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APRIL 2011

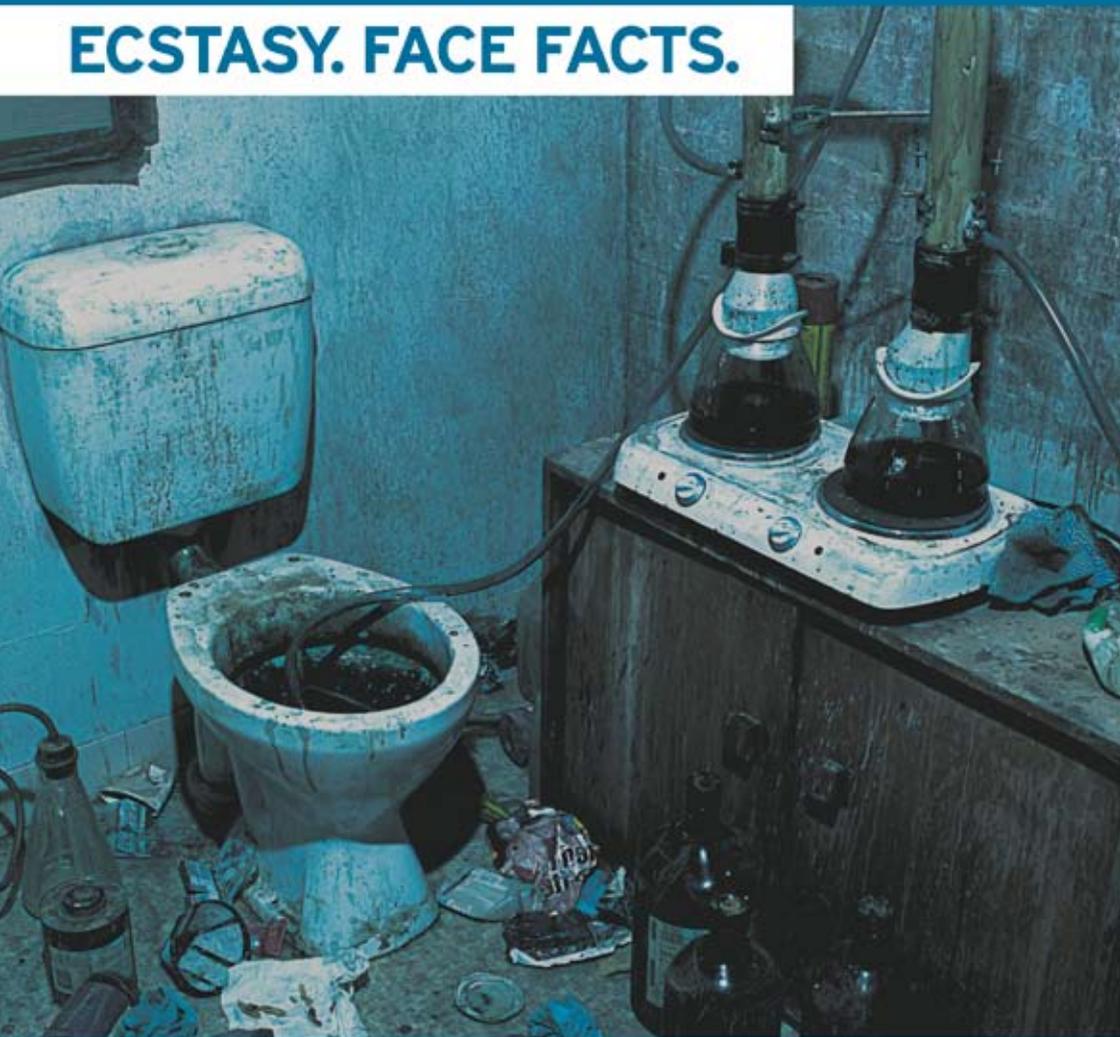
Q MAGAZINE

featuring
JANE BADLER

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q comment: ARCILESBICA CELEBRATES

'Flagranti' - Italian Annual Bent Dance

Flagrantly ArciLesbica Australia presents, once again, the Italian Bent Dance on Saturday the 21st of May. This years Dance will see a variety of changes to the much-enjoyed event - new performers, venue, & band & FOOD.

The performance line-up includes outstanding Italian Australian artists such as Carmelina di Guglielmo in tandem with Rocco D'Amore MCing on the night. Other stars performing on the night include noteworthy singer-songwriter Monique diMattina, voluptuous Sydneysider Glitta Supernova & the loveable Signora Gessica e le sue Ballerine. The favoloso Rob Severini Duo & DJ Ciccio will provide a wide variety of music.

For the first time, the Dance is to be held in one of Melbourne's oldest Italian Clubs the San Marco in Lamis Social Club (Carlton) with a quirky/retro hall, a move that ArciLesbica Australia believes will build upon past/continuing efforts to create respecting relationships between the 'mainstream' Italian community & our LGBTI Italian community.

'We have major Italian organisations/businesses on board, together with our sister/brother organisations such as Q Magazine, & this for us is very encouraging' states ArciLesbica Australia.

Yummy Italian stuzzichinis, such as arancini, pizza, salsicce & pesce fritto e un dolce will be offered on the night.

ArciLesbica Australia, a social support group for Italian Australian LGBTI women, invites everybody to come & enjoy the night of Italian twisted flavour, so FLAGRANTI.

Saturday 21st May
San Marco in Lamis SC
(149 Canning Street Carlton)

6.30pm - 12.30am

\$30 (includes Italian stuzzichini).

No BYO

Tix: Angela 0419 592 644

More info: www.arcilesbicaaustralia.org



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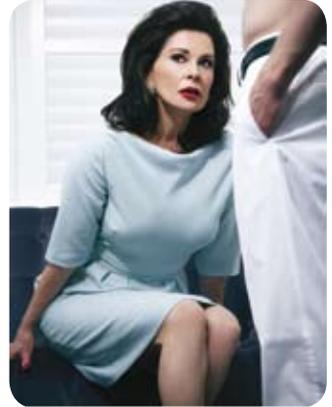
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q feature: JANE BADLER

an interview by Andrew Macfie

From her days as a former American pageant beauty Queen, to the rise of cult status as the 'rat eating super-bitch' character of Diana in the classic science fiction television series 'V', to acclaimed songwriter and performer; with the talent and attitude to match the grandest of Hollywood divas. Recently, with thanks to Remote Control Records, I had the privilege of spending an hour one on one with internationally renowned, Jane Badler, where we had a chat about her life, acting, inspirations and the release of her latest album 'Tears Again'.



Born in Brooklyn, New York, spending her teen years in Great Neck, New York, before moving to Manchester, New Hampshire, where in high school; her incredible talent began to shine through winning the title of 'Miss New Hampshire' and then going on to compete in the 1973 'Miss America Pageant'. Jane continued her education at Northwest University in Evanston, Illinois where she studied drama, developing and strengthening her vocal skills by singing in nightclubs during her evenings and weekends to help support her studies until eventually making her first break into theatre playing the leading role of 'Madge Owens' in the play 'Picnic' written by renowned playwright William Inge. This play was a part of 'Summer Stock'; a series of theatre productions held during the summer months in the United States, designed to provide a training platform for young actors. A role Jane described as "terrifying".

Since those early days of her time in theatre, Jane has gone on to star in a myriad of top rating television shows and movies screened around the world. These include: 'One Life to Live', 'Fantasy Island', 'Falcon Crest', 'Riptide', 'Terror Among Us', 'Covenant', 'Penalty Phase', 'Hotel', 'Murder She Wrote', 'The Highwaymen', 'Flipper', 'The Doctors', 'Cluedo', 'Snowy River: The McGregor Saga', 'Lluvia de Otoño Aka Autumn Rain', 'Embassy', 'Easy Kill', 'Black Snow', 'Fine Gold', 'Sky Trackers', 'Under the Gun', 'Blue Heelers', 'Brothers', 'Mission Impossible', 'Neighbours', a television commercial with renowned actor/comedian Chevy Chase, and more recently, a starring role in a new series with the Australian ABC Television Network.

Yet, undoubtedly it was her role as the villainous character of Diana, Queen of the Visitors - a reptilian race disguised as humans intent on feeding on mankind, in the original television series 'V' and 'V: The Final Battle' from the 1980's and more recently in the 2010 and 2011 ABC American television remake, in which she reprised the legendary role of Diana, for which Jane will forever be immortalized on the small screen.

A role where the once former Queen of the alien race we loved to hate and 80's television icon - respected for her acting and admired for her eclectic couture wardrobe, was banished to live in a dungeon for much of the 2011 series. Where we witnessed the former Queen betrayed by her only daughter Anna; a time described by Jane acting in the role as "Horrendous! I absolutely hated it! I was the rightful Queen of my species, and I was so elated to be finally released to regain my rightful place as Queen, albeit for only a brief moment". Originally only hired for three episodes of the new 'V', Jane continued to play the role of Diana to the delight of thousands of her devoted and loyal fans, many of whom were shocked and appalled at the untimely death of her character in the way described by Jane as "sad as it had made me to be killed off, I am glad that they [producers] gave me a great death! Still the powers of a creative at the top have spoken..."

Yet the role of Diana earned Jane the coveted title of the sexiest science fiction character of all time, along with cult status and her being forever remembered for her unique and truly glamorous and extravagant costumes on the original series of 'V' and 'V: The Final Battle' during the decade of excess in the 1980's. A period in time also that saw a financially broke Jane purchasing a Versace dress on credit to wear on the 'The Johnny Carson Show' screened across America, with Jane needing to return the dress the next day to the store. At the time the dress cost around \$2000, as Jane mentioned "probably around \$15,000 in today's market - but it was exquisite!" Still, as elusive as footages of that dress is whether or not Jane actually got that refund!

