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CILMI**

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FUNNY

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ESpecial
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FOR SUMMER**

M A N C



IT'S TIME FOR

FORMERLY ESSENTIAL 8 MINSHULL

Saturday 3rd April
THE LAUNCH



11PM - 6AM

JONNY M (WILDFRUIT, MATADOR)
APHRODITE (MORNIN GLORY)
THADDEUS (ESSENTIAL)

FOLLOWED BY
MORNIN' GLORY
@ QUEER CAFE BAR

Sunday 4th April

**ULTIMATE
EASTER**

11PM - 5AM

NICKSY (HEART FM)
DORIAN (LOVEMUSCLE, THE FRIDGE)
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APHRODITE (MORNIN GLORY)

LIVE ON STAGE
ANGIE BROWN

ADMISSION: £6 / £7

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**MORNIN' GLORY
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Friday 9th April
and every Friday



11PM - 5AM

**STRIPPERS AND MALE POLE
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IBIZA
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TO IBIZA**

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wild fruit

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Saturday 24th April


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when the sun goes down...

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AIR" DEEJAY SET FROM

CAHILL

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New Alfa MiTo MultiAir in UK

THE ALFA ROMEO MITO IS ALREADY A GLOBAL SUCCESS STORY. SOLD IN 34 COUNTRIES AND ON FIVE DIFFERENT CONTINENTS, IT HAS WON WIDE ACCLAIM FOR ITS UNPRECEDENTED FUSION OF HEAD-TURNING HIGH END STYLE, ENGINEERING FLAIR, DYNAMIC PERFORMANCE AND DRIVING PLEASURE...

And now, Alfa has moved the game on again, bringing revolutionary MultiAir technology and a raft of technical innovations to the world's sportiest compact car. The evolution underlines the company's on-going commitment to reconcile lower emissions and fuel consumption with higher performance and driver satisfaction for an increasingly extensive, smart and environmentally aware audience.

The new Euro 5-ready 1.4-litre MultiAir engine, developed and patented by Fiat Powertrain Technologies (FPT), made its international debut in the MiTo late last year, and is initially offered in two turbocharged forms for the UK market. The 135bhp version of the unit powers the £15,165 Lusso and £16,135 Veloce, while the range-topping £17,895 Cloverleaf – an auspicious return for the iconic badge close to every Alfista's heart – boasts 170bhp and a 0–62mph time of just 7.5 seconds, but a combined fuel consumption of 47.1 mpg.

In addition to MultiAir, the new MiTo range showcases a broad spectrum

of innovative technologies, including active suspension on the Cloverleaf (a first for this class of car), the emission-reducing Start&Stop system across the range, and Alfa Romeo DNA. Derived from racing, this three-mode electronic system communicates with the engine, brakes, steering, suspension (on MiTo Cloverleaf), and transmission, allowing the driver to adjust the responses of the car to suit driving style and road conditions.

Alfa's Electronic Q2 limited slip differential heads a number of dynamic driver aids, including a long list of safety systems. Together with the MacPherson strut/torsion beam suspension layout, these all help deliver the handling dynamics and sure-footed road holding capabilities you'd expect from an Alfa, whatever the road. Designed to satisfy the highest Euro NCAP crash safety rating, the MiTo also offers optimum passive safety.

The model's high level of engineering integrity can also be appreciated through the series of improvements that have further increased the quality of the Alfa

MiTo. Improvements embrace the interior finish, trim combinations, and gearchange quality (the lever on the MiTo Cloverleaf has been shortened by 2.5 centimeters) as well as modifications to the steering, suspension and braking systems.

MultiAir makes the difference: 1.4 TB MultiAir 135bhp compared to the 1.4 TB 120bhp.

- **CO₂ reduced by over 10%**
- **Max power increased by 12.5%**
- **Acceleration (0–62mph) reduced by up to 0.4 seconds**
- **Better throttle response, less turbo lag**
- **Fuel consumption reduced by up to 10%.**

**Contact Matthew at
Dews Alfa Romeo to arrange
your test drive.**

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08447 705622**

www.dewsalfaromeo.co.uk



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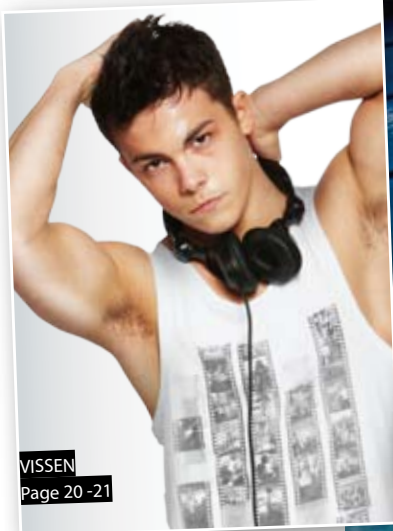
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**MODEL SHOWN, ALFA MiTo 1.4 MULTIAIR TB 135 BHP VELOCE AT £16,545 OTR including Alfa red paint at an additional £410. *Figures based on the 1.4 MultiAir TB 135 bhp vs 1.4 TB 120 bhp. Official fuel consumption figures for the Alfa MiTo range: Urban: 34.9 – 51.4 mpg (8.1 – 5.5 l/100km); Extra Urban 58.9 – 78.5 mpg (4.8 – 3.6 l/100km); Combined 47.1 – 65.7 mpg (6.0 – 4.3 l/100km). CO₂ emissions 139 – 112 g/km. ⁵

Prices correct at time of going to press.



