



MARCH 2009

Q MAGAZINE

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#59 Izett St PRAHRAN P: 9510 3408.....Formerly "The Shaft Store"

q comment: A TRUE HONOUR

There were many wonderful things about this year's Pride March Victoria, but none more personal than what happened on the stage in Catani Gardens.

The wonderful members of the Australian Order of Perpetual Indulgence (OPI) bestowed upon me a Saint Hood.

When I was told by Mother and Sister Sofonda that they had decided to award me with such an honour, I was actually speechless (possibly for the first time in my life). I hold both the order and what they have done (and continue to do) world-wide with the utmost respect, making the Saint Hood an even greater honour in my eyes.

The Sisters and Brothers of The Order of Perpetual Indulgence strive to uphold their vows to promulgate universal joy and to expiate stigmatic guilt, pledging their loyalty to public service, social activism and spiritual enlightenment.

They work towards a world where loving someone of the same sex is not a crime, nor is it a reason for shame.

They wear antiquated, outdated religious habits which parody the antiquated, outdated views still held by established religions and those people that propagate hatred and bigotry.

They also use "Gay Male Nuns" and "Lesbian Monks" in their terminology, as there are no such animals in the ranks of the Roman Catholic religious!

Thank you Barry, Greg, Peter and all the girls for this great honour - I will wear it (and the title) with pride.



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ABN 21 631 209 230



q feature: **ISN'T SHE LOVELY**

The Queen Miss Left Titter Show is now in it's second online season through the website www.qmlt.com.au. After the success of the first season, both nationally and internationally, Queen Miss Left Titter and her crew, made up of Jock, Aunt Ethal and Tam are back behind the cameras ready to take on what can only be described as another year of crazy and yet totally zany antics and instalments that only a bunch of puppets could possibly produce.

Highlights from season one have included celebrity and not so celebrity interviews along with run-ins with the likes of Niki Webster, and catching a Sydney radio news reader drunk and rambling whilst celebrating Kylie's birthday party. In the first year of the show, the Queen and her crew became one of ten of the most interesting members of the Australian leg of the social networking website MySpace, as well as marching up Oxford Street for Mardi Gras, the red carpet for Sydney's prestigious DIVA (Drag Industry Variety Awards) Ceremony, and a string of live performances in some of Sydney's most popular gay night clubs.

Queen Miss Left Titter made a sudden burst on the Sydney gay scene by being the only drag queen puppet with her own quirky online TV show, bragging to be "the best show out of all the online TV shows that are hosted by a drag queen puppet!" The show grew in size and popularity in this period, with the addition of new characters including muscle bound hunk, Jock, the Queen's loopy, eccentric and senile aunt, Aunt Ethal, and finally Tam, the show's stage hand - a depressed, manic depressive purple cockroach.

This unconventional combination of unlikely characters have gelled well together to become the talk of many - with interview requests from the likes of celebrity drag queen, Courtney Act, singer Dan Knight, internet personality David Paris, dancer Wil Sabin and Hollywood actor Matthew Riddlehoover.

In this time the 'Queen' (as she became so admirably known as) fast grew a reputation as being an unconventional, politically incorrect, humorous bitch mainly because of her lack of respect for societies, outcasts, amateur drag queens and lesbians. Hate groups, death threats and stalkers soon followed, becoming an issue for her safety - forcing her into hiding in the later months of 2008. This, originally thought of as a joke, became quite serious, leading to the falling out of the Queen's management and the hospitalisation of the Queen's creator due to high levels of stress.

Many thought that this would be the end of what is known as The Queen Miss Left Titter Show, but the queen promised not to go down without a fight, coming back with an even higher rating end of year season than anyone could imagine. Included was the giant 2008 Christmas special cover of Jingle Bell Rock, which received regular airplay on Melbourne's gay Radio Station Joy 94.9FM.

So what is to become of The Queen Miss Left Titter Show in its second season? There is talk of bigger interviews, more elaborate sketches, more public outings, pay TV coverage, radio, print columns, stage shows, travel and a big budget something or rather. This all could be true, or it could just be an attempt to paint a big picture because the creators are just as clueless as you are.



q destination: TANGALOOMA

by Wally Cowin.

Tangalooma, on beautiful Moreton Bay is the latest Queensland resort to join GALTA (Gay & Lesbian Tourism Australia) -joining a long list of Gay owned & Gay friendly accommodation options Australia-wide.

To get there from Brisbane, catch the Catamaran, Tangalooma Jet (a huge Queensland built wave piecer) from its Holt Street pier at Pinkenba. At the jetty on Moreton island you will most probably be met by multi-skilled Morrie, the guests services officer. Morrie is able to talk and walk backwards - all the way from the jetty to check in, while conducting an informative guest orientation.

The view of Australia from a Kookaburra Court unit is magnificent. Up among a canopy of ferns, palms and feathered friends, the crystal clear turquoise and green bay waters beckons. We chose however to sit and watch the sunset over the Glasshouse Mountains. Downstairs, it was Kookaburra feeding time - near the beach volleyball court with everybody and bird - a - laughing!

Beach side Tangatours office has many aquatic diversions including para sailing, sail boarding, or jet ski-hire, with canoe paddling, kayaking or aqua biking if you're not too tired. The Tangalooma wrecks (an artificial reef of submerged hulks) act as a magnet for the marine life. For many of Moreton Island's visitors this dive adventure is a big "must do". You can visit the wrecks by boat or swim from the beach, but for the thrill of a life time you have to jump on one of the resorts all-terrain quad bikes. After a basic training course you can explore the tracks at the back of the resort all the way to the top of the hill. Or you may wish to book on the Northern Safari 4x4 Land cruiser tour to Cape Moreton lighthouse.

This daily tour includes an exhilarating eastern beach sand drive on the return run. The lighthouse was built by New South Wales using convict labour in the days before there was a Queensland. The lighthouse today is still directing mega tankers to the Port of Brisbane. On reflection I wonder what sights the light has shone on.



Back at the resort, Tangalooma restaurants offer a wide range of international dishes. You'll find "Signature" steaks ordered from the steakhouse on the beach are all MSA grade. If you're an early bird (seated before six) you get free soup and desert. Tursips (Dolphin) restaurant (the all you can eat all day buffet) opens with a beaut breakfast from 7am. At Tursips bar (next door) you can see a mini museum on Moreton's early days as a whaling station. Nowadays Moreton Island is nearly all national park.

Moorgumpin (meaning "place of sand hills") is the Aboriginal name for Moreton island, which is Quandamooka country. Moreton Bay was named by Capitan James Cook after the president of the royal society in Britain in May 1770. The original inhabitation of Moreton Island paid dearly for this discovery. What smallpox and disease didn't kill, wild colonial massacres did. The maritime massacre continued under Norwegian expertise at the tail end of a once lucrative worldwide whale trade. With the herds so depleted, they say catchers resorted to ambushing mothers and calves on their way home to the Antarctic just to make up the quota. It's said it's taken til today for whale numbers to start increasing with whale sightings on the resorts whale watching boasting a 99% spotting rate.

At twilight eager Tangalooma residents gather at the Marine education center for a briefing on the dolphin care program. In the grandstand, hundreds more wait for the lights to flood the dolphin feeding area. The Tangalooma pod of dolphins are inshore bottle nosed dolphin - a core group of eight and two calves. One by one we hold our fish under the water - the eager dolphin doing the rest. The resort photoshop is on hand as everyone leaves with a smile on their face.

As we board the Tangalooma Flier for a night cruise back home.

For more information, including some fabulous packages on from now til the end of March, go to tangalooma.com OR galta.com.au



q community: MQFF

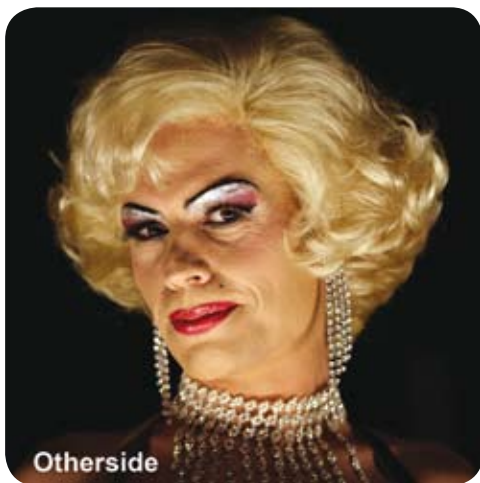
MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL 18 - 29 March 2009

One of the largest queer film festivals in the world, the Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF), will this year screen more than 150 films over twelve days of fun and frivolity.

Get into the swing of MQFF this year with festival highlights including; *Affinity*, a sumptuous period piece, based on Sarah Waters' 1999 novel. *Fashion Victims*, a classic German comedy about a travelling salesman who finds his territory challenged by a young rival – who also becomes romantically involved with his secretly-gay son; *To Faro*, a tangle of alternative identities where a price is paid for living a double life; writer-director Vincent Garenq's *Baby Love* which tackles the controversial subject of same-sex adoption in a crowd-pleasing manner; the French miniseries *What Love Means*, spans over 20 years and follows the lives, loves, and tragedies of an extended family beginning in the early 1980s; and *The Other Side* (A Outra Margem), a humanist drama about a drag queen who, after his lover commits suicide, re-connects with his sister while finding hope from her son who refuses to let the fact that he suffers from Down Syndrome prevent him from pursuing his dreams.

