easy, no matter how much support you have or how much you have prepared yourself.

The best you can do is apply yourself to your studies and remain happy and healthy.



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q drag: MONTE DIAMONTE

Monte Diamonte, or Monte Dee if you follow her on Facebook, has always had a way of making the headlines. Alan Mayberry caught up with her to find the secrets of her success.

In a galaxy far, far away – well Yarraville to be exact – I was ejected into this world on the 6th of July 1977 at Footscray Hospital. But not before wrapping my umbilical cord around my neck twice during labor – even my birth was a drama!

Going to Yarraville Primary School, then onto Williamstown Tech! That's right – Tech! I don't know what exactly I thought I was going to do at a Tech school, although my Textiles teacher was a little confused when the rest of the class made 'board shorts' and I had glue-gunned rhinestones and glitter all over mine and presented them in the end-of-year 'fashion' parade.

I went to my first gay club in 1993 at Three Faces and saw a drag show for the first time. After the show I said to my friend 'Great show, but why are those girls wearing so much make-up?' He then told me that they weren't 'girls' and that they were drag queens! LOL Ooohhh I was soooo innocent!

A few years later I was walking out of the Peel Hotel and this drag stopped me as I was leaving, grabbed me by the face and said, 'Oohhh this a pretty face for drag!' Ha ha – before I knew it me, Nova China, Chanel Corby and Missy Nourmous were running around the gay scene doing drink card shows into the wee hours. Chanel Corby had entered me into the Xchange Hotel's 'Star Search' Competition. I managed to take out First Prize! That got the ball rolling, which lead to appearing at many different venues, mostly hosting gigs (as my mother always says my mouth will get me hung!).

How much time do I spend rehearsing you ask! Ha Ha. – as little as possible. I'd rather have my arse parked on the couch watching tele. That is my relaxation – constantly watching the TV show *Prisoner* or some crappy reality show. When it comes to 'a good night out', I'm not one for all the bells 'n' whistles. Gimme a macaroni cheese deluxe, a Bette Midler DVD and that's me sold for hours.

And as for having a 'normal day job'? If you call spewing in a bucket and swearing I will never drink again a job, then 'yes I do!'

What are my career highlights? Dragorama at the Peel on Saturdays which was only supposed to run for 6 weeks, but turned into 18 months was always a great night (until someone threw a pair of shoes) but we don't talk about that! Hosting the Saints and Sinners ball is an eye opener, Midsumma Carnival and Pride March Victoria are always a blast – rolling around in the grass pissed outta your mind, covered in sunburn is my idea of fun – all for a good cause of course. Being nominated for an ALSO award was heaven, although I lost to some old battle axe whose name escapes me. Hosting the Commercial Hotel Yarraville for five years on Thursday and Saturday was so much fun until I moved on to 'other projects'! There've been many highlights so far, and here's hoping for many more to come! I just adore my guest spots at the GH with Tabitha and Pussy on Fridays and filling in for Paris on a Saturday.

I started at The Prince about 2 and half years ago. Originally it was just myself a microphone and a jukebox! But then lead to Rita La Coqueater and Vivien St James joining me to start production shows on Mondays. Sadly Vivien passed away in 2009, then replacing her was the flamboyant Paris. Working with the two ol' gals on a Monday, the tears and the tantrums all mix in for a great show and night out.



Having seen what the scene was years ago in the early 90s (before the internet boom) the clubs were always packed just about every night of the week! Now with so much social networking like Facebook and Grindr, people don't have to leave the house for a conversation with friends or even for a bit of nookie! That has taken its toll on many clubs. And add to this the fact that a lot of the so-called 'new breed' of drag queens are spinning around on stage in a Supre frock and an unstyled Ebay wig to a Top 40 song and palming it off as a drag show – yawn! I believe being on stage isn't a streetwear fashion parade and needs to have a lot of bang for their buck! Give 'em something grand, or at least something to make 'em open their eyes, and not just be a break in the club's music.



The backstage drag scene is still as cut throat as ever – bitching, backstabbing and undercutting is still alive and kicking! And it's usually the ones who have no idea what they're doing, and think Lady GaGa's new song in a denim mini will do the trick! All in all there is still heaps of drag talent in Melbourne that I hope will see us through for many years to come!



Working in *Le Femme Garcon* Cabaret show is sooooo much fun, it's taken me out of the usual clubs and bars and let me see the stages of venues around Victoria. It's the kind of show you could bring your mum and granny along too! (Yes I do have an M rating for this show.) I adore working with a fabulous cast, including Renee Starr, Selena La More, Millie Minogue and Anita Moi to name a few. The crowds certainly have their eyes wide open! The easter show at the Yarraville club has been shoved back a month so we can focus on our new project – it's all hush hush, at the moment, and the dates are on the website: www.lefemmegarcon.com.au

Where do I think my future career lies? Well seeing as there's a reality show these days on everything from bloody flower shows to the Kardashians, I think *The Real Drag Queens of Melbourne* would be a winner!