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bent

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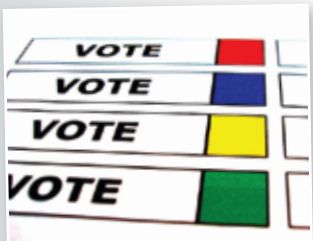


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EDITOR'S WORDS

With a General Election called for next month... will readers of Bent be bothered to vote?

According to the two main parties the choice is clear – us or them! Both Labour and Conservative hate the fact that an election should be more than a two horse race, just listen to them talking down the minor parties to see what I mean. "It is just a wasted vote" they chorus because no one but they (substitute either of the main parties) can govern this sceptred isle. In that case, why vote if we are going to get



what we don't want all over again? With less and less people turning up at the polling stations to administer their 'cross' of approval the main parties are happy because it means they will retain the power. If you are not happy with the way things are...the only way you can change things here in the UK is to vote. Now, you may feel that, perhaps as a gay man or woman that this past Labour government has done quite a good job on defending our 'gay rights' and to a certain extent they have. Meanwhile, leader of the Tories David

Cameron says he wants change and is actively courting the 'gay' voter by saying all the right things but his own history, when it comes to gay rights, is pretty woeful. However, who's to say that he has not seen the light and all things will change should he be the next leader. The Lib-Dems I always thought were the ideal party for the gay vote. A large proportion of their front bench (if rumours are true) appear to be of our persuasion but... do they have the bottle to see things through. At the last election, when members of that party were the targets of a bit of media gay bashing, they slid away and licked their wounds instead of coming out fighting. Not in the least impressive! Thankfully now they have a new young leader in Nick Clegg and a financial wizard in Vince Cable, so who knows. Here's something else to consider. Are we only going to vote for a party that puts gay rights at the top of the agenda? What about the Greens, they must have had the right idea because every other party seems keen to adopt green issues. The Independents seem to be a wasted vote but, locally an MP dealing with local issues and not aligned to any party whips (don't get me started on that) has to be a positive. Sadly, the BNP success in Europe has shown that if you can't be arsed to vote... some things happen that you might have wished otherwise.

Getting anyone out to vote this time will be a problem and the reason for that is quite simple, we just don't trust the buggers! If they aren't spinning the 'truth' to suit a political agenda they have their greasy hands in the till ripping off the rest of us. This last 12



months or so has proved one thing very clear... politicians are the most loathed people in the UK. To get our respect (oops that's another party altogether) they have to get rid of the deadwood (which they always seem keen to do in other public areas), clean up their act, tell the truth and not just more often... tell us the bloody truth... (I'm sure we can handle it) and stop pretending they know better. By letting a small group of moneymen take the world to the cleaners the current worldwide downturn shows that politicians have no better grasp on economics than you or I.

We are living in 2010 and not some sixteenth century feudal system where we are lorded over by our 'betters' and put our cross where we are told to by the Squire. Parliament should be for the people... alas recently it has been found out and turned (as I think someone famous once said) into a den of thieves. So, if you want change... vote... a protest vote is still a vote and it sends a message that you are not happy with the way things are. Don't be afraid to take a stand or make a difference.

Gordon



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MY
TURN
TO
TALK**

**WE'RE GOING TO STOP TALKING
AND START LISTENING.**

CHAPS


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TRUST**



For over twenty-five years we've been talking about sex. We thought it was about time we gave it a rest and let you talk instead.

welisten.org.uk

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Scott Capurro's Position -

Venue: Royal Vauxhall Tavern
Dates: 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th April, 6th May
Tickets: £9
Box Office: 0207 820 1222

After unprecedented public demand, the live comedy chat show Scott Capurro's Position returns to the RVT for 5 shows from 1st April weekly until 6th May. In his unique style, Scott will be interviewing household names alongside comic favourites entwined with some stand up and a smattering of music. Expect the unexpected when a plethora of eclectic guests are put through their paces in 'Scott Capurro's Position' - a show not to be missed.

Thurs 1st April - Features Matt Lucas - who can currently be seen on screen in Tim Burton's version of the classic 'Alice In Wonderland' playing Tweedle Dum & Tweedle Dee alongside Johnny Depp. Plus, Barb Jungr - an English singer-songwriter,



composer and writer. She is perhaps best known as a chansonnier, or singer of chansons—in the sense of classic, lyric-driven French songs.

Thursday 8th April - Features Russell Tovey - best known for his part in History Boys, Dr Who and more recently the Werewolf in Being Human. Plus, George Galloway - British politician, author and broadcaster, who has been a Member of Parliament since 1987, and is known for his anti-war views.

Thursday 15th April - Features Jane Turner - Australian actress, comedian and Logie Award winning comedy writer best known for her role as Kath in Kath & Kim, which she wrote and produced. Also, Dame Vivienne Westwood -- DBE, RDI - a British fashion icon largely responsible for



bringing modern punk and new wave fashions into the mainstream with her award winning and unique designs.

Other guests include Ivan Massow - entrepreneur and British businessman. Nicholas de Jongh - the theatre critic and playwright. Britt Ekland - Swedish actress and long-time resident in the United Kingdom. Victor Spinetti - Welsh comic actor who sprang to international prominence in three Beatles' films in the 1960s. Shappi Khorsandi - Iranian-born, UK-raised comedienne and author. Jimmy Carr - comedian, known for his deadpan delivery and dark humour. Stephen Merchant - best known as the co-writer of the popular sitcoms The Office and as the co-writer and a co-star of Extras. Nina Conti - the British actress, comedienne and ventriloquist. Her onstage puppet sidekick is a depressed monkey named Monk.



