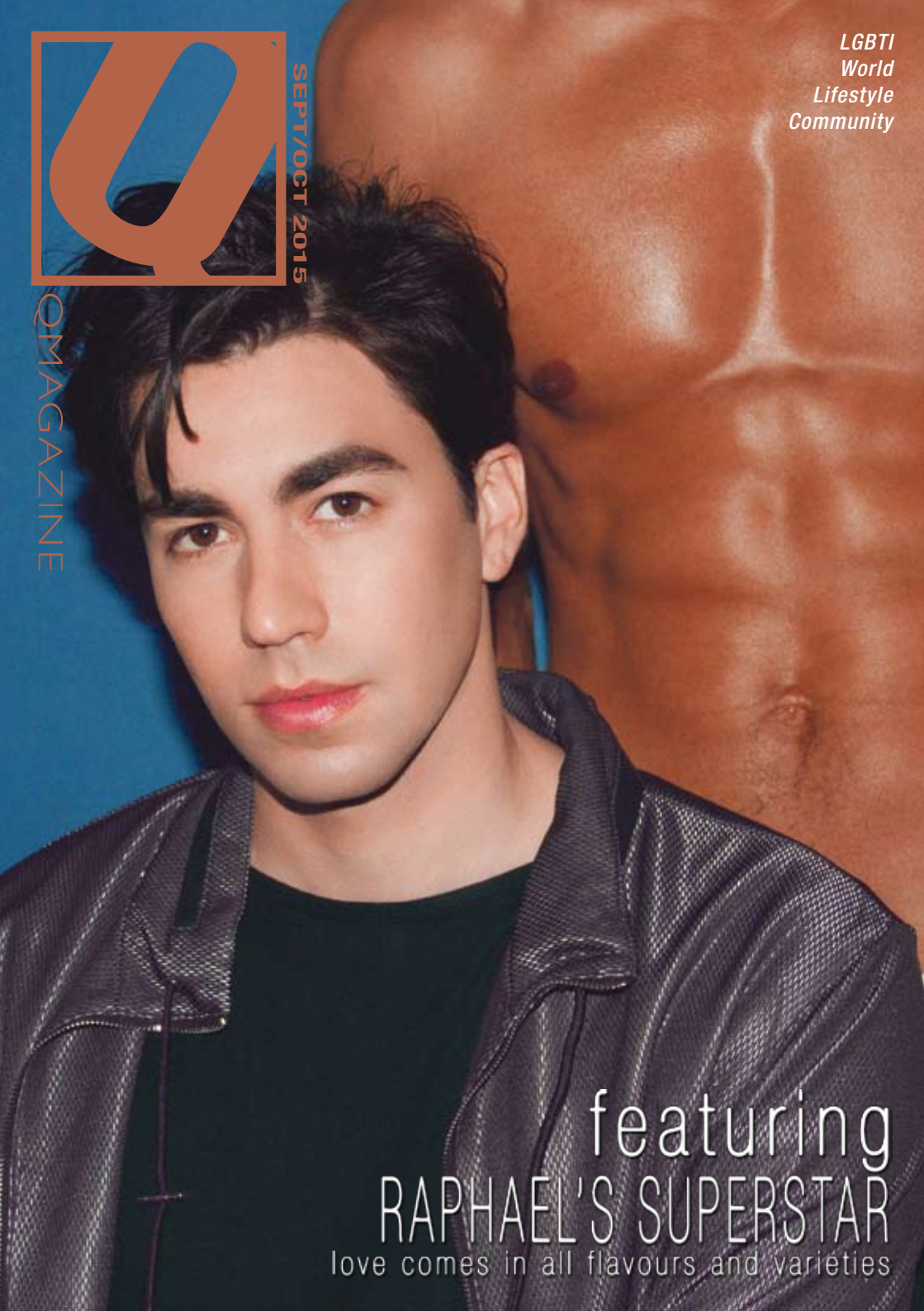




SEPT/OCT 2015

Q MAGAZINE

LGBTI
World
Lifestyle
Community



featuring
RAPHAEL'S SUPERSTAR
love comes in all flavours and varieties



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From October 14 - 18 InterPride - the International Association of Pride Organisers - held its Annual General Meeting & World Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

Along with the regular social events and entertainment, seamlessly provided by Las Vegas Pride aka SNAPI, updating the organisation's rules & regulations - referred to as Bylaws and Standing Rules, and contained within the organisations "constitutional" document: the Methods & Standards Guide, elections were held for half of the Executive Committee.