Any relationships? Ha ! What's that! I think I am undatable. I'm married to drag at the moment and I don't think there's any guy out there who could handle the late nights, the boozing, seedy clubs and all that goes with me. And, if they did like me like that, I'm guessing they would have to be a loon! But hey, I'm open to suggestion!

How do my friends react to me being a 'star'? Ohhh it's a hard job but someone's gotta do it! They do like the free entry and line skipping into clubs ha ha, and raping my drink cards! But at the end of the day I'm still Wozza in a frock to them!

Where do I hope to be in 5 year's time? Monte Diamonte for prime minister. YEAH!

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q cosmetic: POST SUMMER STYLE

Summer means spending time outdoors and on the beach. But it also brings a focus back on to our bodies with many people finding it embarrassing to expose stubborn fatty areas.

Laser lipolysis is now becoming the treatment of choice for fat reduction and skin shrinkage to remove difficult fat deposits.

CDC Clinics says more and more patients are asking for laser lipolysis of the tummy, neck, hips, and thighs - areas which often have particularly stubborn fat deposits. The one-off minimally-invasive procedure uses a laser fibre which is inserted in to the fat and cellulite. The fat is then removed at the time of treatment. As well as removing fat deposits, the laser fibre has the added benefit of using heat to shrink the overlying skin to make a new smooth outline.

CDC Clinics claim the results from laser lipolysis are equal to but cheaper than traditional liposuction.

And they say many women with a post pregnancy belly and stretch marks are also seeking laser lipolysis to regain their figure. Stretch marks can also be treated with the new Airgent no needle dermal filler.

The Airgent uses a high pressure device to infiltrate dermal filler as a sheet under the skin, which the clinic claims makes the skin firmer, thicker and smoother than if treated with other traditional methods. It is possible to achieve up to 60-80% correction in these stretch marks.

CDC Clinics say Airgent produces results immediately in the first few weeks, and claim that in the long term it produces collagen remodelling, where the body produces permanent new collagen under the skin, leading to a permanently smoother outline.

The Airgent is also rapidly becoming a popular treatment for wrinkles on the neck, chest, hands and around the eye as well as for certain types of acne scarring. Treatment with the Airgent can also be combined with the Fractionated CO2 or Fraxel laser to produce even greater improvement in stretch marks, acne scarring and wrinkles. These treatments typically take place sequentially, spaced two to four weeks apart.

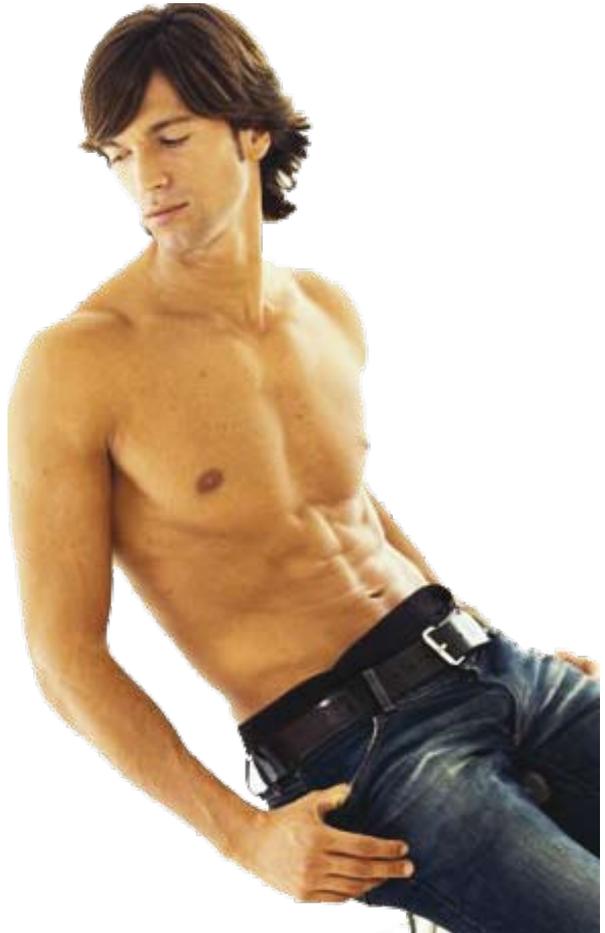
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CDC Clinics are recognised as one of the most comprehensive laser and cosmetic medical clinics in Australia. CDC Clinics has been an accredited training site for cosmetic medicine with the Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery.