While the role of Diana has now come to an end, Diana will continue to live on through the talent and dedication of British radio presenter and video artist David Barron, along with legions of fans on Facebook, My Space, You tube and a large ever growing number of fan based websites where in total her fans are counted in the tens of thousands and growing daily.

In regards to her shocking and rather unexpected departure from 'V'; her sister Alice Badler commented, "She loved her run on the show and is so grateful for the experience." While fans of the show are actively petitioning for a 3rd series to be produced and for

the role of Diana to be reprised; according to Alice, "She [Jane] lives in Australia and has a family and a great life there. She could never accept a permanent offer to do ANY series that would keep her away from that life."

This is a sentiment reiterated by Jane, who admits to "falling in love with Australia in the 1980's while filming the remake of 'Mission Impossible', also falling in love with Australian men, especially the Rugby Players as opposed to neurotic New Yorkers and without the challenges of living in Los Angeles." It was at this time in Australia that she fell in love with a respected local businessman, got married and is now the proud mother of two teenage sons, residing in the exclusive Melbourne suburb of Toorak. Yet, there is so much more to Jane than just a long and successful acting career which she credits to "following her heart and finding happiness in her unwavering belief that things would come together."

Unbeknownst to many of her fans, Jane is also an incredibly talented singer and stage performer. Her unique voice compares to the likes of Marianne Faithful, with the legendary stage presence of Marlene Dietrich. The renowned Australian star of the stage and screen Paul Capsis, described his first meeting with Jane as "there was an instant connection. I had a feeling she is a star. She is magnetic - a cross between Sophia Loren and Maria Callas. I am impressed by her style. . . I like her songs, they are unique and have an edge, a Bowie, eighties feel about them, even a bit of Blondie. She is also a great human being; she has a warm generous heart." A sentiment shared by many of her devoted fans and those that have come to know her, both on a personal and professional basis.

Despite her seemingly endless and diverse acting commitments, Jane has continued to use her richly developed and soulful voice; both on stage in musicals such as 'Rebecca' - based on the adaptation of the book by acclaimed French author Daphne du Maurier; in addition to just releasing 'Tears Again' - the follow up from her first album 'The Devil Has My Double' which when released in 2008, was described as "a compulsive mix of fame, sex and solitude, set to a sweeping soundtrack of cold soul and passionate synthetics."

Jane once again reignites her collaboration with the band 'Sir' comprised of the internationally renowned composer and musician Jesse Jackson Shepard, along with acclaimed musicians Tim Pacone, Phil Romeril and Rohan Rebeiro, who Jane described as "the best musicians and the finest of the finest in Australia". With back-up vocals provided by successful artists in their own right, including Michelle Street with Gary and Natasha Pinto. On working with Jane, Gary said, "Jane Badler is a wonderful woman and an amazing singer. Her generosity as a performer and work ethic is inspiring. I have learned much from the time we've spent together and I'm grateful for having been a part of Jane's album."



Jane described renowned music writer and composer, Jesse Jackson Shepard as her "muse". "Together we worked with the team to push the boundaries as we have never done before". The result of this collaboration was 'Tears Again'. An album described by columnist Doug Wallen, as being a "collection of songs full of baroque perfection; marrying deadpan grotesquery with vivid rushes of instrumentation that mirror spaghetti western scores and vintage orchestral pop alike. A result of which turns out to be a lot like her acting: razor sharp, highly stylised, and set in a soapy world of betrayal and boozy melancholy. She [Jane] inverts the brassy, empowering pop of gals like Nancy Sinatra into a blackly comic creation of her own."

As Jesse explains "it was 1998 and I was in a car with my ex-wife, Libby. Jane was being interviewed on the radio and she sounded fabulous - confident and assured. The interview was about how Jane was embarking on a new career in music. My ex-wife and I were playing in a band called 'Sir' and discussed how amazing it would be to play with Jane as she sounded like so much fun. After a bit of work, I got Jane's number and proposed that we work together. Jane and I hit it off straight away . . . we haven't looked back since. Once I wrote the songs, we teamed up with Paul Grabowsky to translate them into an 80's TV style, reminiscent of Jane's initial rise to fame."

With inspiration drawn from such artists as Barbara Streisand, Carole Cole, The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Grace Jones, Peggy Lee and Dusty Springfield, and under the production and arrangements of world class composer Paul Grabowsky, 'Tears Again' is described by Jane as an album that came from "the pain from a time in history when choices were made based on desire," and "flirting with the sexual being that wants to break away in a way that was safe to explore some issues that are still raw, but with the passion of a mature woman; as opposed to the challenges of a Los Angeles lifestyle in the 1980's fuelled by sex, drugs and rock'n'roll - a time of free love in the world before AIDS."

As Jesse explains to Darren Levin from the website 'Mess Noise', "Songs selected for the album were inspired by Samuel Fuller Films, Greta Garbo and daytime soaps", with titles ranging from "Sometimes I Fall in Love with the Wrong People" paying homage to daytime soaps, "Men Who Lie", the seductive lyrics of "4 Corners to my Bed", and "I Don't Trust Women", to the haunting drama of "Did I Leave the House Today?". This last song was inspired by Jesse about the search for the ever elusive house keys - something we can all relate to. There is a line in the bridge "When memories are more important than dreams", which was inspired by a promo of the great Canadian wrestler Brett "The Hitman" Hart.

The album then takes one of many twists and turns with "Snow Carnival Queen"; a song inspired by Jane's former title from her pageant days of literally being a 'Snow Carnival Queen'. This is delivered in much the same way as the unforgettable, moving and almost tragic song "Memory" from Andrew Lloyd Webber which was sung by the character Esmeralda from the smash hit musical 'Cats'. Next follows the song "All of Our Friends are Lonely" inspired from the infamous classic 70's swingers club 'Plato's Retreat' in the United States. This is a club rumoured to be frequented by many of America's soap opera stars, founded initially in New York, before relocating in 1985 to Los Angeles. We are then taken on our musical journey to the question so many of us ask ourselves at certain times in our lives, in the solemn number "Why Don't I Fall in Love Anymore?"

Yet as a self-proclaimed perfectionist, Jane openly admits that "if you are not 100% happy, then life can be painful". Jane is also a supporter of gay marriage, stating that "people should be allowed to love who they love and the Government should keep out of it."

It is in the solace of her opulent multi-room boudoir, consisting of a round alcove, and traditional rope slash windows with bookshelves underneath; a luxurious circular day bed, and the walls adorned with original artworks by Jane Burton and John Young, that Jane penned the beautiful ballad "Nursery Rhyme". As Jane explained to Levin "When I wrote 'Nursery Rhyme' I was intrigued by the notion of a person who can never forget or forgive. So instead of having a lifetime of love she chooses a lifetime of solitude and living life on the fringes. The title came as a metaphor for the loss of innocence. I like the twisted tale it weaves inviting this person into her home years later and wanting to seduce and torture him through the nursery rhyme. Paul's arrangement was perfect using the Cello to enhance the darkness and eeriness of the mood. I also love the musical interludes which are a bit discordant."

The second last track, "What a Mess", is a response to guilt over private mistakes made public. A song Jesse openly admits to writing "on a bad day". With the final track "The Springs", Shepard explains to Lewin, "I always loved the idea of Greta Garbo becoming a recluse and I wanted to write a song about the moment someone like that chooses to withdraw from the world. Retiring from anything strikes me as very romantic; be it cage-fighting, teaching, acting in soap operas or watching daytime TV. Giving something up forever always seems like an enormous deal, but actually I don't know that it really is. The only thing that I enjoy more than a good retirement is a good comeback."

On stage, her show is more theatrical than a concert, mesmerising and hypnotic - and from the moment Jane takes to the stage, she could only be described as being in a 'Zone'. The audience cease to exist as individuals and become entwined and manipulated by the performance than unfolds live before them. Jane is not just another singer, delivering each song as its own theatrical performance where she plays a character befitting the content of the song. The audience becomes secondary to the performance. Jane clearly owns the stage and the venue and has her entire audience captivated. The audience during the concert adapt in much the same way as Jane morphs into different characters. There are certain songs and moments during the performance when every face could only be described as being in a 'trance like state - completely unaware of their physical surroundings' transfixed on the performance unveiling before their very eyes. During other numbers, audience member's body language changes from being completely focused on Jane with no connection to the person beside them, to then being moved to tears, closing their eyes and embracing their partners with expressions of passion, pain, lust, eroticism, insecurity and desire.

The sole exclusion is 'Nursery Rhyme' at which Jane openly displays raw emotion and strength that can only come from a woman who has lived a life based on the ethos of "following my heart, finding happiness and content in the assurance that thing will come together in a way her heart desires'. This is an audience reaction I personally have not seen in many years, and is comparable to Bette Midler's 'Kiss My Brass' tour many years ago.

Jane has several upcoming shows in Melbourne and Sydney. These will be Jane's first headline performances following her sold-out show at the famous Spiegeltent in Melbourne. And as Jane revealed exclusively to Q Magazine, "following a series of successful negotiations I am set to launch on an international tour taking 'Tears Again' to the musical halls and theatres of the United Kingdom and Europe, commencing in France" - with dates soon to be announced.

For more information, ticket sales, photos, album tracks or to purchase these must have CD's with amazing photography by Jesse Smith and styling by Virginia Dowzer and to see Jane as you have never seen her before visit www.janebadler.com

Q money: with EVAN DAVIS

G'day and welcome to Q Money, Internationally speaking, over the last couple of years, there were only a handful of positions that were comfortable in relation to real estate property ownership. The most comfortable was widely acceptable as being foetal position.

Or at the bottom of a bottle, or simply rocking gently back and forth in a straight jacket deep in an asylum somewhere. It would appear though, that overwhelmingly, Australia has avoided the worst of the property slump.