My fellow Co-President, Sue Doster (NYC) was re-elected for another two year term, Frank Van Dalen (Amsterdam) was elected as Vice-President Operations - Male Identified - non-US, Marsha H. Levine (San Francisco) to the position of Vice President of Operations - Female Identified - US and Jaime Carrillo (San Diego) to Vice President of Operation - Male Identified - US. Linda DeMarco (Boston) was also re-elected to another two year term as the organisation's Treasurer.

This year's conference also marked the 200th member joining the organisation. It was also the stage from which IndyPride (Indianapolis, Indiana, USA) won the bid to host the 2017 conference - following next year's conference in Montpellier, France - and Heritage of Pride/NYC Pride/Stonewall 50 the right to host the 2019 WorldPride - following 2017 in Madrid, Spain.

The highlight for me though was the ability to see the leaders of our Pride Partners, EPOA (European Pride Organisers Association) and Fierté Canada Pride. Viva la difference. Viva la vida.



Global Pride represented at the InterPride 2015 Annual World Conference with (from right) Sue Doster and Brett Hayhoe, Co-Presidents of InterPride, Kristine Gairina - President of EPOA and Wilbur Turner - President of Fierté Canada Pride

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Brett Hayhoe t/a Q Magazine
ABN 21 631 209 230

q feature: **RAPHAEL'S SUPERSTAR**

First Single From His Upcoming Debut Album, "The Dark of My Mind"
by Mark Dawson

Raphael presents a unique sound all his own in "Superstar", the first single from his upcoming album, "The Dark of My Mind." Produced by Barb Morrison, best known for her work with Blondie and Rufus Wainwright, "Superstar" is a song Raphael wrote that combines clever lyrics and a unique flow of spoken-word rap with a hypnotizing electro pop and reggae groove. "While most of my tracks on 'The Dark of My Mind' live in deep, dark waters, 'Superstar' treads closer to shore," explains Raphael. "It is playful, sexy, a little sad and yeah, a bit naughty." "Superstar" is available on Soundcloud now.

Along with the single, Raphael is unleashing a party themed music video he shot over the summer. It tells the story of high school sweethearts. One leaves and becomes famous while the other stays in their hometown. When the superstar returns, everyone in town wants a piece of him while the one left behind simply wants the heart of his lover back. He wonders if the old flame remembers him and the love they once shared.

"We all have superstars in our lives," continues Raphael from his Manhattan apartment. "Guys or girls we idolize like they're celebrities. They might be completely normal to everyone else but to you, they're as appealing as any star on a magazine cover. You are their biggest fan."

"What makes a guy a superstar to me is a beautiful heart," he says, before adding, with a laugh, "It wouldn't hurt if he also has brown eyes."

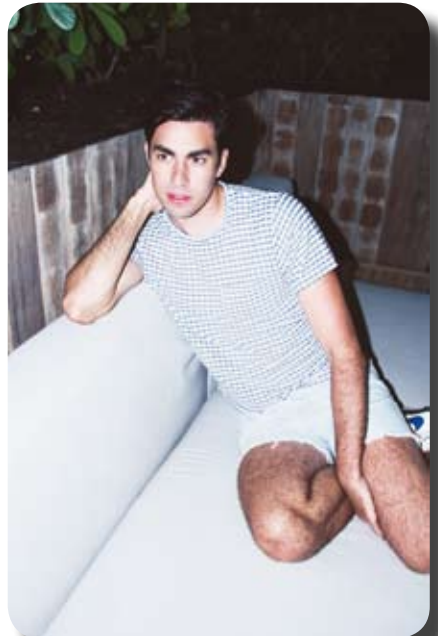
In his music, Raphael aims to bring back the love. According to the young singer, most songs today emphasize independence and an "I'm too cool" attitude towards romance. He misses the desperation and vulnerability in songs from the past where vocalists unapologetically gushed over someone and nothing else mattered.

"The Dark of My Mind" is a journey through modern love set to sexy, moody trip-hop and electro-pop sounds that are at times ethereal and dreamy and at other times flow over the listener with a wave of sexual urgency and romantic longing. "It's about those things that you tuck in the back of your head and you don't necessarily want to talk about or want people to see," explains Raphael.

The album's title is taken from a lyric in "Your Hair", a song featured on the album. Other notable tracks on 'The Dark of My Mind' include "Boys Are Trouble" (a cautionary tale on the dangers of getting lost in love) and "So Quiet", where Raphael allows his vulnerable side to show. "We've all been in that space where we really like somebody and freeze when we find ourselves face-to-face with them."