The doctors at CDC clinics last year presented scientific papers on the subjects of fractionated lasers, comparison of injectable dermal fillers, laser lipolysis and other subjects at the Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery conference.

CDC Clinics offer cost effective treatments, free consultations and brochures.

They encourage all patients to enquire about risks and side-effects and to get a second medical opinion.



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q cosmetic: THE PERFECT SMILE



Cosmetic dentistry, as seen on television makeover shows, can involve crowns, bridges, veneers, implants, Invisalign and teeth whitening.

Porcelain veneers can be used to cover good teeth that might be stained, malformed, crooked or chipped, or to close gaps between teeth.

Crowns are used to repair and improve the strength and appearance of crooked, weak or heavily filled teeth. Bridges and implants are used to replace missing teeth.

Invisalign straightens teeth with invisible aligners.

The new and very popular, all-ceramic zirconia crowns and bridges have a natural appearance and long-lasting strength and durability.

The newest whitening technology to reach Australia is the Wow! Factor with New Zoom! Advanced Power.

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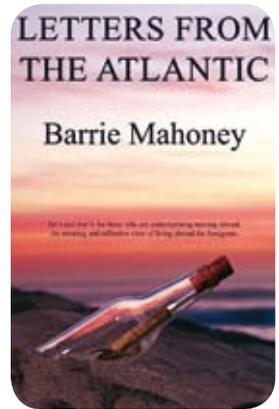
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q books: READ LEARN ENJOY

Letters from the Atlantic by Barrie Mahoney

'Letters from the Atlantic' is an amusing and sometimes shocking reflection of life for those who are tempted by sunshine and a lower cost of living to live and work abroad. Barrie's temptation for a life in the sun led to many pitfalls and disasters, as well as learning more about his fellow 'ex-pats' and the Spanish people and their culture. This book recounts his adventures from leaving the UK in a series of letters. These letters are intended to be an inspiration for those tempted by a life in the sun, as well as some cautionary advice based on Barrie's real life experiences in Spain and the Canary Islands.

This is not a travel book, but a well-observed view on people, society and the culture of living in another country. Barrie's work as a reporter and editor of an English language newspaper in Spain led him to meet a wide range of people, some amazing and some weird, but most who had stories and experiences to share with others. The book reflects how communities living abroad support each other especially when they live in nationalist enclaves. "A little piece of Britain" mentality exposes some wonderfully positive aspects of life abroad, as well as some disturbing issues that made Barrie feel sometimes embarrassed to be British. 'Letters from the Atlantic' offers an amusing and reflective view of living abroad for foreigners living in a country with a different language, a different culture, different legal systems and more importantly, a different pace of life. The frustrations of those from Britain and Ireland, as well as those from other north European countries can often lead to great unhappiness and disappointment of dreams spoiled or unfulfilled. This book sets out clearly the 'dos' and 'don'ts' for those who are contemplating moving abroad, as well as for those who have already made their choice for a life in the sun. The advice and suggestions are meant to encourage and support, as well as to entertain and amuse. Check out barriemahoney.com and thecanaryislander.com for more information.

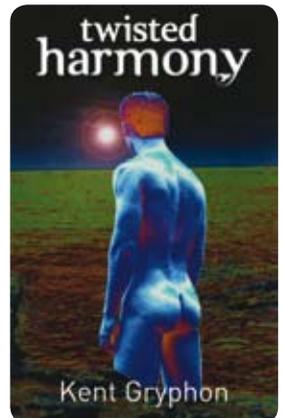


Twisted Harmony

New Book by Kent Gryphon exposes life as a gay man in the Sydney Gay scene from the eighties to the noughties. Ever wondered what it was like to grow up gay in Western Sydney, an area renowned for not accepting difference, to fall in love for the very first time and make the gorgeous mistake of becoming trapped in a domestically violent relationship? Twisted Harmony is an emotional rollercoaster exploring the life of a young gay man struggling with self-identity and sexuality.

Kent Gryphon, former Mr Gay Sydney and Gay Men's Educator, tells in his new book why being gay is not just as easy as knowing the right designer labels to wear. He explores friendships and love, hard issues like physical and emotional abuse, the sex industry, and when love can be blind to issues such as HIV.

The book targets gay/straight men and women of all ages, giving an insight to what can happen, and the creative ways his main character overcame them. Kent chose to write this book based loosely on personal experiences in his own life. It is a novel tackling at the heart the issues of same sex domestic violence, a socially taboo subject. Inspired by other works of fiction written as fact (such as Anne Rice Interview with a Vampire), Twisted Harmony is written in an autobiographical style so the reader can also go on a personal journey of self discovery, coming out and develop the inner strength to overcome any obstacle.