For more information on MQFF, go to: melbournequeerfilm.com.au

This year's MQFF will be out loud and proud at the Melbourne Centre for the Moving Image



q money: with EVAN DAVIS

G'day and welcome to Q money.

A friend of mine showed me videos of her New Zealand holiday. With no hesitation she threw herself over the edge of a bridge and straight into a free fall. My heart was beating rapidly. I watched the tiny figure fall further and further from sight until she gently skimmed the surface of the river and rapidly come back into view as her bungee cord contracted.

Suddenly her face was back on camera. Judging by the war cry, ecstatic face, heavy breathing and nearly visible adrenalin pumping through her veins the experience was exhilarating. The massive irony was this woman was my risk adviser. That is to say she sells life insurance.

I looked at her in disbelief. Surely risk insurance is the domain of the risk adverse. The type of person who enjoys grey cardigans, quiet indoor activities and slow drives listening to AM radio. These people would avoid extreme sports like the plague.

She could see my horror and said 'If you'll only try something when you are sure its right you won't ever try new things. Any way it's safe, way safer than sex in any event' I thought she must have very different sex to me as she started to explain the types of risk insurance:

Income protection protects your lifestyle. Also known as salary continuance it usually pays a monthly benefit of up to 75% of your regular income if you're too sick or injured to work. This type of insurance is great for paying the mortgage, children's school fees, various bills and basically all of your day-to-day living expenses.

Total and permanent disablement cover provides a lump sum payment if you're totally and permanently disabled. This cover can help you pay for medical expenses, repay major debts and help provide for your future.

Trauma cover provides a lump sum payment if you're diagnosed with a specified 'trauma' condition. The types of conditions that trauma cover will cover you for include heart attack, multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, major organ transplant, severe burns, cancers, dementia, stroke or paralysis - to name a few. Trauma cover is designed to help cover your increased medical costs and living expenses, providing you some financial security during the important recovery process.

Death cover offers you the security that if the unexpected were to happen, at least your family won't have to worry about money. Death cover works by making a lump sum payment to your family if you die. This sort of cover is helpful to people of all ages as especially if you have others relying on you

financially or you have large debts such as a mortgage.

Naturally all insurance can be tailored and the cost is proportional to the amount of cover you take out. I was assured that my advisor had been sensible if some-what morbidly practical at least. She discussed her insurance cover with her partner before she went on her holiday.

Though the holiday had been expensive, she told me that she was well insured. I decided that fun must be like insurance, the older you get the more it costs.



If you have a comment or question for Evan, please email money@qmagazine.com.au

q grooming: YOUR Q&A SECTION

Q. I'm after a post-Summer body pick-me-up – what do you suggest?

You can help improve the general health of your body by detoxifying your skin, removing toxins and impurities.

Massage is a great way to kick-start the process, by stimulating blood flow and encouraging the body to move toxins.

Dry brushing your skin also helps, as it removes layers of dead skin and clears your pores, making it easier for your body to remove toxins through your pores - exfoliation also helps to stimulate skin, leaving it glowing.

Finally, aerobic exercise can help stimulate the release of 'feel-good' endorphins for an all-round pick-me-up.

TRY — Mayaltha Better Slim Accelerator Oil by The Natural Source - \$34.95

AVAILABLE - The Natural Source stores or www.thenaturalsource.com



q movies: A GAY OLD TIME



Universal Pictures

I realise this release has been around for a while but I have only just had the sheer joy of watching it. *Mamma Mia* is super-camp fun and obviously (being the camp old bitch that I am) I really enjoyed it. Although not a gay-themed flick, the toe-tapping score entertains from beginning to end - regardless of one's sexuality. It does however take some internal fortitude to admit a love of everything ABBA (now come on I know you can do it).

Reviews of this film have questioned Meryl Streep's singing ability (and other stars appearing) however I found their collective talents - although certainly not worthy of a place in Opera Australia's front line - worked well enough for the spirit of the show. I pleasant story, well presented as a musical and superbly acted (as one would expect). I recommend it to anyone who enjoys a nice honest "family" film and give it four stars.

Out & About Films

Many months ago I reviewed the first of these "gay detective" movies. I am

now very happy I did so as it made me watch this one.

The first was a tad predictable - although in all fairness it was setting the scene and plays a huge part for this one (and the next) - although you don't have to watch it to appreciate the following ones in the series.

On The Other Hand, Death is superb. It is flawless in its delivery. Exceptional acting. The storyline is intriguing and entertaining. There are some glitches I noticed with continuity but nothing I couldn't accept. Get your hands on a copy and sit with someone you love, like, or on your own and enjoy some great gay film making. In short it is a mystery surrounding an older lesbian couple in a small town who are being somewhat violently harassed and Don offers to find out who. Several twists and turns later the viewer finds out in a dramatic final scene - which is very unpredictable. Four stars from me.



On of the overwhelmingly fabulous parts about these films is the way they "normalise" homosexuality - particularly the relationship between Don (the PI) and his husband Timothy (a senior officer in a Senators office). It is also necessary to note however that they do, when required, tackle issues including "coming out in a small town" "being who you are" "it's ok to be gay" etc etc etc. The film makers need to be congratulating.

Ice Blues is the next in the series.

The story follows the events surrounding a safe-schools project that gets defunded. The scheme is the pet project of Timothy. A mystery man offers three million dollars to Timothy in a car park just before getting killed. This should be a reasonably easy case to solve however the problem is the guy was the grandson of one of the most powerful law firms in the city. What happens next is a series of events, the likes and level of danger of which Don has never experienced. I was also very impressed with the addition of a multi-layered story board. In true series fashion not only does Don solve crimes, he solves a mystery for his hubby too.

This is definitely the best out of the series and I certainly hope for more. Four and a half stars.

The CHO Show

SEASON ONE

OUTRAGEOUS IS HER REALITY

Follow Margaret Cho and her eccentric entourage as they scour the absurd depths of the entertainment industry, pop culture, and societal taboo, in this 7 part series.

Guest stars

Mr & Mrs Cho

AVAILABLE ON DVD FROM MARCH 4

BEYOND 
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 Hares & Hyenas

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q live: COMICAL & PHYSICAL

Live Flavor - Presented By Daniel Oldaker - Serving The Finest In Physical Comedy. Fresh, funky and quite literally dripping with comedy goodness, "Live Flavor" is upbeat and off the wall. An irreverent, entertaining and unexpected spoof on popular culture.

A wash with ridiculous routines such as "How to be the Public Ass", "Celery Sword Swallowing" & "Watermelon Man".

Entertaining audiences around the world for the last 12 years Daniel is an innovative performer who has a special ability to take the most common and ordinary circumstances, people or objects and weave them into a marvelously intricate tapestry of comedy.

Daniel Oldaker trained with Sacha Baron Cohen's mentor, Phillipe Gaullier in Paris and London. Has performed with La Clique (in the famous Spiegeltent) in Melbourne, Adelaide & Edinburgh, appeared on ABC Television's "The Sideshow" and directed and performed successful shows including most recently The Great Gondos sold-out production of 'Tastes Funny'.

Directed by John Forman (The 4 Noels).

Bella Union - Meeting Room, Trades Hall, Corner Victoria & Lygon St., Carlton. 14th - 25th April (not Mondays) - Full - \$20.00 Conc - \$18.00 Tightarse Tuesdays - \$15.00 Group (6Tix) - \$15.00 Child - \$10.00 Family - \$50.00 All shows at 9.30pm

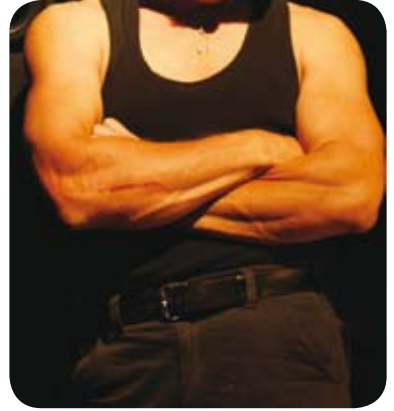
Bookings: 03 9650 5699 or bellaunion.com.au



q survival: WORKERS THEATRE

The Survival Sessions - 13th, 21st & 28th March - Reflections on the past, present and future of Melbourne Workers Theatre. Melbourne Workers Theatre has weathered considerable changes in the political and cultural environment over the last 21 years since its beginnings as an 'Art in Working Life' project housed at the Jolimont railyards and performing in workplaces.

In The Survival Sessions, MWT reflects upon what it has been, what it is now and what it could become, inviting the audience to participate in the process of transforming the company. What is a workers theatre and does the notion have traction in Melbourne in 2009? What is the nature of the work the company should be doing and who is it for? MWT has invited artists who have worked with the company over the years to consider these questions and more in a series of 3 cabaret-style events at Bella Union, Level 1, Trades Hall, this month.



The three strongest threads in the company's identity have been:

- as a Workers Theatre, driven by a Socialist political agenda and strongly identified with 'workers',
- as a political theatre company, creating high quality theatre events which deal with current political events,
- and as a theatre company that stands for cultural diversity, identifying and engaging with artists and communities outside the Anglo-centric hegemony.