Raphael was born in New York and raised in Miami Beach, listening to '90s pop, Miami hip-hop, and Max Martin. "I love rap and there are certainly influences of it in my music." He describes his style of songwriting as a stream of consciousness. He writes when inspiration hits and the lyrics usually flow out all at once. He views his songs as a representation of himself as a person and artist.

It is why he doesn't shy from using male pronouns in love songs. "I am grateful to have really supportive friends and family who have always encouraged me to be myself. I realize some are less fortunate which is why I hope my music offers them a space where they feel perfectly normal."



Still, the album isn't defined by Raphael's sexuality. His goal isn't to make statements. As depicted in the music video for "Superstar," he simply aims to show a world where gays mix with straights and it is no big deal.

"I get pretty specific in 'Superstar,' describing everything that drives me crazy about the guy I'm after and how in the end, I realize the sexy stuff doesn't matter because if I can't have his heart, I have nothing. The song reveals a lot about me and how I approach relationships.

"And it's only the beginning of the many layers I peel away at in 'The Dark of My Mind.'"

"Superstar" is available now on Soundcloud at <https://soundcloud.com/officialraphael/superstar-raphael>. Raphael's debut album, "The Dark of My Mind," releases in 2016. For more information visit www.officialraphael.com.



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q arts centre: **MR ALAN CUMMING**

"In the underpopulated arena of male cabaret singers, Mr. Cumming may be the only one with the talent and drive to change its direction."
New York Times



Hot off the back of a New York Times best-selling memoir *Not My Father's Son*, Scottish actor-singer-author Alan Cumming is making his debut in Melbourne for a raucous adults-only one-man cabaret show, *Alan Cumming Sings Sappy Songs*, at Arts Centre Melbourne's Playhouse.

Alan Cumming, Olivier and Tony Award-winning Scottish actor-singer-author, is a shape-shifting trickster, as enthralling and nimble with Shakespeare as he is with show tunes, and an irresistible presence in any room. Joined by his long-time collaborator and Emmy Award-winning musical director Lance Horne, the pair will take command of the stage with the support of an all-Australian band.

Most famously recognised as the Machiavellian advisor Eli Gold in *The Good Wife*, Cumming's diverse career started out in Scottish detective series *Taggart* in 1985. Beyond the stage and screen the 50 year old star can lay claim to being on a postage stamp, named an Icon of Scotland and for having been awarded an O.B.E for his commitment to LGBT rights in Britain and the U.S. He is also a vehement campaigner for Scottish Independence.

The versatile performer won many accolades for his turn as the Emcee on Broadway's *Cabaret* directed by Sam Mendes and famously held post-show parties in his dressing room that became so renowned they even garnered an alcohol sponsor. *Alan Cumming Sings Sappy Songs* takes his irreverent humour and mischief-making show from the dressing room to the stage in a laugh-out-loud evening to remember.

Named by Time Magazine as "one of the three most fun people in show business", audiences are in for a treat as the fearless actor takes them on a wild journey unleashing his comical chatter, hilarious story-telling and wild mix of songs.

"Taking command of the stage with the ease of a vaudevillian who has been treading the boards for decades, Mr. Cumming entertained with a capital E."
New York Times

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q cuisine: with ALESSANDRO RUSSO

Bruschetta Pugliese

Ingredients for 4 people:

- 4 strips of durum wheat (a preference, you can opt for the barley or grains)
- At least 10 cherry tomatoes
- Apulian oil q.s. (Which is extra virgin olive oil delicate high quality)
- fresh basil leaves q.s.
- Salt q.s.
- Water q.s.
- Dried oregano

Preparation:

- To begin, it is necessary that the strips are soaked in water, then ammorbidite depending on your taste, to enjoy them more crispy or soft: leave them in water for at least 30 seconds and up to 1 minute. Then, drain thoroughly;
- Cut the tomatoes into small pieces and placed them in a container, toss with olive oil, salt, and basil;
- Sprinkle with the mixture frize that, if desired, you can first rub with a clove of garlic;
- Finally, add the oregano, even a little oil and serve, combining basil leaves and whole tomatoes as a garnish.

The ideal accompaniment is with the white wine, such as the Locorotondo DOC or, alternatively, the lager. Favorite soft drink? We recommend chinotto. If, instead, you are fond of variants, including the optional additional ingredients with which you can enrich your Friselle suggest tuna, anchovies and chilli.



q fitness: with CHRIS GREGORIOU

How to get a celebrity body
...Like Hugh Jackman

Having a celebrity body is not something most stars are born with. Those big biceps, washboard abs and toned calves require planned and consistent training. They certainly were not born that way, just look at Justin Beaver's transformation over the recent period. He certainly didn't have his recent body growing up or over the last few years.