The Australian property market is valued at a staggering \$3,439 b (Australian Property Monitors) with approximately 78% of that value being made up of Capital city properties nationwide. Overwhelmingly this is Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane which equates to approximately 60% of the nation's total property values.

Houses and Units tend to form the backbone of the figures that are reported. Over the last 5 years both houses and units have grown at remarkably similar rates. The median house price has increased by 40.2% over the last five years and 38.4% for units. To some extent this does knock the conventional belief that houses and land are a far better investment.

Despite the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) the growth in the housing sector has remained relatively consistent. It only really slowed from late 2008 to mid 2009. Steep reductions in interest rates during this time and also increased government incentives such as the boost to the first home owners grant have helped to support property growth throughout the second half of 2010. This is also true of the unit and apartment market nationwide, though the impact is less pronounced.

It is interesting to note how well Melbourne in particular has done in recent years. Melbourne median house price of \$577,870 is rapidly approaching that of Sydney's \$637,258. The gap with units is even closer with the median unit cost here at \$438,845 when compared to Sydney's \$482,186. The growth in Melbourne's median house price in 2010 alone was 14% compared to Sydney's 5.7%. Melbourne has consistently outperformed Sydney in the last five years.

Property demand remains stronger than properties supplied. This naturally means that prices remain strong and that there is a high level of overall optimism in relation to the market in general. This demand also inflates rents. Vacancy rates nationwide remain under 5%. In Melbourne the vacancy rate is lower than the national average at a minuscule 1.5%.

The cost of borrowing remains relatively affordable. Particularly, when compared with interest rates pre GFC. The undiscounted standard variable rates with the major banks remain roughly around the 7.8%. Well priced mortgages can still be taken out below 7%.

The growth, relative security and affordability make property ownership an attractive proposition for many and this is reflected in auction clearance rates. In Melbourne they are still around 60%. 2011 isn't looking too bad. Incomes are expected to rise and the housing shortage is set to grow nationally from 178,000 dwellings to 308,000 in 2014. With unemployment still low at 5% it makes me want to buy an investment property!



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q people: LENAIR XAVIER

an interview by Marc J Porter

LeNair Xavier is a predominately bisexual entertainer and author who writes about sex, life & love in his blog, "L's X-Ray Vision". While he has retired from performing in studio-based gay porn, his continued exhibitionist displays online and telling of his sexual adventures and explorations for his blog maintains his being considered an adult entertainer. During his time in the industry, LeNair's writing skills at creating vivid pictures and expressing valid points has led to him writing blog entries for Pitbull Production's ThugPornBlog, and more recognizably, MOC Blog, which he still maintains being a contributing writer for. He has also had his opinions published in a book review for FlavaMen Magazine, and in the Feedback section of The Advocate. In the vein of his published words on MOC Blog and in The Advocate, he is an active and well-recognized voice for racial equality in gay adult entertainment by way of comments on various websites like Fleshbot, Gay Porn Times, and The Sword.

Since retiring, LeNair's voice fighting for that racial equality continues to be heard by the aforementioned, and even more places now as he has spread to fighting for it in gay mainstream entertainment as well. All this while he resurrects his skills as an actor, dancer, singer, artist, poet, and songwriter.

LeNair Recently agreed to be interviewed for Q Magazine.

Tell us about your background....where you grew up, what you did in your life so far and how on earth did porn come becking?

I grew up in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, NY. I've always been seeking a career in entertainment - as an actor, singer, songwriter, dancer, artist.

Depending on which talent I found some degree of success in, my plan was to segue into the other realms of entertainment from there. Unfortunately, I didn't find success in any of them. Adding to that let-down was me priding myself on being self-aware, yet not knowing my sexual orientation because I was attracted to both male and females, but unsure of which gender could win only my lust, and which gender could win both, my lust AND my love.

I finally figured out that I was a predominately gay bisexual just a few weeks before turning 31 years old. I always had an interest in doing porn for most of my adult life. So as I was about to turn 34, I took a look at myself, realized that I still looked good for my age, and gave it a try. And unlike some porn actors, I never changed my porn name. I can always be found by the name "Tré Xavier".

At first, I was still trying to find success in more mainstream entertainment, but it became too much to juggle around. So I decided which of the 2 was getting me more recognition,

and it was the doing porn that won.

I discovered you via a completely random gay porn blog that I don't even remember what it was called and what got me was "gay porn controversy" regarding Erik Rhodes and Diesel Washington, tell us how you came to get caught up with them of all people and what happened?

I've never had any controversy with Erik

Rhodes. If I'm correct, on that blog that you're referring to it actually turned out being that me and Erik Rhodes have a common annoyance in the gay porn industry - Diesel Washington.

I've already went into detail about Diesel Washington's issues on my blog, and I would rather not waste your readers' time with addressing Diesel's bordering on schizophrenia with him claiming to not want the attention, but cries "Whoa is me!" when a White American audience ignores him.

I'd like to ask about your poetry, where does the inspiration come from and when did you realize you could string a sentence together.

My poetry is inspired by the same things as any other writer. Sometimes it things that mean a great deal to you, other times you're inspired by fantasies that you have, and other times you're simply inspired by an occurrence that you witness or hear about in passing.

A poet or any other kind of writer just can't resist putting pen to paper or fingers to keyboard over those inspirations.

Poetry has always been a skill of mine since grade school. It evolved into songwriting later on. Now, since I'm not really looking to pursue a career as a singer, I've infused those skills together. For some may notice that my poetry often has a definite rhythm. It's because my poetry actually comes into my head as a song. I just now choose to write and recite it, rather than write and sing it.

You have a very contemporary and honest blog, why did you create it and what kind of feedback do you get as it can be very confronting to some people the things you talk about?

I originally created my blog as an addition to the website I had when I started in porn, Tre-X.com. At the time, none of the movies I had shot scenes for had come out yet, so I wanted something to make my



website more interesting. I decided on a blog because I like to write, I have a viewpoint on a great many things, and expressing those viewpoints shows that I'm not just a good-looking guy with a cock and a fuckable ass. I am also a man with brains.

As for what kind of feedback I get, it varies. Some agree with what I say, and some don't. Those that don't, I still want to appreciate and respect their comments. Therefore, I demand that they own their comments by not signing it as "Anonymous" if their viewpoint challenges mine.

Would you ever do porn again or did it leave a bad taste, and if so, why?

I actually haven't stopped doing porn in general. I've just stopped doing studio-based porn. For I still have an XTube account, and have updated it since retiring from studio-based porn. Now, would I do studio-based porn again?

Highly unlikely. Because nowadays, porn directors are more concerned about getting their egos stroked by hiring porn actors who can get excited on the director's command, much like a dog responds to its owner. And the porn actors show no respect for themselves because they comply, instead of demanding that they get paired with someone that they're genuinely attracted to. Faking attractions are for regular movies and escorting, NOT porn.

What else do you get up to in your life, take us through an ordinary day for you?

I think that's the beauty of my life since my realizing my orientation and coming out. I don't really have an "ordinary" day. The only thing ordinary in my day is the fact that I'm always being creative and always observing human behavior, even during sex. And those occurrences always brings forth so many new things to see and experience that I can't really tell you what else I get up to because from day to day, I don't even know.

Can we talk about racial equality, I understand this is a very important issue for you, why so, and how much racism have you experienced and how did you overcome it?

Racial equality is an important issue to me not just because I'm a man of color, but more importantly, because I am a human being. Any person who doesn't see racial equality as an important issue is one void of humanity.

As for how much racism I've experienced...PLENTY. From gay nightlife promoters and gay media (including porn) portraying Blacks as sexual savages who are either always brawny, dark-complexioned and tops and/or some form of thugs, yet showing a variety of body types and lifestyles with White performers. Part of why I got in the porn industry was to undo that image, so while I'm versatile off-camera, I made it a point to be a bottom on-camera, and gain notoriety for it. Showing myself to be a variety in types of bottoms in the process - sometimes aggressive, sometimes submissive, sometimes a little of both within the course of a scene.

I overcame this racism by speaking out against it, with little public support from porn actors of any color. If I didn't speak up, the silence would have ate at my soul, and I would have a festering rage over it. Even though I don't see the change at a fast enough pace to satisfy me, at least I can take solace that I'm not holding it all in, thereby making myself a ticking time-bomb.

What's your personal life like, are you in a relationship?

I try to keep a drama-free personal life. Enough drama seems to follow me by the truths that I tell on mine and other blogs, and those too immature to handle those truths. So when offline, I need and demand that serenity. From my family, friends and significant other that I don't have right now. Nor am I looking. For I believe looking for love is a sign of desperation and one buying into the idea that you can't be whole unless you're in a relationship, which it should be quite the contrary.

A relationship should intensify that already existing sense of oneness, not create a sense of oneness. So I'm letting love find me, because I'm already feeling complete.

Will you keep up doing what you're doing or is there a next chapter in your life?

I will keep up doing what I'm doing until the next door to open presents itself. There is always a next chapter in one's life. Just as I went through the chapters that made me go from entertainer to porn actor, then porn actor to porn actor/blogger, and now blogger/poet. So keep in mind, if there isn't a next chapter, then one is doing something wrong.

PLWHA Victoria is on the move!



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Further information will be posted on our website
www.plwhavictoria.org.au and in Postlink.



Please contact the PLWHA Victoria office on 9865 6772 for further information.

q shows: “MJ” IN CONCERT

Direct from Las Vegas and touring Australia for the first time, the Michael Jackson - *History Does Repeat & This Is It* tour will be presented at The Palms at Crown on Friday 3 June and Saturday June 4. Australian fans have the opportunity to celebrate the music, the magic and the history of Michael Jackson's life in this dazzling musical biography presented by the world's number one Michael Jackson impersonator, Kenny Wizz.