Released originally as a limited Print run, Twisted Harmony is available exclusively at "The Bookshop, Darlinghurst" and can be ordered online. In the first few months of release this publication was labeled a Best Seller with strong sales on a regular basis. Six months later and this trend does not look like slowing down. Feedback has all been highly positive as readers have found themselves unable to put the book down.

About the Author:

This is Kent Gryphon's first novel. He currently lives in Perth with his partner of 8 years. Kent worked with ACON for 5 years as a Gay Men's Educational Officer, and won Mr Gay Sydney in 2000. He was a popular male dancer for 7 years with a Western Sydney Drag production that raised money for People Living with HIV/AIDS. Both "Guide to Gay" and "Queer Out West" have been avid supporters of Twisted Harmony and written well received reviews. A sequel has already been drafted and is well on the way.

q dance: SUITE SYNERGY

Graeme Murphy's Suite Synergy

The beat goes on...Melbourne audiences will have the chance to witness the birth of a new era in Australian contemporary dance, when Mod Dance Company launches its first national tour. Suite Synergy will have its world premiere season at the Arts Centre, State Theatre from 23 to 26 of this month, for a strictly limited season of 6 performances only.

Suite Synergy is a dynamic creation by Australian dance icon and Chief Patron of Mod Dance Company, Graeme Murphy and is inspired by two of his most popular and critically acclaimed productions from the 1990s, Synergy with Synergy and Free Radicals. The first contemporary dance piece to be produced by Murphy in four years, Suite Synergy will feature eighteen exceptionally talented young dancers, accompanied by a pulsating percussion score performed live by four musicians.

Suite Synergy will give audiences the opportunity to experience an artistic legend reinterpreting some of the greatest work of his career for the next exciting generation of Australian dance stars.

A pillar of the Australian dance community, Brett Morgan is Artistic Director of the recently formed Mod Dance Company. Morgan's dance career spans twenty-eight years and includes ten years with the Australian Ballet Company and seven with Sydney Dance Company. Dancer Teagan Lowe is the Associate Artistic Director and principal dancer for Suite Synergy. Says Morgan of the new company, "Mod Dance Company was set up to deliver an alternative and accessible product for Australian audiences. We hope to reach the broader community and encourage families to indulge in the amazing spectacle of live performance. One of our main objectives is to deliver high quality, purely entertaining contemporary dance productions. We also strongly feel that Mod Dance Company is a uniquely Australian product that in the future will be able to further promote Australian dance internationally."

Committed to fostering, supporting and celebrating Australian creative talent, Mod Dance Company was founded in 2009 by Linda Alescio, Nadasha Zhang and Michelle Grace Hunder. All three were passionate about creating a dynamic, exciting and accessible Australian dance company that could employ talented Australian dancers and musicians and ensure they find work in Australia, whilst also ensuring that great dance pieces were kept alive, such as those created by choreographer Graeme Murphy.

Mod Dance Company is looking forward to working with various renowned choreographers in the future to bring their works to life on stage. Following its Melbourne season, Suite Synergy will travel to Sydney, Perth, Darwin, the Gold Coast and Adelaide as part of the first national tour for this exciting new Australian dance company.

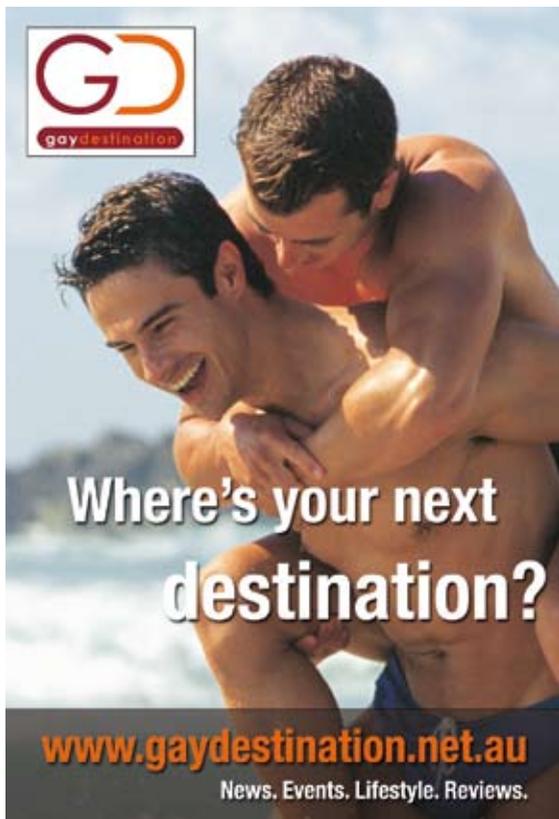
For more information on the national tour please visit www.suitesynergy.com.au

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q digital: OZ TUBE LAUNCHES

The launch of Oz Tube's digital video production division this week allows socially-active businesses in south-east Queensland to engage with local socially-active audiences in a completely unique way.