These distinct 'identities' have interacted and combined over the years to deliver some of Melbourne's most memorable theatre events, including Black Cargo, Who's Afraid of the Working Class?, We Built This City and Yanagai! Yanagai! and are the starting points for convening the 3 sessions.

Survival Session # 1 Friday 13th March, 7.30pm

Appearing: Irine Vela, Patricia Cornelius

Irine Vela was musical director and composer for the first MWT production, State of Defence, by Andrew Bovell in 1987. MWT commissioned and produced her first major music theatre work, Black Cargo, written with John Romeril, and her large-scale collaborations with Canto Coro, Little City and 1975. Together with special guest singers and musicians she revisits her back-catalogue in a musical history of MWT. Patricia Cornelius is one of Australia's most acclaimed playwrights, and was a founding member of MWT. Alongside Irine's musical journey Patricia will reflect on the ideas and events that brought MWT into being, and lead a discussion with the audience about what political theatre means today.

Survival Session # 2 Saturday 21st March, 3pm

Appearing: Lee Lewis and Ming Zhu Hii

Lee Lewis is a Sydney-based theatre director who recently published a Platform Paper called Cross-Racial Casting, in which she criticised the Anglo-centric hegemony of the Australian theatre industry. Ming-Zhu Hii is a Melbourne-based actor who, through her blog minktails became a de facto commentator on the cultural mix represented on Melbourne stages. MWT has invited these two to come together in conversation about these issues. Interspersed within their conversation, guest actors will revisit some of MWT's past productions, looking at how artists have dealt with these issues here over the last 21 years.

Survival Session # 3 - Saturday 28th March, 3pm

Appearing: David Adamson, Michael Morley

David Adamson, an actor who has appeared in many landmark MWT productions, has just returned from a three month trip to the Philippines, visiting grassroots workers' theatre companies engaged in promoting democracy through performance. He is joined by Michael Morley, a leading exponent of the Kurt Weill and Hans Eissler repertoire, to present a selection of Brecht songs alongside a performed reflection on his experience in the Philippines and the notion of 'workers theatre' in an international context.



**melbourne
workerstheatre**

q theatre: **THE BUTTERFLY CLUB**

What would you do to celebrate a 10 year anniversary of unlikely staying power in an ever-fluid Melbourne arts scene, 10 years of discovering and nurturing new talent, a decade of hosting always fun and sometimes naughty parties and shaking 'n stirring 100,000+ cocktails?

Well, the Butterfly Club decided that their venue wasn't big enough for such a party. So they've hired the Hi-Fi Bar in the city during the Comedy Festival for an event to showcase some of the great talent that we've had the honour to host on our stage over the past ten years. It's on Sunday 19 April at 2.00pm. Tickets will be available through the Comedy Festival website from mid Feb. Post show party is back at the Club.

Looking ahead:

We're hosting one of Australia's top comedians in the Comedy Festival for the whole four weeks! Colin Lane (Lano from Lano & Woodley) stars in I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THE MUSIC. Tickets are now available.

Vicky Jacobs on Sundays

Why is singing not as cool as cooking? How do you sing with an Australian accent without sounding like a bogan? Who will the special guest be this week?

For the answers to these questions and more, pop into The Butterfly Club to catch the delightful Vicky Jacobs with a little help from her friends. Performing a mix of originals and contemporary covers and with the help of a different guest artist friend every week, it promises to be a dandy way to spend a Sunday evening.

Sundays from 22 February to 29 March (six performances)
8.00pm \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

John Frankland and Stephanie Evison-Williams in SURVIVING A MODERN WORLD: SECRETS AND LIES AND ALWAYS INAPPROPRIATE

Two recent VCA graduates ponder the issues of growing up and being big kids in the big city. Get ready for a night of two 20 something's preaching about life, self help books, stalking, lying, never EVER saying the right thing - and possibly jokes about Muppets!



Thursday 12 March to Sunday 15 March (four performances) 7.00pm Thursday to Saturday, 6.00pm Sunday \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

BLUE – Joni Mitchell tribute

Join us to celebrate the 65th birthday year of one of the world's most enduring and talented singer / songwriters, Joni Mitchell. Fabulous voices pay tribute to Joni's prolific career and song book, performing some of her best known and timeless classics.

Thursday 12 to Saturday 14 March (three performances) 9.00pm \$27 full / \$22 concession and for groups of 8 or more

CREATING SOLO CABARETS – PERFORMANCE NIGHT

Graduates of the recent Creating Solo Cabarets course present extracts from their developing shows: an eclectic, unexpected and entertaining evening of performances from emerging cabaret artists.

Directed by Kim Edwards

Wednesday 11 March 8.00pm \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

FROM HERE TO MATERNITY “But WHY, Mummy?”

From pregnancy tests and parenting tips to teething toddlers and tipsy teddy bears, Lizzie Matjacic has learnt that mother doesn't always know best but it can sometimes be fun finding out! With songs from “Songs for a New World”, “You're a Good Man Charlie Brown”, “Baby” and “I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change”, From Here To Maternity is a funny and nostalgic look at the trials and tribulations of motherhood.

Mum's the word!

Thursday 19 to Sunday 22 March (four performances) 7.00pm Thursday to Saturday, 6.00pm Sunday \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Nikki Aitken in THE ATTACK OF THE 40 FOOT WEDGE

Living in London can sometimes feel like you are being stepped on by the biggest heels in fashion. Nikki Aitken sings the West End home with some hilarious stories from the Big Smoke! – Devil Wears Prada meets Shirley Valentine.

Wednesday 18 to Saturday 21 March (four performances) Preview night at 8.30pm Wed; then 9.00pm Thursday to Saturday \$22 full / \$17 concession and for groups of 8 or more



Susan-Ann Walker and Margi de Ferranti in TRAGEDY ... Two Disco Divas stuck in the 70s!

Susan-Ann Walker and Margi de Ferranti, best friends and fellow divas, invite you to boogie your way back to the late 70s and early 80s. Those dazzling, heady days, when disco ruled and Susan-Ann and Margi just wanted spunky boyfriends they could do the nutbush with. Tragic ... and very sadly true!

Friday 20 and Saturday 21 March (two performances) 10.30pm \$27 full / \$22 concession and for groups of 8 or more

The Butterfly Club, 204 Bank Street, South Melbourne Tel 9690 2000 W: thebutterflyclub.com Open: Wednesday through Sunday from 5.00 pm til late

q theatre: CHAPEL OFF CHAPEL

PMD Productions presents COPENHAGEN By Michael Frayn
5 March to 28 March

Capping off their successful 2008 seasons at Chapel Off Chapel, PMD Productions present the first installment of its 2009 season - Michael Frayn's Tony Award winning play (Best Play, 2000) Copenhagen. This production will launch PMD's exciting 2009 season with a powerful, explosive piece of theatre.

The Play

In September of 1941, Niels Bohr and Werner Heisenberg met in Nazi occupied Copenhagen amidst a world at war. What was said effectively ended their 20 year collaboration and close friendship. What was left unsaid changed the world forever.



Michael Frayn's Tony Award® winning Copenhagen revisits that Autumn of 1941 as Heisenberg, Bohr and his wife Margrethe try to understand the real reason for Heisenberg's visit, the terrible dilemma he faced and the effect his actions had on the course of the War in Europe. It is a play with surprising relevance to our lives more than 60 years later. Copenhagen has fascinated not only historians and the scientific community but those with links to the events of World War II, the Jewish community and even one of our actors, Tristan Lutze (Werner Heisenberg) whose father was present in Copenhagen on the night Denmark's Jews were evacuated.

The Company

Founded in 2007, PMD Productions began with a simple goal to present performances of relevant, often neglected plays, with an ensemble of actors and crew striving to develop their careers in the performing arts. After the successful staging of their 2008 season at Chapel off Chapel, PMD Productions once again strengthens its commitment to the independent theatre scene with Copenhagen.

Chapel Off Chapel - 5 March to 28 March - Thursday to Saturday 8pm, Sun 6pm, 2pm Matinee Sat 14 & 21 March \$30 Full, \$25 Con and Grps 10+ (+ booking fee) Bookings: 03 8290 7000 or chapeloffchapel.com.au

q business: SHAFT STORE REBORN



The store formerly known as The Shaft Store, is now very excited to be "INYA".

Following complaints from The Shaft Adult Cinema Complex, and threats of legal action, a much discussed

competition was held to create a new business name for the premier gay owned and operated Adult Store in Melbourne.

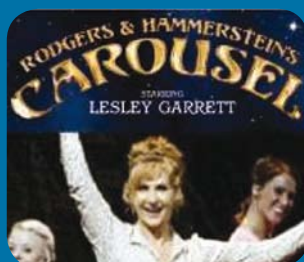
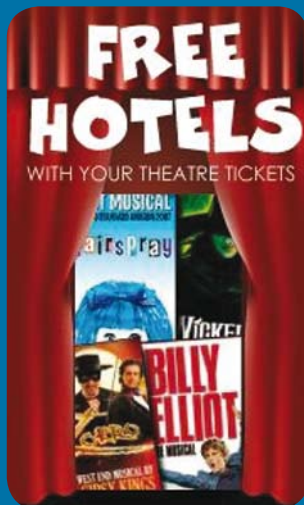
The winner of this competition was Glenn Hall of Windsor (pictured), who not only created the new name, but designed the new INYA logo as well.