From Hugh Jackman to Chris Hemsworth and even Jai Courtney, Australia knows how to produce home grown muscle. As professional actors, these guys have an exceptional level of understanding of their body and what is required, both inside and out, to achieve a particular physical look or stature. Although the world of celebrity is often glamorised and exaggerated for consumer purposes, those dedicated to their health and fitness follow a routine with precision and dedication and surround themselves with the right support, such as personal trainers, dieticians and physios and coaches in order to keep their mind focussed and body sharp.

A shining example of how to do it right is Aussie star, Hugh Jackman. When he is training to grow muscle, he certainly achieves this, but with the right mental and physical investment, even the average fella can go from Josh Thomas to Hot in 90 days.



Although genetics play a major part in dictating physical results, the first step is to understand your key motivations and barriers. I call this being MindFIT. By realising what inspires and drives your dedication will help you sustain long-term change and keep your eye on the prize. Whenever I take on new clients at my North and West Melbourne studios, I spend time addressing barriers and potential inhibitors that can affect progress and help clients implement strategies to combat and alleviate what can sometimes be an emotional journey of transformation. The second element to being MindFIT is to set clear objectives, both short term and long term goals, in order to easily track growth and boost motivation. Perfect if you've got a movie deadline in the works or a stage show.

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NEUTER
YOUR DOG

q drag: JACQUELINE MICHEL

Jacqueline Michel (Jacqui Roberts) has been in show business for more than 30 years. Starting out with the legendary Pokey's in the 90s she has performed around Australia and been a leading mannequin in some of Australia's top fashion events. Alan Mayberry spoke to Jacqui about her great experiences.

If I am to be honest about my story, like anyone's it is a story of ups and downs. I could present a picture of an entirely happy life but I give the readers the credit of intelligence of knowing an entirely happy story is not a full story. My time at school is an experience that is probably best forgotten as it was not the most fun place to be. Being bullied was a constant worry and I remember running home every day and losing myself in the world of *Dr Who*. I'm a still a serious *Dr Who* fan to this day.

Growing up in Melbourne with a father who was less than tolerant and found it easier to express himself physically, meant that home was little sanctuary and as such I found my escape in the world of fantasy and Sci-Fi – thus my being an out and proud geek to this day.

As a result I didn't fare well at school in Prahran and my grades suffered. I like to think of myself as well learned, but most I have taught myself. I have a great passion for learning and sharing ideas and debates. My parents were not good accepting my being a transwoman, but in the few years before she passed my mother and I managed to build a wonderful relationship. She was very determined that I know that she loved and had come to accept me as I am. My father I haven't had a meaningful interaction with for 30 years, and for a long time I was very angry that he would reject and be so cruel in his stand on my identity amongst other things. I have learned that his problem is just that, it's *his* problem. I held myself hostage to that for most of my life but have since forgiven him. Forgiveness is not about letting him off the hook, but about understanding him and letting myself go.

The first time I dressed as a girl at 15 years old was funny and perhaps a little prophetic. My sister dressed me up as a schoolgirl and we went to the *Hookers and Deviants Ball* in Carlton. It was hilarious as I was young and dressed as a schoolgirl – it was like a red flag to all those horny males. What could I do but oblige? Suffice to say it was an interesting introduction to femaleness and of course I loved it and I have never looked back.

As a Transwoman I transitioned very young, 16 years of age. Transitioning was a very difficult time as like many I was isolated from family and friends and spent part of that time living on the street. With the help of my dear friend Laura Gryffyn, I began my performance career at the Casablanca club on Fitzroy St, St Kilda as a means of getting myself off the street. From Casablanca I went on to 397 in the city and made friends there I have kept for life. It was from here that I went on to work at Pokey's, at first being asked by Doug Lucas to perform a 3 week stint. On the first night I was told – not asked – by Jan Hillier that I was the newest permanent member of the show. Jan was always so proud of her girls known as the Fab 4 including Terri Tinsel, Renée Scott, Debra Le Gae and Michelle Tozer, all of whom were possibly the most influential on me as a performer. Renée Scott taught me that performing a number should not just be about miming someone else's song but about acting it out, living in the song, in the moment. One of the most treasured compliments I ever received was from Jan saying to me that I was born 10 years too late and if I was in Pokeys 10 years earlier it would have been the Fab 5 rather than the Fab 4.