Oz Tube is a digital video production company, specialising in south-east Queensland's fashion, hospitality and event industries. Oz Tube's founder, Mr Ben Boutbee said, "The launch of Oz Tube is the culmination of many people's hard work."



Digital video is now more accessible than ever before due to a combination of reducing costs of broadband, faster and more cost-effective IT hardware, as well as advancements in screen resolution on mobile devices.

Oz Tube digital video:

- Tells a venue's brand story quickly and simply - video provides greater context to your brand which helps you to further influence your audiences
- Brings a venue's unique selling points to life, through the art of stylised and modern story-telling
- Leverages partnerships, allowing better engagement with customers and suppliers
- Increases a venue's SEO, through accelerated network uploads to social media sites, such as Facebook, MySpace, Twitter & YouTube.



"Oz Tube offers socially-active businesses an effective solution without the expensive overhead usually associated with other forms of typical television advertisements and local internet text-listings," Boultee said. "Oz Tube's production



team works closely with business to ensure a bespoke creative solution is tailored to best represent a client's requirements. Oz Tube offer production at a fraction of the cost of traditional production companies, thus creating an affordable, engaging and compelling client-supplier relationship."

Oz Tube digital video can be added to relevant websites and be used for email distribution - providing the socially active with a great way of quickly keeping their finger on the local fashion and entertainment scene, night or day.

For more information go to www.oztube.com.au



***"Imagine the Possibility
of an HIV FREE Generation"***

Calling for artists to donate one of their pieces, to raise funds to help raise awareness of HIV/AIDS in South Africa.

For more information contact Steven Gibson on 0417 311 421, AIDSRide2011@bigpond.com or 'art for AIDS sake' on Facebook.

q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**





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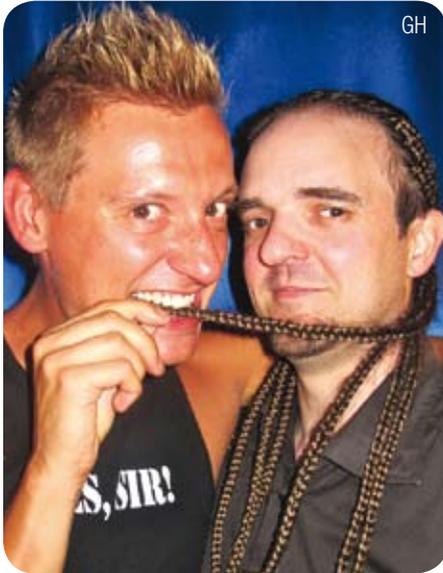
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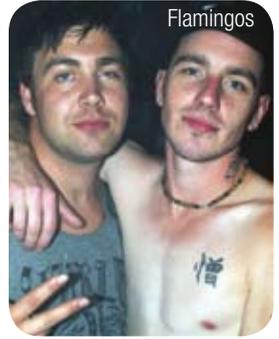


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q scene: OUT & ABOUT



q scene extra: PRIDE MARCH 2011



q pride comment: by SAM KEAST

I understand that something like a pride march isn't for everyone. I don't expect that every member of our GLBTI community feels the need to partake. I appreciate that not everyone wants to lend their support by simply standing and cheering on the multitude of groups who have gone to some effort to represent their cause, or to have their voice. What I can't understand is the response that Pride March is "boring" or "lame" or, as one person replied on facebook, "pride march, pft what joke". I'd like to highlight some things about Pride March Victoria that some people may have neglected to consider.

- A number of youth and school groups march each year, with young kids. Young kids taking their first step into the wider community, bravely facing a world still littered with prejudice and discrimination. Kids who could use a show of support so they know there are people who give a shit and that they belong.
- Community groups make up a large number of participants in the march. Most of these groups are volunteer organisations. They work tirelessly throughout all avenues of the community so that others can enjoy a little more freedom and respect year after year. Groups that could use a little bit of your time cheering them on to show your thanks for their efforts.
- Individuals who have gathered together, like minded people in a group, to say something or just celebrate diversity. People who have been bothered to make some noise about an issue. Groups who proudly represent sub-cultures so that others may feel included in the community. All of whom actively seek to make your world a more inclusive place to live and in return could use a bit of applause.

So as I said, I get that its not for everyone, but lets be very clear about what Melbourne pride march isn't. It isn't solely there for your personal entertainment. It is not an opportunity for you to stand idly by the road and be amused. It is an incredibly valuable opportunity for many people to have a voice in a world that often requires them to stand at the back of the crowd and be quiet.