Wizz has brought the memory of pop music's greatest legend alive for audiences around the world for over two decades. Together with a band of exceptional international musicians, fully choreographed dancers and authentic costumes, the 2011 tour will recreate what the fans all want but can never see again - a Michael Jackson concert. The show features over twenty songs, all performed live by Kenny Wizz with no lip syncing, including ABC, Ben, Smooth Criminal, Beat It and many more.

Michael Jackson - *History Does Repeat & This Is It* is currently wowing crowds in Johannesburg, South Africa, and in March will tour New Zealand. South African reviewer Peter Feldman recently said, of the show, "Whizz.. has studied Jackson's every action, his every dance movement, his every gesture and even his vocal patter and if you didn't know better you'd be hard pressed not to believe the genuine goods were right there on stage."

Born in Los Angeles, Wizz was twenty when Michael Jackson's career exploded with the release of the pivotal album *Thriller*. During that time, Wizz's strong resemblance to Jackson heralded the start of a long career as a conduit for Jackson's music. Regular performances in Atlantic City allowed Wizz to perfect his act and after touring Europe and Asia, Wizz settled in Las Vegas with his show signed for eleven years at the Riviera Hotel and Casino.

For further information go to www.mjhistoryshow.com

**Prior to Melbourne, Michael Jackson – History Does Repeat & This Is It will be performed in Toowoomba, Brisbane, Penrith, Sydney, Wollongong, Canberra, Gold Coast and Newcastle. Following Geelong, the tour will conclude in Adelaide.*



Melbourne

Friday June 3 and
Saturday June 4 2011, 8pm
The Palms at Crown
Tickets: \$66.30

Bookings: Ticketek 1300 795 012 www.ticketek.com.au

Geelong

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q food & lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

I have a friend who will only buy a cookbook with nice photography. Others I know get inspired to cook after they have watched an episode of a food show on TV. And yet others will walk past a food outlet, and a smell will cause them to go weak at the knees and need a good lie down to get over the fact that they have been assaulted by a smell that is either wondrous or revolting.



This brings me to a sensory discussion of food. I was asked recently about my radio program and how people who listen in are often left wanting a glass of wine or something to eat once the program is off air. If food is supposed to be sensory, then how do our minds work in providing us a subconscious need to taste or eat what has just been discussed?

The brain is wired up in a weird manner... it tells us when we see food, that we are hungry. It tells us that when we see beverage on tv, we are thirsty. But when you are speaking of these things on radio, and there is no visual, what makes you want to act on those desires?

Studies have shown that most people who sit in front of a television eat junk food while they watch it. This is why people are subjected to so many different commercials to psychologically make you feel hungry, even when you are not hungry. It is the brain working overtime to tell you 'time to eat' when you don't need to eat at all.

Modern Western culture has distorted the innate act of eating sensibly by its overwhelming abundance of food. Sure, the presence of a culture that is sufficient and advanced enough to feed all of its citizens three times what they actually need is comforting, but along with that comes obesity and disease.

Now I don't want to pontificate about exercise and obesity, more I am interested in how the perception of food has an impact on our brains. Imagine you are watching a TV show, and somebody is cooking something that looks appealing. How does it taste? Who knows, but in your mind, you are conjuring up taste sensations you have experienced in the past. Another example... If I started writing here about my favourite smell in the world being bacon, onions and garlic simmering in butter in a hot frying pan, you will more than likely be salivating (provided you eat bacon, onions garlic and butter!). The thought of those ingredients can bring forth from your subconscious the sensory experience of what you are imagining.

I think this is why the proliferation of cookbooks, tv cooking shows and other such lifestyle tempters has occurred. Because regardless of what we think we know, our brains can always conjure up something for us to make us want and need.

Let it be your most powerful tool, and even if you cant have something you like, know that you can at least enjoy it in your imagination.

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q mens health: THE EYES HAVE IT

by Brian Mier

Actually, we hope they don't - because this month we focus on GLAUCOMA, 'The Thief of Sight'.

THE EYE & GLAUCOMA

The eye works very much like an old-style camera. In the camera, the light comes in through the shutter, is focused by the lens, falls onto the film and then we take it to be processed.

In the eye, light comes in through the cornea and pupil. It is focused by the lens, falling onto the film in the eye (the retina) and then goes, via the optic nerve (the nerve of sight), to the brain (the processor) for developing.

The shape of the eye is achieved through the circulation of a clear fluid (aqueous). It bathes and nourishes the eye, keeps it firm and gives the eye a certain pressure. High eye pressure left uncontrolled can lead to damage of the optic nerve and result in vision loss.

It must be noted that eye pressure varies from person to person. What is high pressure for one person may not be for another.

WHAT IS GLAUCOMA?

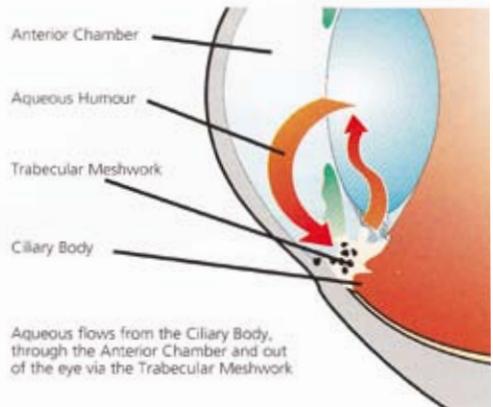
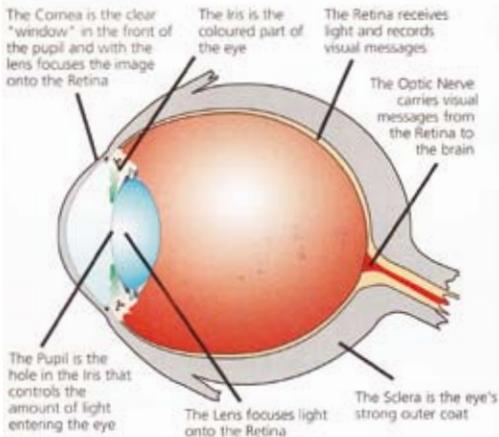
Glaucoma is the name given to a group of eye diseases in which the optic nerve at the back of the eye is slowly and permanently destroyed.

In most people this damage is due to an increased pressure inside the eye – a result of blockage of the circulation of fluid (aqueous), or its drainage. In other patients the damage may be caused by poor blood supply to the vital optic nerve fibres, a weakness in the structure of the nerve and/or a problem in the health of the nerve fibres themselves.

Approximately 300,000 Australians have glaucoma. Generally there are no warning signs associated with this eye condition. The loss of sight is usually gradual and a considerable amount of peripheral (side) vision may be lost before there is an awareness of any problem. Glaucoma can not be self-detected.

It is important to remember that while it is more common as we age, **glaucoma can occur at any age.**

Normal Eye



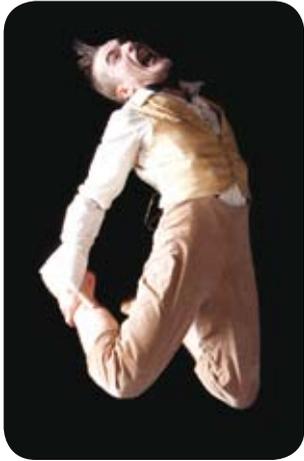
There's too much on this important topic to reproduce the full brochure from which the above comes. Here are a few key snippets:

- There are no warning signs and Glaucoma is irreversible, but it can be slowed down or stopped. Early detection is the key, leading to early treatment.
- Driving vehicles with Glaucoma significantly increases your risk of crashing, as your peripheral vision is impaired.
- Have an eye check before you reach 40 years old, then 2 - 3 years regularly. See your GP in the first instance to determine who should conduct the detailed examination.
- You are more at risk if there is a family history of Glaucoma, you have high eye pressures, Diabetes, Migraines, are short or long sighted, have had an eye injury, have high or low blood pressure, have past or present prolonged use of cortisone (steroids).
- Treatment options include eye drops, laser and surgery.

For more general information on Glaucoma:

- <http://www.glaucoma.org.au/what.htm> includes a video;
- Pick up a brochure from Eagle Health Resources, Fairfield & Alphington RSL Club, or ask for one at your pharmacy;
- Phone Glaucoma Australia on 1800 500 880. Thanks to them for providing the above information.

q circus: BEAUTIFULLY IMPERFECT



National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) presents Beautifully Imperfect. NICA and Nanjing Artists join forces to collaborate on a new circus work. NICA's final year circus artists will collaborate with performers and trainers from China's acclaimed Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe to create Beautifully Imperfect, a breathtaking contemporary circus production under the artistic direction of Rob Tannion (Stan Won't Dance, UK) which opens on 13 April 2011.

This is a very special collaboration that brings together elements of NICA's history for the celebration of its 10th anniversary. NICA's Head of Circus, Lu Guang Rong, first arrived in Australia as an artist with the Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe as part of the first cultural exchange between Chinese and Australian circus artists in 1983 and later joined NICA full-time in 2000. This new joint project complements and reinforces both the Cultural Memorandum of Understanding between Victoria and Jiangsu Province, PRC, that has been in force since 2002, and the broader Sister State Relationship established in 1979.

Directed and choreographed by leading UK-based artist Rob Tannion, Beautifully Imperfect will feature a visually stunning array of astonishing circus skills, athletic choreography and extraordinary acrobatics. This captivating production will harness the circus arts to explore

the tension between our desire for perfection and the reality of our human fallibilities and flaws.

Rob Tannion's residency at NICA is supported by the inaugural Richard Pratt Creative Fellowship which commemorates Richard's involvement with NICA as a founding company director, and celebrates his contribution to the arts in Australia. Tannion says, "in this work I am intrigued by the concept that 'the greatest perfection is imperfection'. Imperfections exist to remind us that we are all human, different, fallible and these are precisely what make us unique and beautifully imperfect."