During and after Pokey's there were other amazing career opportunities. Apart from Melbourne's biggest and best clubs I also had the honor of working for the visionary Tony DiDio in many Warehouse and Dance Party shows. I also had the good fortune of working with Melbourne's Premier Showgirl Michelle Tozer modelling around Victoria. It was not long after this time in the early 90s that I had the opportunity to work and live in Japan with a troupe based out of Adelaide. My colleagues for this fantastic experience were Nathan



Buckingham, Ramon, Deanna and one of my all-time favorite performers, Sianne Tate. From there I worked at 3 Faces with Skye Brookes, Caresse and Loco Minx in *New Wigs On The Block* while also working with Tabitha Turlington, Lucy Loosebox, Miss Paris and Jennifer Anne Wells regularly at the Xchange Hotel. These were the days when Commercial Road South Yarra was the Golden Mile of Melbourne and the show scene in Melbourne was diverse, inclusive and flourishing. I've graced stages around Australia and Japan since the mid 80s. I performed under the name of Jacqui Roberts back then, as Robert was my middle name before my transition. I have since moved on to using my name Jacqueline Michel which I much prefer to go by now. It is a nod to my stepfather Joe Michel who is the father that I know and loves me as I am.

I was extremely lucky to be asked personally by Carlotta to join a new show she had put together called *My Beautiful Boys* along with Millie Minogue. I hated the title of the show but loved the experience. I had the opportunity to work with some of my drag idols during that show including the likes of Malika Lam, Jacqui Monier, Monique St John, Monique Kelly and of course Carlotta herself. I had a wonderful time and will forever treasure the lessons I learned and experiences gained from such a brilliant opportunity. It was during the run of Carlotta's show that I underwent my gender correction surgery. While this was the best thing for me to do personally, it did, along with a few other experiences make me begin to question my whole place in the world of drag.

I cannot talk about performing if I didn't mention the honor I had of being the Muse and model for one of my dearest friends and brilliant costumier Robert Dean. Working with Robert was arguably the most enriching and rewarding experience of my career. I not only modelled for Robert but I particularly enjoyed workshoping ideas and executing those ideas creatively in helping to physically bring Robert's visions to life.

I retired from drag for a few years, about 12 actually, and focused on other aspects of life. I found some interests that appealed to and allowed me to express myself creatively. I am an extremely creative soul and feel stifled if I don't allow that part of me to flourish. The things I most enjoy to do creatively are cooking and photography.

As I said earlier I was having difficulty reconciling being a sex change and doing drag shows. I had come to the conclusion that they were incompatible as one has surgery to be a woman. I have since lived a little more, experienced a few ups and downs and opened my eyes to being more relaxed about the world. I have realised what the whole point of Drag is. Drag is not about just 'men dressed as women'. For me Drag is purely and simply about self-expression in relation to sexuality and gender diversity. There are so many varying types of Drag, from Clown to Camp to Fishy to Trans, not forgetting there are also drag Kings. Transpeople have and do contribute so much to the LGBTI community, and I am proud to stand on stage to represent our community for all its diversity.



q musical: **MATILDA IN MELBOURNE**

The Royal Shakespeare Company, Louise Withers, Michael Coppel & Michael Watt today announced that Matilda The Musical will commence performances at Melbourne's Princess Theatre from 13 March 2016 for a strictly limited season. The winner of over 50 international awards, including 12 for Best Musical, the RSC's production of Matilda The Musical is currently enjoying a highly successful season in Sydney with standing ovations at every performance and tickets currently on sale for performances through to 31 January.

Matilda The Musical is based on the beloved novel by best-selling author Roald Dahl (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Fantastic Mr. Fox). It is the story of an extraordinary girl who armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny.



Having proven an enormous success in London's West End and on Broadway, where productions continue to play to packed houses and capture the imagination of young and old alike, Matilda The Musical opened to unqualified rave reviews in Sydney earlier this year. The Daily Review described the production as "nothing short of a miracle". The Australian said the show "makes you want to punch the air with delight" and Time Out Sydney called the production "a freaking masterpiece".

Matilda The Musical is directed by Tony Award® winner Matthew Warchus (God of Carnage), who helms this production with a book by Tony Award®-winning playwright Dennis Kelly and music and lyrics by Australian Tim Minchin.

The production has sets and costumes by Tony Award® winner Rob Howell, with choreography by Tony Award® winner Peter Darling (Billy Elliot), orchestrations, additional music and musical supervision by Christopher Nightingale, lighting by Tony Award® winner Hugh Vanstone, and sound by Simon Baker.