Perhaps it is a lack of empathy that blinds us to the real messages of an event like this, or our own sense of voicelessness that leads us to believe it isn't of value. Maybe its our unreal expectations of GLBTI events that lets us down. I'm not sure. What I do know is that the intention behind every participant, volunteer, and organiser is one of inclusivity, community and pride. None of which are boring, laughable or lame.



q cabaret: QAHC PRESENTS

CABARET Q CAIRNS

QAHC is seeking expressions of interest from artists and students to be involved in Cabaret Q Cairns. Cabaret Q is an arts/health initiative seeking to engage local lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Cairns artists to create performance works around the themes of mental health and well being and alcohol tobacco and other drugs use in LGBT Queensland communities.



They are looking for all kinds of genres: Film/Installation/Theatre/Performance/Dance/New Technologies/Comedy/MCs/DJs/Opera/Music/Drag/Conceptual Art/Sound Composition/Burlesque/Cheer-leading/Circus Performers/Creative Athletes..and more! The finished works will be showcased in Cairns around June/July 2011.

What is Cabaret Q Cairns?

The Cabaret Q Cairns Project aims to promote the awareness of, and reasons for, the high levels of mental health and alcohol, tobacco and other drugs use within lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities, utilising an engaging and creative arts/health model. Firstly, they intend to create a supported mentor program, in partnership with Young People and the Arts Australia, linking 5 young LGBT emerging artists with 5 established LGBT artists to create performances based around the mental health and alcohol, tobacco and other drugs findings of our research. The result will be 10 short performances; one each by the mentors and one each by those mentored (a need to bridge the gap between younger LGBT and older LGBT through peer based models was highlighted in our research). Secondly, they then showcase this work in the form of a Cabaret, a FREE event, open to all LGBT people, their friends and families. Artists who are not a part of the mentor program will be able to take part and perform in the Cabaret.

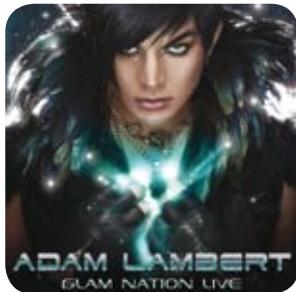
So why Cabaret Q?

QAHC undertook a 2 year needs analysis/research project regarding mental health and well-being along with alcohol, tobacco and other drugs use in QLD LGBT communities. Some core findings were: Almost 50% of survey respondents reported high levels of harmful drinking with nearly 25% reflecting alcohol dependency. Lesbian rates of harmful drinking were over twice that of the general women's population; Illicit drug use 2 to 4 times higher than in the heterosexual population; Levels of depression, psychological distress, self harm and suicide were greater in LGBT than in the general population; Protective factors for mental wellbeing were friends/friendships, partners, pets, LGBT community and social participation, creative expression and exercise/healthy lifestyles; Young LGBT people are at higher risk of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs misuse than their heterosexual counterparts; LGBT individuals are under-represented in reporting to drug and alcohol treatment services; LGBT communities identified that more LGBT arts & cultural activities were needed to promote LGBT health and well being, particularly if they help with people's lives, careers and personal interests

Who is eligible?

People who identify as lesbian, gay bisexual or transgender and reside in Cairns or surrounding area. For more information, or to register interest, please contact: Shane Garvey via email: sgarvey@qahc.org.au or by phoning (07) 3017 1777

q win: OUR GIVE AWAYS RETURN



Sony Music

As highlighted in Q Music Adam Lambert has a new release and you can have a copy with the compliments of Sony Music and Q Magazine. We have five to give away so email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with *adam lambert* in the subject line to see if your luck is working this month. Also in Q Music you'll read that Sony Music has re-released George Michael's "Faith". We also have five to give away so email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with *george michael* in the subject line to see if you're one of the lucky people.



* All prizes are open to everyone, except those which specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Entries close on the final day of each calendar month with the prize draw taking place at 5pm the following day at Apt. 7, 16 Westbury Grove, St. Kilda East 3183. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of QMagazine. All monthly winners are notified by email.

q current affairs: **ASH HOGAN**



MIDSUMMA versus Mardi Gras

It's always a strange proposition writing an article that falls after the celebration of Midsumma in Melbourne, and before the hedonism that is Mardi Gras in Sydney. Both festivals have so much to offer our GLBTi community, yet both could not be further apart in terms of budget, promotion, and headline activity. Whilst Victoria has long been crowned as Australia's major event capital, the party in the harbour city come March always seems to attract a bigger and arguably more international audience.