With the new name also comes many new exciting prospects for 2009. Their very popular new website (www.inya.com.au) showcases hundreds of products for sale - online and instore - all tailored for the GLBTI community.

They are also closely associated with the new product "bandangles", with sales growing weekly through word of mouth, sponsorship of Pride March Victoria and advertising in Q Magazine. INYA also has many more promotions and sales planned for the rest of the year and beyond - all to be featured in future editions of Q Magazine.



q london: THE WEST END THEATRE



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q exhibition: MILDURA HOPE

HOPE from Mildura's young

Artwork created by talented Mildura Primary School students is now on display at Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre at Melbourne Museum.

This new exhibition of paintings is the result of the Mildura HOPE (Hope, Opportunity, Purpose and Education) project, which was established for Indigenous students in Years Five and Six at Mildura Primary School in 2007 to support their transition to Year Seven at Chaffey Secondary College.

The 14 Koorie and 7 Tongan students involved in the HOPE program created paintings and descriptions reflecting their beliefs about who is important to them, where they feel connected and safe and the difference that being part of the project has made in their lives. The result is a remarkable collection of artworks, each with a unique personal story attached.

The aim of the HOPE project is to encourage strong school attendance, improve student learning outcomes and to strengthen cultural identity. For the Mildura students, it offered the opportunity for to become more involved in their community through the arts.

"The HOPE exhibition is the culmination of a learning journey," says Tina de Groot, a coordinator of the HOPE project. "It has been one of discovery, awakening, sharing, deep learning and personal growth. The stories of these students come from the heart and reflect young people deeply proud of who they are and with much to offer. These artworks reflect a belief in themselves, deep connections with others and hope for their future".

The HOPE project comes to Bunjilaka following a showing at the Mildura Regional Art Gallery, where it was enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. The project was deemed a huge success by Mildura Primary School and the Mildura community. "It is a great honour for Bunjilaka to have the opportunity to share these young students' hopes for the future with our Melbourne and international audiences. We are also very enthusiastic about the potential that this exhibition has to encourage and inspire many other young Koorie people to share their own stories about their HOPES and dreams for the future," says Caroline Martin, Bunjilaka Manager.

The HOPE Project was funded by the Australian Government through the Attorney-General's Department, The Department of Health and Ageing and The Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. The Mildura HOPE Exhibition - Until 26 June - Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Melbourne Museum.



q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

ALBARINO

I have been sucking down Albarino at a rate of knots over the summer, only to have someone tell me that we are in fact not drinking wine made with this luscious Spanish grape but another clone that was brought to our sandy shores that looked awfully like an albarino. I am kind of glad they made the mistake. However, it seems Aussie winemakers are defending the grape.

Wine writer Max Allen says "Australian winemakers insist their Albariño is the real thing despite tests casting doubt on the authenticity of the grape. Last year French ampelographer Jean-Michel Boursiquot suspected that an Albariño vine in the Barossa Valley was in fact White Traminer, or Savagnin, a grape most closely associated with the Jura region of France. Subsequent DNA identification carried out in France corroborated this. But Australian growers have compared their Albariño vines with definitive identifying varietal markers used by Spanish researchers, and come to different conclusions. Barossa winemaker Damien Tscharke, one of the largest growers of Albariño in Australia, said 'Savagnin typically has one cylindrical cluster per bunch, and one seed per grape. Albariño typically has two conical clusters and two seeds per berry. I'm standing here in the vineyard looking at conical clusters and tasting two-seed grapes."

However, this is not what I should be banging on about. I love this wine and whether it is or is not authentic is neither here or there. Both Spanish and Aussie varieties are available locally here and I suggest you wrap your luscious lips around as much of it as your liver can handle, whilst drinking responsibly of course.

THE CORNERSHOP

If you are in the west, you have to pay a visit to the newest dining outfit in Yarraville, The Cornershop. For anyone who has eaten at Le Chien, the oft written about breakfast haunt in Seddon, this makes a strong argument as the long lost twin. It is in fact owned by former partner in crime at le Chien and this shows in the quality of the coffee, the efficiency of the service and the fabulous offerings for the first meal of the day (as is occasionally the case, this does not necessarily equate itself to breakfast hours). I have munched on some baked eggs with potatoes and kippers off the specials board and these were terrific. Dining companions have had some occasionally dry homemade beans with chorizo, and some rocket, fetta lime and avocado on sourdough - a nice way to avoid the chook farts at breakfast. If you are in Yarraville, check out the corner shop, across the road from the Sun Theatre. There is a supper some evenings as well if you need a bite before the flicks.

MELBOURNE FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

The Melbourne Food and Wine Festival kicks off very shortly and this year looks as spectacular as ever. With over 250

events across the state, there will be options for every taste, every budget and every one. Of course, anyone who ever enjoyed a drop of wine, a nice meal or some coffee, chocolate, or all of the above, there is something there that will appeal. I have always been a whore for a long lunch and this year is no exception. On the auspicious Friday 13th March, at Crown Riverside, you can join hundreds of folk as they celebrate a hearty meal, great wine and good company. Over 20 regions will paint a luscious path through Victoria with simultaneous longest lunches on the same day.

If a bbq is more to your liking, the big Connex sizzle event on March 14th is a must. This iconic Australian event is celebrated in a very Melbourne fashion - on a lawn in Federation Square, where perving is an added bonus with iconic Melbourne Chefs, Paul Wilson, Robert Castellani and Shane Delia. No event is an event without a beer and this year at the festival you can drink to your heart's content. From the cellar door event at Southgate, where 60 of Victoria's favourite boutique wineries will offer tastings, and provide the best opportunity to stock your cellar, to learning not to drink wine like a wanker, there is indeed something for everyone. Cellardoor is on March 21/22.

For lovers of laneways and rooftops, these are being embraced this year with gusto. An entire portion of the festival is dedicated to events in lanes and on rooves. My recommendation is, of course, The Night of the Coq on March 18 at the Libertine in North Melbourne - which is about French gastronomy and not at all similar to a night at the Laird. Madame Brussels hosts an aphrodisiac orgy on March 22 which should not be missed. There are events for families and kids, there are tours and crawls and not to be missed is the ever famous and quickly selling, Master class at the Langham where the visiting international culinary superstars show you how they do it.

Get into it, get amongst it and enjoy the fabulous festival that is the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival.

Cheers all and for any further information, please contact Pete at lifestyle@qmagazine.com.au or call 0409142365



in bed: with BEN

He's Just Not that Into You, (No Really!)

Little Girl - "Mummy, that boy pushed me!"

Mum - "Oh darling, that's because he likes you!"

And with those two lines your dating life turned to crap. Don't you love it? Parents in their bid to keep us safe and feel accepted, created the notion that if someone teases you or pushes you it means they like you. No seriously, what are we dumb asses? Generations for years have subscribed to this notion and pursued guys that are just outright jerks and simply not interested in them in the first place.

The movie, "He's Just Not Into You" hit cinemas the same week as Valentine's Day and highlights this misconceived notion of hurt means like. Oh, and by the way, if your partner took you to see this movie, ok well, you work it out! The film star's Drew Barrymore, Ben Affleck, Jennifer Anniston and several other well known actors that delve into the mystery of dating in an attempt to demystify it. And demystify it does. It turns out that there really is no mystery to dating at all. So, to show you the path young gay Luke Skywalker I've pulled out some of the best tips from the movie. It goes something like this..

If your prospective love interest isn't;

·Calling you

·Texting you

·Emailing you

·Trying to have sex with you (especially if you're gay)

He's simply just not that into you.

On the other hand, if he's;

·Screwing around behind your back

·Not asking you out on dates

·Introducing you to his friends as his friend

·Responding to your messages days, even weeks after you've sent them

He's "especially" not that into you.

Who would have ever thought that is was that simple. Save yourself a whole bunch of time and heartache right now by deleting men's numbers that have/or do exhibit any of the above behaviour. That's it, pull it out. Not your penis, your phone! Delete their numbers this instant. They're not going to call you anyway. Quit stalking them on facebook, mySpace, Twitter and YouTube and get on with your life. It's a big pond. Go dangle your penis in it (oops your hook!) and see what you catch (hopefully not crabs!).

Oh, and go out and see this movie. Dating really isn't as complicated as we make it.



Joan Jett Released May 2

www.myspace.com/brecik

q focus: **FABULOUS PHILLIP ISLAND**

An environmental and conservation masterpiece

Only a 90 minute scenic drive from Melbourne, beautiful Phillip Island holds a special place in the heart of all who visit. The island is rich in uniquely Australian wildlife, stunning landscapes and coastal waters – and is the perfect place for marine watching.

Whilst deservedly famed internationally for its Penguin Parade, what many visitors don't realise is that Phillip Island offers so much more – and you'll need more than a day to explore them. Top of the list is Phillip Island Nature Parks. Covering 1805 hectares, the parks include Pyramid Rock, Rhyll Inlet, Seal Rocks and Cape Woolamai – all of which have a vast array of flora and fauna in an environment that you'll find simply breathtaking.