THE NEW FACE OF MANLY SEXY

Here at Bent we have a thing for boys who look like men. Skinheads, scallies, preppy guys, sporty types. You know, the kind who'll give you a proper throwing round in the bedroom!

Previously such boys used to wear Burberry as if it was going out of fashion (well, it was once the chavs got hold of it). Ben Sherman has always been popular. Then there was the grey jogger fascination that swept the gay world and still has many of us more than a little worked up.

Now we at Bent think we've spotted the next trend. As you can see from these gorgeous pictures: Aertex seems to be the brand for men who like real men. None of that namby-pamby Primani for these guys.

And where Burberry and Ben Sherman fail, Aertex succeeds: the element of class. After all, a guy can be manly and still sport good fashion sense. There are the checkered motifs we all love, plus some rather nice polos and T-shirts. What's more the fabric itself is designed for activity, with a cooling breezy texture perfect for summer. In fact, you'll feel almost naked wearing it—and with any luck, you'll end up naked with some hot hunk after being spotted in this stuff!

www.aertex.com

Natural Energy NATURALLY

Latitude™ drink is the first natural energy drink with no caffeine or taurine the world has ever seen. The drink delivers a natural mental boost, whilst maintaining your physical wellbeing. attitude™ drink is healthier than leading fruit smoothies containing only 99 calories per can. Rhodiola Rosea, the herb used by ancient civilizations as far back as the Spartans, to help with their strength and endurance is the key ingredient and supplement for caffeine. It is unique in its ability to simultaneously sharpen the brain's processes and rejuvenate the body's energy stores. It has been proven to effectively reduce the body's susceptibility to stress, without having the sharp peak and trough effect that caffeine has on our energy and alertness.

www.attitudedrink.com



LICK IT GOOD

The fabulous, sexy and mouth-watering LICK range of underwear that was featured in last month's magazine can now be bought exclusively from: <http://shop.bent.com/>

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The Beauty Underneath

If you are a fan of anything then you naturally always worry when you hear the word 'sequel', especially when it comes to a musical classic like 'The Phantom of the Opera'. It's a show so wonderful in its own right that you know a sequel could ruin it and yet, the latest Lloyd Webber offering 'Love Never Dies' not only does the original justice but stands alone as a musical in its own right.

'Love Never Dies' takes us from an Opera House in Paris to the Coney Island theatre and circus 'Phantasma', where the Phantom has been hiding from the world for ten long years. However, he is not alone as Madame Giry and her daughter Meg have come along, helping the Phantom escape while Meg is now the star of his show and hoping to win his heart. All that is set to change when the Phantom invites the love of his life Christine to come and sing on Coney Island for a one-off special performance and a night none of them will ever forget.

The setting of Coney Island is perfect, once a inhospitable marshland it became 'Sodom by the Sea' filled with freaks and people of ill repute before becoming something of a grand amusement park and this leads to the effects and staging departments being able to have an utter field day. You have 3D visual effects, horses made from smoke (to see it is to be believed) more lasers than a Kylie concert (well maybe not quite) and an amazing circus opening that almost takes your breath away.

Ramin Karimloo is a superb Phantom; some of his vocals are jaw dropping. Sierra Boggess who has come from 'Phantom - The Las Vegas Spectacular' where she was playing Christine as she does now, wonderfully takes on the role of a woman whose heart is clearly in two places and her voice, when singing the title track, will reduce grown men to tears with its emotion. The cast were all strong and brilliant with Summer Strallen, who you may all know from Hollyoaks and The Sound of Music, giving her version of Meg, which was something to behold; saucy, sultry yet completely vulnerable.



The main star of the show is of course the music and after a few ropery shows on and off this is Lloyd Webber back to his finest. The melodies are wonderful and the lyrics have a modernism that will translate to an audience of all ages. Though there are shades of 'Phantom' this is no copy and we defy you not to love the song 'The Beauty Underneath' with all its wonderful melodrama.

For more information and tickets for the show visit www.loveneverdies.com

Gay Bars Come Direct To Mobiles

Gay bars are now available to all mobile phones across the world as Gaypedia launches its long-awaited mobile application.

Go to: mobile.gaypedia.com on any handset with 3G access

Gaypedia Mobile will identify users unique global positioning to provide them with a list of bars, pubs, clubs and gay venues within their local vicinity. Users will be presented with options including Bars/Clubs/Pubs, Sleep In (for accommodation needs) and Eat Out (for dining) that shows the location by distance and a map indicating the position of the user to the venue.

Whether you're in the city of choice at the time or making travel plans, Gaypedia Mobile will show you all venues available that also include details, reviews and ratings.

Not only will Gaypedia Mobile find your current location and locate the nearest bars and clubs to you, but you will also be able to post on your Gaypedia profile wall, write blogs, chat live and read your Gaypedia email

"We have developed Gaypedia Mobile to make travelling across the world easier for gay people, especially as it is often challenging to find bars in a foreign country or unfamiliar territories," said Ryan Haynes, marketing director. "I have spent countless hours trawling through general search or walking around neighbourhoods



trying to find that hidden gay bar. I know I'm not the only one who experiences this.