It left me pondering as to the strengths and weaknesses of each festival. Could it be that Mardi Gras finally met its Midsumma match? Well-publicized events surrounding last year's separation of the parade and party left the Mardi Gras organization with a significant financial loss. A business model that for years relied heavily on several major dance parties came unstuck (again), as other promoters flooded the Sydney circuit with alternative music festivals. Heavy ticket discounting and even event conflicts saw casualties in the forms of poor attendance records and declining revenues. Sleaze Ball in 2010 was rumoured to be the last, and a hastily thrown together dance party for Halloween known as "Trick or Treat" was withdrawn almost as quickly as it appeared.

In comparison, GLBTi activity in Melbourne at the start of each year appears to have become more balanced in terms of spend and positive returns. The Midsumma festival whilst not a cash cow in any sense, is increasing patronage and its return on investment in relative terms. Events seem friendlier, more aligned to community values, and as a patron your wallet doesn't take as much of a hit. Is the old adage of the tortoise versus the hare well and truly in effect?

In a way I feel sorry for the Harbour City. What should be a time of stars and sequins has become a question of relevance for the entire Mardi Gras festival. What was once a protest march is now flaunting with attracting a straight crowd, families and other interested onlookers. Ignatius Jones, artistic director for the parade says Mardi Gras "absolutely" retains its right to shock. But is it shocking enough to get people out of their lounge rooms, and back onto the streets, and into our parties and venues? Especially when its all still primarily within a 5 km radius of Oxford Street, a demographic which is now more young professionals than just the GLBTi population.

As a private sector consultant, I probably hold a rather naive view of consolidation when it comes to not for profit situations. However without wanting to seem a naysayer, I honestly don't see how organizations like Mardi Gras or Midsumma are going to survive in ten years time. We need mergers and acquisitions, local and state bodies becoming strong national forces. Imagine how much more effective we would be as a community if we lobbied nationally, both to the Government and the private sector. Attacking a range of issues, providing a variety of community events and forums, across Australia with one united voice. Instead, we seem hell bent on failing to learn from our mistakes, factional fighting, and making lots of small noises instead of one mammoth roar.

As this season of "Gay Christmas" comes to a close, we will no doubt pick ourselves up from the self-induced hangover of excess and question what was good and what was bad. I'm hoping somewhere in that our GLBTi community leaders might actually pick up the phone and consult with each other as to how we can do it better next year, collectively. After all, whilst I might be naïve, I am a realist. We need to change; otherwise Santa might not be coming in the years ahead.

Ashley Hogan is an Australian writer who calls the world home.

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q theatre: @ THE BUTTERFLY

SIMON TAYLOR: PIECES OF MIND

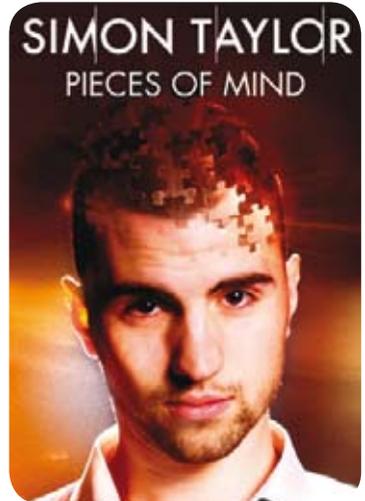
Former psychology student turned award winning entertainer, Simon Taylor, is headlining at The Butterfly Club for the entire Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Tuesday 29 March to Sunday 24 April.

He knows what you are thinking, how you are thinking it and will make you laugh out loud as he tells you.

Simon says "Pieces of Mind is a show about solving the mind's little puzzles. I will teach you how to trick yourself into feeling happier, predict your thoughts and read your mind."

Studies in psychology and a career as an illusionist have rendered him an insightful entertainer. Known for his personable demeanor and energetic performance style, Simon delivers his unique brand of engaging entertainment.

Based in Melbourne, Simon has produced many sold out stage shows, and won the 2009 Adelaide Magic Convention. He is regularly sought after by science groups and academics for his understanding of human behaviour and insight into the construction of illusion.



The Butterfly Club, 204 Bank St, South Melbourne

Tuesday 29 March to Sunday 24 April (no shows Mondays)

Full \$22.00, Concession \$19.00, Groups \$18.00 (8 or more), Tightarse Tuesdays \$15.00
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays at 8.00pm, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 9pm
Bookings: www.thebutterflyclub.com

Other highlights in March include:

- Daniel Burt & Aleisha McCormack, two ex-writers from the 7pm project, 10th - 13 March
- Direct from the UK, John Van Der Put performs Piff the Magic Dragon - A dragon, who does magic, 3 - 5 March
- Sydney songwriter Luke Escombe brings his Comedy Festival show Chronic Illness, an acoustic guitar and a Casio keyboard bought for \$5 from a little girl in Bondi, 19th March
- Analisa Bell in Gold-Digger: the shags to riches story of Australia's Iron 'ore. Analisa returns after a sell out season at Perth's Downstairs at the Maj

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q travel: with BARRIE MAHONEY

'Twriters from the Atlantic'

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



Fancy a Cup of Coffee?