Matilda The Musical was commissioned by the RSC and played to sold-out audiences at the Courtyard Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon for twelve weeks from November 2010 to January 2011. It transferred to London's West End on Tuesday 25 October 2011 where it opened to rave reviews.

The New York production of Matilda The Musical opened on 11 April 2013 at Broadway's Shubert Theatre to rapturous reviews and was celebrated on 10 "Top Ten" lists for 2013, including TIME Magazine's #1 Show of the Year. Matilda The Musical's award-winning success includes sweeping the board at the 2012 Laurence Olivier Awards in London with a record-breaking seven awards, and winning four Tony Awards® and a Tony Honor for Excellence in the

Theater for each of the four girls sharing the title role on Broadway in 2013. Matilda The Musical is produced in Australia by the Royal Shakespeare Company, Louise Withers, Michael Coppel & Michael Watt with Andr  Ptaszynski and Denise Wood as Executive Producers.

About the RSC

The Royal Shakespeare Company creates theatre at its best, made in Stratford-upon-Avon and shared around the world. Everyone at the RSC - from actors to armourers, musicians to technicians - plays a part in creating the world you see on stage. All our productions begin life at our Stratford workshops and theatres and we bring them to the widest possible audience through our touring, residencies, live broadcasts and online activity. So wherever you experience the RSC, you experience work made in Shakespeare's home town.

We encourage everyone to enjoy a lifelong relationship with Shakespeare and live theatre. We produce an inspirational artistic programme each year, setting Shakespeare in context, alongside the work of his contemporaries and today's writers. We have trained generations of the very best theatre makers and we continue to nurture the talent of the future. We reach 530,000 children and young people annually through our education work, transforming their experiences in the classroom, in performance and online. Registered charity no. 212481 www.rsc.org.uk

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q travel: with BARRIE MAHONEY

'Tweeters from the Atlantic'

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



Boozing Whilst Cruising

Judging from some of the expat correspondence that I have read recently, many of the more sober Brits are not too impressed to discover that many of their countrymen are so badly behaved in Spain that British policemen were sent over this season to several resorts to assist the Spanish police. Hailed as a "success" in Mallorca and Ibiza, Benidorm now wants to get in on the act and have British bobbies on the beat there too.

It seems that we are now entering a new phase in international relations since we cannot trust Brits to behave well abroad. British officers will now be sent to traditional party hotspots that are popular with young Brits. Apparently, "Seeing a British bobby patrolling the streets or on the beach helps tourists to feel at home," according to a Valencian regional spokesperson.

That may be true, but how many Brits see a bobby patrolling the streets anywhere in the UK nowadays? It's years since this particular species were last seen patrolling the streets; after all, the weather is just too appalling to go outside. Maybe a holiday to a popular Spanish resort just to see a British bobby in action will become the latest tourist attraction?

Do British tourists really need to "feel at home" when on holiday? Surely, the point of going to another country for a holiday is to get away from home? Surely, British tourists are going to try real Spanish food, sample the superb wines, enjoy delicious tapas, traditional music and dancing? Sadly not, since although the TV comedy 'Benidorm' is meant to be a parody of Brits abroad, it is so funny, because it is actually true. The last thing a Brit on holiday in Benidorm, Mallorca or Ibiza wants is to be in a foreign country. Paella? You must be joking; its fish and chips that will really do the trick.

A nice Spanish Rioja? Forget it; just hand over a pint of the local (preferably dirt cheap) brew. Tapas? Well, that's not proper food, is it? As for traditional music and dancing, no way! Lets just get bladdered and head off to the local disco pub.

Sadly, British police abroad will have no powers to arrest, but will serve "to remind British tourists the importance of observing local laws and customs," according to the rather pompous declaration from the British Embassy. Possibly this explains why two of the British officers sent under the trial scheme this summer were widely criticised in social media for observing local customs a little too much. Swimming with the tourists, taking selfies with holidaymakers, and with one officer reportedly participating in a boozy night out was maybe not the right way to start a new assignment as an ambassador and good example to fellow Brits.

One interesting aspect of the Benidorm scheme will be a system of exchange with officers from Spain's National Police going to areas of Britain where there are more Spanish nationals. What an excellent idea, which should mean one or two policemen on the beat. I have every respect for Spain's National Police, who are mostly very professional and well trained, but they are not to be argued with. It will be most interesting to see how they deal with offenders in the more notorious parts of Britain.