The island is home to Australia's newest marine attraction, The Nobbies Centre, which offers world class facilities for penguin and seal watching whilst also being an ideal venue for conferences, functions and dining. At the centre you can explore and discover secrets of the incredible southern marine environment via interactive displays and cameras that let you zoom in on magnificent marine creatures, in particular the inhabitants of Seal Rocks.



The stellar line up of attractions also includes Churchill Island Heritage Farm, taking visitors on a nostalgic trip back in time. Discover heritage buildings and a historic working farm, meet farm animals, wander through gardens, walk or cycle on the

tracks and enjoy a meal in the licensed café, marvelling at the spectacular bay views.

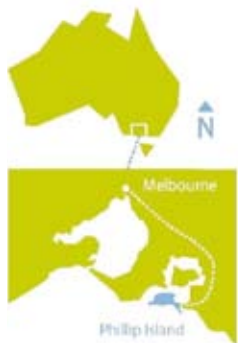
Phillip Island's Penguin Parade has played an integral role in placing the island firmly on the map as one of Australia's best and most visited tourist locations. It is the only place in the world where you can see Little Penguins in their own environment, and once you've seen them, you'll want to keep going back time and time again.

To continue your unique Australian experience, visit the Koala Conservation Centre which is dedicated to koala research and conservation - and where you can meet our cuddly little koala friends 'face to face' on treetop boardwalks.



About Phillip Island Nature Parks

Phillip Island Nature Parks is a not-for-profit organisation committed to sustaining and maintaining the unique environmental landscape. Conservation is the priority at Phillip Island: it is a world leader in wildlife research, award winning eco-tourism, land management and environmental education. Run by a passionate board of 7 members, Phillip Island Nature Parks is in the hands of people who have dedicated their life to the sustainability of the island and are committed to protecting the island's uniquely Australian wildlife and environment.



The happiest feet of all...

Since the 1920s, people have marvelled at the spectacular – and incredibly cute – sight of Little Penguins making their daily sunset pilgrimage from the sea along the shore and into their sand dune burrows. More than 500,000 people each year still marvel at the sight at Phillip Island's internationally renowned Penguin Parade.

As Australia's most popular natural wildlife attraction, the Penguin Parade is a truly memorable experience for people of all ages.

Winner of the Victorian Tourism Awards for Ecotourism in 2006, the Penguin Parade experience not only benefits visitors but also the Little Penguins as visitor revenue from the parade funds ongoing penguin research and conservation.

The Penguin Parade is a fully accredited ecotourism organisation and has received the Gold Banksia Award for Environmental Excellence and is in the Tourism Hall of Fame. The elevated boardwalks and viewing stands allow you to enjoy all the 'penguin action' without disturbing them or their burrow homes. There are a number of viewing options available to watch the penguins



Ultimate Penguin Experience

An experience like no other! Designed for groups of up to 10, this personalised and fully accredited eco tour takes visitors to a stunning, secluded beach to view Little Penguins. Participants use night vision technology to view the penguins and Rangers provide an informative commentary which visitors listen to through personal headphones. The beach is in a different location to the Penguin Parade and sturdy footwear and minimum level of fitness is essential for walking and climbing stairs. Includes a free drink and 10% off food, beverage and retail when you show your ticket. In extreme weather conditions, an alternative tour is offered. Ages 16+ only. Cost \$70.00 - bookings essential.

Private Penguin Parade Experience

The newest and most intimate of the viewing options, this experience allows visitors a personalised front row view of the penguins from an exclusive area on the beach. Each guest will be supplied with binoculars, a mat and headset for the live commentary from their personal Ranger. Ages 16+ only. Cost \$65.00 - bookings essential.

Penguin Sky Box

Enjoy the Penguin Parade from the comfort of an exclusive, elevated viewing tower. Located at the main viewing stands at the Penguin Parade, this option allows five people each evening to have 'pole position' for penguin viewing. Includes Ranger interaction and participation in the penguin count to help the ongoing research of the Phillip Island Penguins, a drink voucher and entry to Penguins Plus. Ages 16 + only. Cost \$50.00 – bookings essential.

Penguin Plus Viewing Platform

This area provides a more personalised penguin viewing experience. Limited to 150 people, this viewing platform provides a closer viewing of the penguin arrival than the main viewing stands at the Penguin Parade. The stand is located in a 'high penguin traffic area'. Rangers are on hand to provide full interpretation of the world's smallest penguins and their fascinating lives. Entry also includes drink voucher. Adult \$35.00, Child \$17.50, Family \$87.50

Penguin Parade

This is the main penguin viewing area at Summerland Beach. Tiered seating provides 180 degree elevated viewing of the Little Penguins arriving at sunset and waddling across the beach to their sand dune burrows. Visitors can also enjoy watching Little Penguins around their burrows from elevated timber boardwalks. Adult \$20.00, Child \$10.00, Pensioner \$14.00, Family \$50.00

Penguin Behind the Scenes Tour

This exciting Ranger-led tour gives visitors a fascinating insight of what actually happens behind the scenes at the Penguin Parade and how Rangers and researchers are protecting the Little Penguins. Adult \$10.00, Child \$5.00, Family \$25.00

Once you have viewed and fallen in love with the penguins you can then have the privilege of adopting your own! You can do this by visiting penguinfoundation.com.au or by contacting Phillip Islands Nature Parks on (03) 5951 2825 For general information go to penguins.org.au.

q relationships: COLIN & MARC

With all the talk about marriage, relationship recognition and the like, I thought it timely to chat to a couple who recently broke up and find out what makes a good relationship, what went wrong and whether or not they still believed in gay unions. Unfortunately I could only speak with Colin, but he did have some very interesting things to say. I started with the normal stuff like how long they had been together and how did they meet.

We were together for three and a half years. We met on the internet and became friends. That lasted for around six months. I wasn't actually looking for anyone and Marc was coming out of a relationship breakdown.

So what went wrong?

I'm not completely sure but I think the whole thing of younger - older had something to do with it (I am twenty-two years older than Marc). When I met Marc he was twenty-one and basically I had already done all of my living and he was only just started on that journey. Essentially what he thought he was getting and what I thought I was getting was vastly different to reality.

Was this a stereo-typical older wealthy guy - younger guy with very little money relationship?

From the outside that is what it looks like but I could prove everyone wrong. What Marc and I had was a great love affair - it was very deep. It was a relationship that relied on trust, integrity and honesty. It relied on dignity. We both brought to the relationship some very good qualities. Our relationship blossomed and became strongly with each passing day and month. However toward the end I was probably complacent and Marc was looking for the next adventure.



So what do you say to people who say you're just a silly old fool?

Well I am not. I have experienced three and a half wonderful years with Marc and no amount of money could ever buy that. I made a best friend for life. He is truly a soul mate. He is actually still my best friend to this day. I lot of couple in the gay community separate and end up bitter and twisted (particularly at each other). We've had our "jerry springer" moments but I have found that we have both risen above that and when we talk about where we are right now we agree that throughout it all we acted in an honourable way and kept respect for each other. It wasn't all a bed of roses. We had to work at it.

Our relationship was also very normal in the way that we had all the financial pressures of any other relationship e.g. car payments, mortgages. We both worked hard together. If anyone wants to categorise that in some sugar daddy way then I guess they could, but those who knew us know that it is just not correct.

Marc's parting words to me were "the most valuable thing to have in a relationship is friendship". That continues to touch me to this day.

So given that it is over and in this current climate of the community pushing hard for equal recognition including the right to marry, would you recommend a relationship to other gay people?

Yes. It's an old phrase, but I honestly believe that it is better to have loved and lost than not to have loved at all. I am very appreciative of the opportunity to have the time we had together. He showed me how to be human, how to love and be loved, how to be a useful person, how to show respect to another person, how to treat a partner, and how I liked to be treated. So it was one of the most invaluable experiences of my life.

Do you have anyone else in your life now?

No. I've made myself available but I think it is too early to be with someone else just yet. If the right person comes along though, I will know.

q weddings: **TOTALLY**

WHITSUNDAY ROMANCE

Total Weddings are extending their services by looking after the gay and lesbian community with the creation of their specifically designed commitment packages. These comprehensive packages are inclusive of planning and coordination, luxury accommodation, celebrant services, photography shoots and much more.



A commitment ceremony allows couples to express and celebrate their love; to share their dreams and intentions with that special someone. Total Weddings support and encourage the gay community to visit the Whitsundays and celebrate their love.

The Whitsundays is one of the most romantic regions in the world and it is right here in Australia. Total Weddings aim to create a day that is a reflection of your dreams and to set the scene for your very own love story.

The experienced and professional Total Weddings team coordinates up to 500 weddings per year and have years of local know-how. Total Weddings can coordinate some or all of your wedding needs



including transportation, photography, celebrant, ceremony venue, day trips and a wide variety of other services limited only by your imagination.