As more technologies launch on the market to help gay and lesbian people, following Grinder, Gaypedia Mobile is likely to be one of the most needed tools for gay people. On the site there are tips on the best restaurants, venues and events across the globe. The site offers gay maps, gay guides and an events calendar that is updated daily by both Gaypedia editorial team and Gaypedia members. There are currently over 2,200 venues worldwide.

Gaypedia is shaping up to be a highly popular networking tool, for more information check www.gaypedia.com



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Storm Watches

Storm is paying homage to the 80s this season with the ultra trendy Maze watch. Be the envy of all your friends with this head turning timepiece, which features unconventional graphic numerals for a truly funky finish. The metal mesh strap on this watch is cool and contemporary, whilst the psychedelic face is a head spinning special. **Black and White: £69.99** **Slate and Gold: £89.99**

The best a Man (chester) can get!

Manchester Pride 2009 has been voted the 'Best Festival or Pride Event' by readers of the Pink Paper - for the fourth year running.

The readers of Pink Paper voted for Manchester Pride amongst a strong line-up of UK events including Brighton Pride, Cardiff Mardi Gras and London Pride.

Jackie Crozier, festival director of Manchester Pride, said: "We're overwhelmed to have won this award

for the fourth time in as many years. It's a credit to everybody involved with the festival from the volunteers and sponsors to everyone who came to enjoy the event. Not only did we have loads of fun but Manchester Pride 2009 raised £135,000 for charity - the largest amount to date."

Manchester Pride is the city's annual lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) festival. **This year's event takes place from Friday 20th - Monday 30th August.** manchesterpride.com

PinkPaper.com

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GMFA's HIV-positive gay men's website with information on:
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Supported by PETER MOORES FOUNDATION

We here at Bent Towers love Alphabeat and their camp-tastic and wonderful tunes. So we thought that we should check our camp-o-meter out on lead singer Stine and ask...

Can We Be Your Gay Best friend, Stine Bramsen?

What is the campest thing that you have ever done?

Oooh (giggles)... that's a difficult question you know! Oh you have put me on the spot straight away. Now then how can a girl be camp? I know lots of boys who can be very, very camp but not so much girls. Ooh, I know... One night I dressed up all my straight male friends in my dresses and head pieces and filmed them. I haven't put it on Youtube yet... well I wouldn't actually, as some of you all might just recognise! Oh what a tease... and how we love her even more for torturing us with a little titbit of some gossip, we will be left guessing all day now. 8/10

Any outrageous dressing room demands?

Oh I wish? I can't be too demanding on tour with lots of boys. We do also end up in some quite crazy little venues. I like my white wine, which I just won't share with anyone (giggles). I would love to demand carrot juice because it's great when I am hungover, which I find I am quite a lot. We admire the white wine hogging, we do that too. Carrot juice for hangovers though... no no no the answer is always more alcohol. 6/10

Madonna or Lady Gaga?

I would say Madonna but I think that Gaga is getting there, well give her another five years and if she is still as amazing then as she is now then Gaga... she still has some catching up to do though I mean Madonna is Madonna. We agree though her last album was a little ropey and Gaga does R&B better than Madge although Gaga's still got lots to prove even if she is so 2010. We did hope Stine might have some Gaga gossip after touring with her though. 7/10

When did you last have a diva strop?

I am rubbish at that and I definitely need to get better at that one (laughs). I just tend to cry if it all gets too much, that's not very diva like really, and it's just emotional! I think I should start shouting and throwing things, maybe fire some people (laughs) but my inner diva is still growing, I haven't quite found her yet. Stine clearly has big future diva plans so all around her better watch out. 8/10

Prada or Primark?

(Laughs) I am actually wearing a vintage Prada turban right now, so Prada over Primark. I did once buy a pair of shoes from Primark... once, I haven't worn them. We don't get Primark over in Sweden as much as everyone in England does. I might have to try it again sometimes it's always a bit too crazily busy, you fear for your life. Fearing for your life in Primark with a vintage Prada turban on is too much of a camp wonderful image 10/10

What's your biggest extravagance?

Hmmm... at the moment headpieces. For this album campaign I have decided that's my look... so I am always looking for some amazing headpieces here, there and everywhere. I have some made by a designer who makes me cat suits too. Cat suits and headpieces, we like! We also like the idea of dressing for each campaign in a new way, verges on fickle and trendsetting all in one. 7/10

Do you like a good drama?

I don't really like it if I am involved in it, I do like watching them unfold though (giggles) I then like to solve it. Watching and giggling from afar - then going and being the peace maker resulting in all involved adoring you show signs of true greatness. 7/10

What's your best put down line?

Ooh, I have lots in Danish... how could I translate? Maybe it's best not to translate then people won't know what I am saying, which is a bit naughtier and funnier for me. We get the feeling Stine is a very nice young lady... we want some evil though, a little put down to make us feel inferior and special all in one. 6/10

How many gay friends are too many?

I don't think you can have too many. I have some very close gay friends who I love and I know if I am going out with them I will have the most fun evening. I do like the fact we have got a good gay fanbase, it means we are good taste (laughs). Flattery will get you everywhere... almost. 7/10

Do you like a gossip and can you tell me any?