NICA is a national arts training institute that offers Australia's only Bachelor of Circus Arts. The course is accredited by Swinburne University of Technology and the institute is located at its Prahran campus. The course attracts applicants from across Australia and the world and entry into the first year is highly competitive.

BEAUTIFULLY IMPERFECT

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q youth: with **TASMAN ANDERSON**



There is nothing more beautiful than a person listening to their heart and following their passion. You know that because they are so passionate, what they have to offer is truly inspirational. It was this reason that pulled me toward Brisbane based aspiring fashion photographer, Beau Borghero.

After viewing several pieces of the eighteen year olds work, I knew he had a gift beyond words. Borghero, who puts his soul in his work, has known from the beginning that photography was for him. "I've always loved the camera," he said. "It all started out when I begged my parents for a Polaroid camera for Christmas. Then in high school I fell in love and started to experiment in art class."

Borghero who plans to pursue a career in fashion, glamour and editorial photography, credits his mum for where he is today. "My mum, Leah has always supported and helped me to tackle anything that get's in my way."

One of his favourite and most recognisable images is of a pale girl locked within a birdcage with blood and feathers falling out of her mouth (Image shown). "I took this picture in my first year of university and it's just so powerful," said Borghero. "It's always the first photo people notice and I think because of the controversy and strangeness people are really curious about it."



Another thing that makes Beau Borghero so fascinating and inspirational is his outwardly gay status. "I still haven't had the 'talk' with my family about being gay but I've never really needed too. My family is so supportive and close to me that being gay is nothing different," he said. "It's not something that needed to be explained since I have always been different and quite feminine so it was always just accepted."



As a Journalist, I remember when I first laid eyes upon Beau in pictures from Sydney's Jeffree Star concert. His expression and artistic views were easily displayed through the way he dressed and the way he held himself. The fact that he is gay only made it that much more exciting.

Although Borghero hasn't had the talk, he knows that someone should never feel as if they should hide themselves behind a fake personality. "Just be who you are - whether that's gay or straight," he said. "The people that love you won't care and the people that do care don't really matter at all."

When it comes to photography, Borghero just can't express enough the importance of taking a chance on yourself. "Go for it! Never be scared of your idea," he exclaims. "Make it your own and learn from your mistakes."

Personally, I can't get enough of his work. I've never been much of a fan for art nor have I really understood the beauty behind a picture - until I viewed Beau's work. The ability to make a person's personality and soul shine through the picture made them truly beautiful. It didn't matter whether they were the most gorgeous people in the world or the ugliest. The way Beau has captured their essence is truly breath taking.

If you would like to express your opinion on Beau's work or would just like to speak to him, he can be reached via email at beauborghero@gmail.com or on facebook under 'Beau Borghero.'



an exhibition: MEMORY LANDSCAPES



Green-Wood Gallery is proud to present John Santucci's latest works. Winner of the coveted ANL Maritime Award in October 2008, John Santucci, finds inspiration for his work from many areas: film, music, architecture and memories of life's experiences.

"If the past is another country, then mine is shrouded in steam, heat, haze and dust. The country of my past also has a name: Whyalla. This series of abstracts is about memory - often blurred by time's distance, but sometimes coming sharply into focus.



They reflect my experiences as a young worker at BHP. The shapes are industrial - blast furnaces, pellet plants, ship yards, chimneys and the city's busy waterfront. Smoke and steam are everywhere; serene clouds haloing the churning chaos of steel manufacture.

The ochre of the desert surrounding the city.. steel greys..white

steam... and everywhere, the pink dust residue of incinerated pellets.

My circus artworks reflect a personal journey of over 20 years in the film industry. As well, caravans appear regularly in my



work and are representative of a family history of migration and movement. My father migrated here from Northern Italy, finding employment in the steel towns of Newcastle, Wollongong and Whyalla. My family moved back and forth with his work, and I eventually worked at the BHP steel mills in Whyalla, a place marked in my paintings by their industrial and maritime themes.

Much of the work views its subject - city, suburban and religious iconography, industry and nature - from a floating, dreamlike perspective with a sense of playfulness and whimsy balancing weightier themes of family, work and culture". - John Santucci, March 2011

John Santucci solo exhibition: 7 - 24 April
Green-Wood Gallery, 1 Hotham Street,
South Melbourne,
www.green-woodgallery.com



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q drag: TINA SPARKLES



Tina Sparkles has been treading the drag stages of Melbourne and Australia for close to twenty years now. Alan Mayberry finds out what keeps Tina Sparkling.

I grew up in Frankston by the beach, with two brothers and one fantastic sister. My school days were nothing to be blazened in lights for. I was expelled from Tech school for misbehaviour – too many boys. I ended up in a mixed high school. Mum and dad were a wake-up to me and wouldn't let me go to Boys College – which was a big shame. I realised I was gay after too many showers at the local gym. When I was 16, I guessed something was up. But all's well that ends well. I was not a complete drop out, finishing up at Monash Uni and then a Post Grad degree at Melbourne Uni, just to round things off.

Performing has never been my full-time career. I've always worked in medicine, and managed Emergency for a number of years. Now I look after Medical Imaging for a public hospital network. My speciality is removing things that often get stuck!

I started performing as a male stripper at Crystal Ts in Coburg in the 90s, and later joined Pokeys at the Prince of Wales when I was 19. The rest is history.

Emerald Stone has a lot to blame for 'dragging' me on stage. I started as a back-up dancer for her at a Miss Alternative Pageant at San Remo Ballroom and it wasn't long before I was running around in heels and lashes. Pokeys set the benchmark for me. My role models were Terri Tinsel, Renee Scott, Michelle Tozer to name a few – these were the Goddesses of the gay community and captivated audiences. It didn't matter how bad a week you had at work or how shitty life was, everyone went to Pokeys to forget their problems and just be absorbed in a world of illusion. This was DRAG! Pokeys

was so ahead of its time – the production shows pure fantasy. There isn't much fantasy any more, it's all just a blurr of music videos. Sadly fantasy is something we've lost, I fear, forever! What's churned out these days – cheap Supre frocks and too much attitude.

Being a drag queen isn't just about putting on a cheap frock and strutting up and down Commercial Road on a Saturday night. It's about having some talent and mixing it together with style and inspiration. Investing in quality stage costumes is essential. Disco sequin is just plain nasty!

I remember going to see Carlotta and Les Girls working the RSL and Club circuit and taking shows out of the gay clubs and serving them up to a mainstream crowd. The cast comprised of transsexuals and I thought it was about time we had a show with drag queens. Something that I could be proud to take my mum too and not cringe that it was going to be full of crude language designed for a cheap laugh. I can label myself as a drag queen but I think that I'm really a theatrical performer. I really enjoy performing for the hetero crowds, why shouldn't they see how classy and professional gender illusion can be?

In my mind I became a 'pro' when I started declaring my drag income to the tax office. That came when I created *Divine Divas*. The rest came under some dodgy tax loop hole called a hobby business. Now I pay rights, royalties and taxation. *Divine Divas* has to be my greatest performing high. It's been fun to take a talented bunch of drag queens and create a theatrical stage show like no other in this country. I was sick of tacky costumes, low budgets, poor lighting and dingy stages. And worked for years to create a show of world-class standard. It had always been a dream of mine to get a bunch of female impersonators and put them together, thinking it would be the most amazing soundtrack you've ever heard. So I played around with Madonna, Dolly Parton, Bassegy, Celine Dion, Streisand, Cher, and Whitney, later adding current stars like Beyonce and Pink. All up there are about 20 divas impersonated in the show.

The stand out in my mind came at Burswood Casino, performing to 3000 people on my birthday and having the entire audience sing me *Happy Birthday* – a total highlight. It ranks above *A Current Affair*, and the The Logies on Kerrie-Anne's show.

Where do you think your future career lies?

I am a people person. I couldn't see my self working in any other industry than Healthcare. However, I love producing shows on the side – it's in the blood and I cant shake it. If I had it over I would work at Bunnings! I'm a sucker for men, shorts and tools. The bigger the better!

Away from performing I am happily attached, with two 4-year-old naughty beagle children. I am an absolute movie buff and a sci-fi geek. To relax, just take me to a movie and I'm yours. My favorite is *Gattaca* with Ethan Hawke, Jude Law and Uma Thurman – like my shows, it's classy and sophisticated.

I love Chinese food and great wine. Red Emperor on Southbank is a favorite. Actually I love anything deep fried and bad for me. And I pay the price, as I have to work like a bitch to cut the kilos when we are preparing for a show tour.

How do your friends react to you being a Divine Diva?

Surprised then jealous. They all want to come on tour with us – it's like an end-of-year footy trip for drag queens. Complete with all the trimmings – flights, hotels, fans and autographs. It's crazy but true.

When did the concept for Divine Divas form?

I outgrew doing drag in clubs and wanted something bigger. It was fun being in the Extreme Dimensions at the Greyhound in its early drag days, but I wanted more. So I applied the rules of Pro Theatre to drag, and developed a mainstream impersonation show. I found a casino promoter who shared my vision and the rest is history. I wanted the most lavish and biggest drag show in Australia, and think I've achieved that dream. Some 48 000 people came to see the show last year, not bad for a bunch of Melbourne boys in frocks!

I'm lucky to be surrounded by talented peers who educated me into the world of costume design and creation. Pokeys gave me an education, Cher provided some inspiration and Leivi Jones always made me buy quality products and materials – no matter the shocking expense. I make sure that every wig, costume and bit of fake jewelry is flawless. I get our head dresses made by the fabulous Leivi Jones in Brisbane. They are so big they are a nightmare to (often they are too big to ship down. But do they add that WOW factor.