Meanwhile, readers will be pleased to hear that the latest crime wave to hit the streets of Benidorm, that of illegally riding mobility scooters, is going to be tackled more seriously in future. After all, being run down by a perfectly healthy, but inebriated teenager riding a mobility scooter may not be the best way to start a holiday in the sun. In true 'Benidorm Madge' fashion, 'boozing whilst cruising' on such a vehicle will be frowned upon and 'booze filled' races will be crossing the line.

It seems that the town has more than its fair share of disabled Brits visiting with over 500 mobility scooters on the resort's streets every day. These 'booze bikes' will now be banned for people under the age of 55 with no physical disability, with fines of 36 to 65 euros for those who ignore the ban. Madge certainly has a lot to answer for.

If you enjoyed this article, take a look at Barrie's websites: www.barriemahoney.com and www.thecanaryislander.com or read his book, 'Expat Voice' (ISBN: 9780992767174). Available in paperback, as well as Kindle. iPhone/iPad and Android Apps: ExpatInfo, CanaryIsle and CanaryGay now available.

q fundraiser: **SIR ELTON & LALIQUE**

Elton John AIDS Foundation, LALIQUE and Paddle8 announce
ELTON JOHN MUSIC IS LOVE FOR LALIQUE
A new project to help raise critical funds for the global fight to end AIDS

The Elton John AIDS Foundation, a leader in the global fight to end AIDS, LALIQUE, one of the world's best-known manufacturers of crystal, and Paddle8, the premier online auction house, today unveiled the ELTON JOHN MUSIC IS LOVE FOR LALIQUE, a collection of seven exceptional crystal sculptures, four of which will be auctioned and sold to raise critical funds to fight the global HIV/AIDS epidemic.

"For me, this partnership with LALIQUE clearly demonstrates the company's deep commitment to its role as a global corporate citizen," said Elton John, founder of the Elton John AIDS Foundation. "We are proud to partner with LALIQUE and Paddle8 to raise funds that will support important projects in the fight against AIDS in the Americas and in the Caribbean."

Three pieces from the MUSIC IS LOVE collection are available for purchase at LALIQUE boutiques nationwide and select retailers. These pieces include the crystal angel, limited to 999 worldwide (\$1,800), the red crystal heart, limited to 499 worldwide (\$1,800) and the clear crystal heart, limited to 999 worldwide (\$1,200). 10% of the proceeds will benefit the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

The masterpiece of the collection, the unique Angel Cire Perdue in clear and red crystal, together with three additional unique special editions of the standing Angel and Heart, will be auctioned off by Paddle8 at the Elton John AIDS Foundation's annual Academy Awards Viewing Party on February 28, 2016. These special pieces will be available online in the weeks leading up to the live auction and accessible via Paddle8.com and Paddle8's free iPhone app, which is used by Paddle8's global community of 500,000 collectors. Paddle8 co-founder Alexander Gilkes will also serve as live auctioneer for the third consecutive year at the viewing party. All proceeds from the auction will benefit the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

Dedicated website: eltonjohnmusicislove.lalique.com





q win: AUSTRALIAN WINE GUIDE

In the fully updated and revised 33rd edition of *Australian Wine Vintages*, Rob Geddes MW provides readers with the definitive guide to selecting the best quality local vintages in any price range.

Aiming to showcase the top 10% of wineries that consistently deliver quality, the popular pocket-sized book (also available as an App) includes detailed tasting notes, vintage quality and indicative prices for over 6,000 wines from over 300 of Australia's best wineries, with 40 new wineries included in this edition. It also includes an updated list of Certified Organic and Biodynamic wineries, past vintage details for those who are cellaring or trading back vintages, as well as a guide to the various wine varieties and regions so you know what to look for. Accompanied by a panel of experts from other Master of Wine recipients, Sommeliers, major retail buyers and winemakers, all of the wines featured are tasted independently and objectively. Below Rob lists his top low alcohol wine picks:

Top Low Alcohol Wine picks - Rob Geddes

Pewsey Vale Eden Valley Prima Riesling 2015 94/100 \$26.00 9.5%
The best yet. Evolving lime classic riesling aromas with plenty of floral and musk intensity, then rose, pineapple, lime, juicy fruit chewing gum, and extra quality intensity of gingery brown spices on the aromas. The palate wraps off with dry sweetness and sweet lime, toward nectarine like. Gains momentum with middle palate rose and juicy stone fruit fullness and subtle acidity. A great introduction to riesling.