I do like a bit of gossip. Not hurtful but juicy gossip is always good. Have I got any? Hmmm I can tell you the Spice Girls asked us to support them on tour and we said no thank you. I loved them when I was young and back in the 90's. I had everything they did, I loved them. Our favourite answer so far!!! Saying no to the Spice Girls!!!! Is that even possible? Apparently so! Admitting you had everything of theirs is also unashamedly pop loving... we had the chubba chup headsets and everything. 10/10.

69/100 (Oooh our favourite number out of 100!) Serious signs of being utterly gay best friend worthy, we think Stine shows promise of future Princess of Popness, she just needs to let the darker, camper, devious side out a little more often.

Alphabeat's new album 'The Beat Is...' is out now. And they will be coming to a town near you very soon on their 'The Beat Is... Tour' in April for more information visit www.thisisalphabeat.com

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FITLADS.net



ALL HAIL Our New Australian Disco Diva...

We first heard Gabriella when 'Sweet About Me' graced the airwaves. Now a few years on she has come back with the most amazing disco album of the year so far. Simon Savidge caught up with her to discuss a whole new sound, getting saucy and disco balls tickling her fancy...

Now the new album Ten is quite a change from the last album isn't it?

It is indeed, it's no fun doing the same thing twice is it? I am one of those people who have a really short attention span so I did keep on changing my mind as to what kind of sound the second album would have. For quite a while this was going to be a very piano led album and then a friend of mine lent me a Donna Summer album 'I Remember Yesterday' and I became obsessed. So that was where it started properly with this album I found a sound I loved and could bring a modern twist to as well. I was watching Flashdance and Fame too... it was a camp time. The 80's synths are turning me on at the moment.

People said it was going to be a R&B album, were you going to do a Madonna?

That started as I wanted to do some stuff with Danger Mouse who is one half of Gnarls Barkley. I wasn't going to do a Madonna though and go R&B that was a bit weird (laughs)... I love old school Madonna. (Starts singing) Get into the groove boy...

It's a bit of a saucy and sexy sound isn't it? Is this the inner Cilmi-minx coming out?

Yeah I think so. Again I blame Donna (laughs). I think I currently find it really easy to write sexy songs; in fact people have actually been commenting on it recently (laughs) saying 'does everything have to be sexy with you at the moment?'

They say the second album can be the difficult one, did you find that with 'Ten'?

Oh do you know what... I was freaking out with this album because I only had a year to write it, whereas, with 'Lessons To Be Learned' I had three years. I was also travelling all over the world and recording here, there and everywhere, so it was quite an emotional rollercoaster. I don't think it would be as good without all the drama (laughs) I fell out with people over this album, it was an experience.

Why the title 'Ten'?

I have always been a little superstitious and this year my birthday is the 10th of the 10th so it seemed a sign. I always like to sit in seat 10 on a plane... have I started weirding you out yet? My Grandma was really superstitious too she apparently wore the number 12 round her neck as in Italian that number is good luck so people shouldn't fear it. Mind you if you now break your superstition and it all goes wrong don't blame me. (Laughs.)

British gay men love Australian women, do you know why that is? I mean seriously there's Kylie, Kath and Kim, Olivia Newton John, you...

I think maybe it's our attitude, we like to throw ourselves into life. We aren't afraid to have fun and push the boundaries and go crazy. I don't know. (Laugh) It's not the accent is it? Don't you just love Pru and Tru (from Kath & Kim)?

Now you have a big gay fan base, which with this album is bound to grow, is that important to you?

Oh definitely. Gay men are really dedicated to their music and I think if a gay guy likes your music you know you are doing something right!

Now then you and Lady Gaga...

Oh do you know what this got so blown out of proportion (giggles). This actually all started from me saying last year at the Brits 'I don't know how she does it wearing those short shorts in the freezing cold weather', which was meant as a sign she was being brave. Next thing the press took that and made it sound like I called her 'a disgusting sex maniac', which I totally don't think, she's an amazing artist. (Laughs) I wouldn't want to pick a fight with Gaga that's for sure!

So what do you think the future holds for Gabriella and what sound might you try next, heavy metal?

(Really laughs) Can you imagine? Actually deep down inside I am a bit of a rocker so you never know. I want to try a bit of everything; it spices up a live show doing lots of different sounds. I might do a Country album next but disco and synths have really got my fancy at the moment and I think that might last a while. It's all about glitter balls and dancing.

Gabriella's amazing album 'Ten' is out now. www.gabriellicilmi.com



www.squirt.org

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All Loved up

Sharon O'Love is a member of an exclusive 'Female DJ' group. In a career spanning almost 20 years, 2010 looks set to be the biggest yet for the O'Love brand with a string of DJ residencies and international dates already secured. Bent caught up with Sharon to find out how it all began and what's in store in the coming months.

"My career started in Nottingham, where my long time friend, Micky Lloyd ran club nights and he allowed me to play a few sets. It wasn't long

before I got to play at Speed Queen, which was an amazing play-ground, it helped me build my confidence behind the decks. I also got to play at places like Red Raw (Terry George's night in Leeds)...memorable moments."

After spending years with a manager, Sharon decided to go it alone 18 months ago. "It suited me as I was able to choose which promoters and clubs to work with. My management had spent so much time seeking out 'straight' gigs that I was beginning to think about hanging my headphones up. But when I decided to go it alone, I was able to build good, honest relationships with many promoters and found myself becoming one of the boys, playing more on the circuit."