To find out more about Total Weddings' Gay / Lesbian Commitment Ceremonies please contact the team on (07) 4946 4540 or visit www.totalweddings.com.au Total Weddings is a proud GALTA member.

q pride: **WE ARE AUSTRALIAN**

SONY MUSIC HAS RELEASES A LIVE RECORDING OF 'I AM AUSTRALIAN' FOR THE BUSHFIRE APPEAL as sung by Bruce Woodley, Claire Woodley, Kinglake residents and Australian Country Music singers David and Merelyn Carter on Sunday 22nd February at the Commemorative Service to mark the National Day Of Mourning for the Bushfire Victims, held at Rod Laver Arena, Melbourne.

Sony Music's proceeds from the sale of this single will be donated to the Salvation Army Bushfire Appeal through the charitable arm of the Australian Sony Group of Companies, The Sony Foundation. The writers and publishers of 'I AM AUSTRALIAN' have also generously donated their royalties from this track to the Bushfire Appeal. Denis Handlin AM, Chairman & CEO, Australia & New Zealand, Sony Music Entertainment said: "I am delighted to help Bruce release this special rendition of 'I am Australian'. The performance at the memorial service was truly moving and it is a pleasure for Sony Music to release and sell this single to add to the Bushfire Appeal funds."

I AM AUSTRALIAN is Australia's unofficial National Anthem. Sony Music's BUSHFIRE AID – ARTISTS FOR THE BUSHFIRE APPEAL double album has exceeded expectation and is one of the best selling albums of the year! I AM AUSTRALIAN – available for digital download. BUSHFIRE AID – Artists For The Bushfire Appeal is in stores now.

q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

Who cares?

We are always hearing coming out stories. It's an aspect that heterosexuals do not have to go through. Psychologically it's a very difficult thing to approach, and people who have to come out often do so with great anxiety.

I think we all know people who were rejected by their families, disowned by parents, and some young people when they come out to their parents are subjected to torture and guilt manipulation.

Happily though, most parents come around, demonstrating that love for their children is stronger than just about everything else. This is not always the case and our community is littered with unhappy stories of people who were outcast by their families.

People who go through gender transition have a more complicated set of issues to deal with.

Coming out gay is one thing, generally you look like the same person after you've come out to your friends family etc. People who change gender look different, they become the opposite sex.

Few people get mocked because they are gay these days, but people who gender transition still have it pretty bad, although it's getting better,

One friend who has transitioned has had the very fortunate situation that when he became she, his wife stuck by him. Their story is quite remarkable, but there is a price, they have in all practical terms lost their children.

This is an ironic twist. It's usually the parents who disown the children. I have heard stories of people who discover they same sex attracted in latter life, and their children have not accepted it.

So what it is like for the people left behind, the parents, children and partners of people who come out, or change genders?

Frequently they go through a period of shock, and then blame assignment. Its at this point that things can get ugly. I've had 8 long term (Over 1 year) relationships, and in all cases the parents of my partners have treated me with a certain amount of contempt.

I had a partner for 13 years who died in 1995, I didn't know when I met him, but he was married with a young family. The family was seriously distressed, someone had taken their Dad, Husband Son away and turned him into

a poofter. Who do you think they would blame? Of course me.

We had a bit of a rough time in our relationship in the early 90's so he went on an extended holiday in Europe (6 months) to give us some time alone to work ourselves out. He came back to announce he had met someone else, who arrived for a visit a few weeks later.

His new boy friend as it turned out had HIV, and in 2 years they were both dead. My partner's family never knew about the mini-break up and the new partner. All his family knew was I had taken their Dad from them, turned him into a poofter, which lead him to die of AIDS.

I did try many times to explain to them that I was just the final person in a long string of secret encounters before he left them; I was the one he chose when he wanted to stop living a double life. He contracted HIV in Europe and it was nothing to do with me. "Yes it is, you made him a poofter, if he wasn't a poofter he wouldn't be dead". As convincing and honest as I tried to make sound it's really pretty flimsy, and they needed someone to blame.

This story is not about me, it's about the people who are left behind when someone makes a major change in identity. It impacts on many lives.

One of my ex-students couldn't handle his family rejection when came out to them at 21. It made him so depressed he committed suicide. I spoke to his mother a while after who seemed to think he was better off dead than having to live as a pervert. She was sorry though that he was in hell. I was stunned, but for her to think like this was probably the only way she could cope with it.

It's easy for us to be outraged at these stories, and I am sure you all know similar stories, but even the most vicious rejections have two sides.

Who do the brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, husbands, wives and children go to for help when someone they love makes this huge change? Most of them don't seek any help. They either get over it, or turn their angst inwards. Some lash out at the people around them.

After my partner died I had to cut off all contact with his family, I couldn't bear the hatred anymore. His family suffered terribly.

Quite an interesting topic don't you think? Our community support is focused on the individual who is coming out. Thankfully there are support groups like P-flag, but I wonder how many people never look for support. I do know there are no easy answers.



q cuisine: with CHEF NATHAN



Beer Battered Fish and Chips

Ingredients (serves 4)

- 4 large (about 200g each) unpeeled desirée potatoes, cut into wedges
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 225g (1 1/2 cups) self-raising flour
- 1 egg, lightly whisked
- 375ml (1 1/2 cups) chilled light beer
- Salt & freshly ground black pepper
- Vegetable oil, to deep-fry
- 8 (about 120g each) white fish fillets (such as flathead or whiting)
- Sea salt flakes, to serve
- Lemon wedges, to serve
- Garlic Aioli

- 2 egg yolks
- 1 large garlic clove
- Pinch saffron
- 1 cup olive oil
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Salt and pepper

Method

1. Preheat oven to 200°C. Line a baking tray with non-stick baking paper. Place potato on tray. Drizzle with olive oil. Cook in oven, turning occasionally, for 40 minutes or until golden brown.

2. Meanwhile, place flour in a bowl. Add the egg and stir to combine. Gradually whisk in the beer until batter is smooth. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and place in the fridge for 30 minutes to rest.

3. To make the garlic aioli, steep the saffron in a little hot water for 2-3 minutes. Place the garlic and egg yolks in a food processor, add the saffron and blend until creamy. Slowly drizzle the oil into the yolks with the processor on a low speed until the mix is thick and smooth. Add a squeeze of lemon and season with salt and pepper.

4. Add enough vegetable oil to a large saucepan to reach a depth of 8cm. Heat to 190°C over high heat (when oil is ready a cube of bread will turn golden brown in 10 seconds). Dip 2 pieces of fish, 1 at a time, into batter to coat. Drain off excess. Deep-fry for 3-4 minutes or until golden brown and cooked. Transfer to a plate lined with paper towel. Repeat, in 3 more batches, with remaining fish and batter, reheating oil between batches.

5. Divide fish and chips among serving plates. Season with sea salt flakes. Serve with tartare sauce and lemon wedges.



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q win: TAKE REAL CARE OF YOU!

THE SEBEL ALBERT PARK



MELBOURNE

involved at the SEBEL Albert Park for donating such a wonderful prize.

If that wasn't enough, you can also make sure your hair is looking its best this Autumn with the finest products from **Kusco Murphy**. We have one pack to give away consisting of the full "MAN" range. Your hair will thank you! Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **KUSCO MURPHY** in the subject line for your chance to win this pack.

I am very pleased to introduce to you the new men's beauty range from **Dr. Lewinn's**. More famously known for their extensive range of women's products, Dr. Lewinn's have branched out into the scary world of men's beauty.

The range consists of an Oil Control / Anti-Blakchead Cleanser (1), a Smooth Shave / Anti-Razor Burn Shaving Cream (2), a Calming & Hydrating After Shave Fluid (2), a Firming & Protecting Day Moisturiser SPF 15 (3), and an Anti-Puffiness / Anti-Wrinkle Eye Cream (treatment). I am currently "test-driving" the full range and will report on what I think in next month's issue. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **DR LEWINN'S** in the subject line for your chance to win one of five full packs we have on offer.



team of experts who are passionate about the art of shaving have developed and produced The Goodfella - bringing it to the Australasian market complete with a lifetime guarantee.

Inspired by the old-fashioned method of wet shaving, The Goodfella is a precision-made metal shaving tool. Using the latest design and technology coupled with carefully sourced modern materials, The Goodfella ensures the absolute best quality shave is achievable for all good Aussie fellas out there. Using one double edged blade at the optimum cutting angle for a smooth, stress-free shave, the revolutionary new product allows men to discover the lost art of shaving, turning the daily chore into a daily pleasure that promises to improve skin condition and appearance.

Designed to last a lifetime, The Goodfella not only improves the owner's carbon footprint with no more plastic razors, blade cartridges or batteries to throw away - but ends up saving the owner money by not having to repurchase any of these items ever again. More information is available at www.goodfella.com Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **GOODFELLA** in the subject line for your chance to win one of three razors we have to win 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 or SMS.



q charity: **UNITE**

**THE MUSIC COMMUNITY UNITE
FOR TWO VERY SPECIAL BENEFIT CONCERTS
SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2009 – MCG & SCG**

The devastation of the current Victorian bushfires has left few unaffected. In response to our nation's greatest ever natural disaster Australia's music community have banded together for two stadium benefit concerts scheduled to run simultaneously in both Melbourne and Sydney on Saturday March 14, 2009 under the unified banner of **SOUND RELIEF**.