I learnt to shop well and go direct to the producer, whether it be China, Thailand or the USA. Ebay has been my loyal friend and companion when creating *Divine Divas*. I have a fantastic team of suppliers worldwide that supply the show with everything from designer jewellery, wigs and even the best Las Vegas style feathers on the planet.

The show is a two-hour monster, so we need to work hard to keep it slick, it's a lot harder than performing in gay nightclubs. Our audience just paid \$70 bucks each and want to see an amazing show. It takes some dedication to fulfill the promise. It took me many years of hard work and buckets loads of sweat and many 100s of kilos of sequins and feathers to get there. But it isn't just producing, I love the spotlight and my role in the show as Celine Dion and Dusty Springfield. I spent hours watching videos and documentaries to get into the character's mind and mannerisms. To me impersonation is not only about looking and acting like the character but becoming the character.

Where do you hope to be in 5 years time?

Running a chain of Bunnings superstores with pink roofs and drag shows out front on Saturdays. Sounds like fun – but you'll probably find me rooting around in the garden section!



q cuisine: with NATHAN MILLER



Sensational Chocolate Mudcake Cupcakes

These cupcakes are perfect for picnics, work lunches and of course dessert with some double cream as they keep very well refrigerated. You may want to try a few variations with the liqueur, as any rich flavoured liqueur will be sensational i.e. Baileys, Tia Maria and even Black Sambuca.

Preparation Time = 15 minutes

Cooking Time = 25 minutes

Makes = 12

Ingredients

125g butter, chopped
100g dark chocolate, chopped
1/2 cup (125ml) hot water
2 tsp instant coffee powder
1/4 cup (60ml) coffee liqueur
1 cup (200g) brown sugar
2/3 cup (100g) plain flour

1/4 cup (40g) self-raising flour
2 tbs cocoa powder
1 egg
Chocolate curls, to decorate
Chocolate ganache
200g dark chocolate
1/2 cup (125g) sour cream



Method

Preheat oven to 160°C. Line twelve 1/3-cup (80ml) muffin pans with paper cases.

Combine the butter, chocolate, hot water, coffee powder and coffee liqueur in a medium saucepan over low heat. Cook, stirring, for 2-3 minutes or until chocolate and butter melt and mixture is smooth. Remove from heat. Add the sugar and stir to combine. Set aside for 5 minutes to cool slightly.

Sift the combined flours and cocoa over the chocolate mixture and use a balloon whisk to stir until combined. Add the egg and stir to combine. Pour the mixture evenly among the prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven for 15-20 minutes or until cooked through. Transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

To make the chocolate ganache, place the chocolate and sour cream in a heatproof bowl over a pan of simmering water.

Stir with a metal spoon for 2-3 minutes or until chocolate melts and mixture is smooth. Remove from heat.

Spread the ganache over the cakes and set aside to cool. Decorate with chocolate curls.

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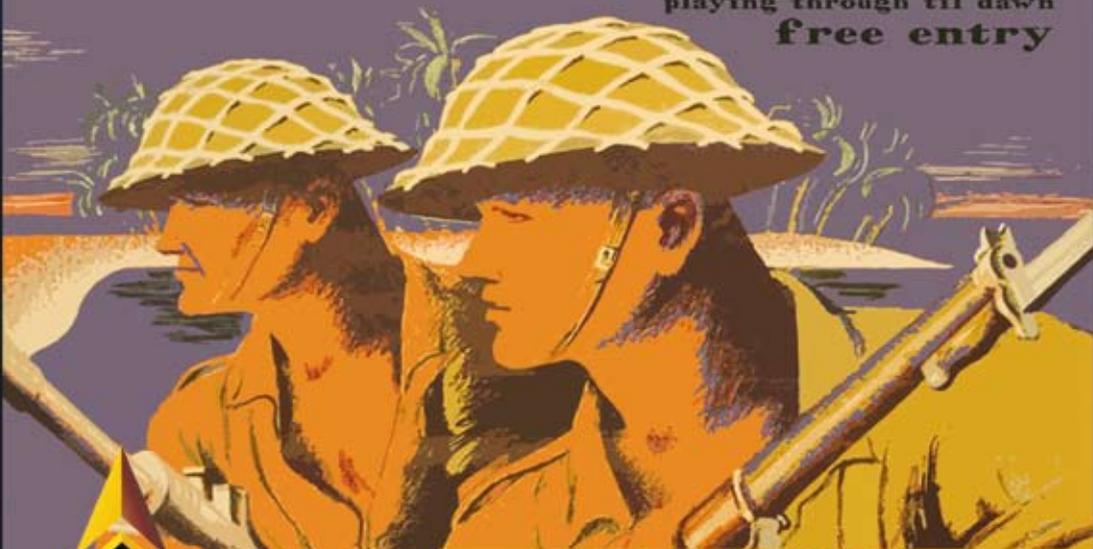
ANZAC Day

COBBLE

Monday 25th April

Mark Robinson

playing through til dawn
free entry



Sunday 24th April - ANZAC Eve

Due to Easter Sunday this year falling on the eve of Anzac Day, The Peel will close Sunday for the solemn observance of the day. We look forward to seeing you Anzac night Monday 25th April.



q cosmetic: **DON'T GAMBLE WITH YOUR SMILE**

Your teeth are very important, not only for appearance but for speech, nutrition and general health and well-being. can tend to blame the dentist.

Some people travel overseas for cheap cosmetic dentistry. They are looking for a bargain but they may be getting glass instead of diamonds. The overseas trend has never exploded due to the many horror stories that return from these places.

It is widely understood in the dental profession that in many countries there are minimal or no regulations regarding infection control, quality control, standards of materials used, tooth preparation techniques, etc. This means that the products may initially look good but after a very short time may break, fall out, discolour, cause gum and underlying bone problems or infection, often because inferior materials and techniques are used. The porcelains are usually from Asia as opposed to the top quality products which come from Germany, USA and Japan. The jobs are usually rushed so the manufacturing times are often compromised. This results in porcelain that is weak and can easily chip, break, stain or just fall out.

If you have dental work done overseas and it needs adjustments for reasons of pain, incorrect bite, discomfort, or to adjust the shape of the crowns, veneers or other such restorations, dentists in Australia do not want to touch this work because if it breaks while being adjusted the patient

However, to go back to the country where it was made can be additionally costly.



Why would you take this gamble when there is now a local alternative?

Creative Smiles in Armadale has made significant inroads to provide heavily reduced cosmetic dentistry right here in Australia using only the best materials, techniques, equipment and infection control and safety standards as per Australian regulations. All laboratory work is made in Melbourne and NOT sent overseas.

All the dentists are very experienced in cosmetic dentistry and they are all registered with the Australian Dental Board. All of their nursing staff are also experienced in this area of dentistry.

Using state of the art equipment Creative Smiles provides crowns, bridges, veneers, implants, Invisalign and "Zoom!" teeth whitening at around half the cost you may expect to pay elsewhere.

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Q fitness: with CHRIS GREGORIOU

The importance of sleep.

Sleep is crucial to ensure the healthy functioning of your mind and body. Getting enough sleep is so important for our well being that some sleep experts believe we should pay as much importance to the quality of our sleep as we do to diet and exercise.

Sleep is our bodies' way of rejuvenating:

A lack of sleep will quickly cause irritability, grogginess, the inability to make decisions or follow through with cognitive functions. It can cause hallucinations and dozing off during the day. A continued lack of sleep can contribute to weight gain, anxiety, depression and fatigue. Right through to a chronic or pathological sleep disorder often resulting in an immune system deficiency.

How much sleep do we need each night?

This varies according to age and individual need. However, on average:

1. Most adults need around 7- 8 hours (pregnant women in the first three months of pregnancy may need more)

How can not enough sleep harm my health?

1. Weight problems. Some sleep experts now suggest that there may be a connection between the increase in our waistlines. People who habitually sleep less than six hours per night are more likely to carry a higher % of body fat than those who sleep for eight hours. While the odd sleepless night won't affect your weight, chronic sleep deprivation might. Sleep deprivation may affect hormones that regulate appetite, making us hungrier. Lack of sleep also makes us more tired and less motivated to exercise.

2. Diabetes. Chronic sleep deprivation can affect the body's ability to control blood glucose levels, increasing the risk of diabetes.

3. Depression. Sleep disorders - including insomnia - are now believed to contribute to depression.

4. Lowered immunity. Lack of sleep can make us more infection prone. Lowering of the immune system has certainly been proven.

5. Effects on blood pressure. Just one night of inadequate sleep in people with high blood pressure can lead to raised blood pressure the next day.

6. Accident and injury. Being awake for just 17 hours can lead to a decrease in performance equivalent to a blood alcohol level of 0.05 per cent.

Sleeping tips:

- Become a creature of habit: As much as possible, aim to rise and retire at the same time every day.

- Set a meal curfew: Don't eat a meal later than 8pm or you will kick-start your metabolism, which might keep you awake later. Also be mindful of simple carbs.

- Make your room sleep friendly: Remove distractions such as TV's, pets and make the room as dark as possible.

- Introduce a relaxation ritual: Systematically tense and release all muscles, engage in rhythmic breathing and become totally aware of your breath and body.



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q highlight: HIGH IN THE TREETOPS

Treetops Montville in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland - created for lovers of life and nature. Choose from rainforest or sea view settings in private and secluded tree houses.

In the rainforest setting you have the magic sound of the forest and the running creeks and a short walk to the onsite pool and the National Park.

In the sea view setting daylight brings forth the splendour of the hinterland valley with its ocean view.

At night see the flickering lights of the Hinterland towns and the Coastline spread below.

Romance and Relax in your two person spa bath or get cozy in front of the log fireplace in your plush bathrobes. Delight in the intimacy and tranquility of the beautiful rainforest wrapping around your deck as you sip champagne together. Enjoy your hamper breakfast without having to leave the intimacy of your cabin. Rediscover what life is all about as the rest of the world fades away as for the moment you are the only two people that matter.