One of the many things that I enjoy about living in the Canary Islands is a decent cup of coffee. Gone are the days when "a cup of instant" seemed to be the norm, and I still shudder when I return to the UK for a brief visit. A visit to one of the relatively new, and supposedly trendy, overpriced coffee shops is, for me, an ordeal best avoided. A quick visit out of sheer desperation during a frantic shopping expedition led me into one of the many branches of 'Costa Lottee' that are opening up in all of the UK's High Streets - after all, it did offer "Free Wifi Connection."

My request for a simple cup of black coffee, no I don't like mugs, was met with a disinterested look as the spotty youth pointed to a huge variety of coffees on the board above his sentry post.

"Take yer pick," he slurped, as he continued chewing his gum and picking his finger nail. "That one will do," I replied, "but I only want a small cup and not a mugful."

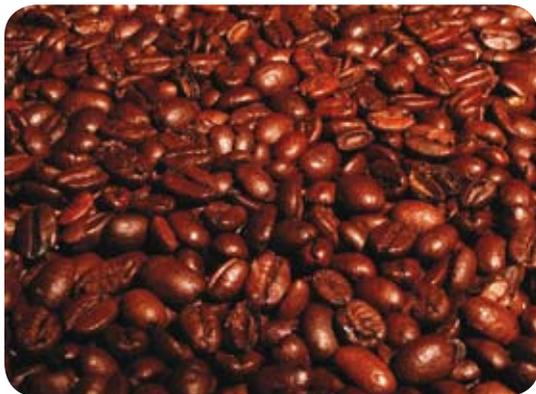
"We only do them mugs," he replied stabbing at the nearest soup bowl with a fingernail partly hanging from his index finger.

"But I only want a small cup..." I protested.

Realising that discussion with the spotty youth was pointless, I handed over my 3 pound 50 and perched myself on a most uncomfortable stool at the side of an equally unfortunate table with three legs - goodness, they still do Formica! Maybe I should count myself fortunate that the loose fingernail was not floating in my coffee... The coffee was one of the most revolting drinks that I have ever tasted. Two sips and I was gone.

I contrast this with a cafe bar in my nearest town, Vecindario, on the island. It is a real town with real people, and well away from the expensive bars in the south of the island. Here I can get a cup of excellent coffee for 90 cents, sit in comfort and people-watch for as long as I wish. I watch Canarians, Spanish, Chinese, Argentineans, Russians, Germans, Scandinavians, Africans and Indians pass by, together with a rich variety of skin colour, clothing and headgear. It makes me realise once again that I am living in a community where race, colour, faith and language rarely matter. It is a community where most people just get on with each other and I know how fortunate I am.

Back to my cup of coffee. Did you know that coffee is grown in Gran Canaria, as it has been since 1788 when King Carlos III issued a decree ordering the introduction of the first coffee plants to the Island. Today, coffee is produced in very small amounts by local farmers who have kept the tradition of growing and consuming the coffee that they produce for many generations. The coffee is called Finca la Corcovada and is grown in the Valley of Agaete. This valley has a microclimate and a rich soil, perfect for growing coffee, and is grown by Juan Godoy, the only coffee grower in Europe and who is now supplying the overseas market.



My memory turns back to Costa Lottee in the UK, and the spotty youth who is, no doubt, still filling his soup-bowl mugs with foul-tasting overpriced coffee. I wonder if he will be serving coffee from Gran Canaria?

If you enjoyed this article, take a look at Barrie's websites: www.bariemahoney.com and www.thecanaryislander.com or read his latest book, 'Letters from the Atlantic' (ISBN: 978 184 386 6459).

Gaylord Blade

Young, Gay & Hot-to-Trot

by Kichi

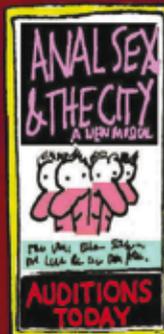
ANAL SEX
& THE CITY
A NEW MUSICAL



4 URBAN DICKS SEARCH FOR
ASSHOLES & ONLY FIND LOVE

AUDITIONS

I love to hang out at auditions
for Gay musical theatre!



The rejected actors need my strong
arms to hold and comfort them



STAGE
DOOR



... and gladly take the PART that
I offer them through the trap
door in their pants



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