Michael Gudinski, Managing Director of The Frontier Touring Company said; "The Sound Relief concerts are for the survivors of the bushfires. The sad reality is that rebuilding their lives and communities will be a lengthy and costly process. It has been phenomenal seeing everyone pull together in this horrific time. Without doubt these concerts will be once in a lifetime events that will live on in the memories of everyone who attends."

Michael Chugg, Managing Director of Chugg Entertainment said; "Around the world, some of the words that are used to describe Australians include "big hearted", "generous", "battlers" and "troopers".

These concerts will honour all of those characteristics of the Australian people, both those who have suffered so much through this terrible tragedy, but also saluting the heroes who fought against the fires, and the courageous people whose fight is just beginning. With the help of the Australian Music Community, these concerts hope to bring people together, not just on the hallowed turf of the MCG and SCG, but around the country as we share the joy of live music. We will remember those who have lost so much, and celebrate the heroes of this devastating story."

Both concerts will be held in their city's most iconic venue; in Melbourne at the MCG and in Sydney at the SCG. Some of Australia's most legendary artists will be joined by leading International and Domestic chart-toppers.

Tickets are \$75 and are on sale NOW from Ticketek 132 849 www.ticketek.com.au

GA Standing on the field and reserved seating in the stands will be available for both concerts.

100% of the profits from the Melbourne concert will be donated to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

For the Sydney concert 50% of the profits will be donated to the Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal. 50% will be donated to The Premier's Disaster Relief Fund Appeal in QLD to aid the victims of the Queensland floods.

q win xtra: **FOR MEN**

In a Global Financial Crisis, many of us can no longer afford to go to the beauty salon to get their regular skin peels or microdermabrasions done. But why should our skin suffer just because their bank account is?



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In enters one of Australia's newest entries to the skin care market **Homepeel Pty/Ltd**. Made in

Australia and invented in Australia with the motto; Flawless Skin Is Not Just For The Rich And Famous. Homepeel specialises in salon quality skin treatments and peels for home use for a fraction of the cost.

Homepeel has invented an alternative to spending hundreds of dollars at beauty salons for professional skin peels. The Green Herb Skin Peel retails for \$149.95 and includes 10 professional skin peels. One peel of the same strength and quality done in a salon would cost approx \$700.

Want to be in the running to win one of 12 Homepeel items? Email **ONLY** getfree@qmagazine.com.au with your name and answer to the question; What's the one thing you could change about your skin if you could with **HOMEPEEL** in the subject line. Go to homepeel.com.au for more information (check out the 'For Men Only Page).

q scene: OUT & ABOUT



Heavens Door



Heavens Door



Heavens Door



Newcastle boy
Sam



Nikki @
Pride March

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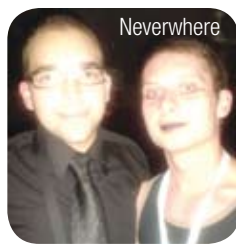
q fundraiser: **BACKBURN @ THE DOOR**



q scene: OUT & ABOUT



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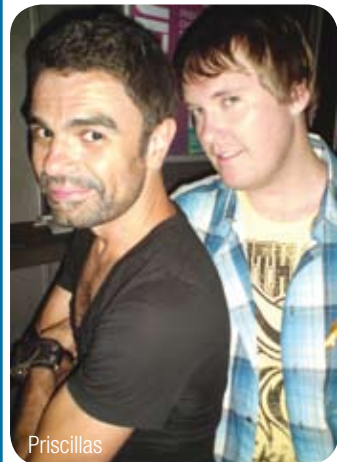
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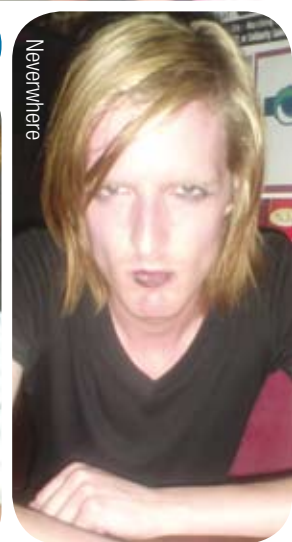
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Flamingos



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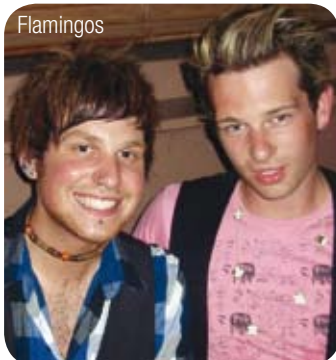
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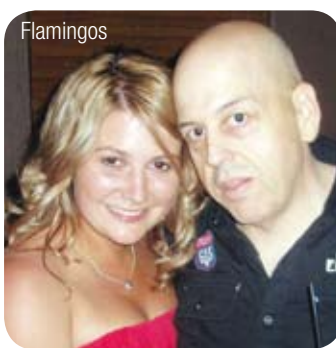
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q scene: NMG FAIR DAY - SYDNEY



q tours: SHADOWS AND LIGHT

Lior "Shadows and Light" 2009 Australian tour - February 26- May 10

WA- SYDNEY- BRISBANE- CAIRNS- DARWIN- HOBART-MELBOURNE-BENDIGO- CANBERRA

In a truly original and magical concert setting, acclaimed Australian singer-songwriter, Lior will tour Australia with his innovative 2009 'Shadows and Light' national tour. Having already launched in Perth on February 26, this unique concert experience features a stunning visual collaboration that combines beautiful and moving shadow artistry with Lior's spectacular vocals and music.

Lior performs songs from his two hugely successful albums, Autumn Flow and Corner of an Endless Road, alongside guest performers the Tailern String Quartet.

Of this tour, Lior says, "Shadows and Light" is about the culmination of the most artistically inspiring elements and collaborations that I've enjoyed over the past year, since the release of Corner of an Endless Road. Given this will be the final tour before I commence work on my third album, I wanted to depart from the live arena with something that is a real highlight."

A truly special element of this national tour is the collaboration between Lior and the renowned shadow artists, Stephen Mushin and Anna Parry. Mushin and Parry's shadow projected sets have been specifically designed to accompany and interact with Lior and will feature in a live performance by the artists themselves at each venue, excluding Margaret River in WA, Darwin and Canberra.

Says Lior, "musically, performing with the Tailern String Quartet has been a real highlight, while visually, teaming up with shadow artists Stephen Mushin and Anna Parry on the 'I'll Forget You' video clip was equally inspiring. With these shows, I wanted to do more than just present the songs, rather create a live magical world for the audience to slip into, one where the songs and the live shadow art performance become one".

Renowned for his stunning voice, incredible musicality and acclaimed live shows, Lior has received several ARIA nominations since his debut in 2005. In fact, his stunning debut independent and self-financed album, Autumn Flow went Gold, making it one of the most successful independent debut releases by an Australian artist. Lior's second and most recent album, Corner of an Endless Road was released in February 2008 and debuted at #2 on the Australian album charts and #2 on iTunes. It held the top spot on the independent charts for several weeks. It was followed by a sold out national tour.

Lior has recently returned from performing with some of Australia's best at the "Australia Plays Broadway" concert at Carnegie Hall in New York, as part of the G'Day USA: Australia Week 2009.

Let the voice, the music and the artistry speak for themselves - this is a concert not to be missed!

Sunday 15 March- Monday 16 March : Lizottes, Central Coast, NSW \$45 +BF Tickets: Venue 02 4368 2017 www.lizottes.com.au. Tuesday 14 April - Saturday 18 April: The Studio, Sydney Opera House \$50 full/ \$37.50 restricted view Tickets: Box 02 9250 7777 sydneyoperahouse.com. Thursday 23 April: Brisbane Powerhouse \$42.50 Tickets: Box Office 07 3358 8600 brisbanepowerhouse.org. Friday 24 April: Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns \$35 full/\$30 conc Tickets: 07 4032 6600 tanksartscentre.com. Saturday 25 April: Darwin Entertainment Centre \$34.50 Tickets: 08 8980 3333 darwinentertainment.com.au



q opera: AUSTRALIA'S BEST

The Magic Flute - MOZART - Expect the Unexpected

Opera Australia's 2009 Season at the Arts Centre opens on April 4, 2009 with a new production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, directed by David Freeman, and conducted by Jari Hämäläinen. It features Andrew Goodwin, Hye Seoung Kwon, Daniel Sumegi, Andrew Moran, Lorina Gore and the upside-down antics of physical theatre company Legs on the Wall.

Brave Prince Tamino is on a quest for truth, beauty and love. Before he reaches journey's end he must find his way through a mysterious land, full of strange characters that will test his wits, his will and his strength of character. This is the enchanting world of *The Magic Flute*. This daring production of Mozart's final work for the theatre was created for Opera Australia's 50th Anniversary season in 2006 and is a true collaboration between two radically different companies: Opera Australia brings international and Australian artists to the State Theatre stage while Legs on the Wall uses music, dance, acrobatics, circus tricks and aerial wizardry to turn buildings into vertical stages. This physical theatre company performs at festivals all over the world and was last seen in Melbourne climbing the walls of the National Gallery of Victoria as part of the Commonwealth Games Festival in 2006.