It would be fair to say that many of the straight nights that Sharon played, were the least enjoyable parts of her DJ career. "I played this afterhours event many years ago up North, the promoter looked really shocked to see me, saying 'Are you gay?' in a really pissed off manner. It was tense from then on and I came

off the decks within half hour, that's why I choose my own gigs these days, I don't think DJs need an agency or manager behind them; it's all about good, honest networking.

"My most memorable DJ moment is playing the main stage at Manchester Mardi Gras a few years ago, I was so nervous as I was only just switching to CD from vinyl, I had 30 minutes set so banged it out O'Love style, I remember looking out to the crowd and having a Paparazzi-flash moment, smiling the whole time."

Sharon's unique sound has already won her many UK and international residencies. "In the UK I play for Salvation, my once a month night at NG1 called Night Train, Fusion at The Powerhouse and Rupert St in London every few months. I also play some international dates with Salvation (the first female behind their decks) and every two months sets at NY Club in Munich and 136 in Hamburg."

"This year is even better, I am off to play two of the biggest gay clubs in Mexico - Nation (Leon) and BoyBar (Mexico City), I will be representing

the UK and will also be the first female to play these clubs. I aim to excite the Mexicans with lots of energetic, uplifting house music rather than play safe and stick to what they know.

"I wish I could have played Trade back in the day. What I liked about clubs like Trade was that the music was fully charged and the room was full of testosterone induced energy, I always felt part of that, I am for sure a gay man trapped inside a dykes body."

Asked to describe the O'Love sound, Sharon replies, "Uplifting, energetic, progressive, cheeky - to me it's all about a journey, I love people who listen to music not just hear it. Each time I play I try to create a wave of energy across the floor, it's amazing when you look up and all you see is pure energy."

You can find out more and download the latest Sharon O'Love podcasts from:

www.sharon-o-love.com
www.soundcloud.com/sharon-o-love

Photo: Saul Morgan

O, Raven O

By Leif Johansley

Raven O is the definition of enigma. Known worldwide for his starring role in Cirque Du Soleil's Zumanity, Raven O is a master at captivating audiences. On stage, he is the son of the devil one minute, a soul wrenching swan singer the next. His performances are fearless, provocative and often times off-the-wall. Raven O gets away with comments most entertainers would not dare say, like labeling women larger than size zero, "fat (f*s+#+g) bitches". Even his insults have fans rolling in the aisles.

Seven year-old Raven O knew his hometown of Oahu, Hawaii was too small for him. He had his sights on the Big Apple. At 18, he entered and won a dance contest with a first place prize being a roundtrip ticket to New York City. He later learned the organizers did not have enough money to cover a return trip. They offered Raven O a one-way ticket and he took it - never looking back.

Upon arriving in NYC in 1989, Raven O became a fixture in the downtown club world. He sung in dark, seedy underground cabarets and burlesque theatre houses. To make ends meet, he go-go danced. In fact, Raven O has the distinction of being the first male go-go dancer at New York's famed Limelight

Nightclub. His notoriety grew when he began touring with Sylvain Sylvain of The New York Dolls.

Raven O lived the glamorous New York life, mingling with the likes of Grace Jones, Keith Haring, and Joey Arias. With sex and rock-and-roll came drugs. Raven O fell to crack and to support his habit, he became a prostitute, combing for tricks at hustler dive bars. The drugs and prostitution deadened him. To this day, Raven O barely remembers much of the early 90s. He says the only place he felt alive was on the stage.

Cirque Du Soleil was a major turning point for the performer. After being recommended by his best friend Joey Arias, the troupe invited Raven O to host their Zumanity show in Las Vegas.

The Sin City promised a brand new era of fabulousness for Raven O. He reflected on the amazing super stars that had performed the Vegas stages: Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and Elvis. On his first step inside a casino, however, he knew he had made a huge mistake. He felt trapped among obese herds of pink skinned monsters eating foot long hotdogs, guzzling extra large cups of soda, and smoking cigarettes. The strip was fake, plastic, with no soul, no art... a vast and utter waste land.

Still, Raven O enjoyed performing ten shows a week. It was a grueling schedule but Raven O says he would have done 20 shows... anything to keep him off the strip and on the stage where he belonged.

In 2007, after three long years in Las Vegas, Raven O returned to his love - New York City - to host Andre Balaz's 50th birthday party. Simon Hammerstein, grandson of Oscar Hammerstein, directed the show and was so impressed by the performance, he invited Raven O to mc his downtown theatre, The Box.

The Box was to Raven O what Club Babalu was to Ricky Ricardo. It was life-changing and career-defining. Not only did Raven O star in the risqué burlesque show, he choreographed and helped create it. His run lasted two and a half years, attracting celebrities like Jude Law, Sting, Josh Lucas, Lindsay Lohan, Mary J. Blige, Allan Cumming, Kevin Spacey, Kate Moss, and Simon Cowell. Through ten performances a week, including an 8pm dinner show and a late night show that continued until 3:30am, Raven O never missed a performance.

Throughout his career, there is little Raven O has not done. The one thing left to tackle has been recording an album. A prolific songwriter, Raven O always had it in his mind but with a seemingly non-stop show schedule, the time never seemed right. Until now. Raven O is preparing to release his first musical cd this summer. He will preview the album this spring with a special pre-release of "Heaven" (out now), a cover of the classic Psychedelic Furs song.

Call Raven O a freak. Call him androgynous. But do not label Raven O. As any enigmatic character, Raven O is best left undefined.