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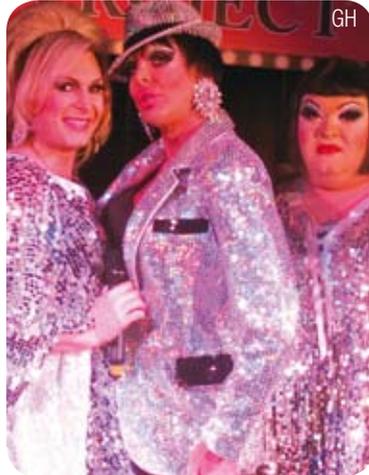
Q Magazine readers receive a bottle of sparkling wine and a cheese and fruit platter on arrival for any 2 nights or more booked.

Please go to the website to see their other specials and packages they have to offer - www.treetopsmontville.com.au

Don't hesitate to ring or email them if you are looking for something special. Freecall: 1800 087 330 Email: info@treetopsmontville.com.au



q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**



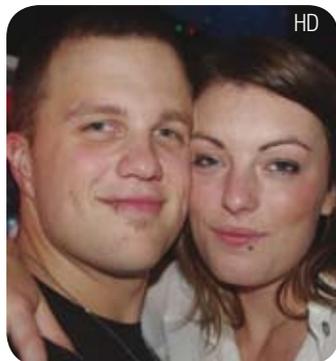


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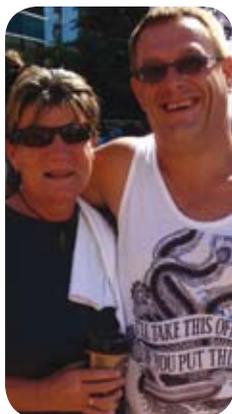


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q scene extra: ASIA PACIFIC OUTGAMES



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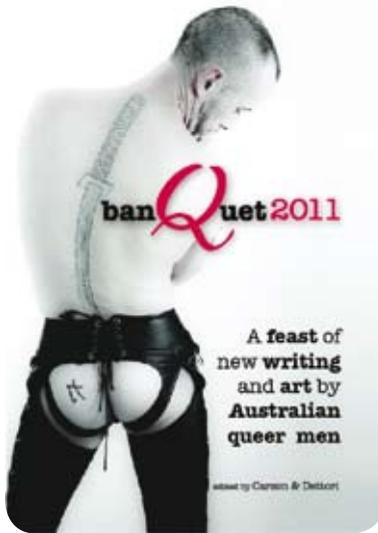
q books: GAY & LESBIAN LITERATURE

For the Girls:

Hurtle into the hearts and bodies of gritty urban dykes, wistful coastal lesbians, fast-enough butches and bois, bisexual affairs, duplicitous nocturnal predators, and a trans-woman and her muse. This Australian-based banQuet of stories, poetry and images resonates with desire, romance and erotica; showcasing scenarios from the fantastical to the painfully familiar, and traversing from the sex-positive to the sex-nasty!

This collection showcases 17 new literary works and 6 recent images.

Anthology; 112 pages; RRP \$24.95



For the Boys:

Edgy protagonists cruise and push the boundaries of male-on-male sex and sexuality in these tales of desire, romance and erotica. This Australian-based banquet of stories, poetry and images showcases provocative, sweat-inducing scenarios of screwing-around and seduction, and of love and lust in every setting imaginable.

This collection showcases 18 new literary works and 5 recent images.

Anthology; 118 pages; RRP \$24.95

Who is banQuetpress?

banQuetpress is an independent Australian publisher. Established in 2009, their first publication was banQuet 2010, an anthology of art and writing by queer Australian women. In 2011 they launched publications by both queer men and women. These anthologies are annual publications. Their mission is to create publishing opportunities for emerging and recently established queer Australian

writers and artists and to provide Australian queer readers stories with a local flavour.

Apart from publishing anthologies, banQuetpress hosts spoken word performances, literary salon events in an exclusive private inner city mansion and Writing Dirty Words workshops for authors.

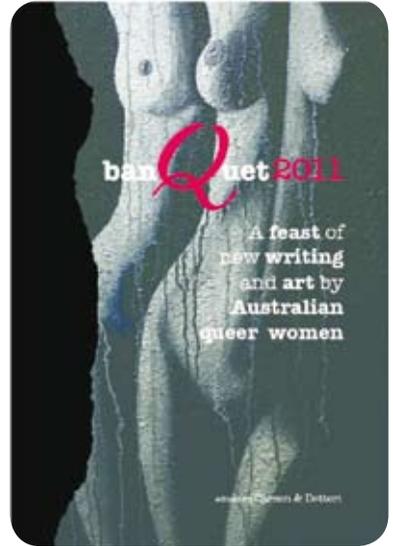
banQuetpress is owned and operated by Laura Dettori and Deanne Carson; and it is financially supported by the editors and queer community fundraising events. Contact: www.banquetpress.com / admin@banquetpress.com

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banQuetpress invites submissions of short fiction, non-fiction and artwork for two new anthologies of desire, romance and erotica. banQuet 2012: a feast of new writing and art by Australian Queer Women and banQuet 2012: a feast of new writing and art by Australian Queer Men. They are looking for new (unpublished works) by emerging and recently established queer Australian writers/artists. Introduce them to your complex and flawed queer protagonists. Challenge and surprise them. Take them for a ride on the seamy side of LGBTBI sex and sexualities.

banQuetpress supports community diversity. Submission deadline: Friday 3.June.2011

Submission Guidelines (essential): www.banquetpress.com



q special: CHELSEA PINES CELEBRATE

Chelsea Pines Inn Unveils Silver Jubilee Package to Mark Significant Milestone. New York City's premier LGBT guesthouse celebrates 25 years of continuous service with a special offer and a significant refurbishment

Chelsea Pines Inn

New York, NY

Chelsea Pines Inn, New York's most upscale gay urban guesthouse, announces its Silver Jubilee package, with a trio of money-saving and memory-making offers. The package, valid for stays of three or more nights from now to December 29, this year, includes:

- A \$25 discount on a reservation for a Deluxe or higher-category room
- A \$25 gift certificate at one of three of Chelsea Pines Inn's favorite local restaurants; and
- Two handsome special-edition Silver Anniversary mugs.

Prices start at \$627 double occupancy for the package, representing a savings of over \$400 from regular rates.

"We are honored to have served our community - and over 250,000 guests and counting - for a quarter century," says Jay Lesiger, founder and current owner of Chelsea Pines Inn. "We've never rested on our laurels. We pride ourselves on our attentive service and have invested close to a million dollars into upgrades over the past several years. If you haven't visited us recently, come see all that's new at the Chelsea Pines Inn."

The inn has many reasons to celebrate. Major renovations include all rooms as well as new furniture and furnishings. The inn expanded its entire entrance level creating a light-drenched lobby, breakfast lounge, greenhouse atrium, and serene rear garden. There's also a new business center with desktop computers and a laser printer for guest convenience. The inn offers free WiFi throughout the property.

Representing one of the best values in the city, the inn features 23 rooms, starting at \$169. Each is equipped with wall-mounted air conditioners, flat screen TVs, iPod docking stations, an iron and ironing board, and a refrigerator. Upping the value proposition, a substantial continental breakfast - featuring homemade bread, cheeses, yogurts, juices, and fresh hot coffee - is offered on a complimentary basis. An on-site owner and management ensure a level of service almost unrivalled in the city among smaller properties.

To book this package, call +1 888-546-2700 or visit ChelseaPinesInn.com. Use offer code CPI25. The offer is subject to availability.

About Chelsea Pines Inn

The 23-room Chelsea Pines Inn celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2011 and recently completed a major \$1 million renovation and soft goods refurbishment project. Chelsea Pines Inn features unique rooms, each one dedicated to a "celluloid hero" from the Golden Age of Hollywood. This independent, value-oriented LGBT-popular guesthouse welcomes all guests with warm, attentive service.

Its location - straddling three of the city's hottest neighborhoods, Chelsea, West Village, and the Meatpacking District - is unbeatable for visitors who wish to be within easy access to major cultural and outdoor attractions, unique shopping, sizzling restaurants, and the city's hottest nightlife.



The advertisement features a photograph of two men embracing warmly on a beach. In the top left corner of the image is the Gay Destination logo, which consists of a stylized 'GD' in orange and red with the text 'gay destination' below it. The main text of the ad is overlaid on the bottom half of the photo.

Where's your next destination?

www.gaydestination.net.au
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q current affairs: ASH HOGAN



It doesn't seem like that long ago that we were swept away on a tide of "Yes we can" enthusiasm, that saw Barack Obama elected as the 44th President of the United States. Two years on, and the candidate who promised sweeping change for Americans, is in danger of being a one term President in the White House in that nation's capital.

The 2010-midterm elections were a disaster for the Democratic Party, with Obama calling them "humbling" and a "shellacking". Losing control of the House of Representatives, the President in recent months has softened his views on a number of key policy issues that were proving unpopular with voters, including that of gay marriage.

Public support for gay marriage in the United States is at a record 53 percent, according to a Washington Post poll released this month; the first time the poll has measured support for gay marriage above 50 percent. In 2004, support was 32 percent.

Whilst the 1996 Defence of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman is still being contested in Federal courts, there was a fairly muted response recently to the President's decision to no longer argue his position.

So it was with interest that I saw Newt Gingrich, former Republican House speaker, throw his hat in the ring for the 2012 Presidential nomination. One of his platforms for

election is to "slow down the progress of gay rights".

In an interview with Bryan Fischer of the antigay American Family Association, Gingrich once again criticized Obama for his decision to no longer defend the law in court. "I think it's very bad judgment on his part," Gingrich told his host. "It tells you how selective this administration is." Gingrich went on to point out his emphasis would be "pro-classical Christianity" if elected to the position.