Thomas Wines 2008 Braemore Cellar reserve Semillon 92/100 \$50.00 10.0%
This displays early mature aromas, honey, toast and dances on the palate thanks to nimble acids. The lithe light bodied roundness shows lemon grass fruit, citrus peel in the middle palate and honey toasted wheat bread on the finish.

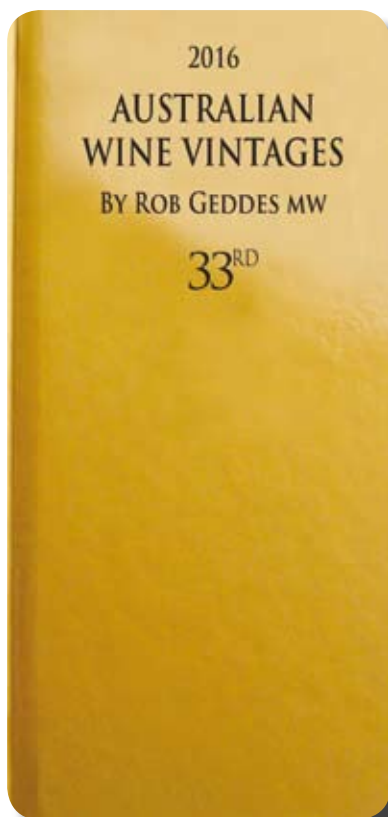
A.Retief Wines Gundagai 2012 Shiraz 94/100 \$28.00 11.0%
A biodynamic managed vineyard and quite a good example of how this system can produce balanced wines with less alcohol than the conventional alcohol in difficult years. Very pretty cool climate regional nose smacks of raspberry with white and black pepper which leads to a sweet fruited, rich red berry, and minty edged berry fruits evolving into spices and holding firm, to finish chalky raspberry.

Yering Station 2011 Pinot Noir 90/100 \$38.00 11.5%
A strawberry manifest of cooked, candied and fresh, touch of truffles, with tomato and earth in the back ground. The freshness continues and the flavours are strawberry, tobacco with a gentle middle palate of bright acid bringing up the finish. Ideally suited for Japanese food.

Moorilla Estate Muse Extra Brut Sparkling Rose 2010 92/100 \$49.00 11.9%
A rose petal, strawberry, fruit tingles note in an overall very fine fragrance. The palate starts fresh strawberry, creamy yoghurt elements up front, strawberry middle and backed by the lemony acidity driving the finish. Sommeliers style of the sparkling wine.

Rob Geddes is a wine industry veteran, one of the few Australians to be awarded the 'Master of Wine', and author of *Australian Wine Vintages* (\$35.00). The 33rd edition is now available at book stores or online at www.thegoldbook.com.au

We have five (5) of these amazing looking guides to give away. You can throw your hat in the ring by emailing getfree@qmagazine.com.au with WINE in the subject line.



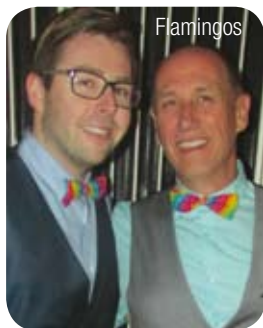
* All prizes are open to everyone, except those which specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Entries close on the final day of each calendar month with the prize draw taking place at 5pm the following day at Apt. 7, 16 Westbury Grove, St. Kilda East 3183. Names and addresses of people winning 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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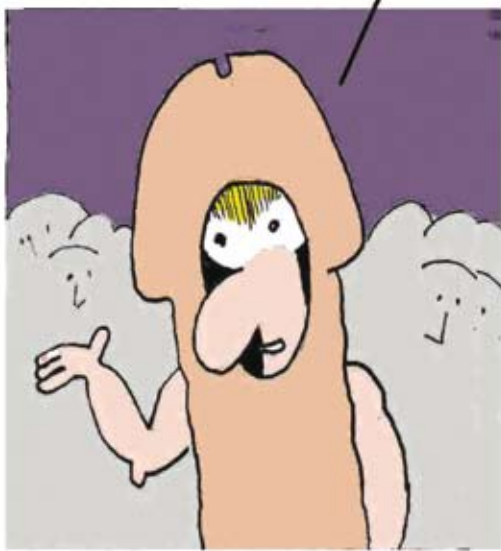


Gaylord Blade by KICHI

That wig was driving me nuts. I'm not doing Halloween next year!



I know. We fight hard for our identity as Gay men, then we strut around pretending to be someone else



So, why haven't YOU given up on Halloween, Gaylord?



The prize for best costume !





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