For more Raven info, visit:

www.raven-o.com

Photo: San Sierra



My favourite time of the clubbing year... Gay Christmas (or Easter as some call it) is almost here. On Easter Sunday you can catch me playing for the first Courtyard Party of the year at Fibre/Queens Court in Leeds, then Federation Manchester (midnight - 2am), then back to Leeds for the last set of Federation 'Alice in Wonderland (3am-5am). Not forgetting my residency at the freshest clubnight Manchester's gay scene has seen in years - Freakshow at the No.1 Club every Saturday. If you like your house music upfront, tough and charging, then download my latest podcast from jasonguy.podomatic.com. For more information on having a track, clubnight or DJ feature in Bent, please contact jason@bent.com.

TRACK REVIEW

TOP TRACKS OF THE MONTH



GINA STAR

This Is Hollywood (Toolroom Records)
A huge Freakshow anthem since the beginning of the year... tough house doesn't get any better than this! This Is Hollywood features the unmistakable vocal talents of DJ Roland Clark. With its driving groove the track builds layers of sound with its massively uplifting synth line, which builds toward a jaw-dropping 'hands in the air' moment with a brilliantly executed breakdown, before slamming back in for a full on dance floor assault. "Welcome To Hollywood, what's your dream?"



MILK AND SUGAR

Let The Love Take Over (M&S Recordings)
The masters of the infectious house track are back with their newest offering, that has already taken the Miami Music Conference by storm and is sure to be played all summer long. Using the same guitar riff from Kurd Maverick's Strings of Tortuga / Love Emergency... it's a feel good, hands in the air, cocktail by the beach, Ibiza terrace, tribal fused, perfect piece of house. Guaranteed to make the sun shine (possibly).



SAINTS & SINNERS

Pushin Too Hard (Bedrock Records)
One of the classic tracks from the Bedrock Record's back catalogue is dragged screaming into 2010 by an awesome remix from Nic Fanciulli. It's a disco infused tech house groover than will guarantee to get every gay dancefloor in the country moving. With the feel and energy of Donna Summer's classic I Feel Love, this track is just screaming for the summer to start. Happy, uplifting, disco tinged fabulousness!



KELIS

Acapella (will.i.am music group)
It's the comeback single from American R&B artist Kelis. Now, I'm sure you'll remember the pretty dreadful Milkshake from 2004, but this brand new offering is one of the best R&B/house crossovers for years. Accurately described as a smooth, Donna Summer-esque electro R&B, it has already reached number 1 on the US Billboard dance charts and looks set to do the same here when it's released in May. Stupidly catchy vocals will stay with you for weeks (I woke up humming it yesterday!) The stand-out mix comes from US circuit party DJ Dave Aude.

ALBUMS

SINGLES



▶ JUSTIN NOZUKA

You I Wind Land and Sea **Out: 12th April**

Rootsy folk pop and classy neo-soul collide as 21-year old singer Justin Nozuka releases his sophomore album. His debut album saw him compared to John Legend, Paolo Nutini and Ben Harper. From mellow baroque funk in the shape of 'Gray' to the tender piano balladics of 'Soulless Man' and the euphoric upbeat tempo of 'Carried You', this album (although horrifically named) hits all the right notes.



▶ FLORENCE RAWLINGS

Take Me in Your Arms and Love Me **Out: 5th April**

Gladys Knight's legendary Motown record is covered by the sparkly voice of Florence Rawlings. The live rhythms on this track add to Rawlings' panache, although her vocal acrobatics lose the elegant ease of Knight's original. She doesn't skimp on style but The Pips made it look so easy.



▶ THE EJECTOR SEATS

Take Off **Out: 19th April**

This southern electro pop coterie sound like something from the 1980s flung into a noughties nightclub and made to play modern hits. The result is actually quite interesting—a sort of New New Romantic with vintage style but modern awareness. The band bounce from sublime to sexy to silly without skipping once on sass.



▶ DR RUBBERFUNK FT. JOHN TURRELL

Northern Comfort **Out: 5th April**

'Northern Comfort' is a splendid nu-funk wonder that spirals and ripples from your speakers with the soulful vocals of John Turrell. Australian producer Slynk offers a trilling, burning club remix that really picks up the slack and takes this one to the dancefloor. A seriously tasty mix of drumming, breaking and party flavour.



▶ MR FOGG

Moving Parts **Out: 19th April**

Mr Fogg has spent a lot of time in frozen Scandinavian wastes with Bjork collaborator Vageir Sigurdsson, and the result is crystalline, spindly and cool. This is clever electronica with the bonkers streak you'd expect from someone who's teamed up with Bjork's right-hand man.

▶ 3 AMIGOS FT SUSU BOBIEN

You Bring Me Joy **Out: 5th April**

This monstrously-charged, Gospel-tinged track is bubbling with Nuyorican energy. Susu Bobien brings the diva power which brings the track to life over a sea of deep, hypnotic rhythms. Together these elements make a sultry, body-twisting record.



▶ BREAKBOT

Baby I'm Yours **Out: 5th April**

Modern disco seems to be the name of the game, and now music obsessive Breakbot gives it a whirl in this decidedly un-Valentine's love song. Irfane from Outlines offers the vocals and Siriusmo and La Funk Mob offer colourful, vibrant remixes to push up the rhythm.

▶ MIRRORKICKS

Mirrorkicks **Out: 19th April**

This is a bit of a hotchpotch for me. A mix of glam/indie/rock all delivered at the speed of sound, which might be brilliant live but on disc just makes me want to reach for a soothing glass of laudanum. It's not bad but for me not the recorded experience I was hoping for... albums are for taking the musical journey further... not just replicating what you get on stage.