Once guaranteed to whip up voter opposition, same-sex marriage is losing much of its bite as a political wedge issue, undercut by greater concerns about the economy and growing support for gay marriage among voters.

Whilst Newt Gingrich's position will satisfy a lot of conservative middle Americans, as a platform for election as the President of the United States its unlikely to have much impact.

There are bigger issues at hand.

It's hard to see whether in the United States of America, or here at home, how decisive the issue of marriage equality will continue to be in the future. The NSW election just last week saw the election of an openly gay candidate in the Liberal Government led by now Premier Barry O'Farrell. If rank and file constituents are comfortable electing people to positions of power who hold different sexual orientations, how long will it be before issues of equality are marginalised completely?

We are still facing a lot of challenges in having the issue of marriage equality recognised, debated, addressed. Our Prime Minister Julia Gillard is on record as personally not supporting the proposition, which is unusual given she is an atheist and in a de facto relationship. Senator Penny Wong, openly gay Senator in the current Federal Labor government has deflected her support for gay marriage, and then restated it within a six-month period.

What is now likely is a conscience vote on same-sex marriage will be endorsed at the ALP's national conference late next year, setting the scene for parliament to debate legislative reform in 2012.

It's certainly an interesting time to be a spectator, an advocate, or potential benefactor. Perhaps "Yes we can" is a better metaphor for our progress on equality in the 21st century, rather than an election campaign that offered so much and has delivered so little.

The winds of change are blowing closer.

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

q win: MACHO

Macho Underwear

The Spanish refer to men's lingerie as "ropa interior para hombre".

It's a phrase that sounds as seductive and sensual as the range of g-strings and jockstraps available from daring Latino Underwear label - Macho. From the stylish and cheeky Safe Sex line available in blue, lime, yellow and fuscia, and all carrying the signature pouch sewn into the side just big enough for a condom; to the more traditional black and white colours of the sophisticated Deportivo or Sports line, you are guaranteed to feel free and lucky.

For men needing comfort and support from their g-strings and jockstraps in addition to economy, Macho Underwear offers the perfect solution. In a pair of men's lingerie from Macho you're guaranteed to get in touch with your inner latino.

Available to purchase or simply admire at www.machounderwear.com.au

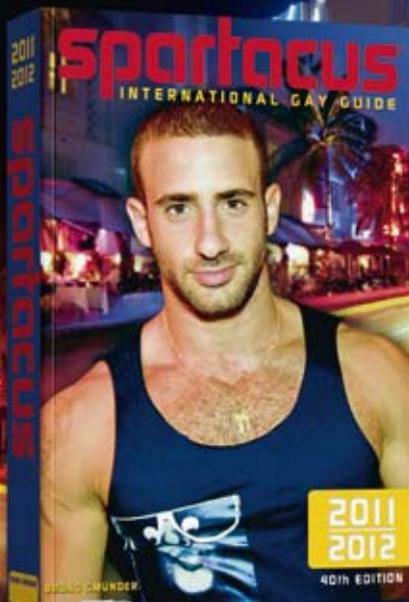
Macho Underwear is giving away 6 pairs of their sexy Safe Sex g-strings so email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with *macho* in the subject line to see if you're one of the lucky winners this month.



* 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 travel: with BARRIE MAHONEY

'Tweeters from the Atlantic'

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



The South American Factor

The Canary Islands have a richness, colour and diversity that are probably unequalled in most parts of Europe. No, I am not talking about the flora and fauna of these islands, but its people. Here you will find people of all colour, faith and no faith, straight, gay and transgendered. In the main, all rub along happily with each other and this is one of the many reasons why I adore these islands so much. The islands offer a culture of 'live and let live' with tremendous energy, vitality and enthusiasm - feelings and impressions that are quickly sensed by our many thousands of tourists to the islands and why they return year after year.

One of my favourite events in Gran Canaria is Carnival in Las Palmas and I would urge anyone who has not experienced this colourful and amazing spectacular to choose (or make) a costume, pack a bag and stay in Las Palmas for a couple of nights during the height of the festival. Be prepared to stay up all night and be hoarse by the end of it all! If you hate late nights, loud noise, crowds

of people and thoroughly enjoying yourself then please don't go! So why is it that Carnival is larger and livelier than most events that you will find anywhere in Europe? I put it down to the South American factor.

My dentist, accountant, lawyer and eye surgeon are all from Argentina, and very good they are too. As most residents will already have discovered, there are many people from South America living and working in these islands and this is one of the reasons why Carnival in Las Palmas is sometimes described as "Second only to Rio". It certainly puts Peninsular Spain to shame when it comes to this spectacular annual event. Indeed, many professional people, as well as bar and restaurant staff from South America, now live and work in the Canary Islands. It is interesting to talk to some of these people and to discover the reasons why they are attracted to these small islands in the Atlantic.

Since the 18th century there has been an outflow of Canary Islanders to parts of South America and to parts of what is now the USA. At one time this was part of Spain's strategy to colonise and populate the newly discovered Americas, and the Spanish Government looked to the Canary Islands for recruits to increase the size of the army in Louisiana, with the dual role of defending the territory, as well as populating it. In more recent times, there was an outflow of migrants from Spain and the Canary Islands and particularly during the periods of economic troubles, avoidance of the obligatory military service, the 1936 - 1939 Civil War, as well as during the period of General Franco's dictatorship between 1939 and 1975. During this time, many Spanish citizens fled from Spain as a result of the Civil War, as well as sending their children to South America for protection. These refugees from Spain eventually settled in Argentina, Cuba, Mexico as well as other countries in Latin America.



Cuba was a particularly welcoming destination for many Canarians and there are still strong links between the Canary Islands and Cuba, at both Island Government and personal levels. There remains a strong feeling of gratitude towards this island in the Caribbean that became home to so many Canarians fleeing from repression and poverty.

Many of these migrants are now of an age when they wish to return to their country of birth and Spain, to its credit, is doing its best to help these Spanish emigrants and particularly by supporting the elderly. Pensions, as well as return visits to Spain for these "children of the Civil War" and who have not visited their country of origin for many years are now provided by the Spanish Government in an attempt to redress some of the injustices that forced them into exile during the Franco dictatorship. Temporary changes to Spanish law under the "Law of Historical Memory" has allowed many children and grandchildren of Spanish emigrants living in Latin American to obtain Spanish citizenship.

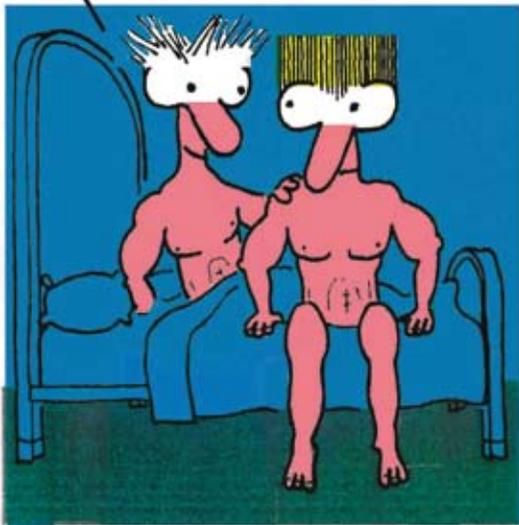
At times of financial crisis, history teaches us that the weakest and most vulnerable members of society are often singled out for criticism and often worse. We heard a great deal about the perceived problems of immigration into the UK during the last General Election. However, in the Canary Islands, we can reflect upon this as a much more positive story and one that has contributed greatly to island life.

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 *by Kichi*

Young, Gay & Hot-to-Trot

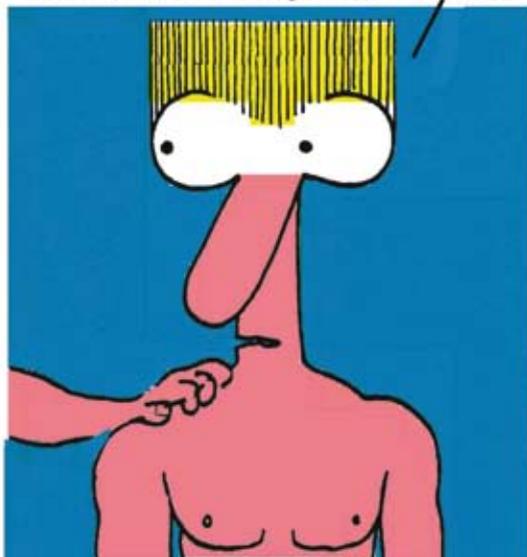
That was wonderful ... just like industrial strength FRACKING !!!



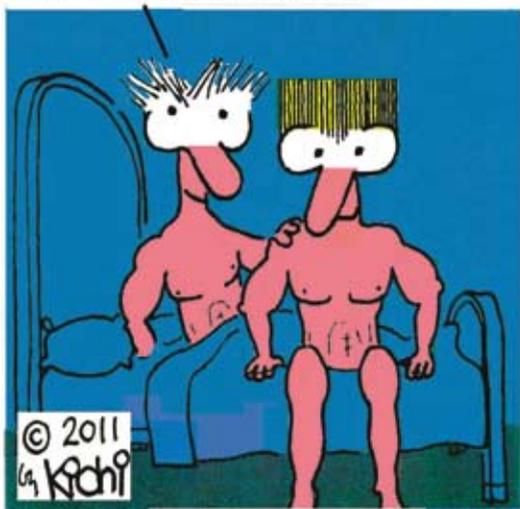
Gaylord Blade, I love you.



Fracking? Oil men use that process to release natural gas from shale!?



Yes. And like them, you drilled deep then injected a fluid to shake loose the ecstasy locked within me!



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