Director David Freeman is notorious for his intelligent and provocative interpretations. Founder of Opera Factory Sydney, London and Zurich, he has directed operas, plays and arena-style events all over the world. He comes together with set and costume designer, Dan Potra, lighting designer, Damien Cooper, and Legs on the Wall Artistic Director and choreographer Debra Batton to create a spectacular new vision of one of opera's most popular - and puzzling - works. Finnish conductor Jari Hämäläinen makes his Australian debut, conducting all performances.



The Magic Flute is Mozart's last work for the theatre, written in 1791. He co-wrote the libretto with his friend, the director and entrepreneur Emanuel Schikaneder. For Mozart it was part money-spinner and part exploration of the philosophies of the Enlightenment, inspired by his involvement in Freemasonry.

Evenings at 7.30pm - April 4, 9, 16, 18, 21, 23, 30; May 6, 8 Matinee at 1pm - May 2 State Theatre, the Arts Centre. Sung in German with English surtitles. Single tickets available from \$55 - \$229 A children's price of \$45 - \$50 is available for all performances

A Little Night Music - SONDHEIM - Smiles of a Summer Night

After the roaring success of *My Fair Lady* and *The Pirates of Penzance*, Opera Australia takes on a twentieth-century Broadway classic, Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. Directed by Stuart Maunder and designed by Roger Kirk, *A Little Night Music* opens at the Arts Centre on May 14, 2009, with a cast that includes Nancye Hayes, Robert Grubb and Sigrid Thornton in her Opera Australia debut as *Desirée*.

Sigrid Thornton is one of Australia's best-loved actresses. Her acting career began at an early age on the set of ABC TV's *Homicide* and within a few years she was seen on cinema and television screens all over the world in *The Man from Snowy River*. More recently, Sigrid played the central character in ABC TV's *SeaChange*, winning a Logie Award for most outstanding actress. In 2003 she was nominated for a Helpmann Award and a Mo Award for her appearances in David Hare's *The Blue Room*, and in 2005 was nominated for an Australian Film Award for *Little Oberon*.

A Little Night Music marks Sigrid Thornton's music theatre debut. She plays the aptly named *Desirée*, a beautiful actress and pivotal character in a play which revolves around love. *Desirée* persuades her mother, Madame Armfeldt, to host a midsummer night's party for Fredrik Egerman, who was once *Desirée*'s lover, along with his young trophy wife Anne and grown-up son Henrik. Meanwhile *Desirée*'s current lover, Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm, decides to crash the party, with his wife Charlotte in tow. *Desirée*'s daughter Fredrika, who lives with her grandmother, is there too, and as the long summer night plays out three generations make discoveries about themselves and their loves.



Nancye Hayes takes the role of Madame Armfeldt, Desirée's mother, who hosts the party and comments on the proceedings with a mixture of wisdom and nostalgia. After a lifetime on the stage, Nancye made her Opera Australia debut in 2008 playing Mrs Higgins in *My Fair Lady*. Nancye is joined by *My Fair Lady* co-stars Robert Grubb as Fredrik and Matthew Robinson as Henrik with Ben Lewis, son of acclaimed Opera Australia baritone Michael Lewis, as Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm.

Previews at 7.30pm - May 12, 13 Evenings at 7.30pm - May 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 Wednesday & Saturday Matinees at 1pm - May 16, 20, 23, 27, 30 Sunday Matinees at 3pm - May 24 State Theatre, the Arts Centre Sung in English. Single tickets available from \$52 - \$135 A children's price of \$45 - \$50 is available for all performances

Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk - SHOSTAKOVICH - A gripping ensemble performance
Shostakovich's searing Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk comes to the Arts Centre for the first time on April 24, 2009. Internationally-acclaimed soprano Susan Bullock makes her Melbourne debut in the title role, heroic tenor Richard Berkeley-Steele is Sergei and Francesca Zambello directs.

In the role of Katerina Ismailova, the Lady Macbeth of the title, Opera Australia welcomes Susan Bullock. One of Britain's leading dramatic sopranos, Susan Bullock made her Australian debut in 2003 as Brünnhilde in *Götterdämmerung* at the Perth International Arts Festival and was last seen as Isolde for WA Opera in 2006. She has also sung leading Wagnerian roles in Tokyo, Rouen, Venice and Lisbon. She is a regular performer at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, most recently in the title role of Richard Strauss's *Elektra*. Susan makes her Met debut with *Elektra* in December.



Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk is the story of Katerina Ismailova, a young, beautiful and desperately lonely housewife living in a small town in Soviet Russia. Her husband Zinovy goes away on business, leaving her under the eye of his father Boris. In Zinovy's absence she begins an affair with Sergei, a labourer at the Ismailov's mill. When the lovers are discovered the body count begins. Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* has shocked and thrilled audiences since its first performances in Leningrad in 1934. The music is sensual, seductive and, at times, quite explicitly descriptive, and the story is a confronting trip through love, sex, adultery and murder.

Evenings at 7.30pm - April 24, 29; May 2, 5, State Theatre, the Arts Centre. Sung in English with surtitles. Single tickets available from \$55 - \$229. A children's price of \$45 - \$50 is available for all performances

The Capulets and the Montagues - BELLINI - The Power of Love
On April 14, 2009, Opera Australia presents the Australian première of Vincenzo Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* at the Arts Centre. This rare bel canto masterpiece will star Emma Matthews and Catherine Carby as the young lovers, Giulietta and Romeo, with Brad Cohen conducting.



The Capulets and the Montagues retells the classic *Romeo and Juliet* story. Although Shakespeare's play about the star-crossed lovers is the best-known version, Bellini actually drew on Renaissance sources, which in turn draw on Medieval and Classical sources. When *I Capuleti* begins *Romeo* and *Giulietta* have already met, their families are political rivals, *Juliet* is betrothed to *Tebaldo* and *Romeo* is trying to broker peace. The negotiations fail and so the lovers must resort to subterfuge. Bellini wrote the work in only six weeks, with the première on 11 March 1830, at La Fenice in Venice.

Opera Australia's first-ever production of this rare masterpiece will be conducted by bel canto specialist Brad Cohen. Brad Cohen, an Australian based in London, has conducted many productions for Opera Australia, including *La Cenerentola*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Roméo et Juliette*, *The Merry Widow* and *Carmen*. *The Capulets and the Montagues* is presented in partnership with Opera North (UK) and Opera Ireland. It opened in November 2008 in Leeds, UK, to rave reviews. Hugh Canning at *The Sunday Times* called it a 'hard hitting and contemporary account.' *The Guardian* claimed 'not for the faint hearted but highly recommended'. After its Australian première in Melbourne, the production will tour to Sydney then Belfast.

Evenings at 7.30pm - April 14, 22, 28; May 1, 7, 9 Matinee at 1pm - April 18 State Theatre, the Arts Centre. Sung in Italian with English surtitles. Single tickets available from \$55 - \$229. A children's price of \$45 - \$50 is available for all performances.

ALL Bookings: Ticketmaster 1300 136 166, the Arts Centre Box Office or opera-australia.org.au

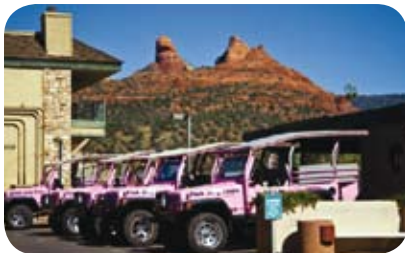
q travel: with SHEK GRAHAM

Sedona the Red Rock Country

After leaving Carlsbad we made our way into Texas, mainly just so we could say we had been there! Pathetic I know, but it was our intention to go through as many of the States of the USA as possible. By going through Texas to El Paso we were also on the border with Mexico as El Paso straddles the US and Mexican borders. After that we headed north again as we had arranged to meet up with someone from the National Geographic Workshop who lived in Flagstaff. The city is named after a Ponderosa Pine flagpole made by a scouting party from Boston (known as the "Flagstaff Tea Party") to celebrate the United States Centennial on July 4, 1876. It also lies on the historic route 66 which was built in 1926, and is one of the main towns on the railway line from Albuquerque to the West Coast of the USA, first built in the 1880's.

Today Flagstaff is the hub of many industries and has become a city with its own University. Flagstaff also lies at the base of the San Francisco Peaks, a 12633ft (3850 m) dormant volcano. Lying on the edge of the Colorado plateau Flagstaff itself sits on a high elevation of 7000 ft (2133 m), and as a consequence of this an observatory was built here in 1896. The area is surrounded by the largest Pine Forest in the US. The city is also a gateway for other superb tourist attractions being close to Glen Canyon and The Grand Canyon National Parks.

One of the tourist attractions that can be visited from Flagstaff is the beautiful town of Sedona. The drive from Flagstaff to Sedona takes in the stunning Oak Creek Canyon at the north end, and then a sensational drive past peaks of red rock that glow in the sun. The town of Sedona itself is a tourist Mecca with many restaurants, art galleries and fine hotels. It's a town for all seasons with winter sports for the adventurous during the winter months and stunning scenery during the rest of the year. But what really makes this town special is the shopping, which is fit for any Queen!





gaydestination

A photograph of two shirtless men on a beach. One man is in the foreground, smiling broadly, while the other is behind him, embracing him from the side. The background shows a bright, sunny beach scene with waves.

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