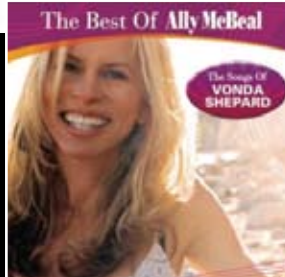


The Best Of Ally McBeal

▶ VONDA SHEPARD

The Best of Ally McBeal **Out: 1st April**

There's no doubt that Vonda added a great deal to the Ally McBeal programme, her vocals instantly capturing the feelings and moods of the characters as the show progressed. Not sure why they have decided NOW to bring it out but the album does contain a duet with Robert Downey Jr and a previously unreleased track as well as a newie. So, bring your collection up to date... if you want.



▶ CHOKLATE

The Tea **Out: 12th April**

Reel People's newest additional, the vocally superior Choklate, is a soulful house marvel. This song about remaining true to oneself is masterfully appropriate for the remixes that come from Reel People, the Layouts and Manoo. This is funky, sexy house music with a hint of Motown disco.



THE GALLERY

Starting life at their father's club Turnmills, The Gallery was the brainchild of brothers 'Tall' Paul and Danny Newman. As Danny explains: My Dad who ran the club never really had a regular Friday night. For a while in 1994 we ran a night called Dance Kult welcoming along guests such as Andy Weatherall, Dj Dag and Sven Vath, it had similar hours to Trade starting at 4 am and going on till 11 am on the Saturday morning. It was perhaps a little too hardcore for the time, so we started to explore the idea of something a little more mainstream.

The Gallery has always kept an eye on nurturing talent with the likes of Sister Bliss and Darren Emerson playing regularly in the first year and artists like Groove Armada, Nic Fanciulli, Armin Van Buuren and Lottie holding residencies in their early days The Gallery has been a space where highly talented young DJs to come, develop their skills and go on to become some of the biggest DJs on the planet and this remains testament today with the clubs stunning roster of international and local residents Sander Van Doorn, Markus Schulz, Hernan Cattaneo, Martin Roth, John Askew, Gavyn Mytchel and The Viceroy.

To celebrate The Gallery's 15th Birthday not only is there a mother of all parties taking place at The Ministry Of Sound featuring headline performances from the DJ's who performed at the very first birthday party but there's also a UK-club tour, a special limited edition DVD and mix album to celebrate this milestone achievement.



FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD:

Welcome to the Pleasuredome – the deluxe edition

The really cool thing about Frankie is... they have never dated. It's just as cool now to love their music as it was 25 years ago when producer Trevor Horn grabbed a bunch of Scouse chancers and between them they made pop music history!

COMPETITION TIME

TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS

We have copies of this special limited edition DVD and 3CD celebration album to give away and all you have to do to be in with a chance of winning is answer this simple question: **In which club did The Gallery start life?**

THE GALLERY 15TH BIRTHDAY: NATION-WIDE TOUR!

The Gallery prepare to hit the road taking the club on tour to a series of UK-venues alongside a few key international dates – check local listings for full info:

FRI 9TH APRIL – The Gallery vs Digital Society / Leeds – Bobina / John Askew / Gavyn Mytchel / Claudia Cazacau

SAT 17TH APRIL – The Gallery meets Seven Sins / Brighton – Eric Kupper / Timo Garcia / Gavyn Mytchel

SAT 1ST MAY – The Gallery / Crash / Plymouth – Giuseppe Ottaviani, Gavyn Mytchel

SAT 8TH MAY – The Gallery vs Classique / Coventry – Signum, First Rate, Paul Morrell

Sat 8th May – The Gallery meets Tonedeff / Folkstone – Marcel Woods / Tall Paul / Jon O Bir / Gavyn Mytchel

SUN 30TH MAY – The Gallery at Dance Crusade / Essex – Judge Jules / Richard Durand / Marcel Woods / Tall Paul / Oliver Lang / Gavyn Mytchel / The Viceroy

+More TBC!

For the first time ever, Frankie Goes To Hollywood's iconic debut album, Welcome To The Pleasuredome, has been remastered and expanded into possibly the most essential back catalogue reissue of the year.

This deluxe version includes the original double album remastered – featuring Relax (UK #1), Two Tribes (UK #1), The Power of Love (UK #1), Welcome To Pleasuredome (UK #2) and War (UK #1 12") – plus classic B-sides, Trevor Horn's epic 12" remixes of Relax (16:59) and The Power of Love (9:30), and archive audio interviews. CD2 features previously-unheard studio demos of War, Two Tribes and Pleasuredome, an early, eleven minute version of The Ballad of 32, and a completely unreleased song from the end of the Pleasuredome era, Watusi Love Juicy. Welcome to the Pleasuredome's sleeve – itself a design classic – has been expanded into sixpanel digipack form, adding rare photos of the band and previously unpublished paintings by Laurence Cole who provided the renowned Picasso-esque illustration for the original front cover.

Out 26th April - Double CD box set
ZTT Records via Union Square Music

www.ztt.com

BENT
MUSIC

BACK 2 THE 80S

Dig out those legwarmers, pull on those aviator's, jump on that space-hopper and bounce back 2 the 80s! This triple CD is the perfect party album, packed full of tracks guaranteed to get anyone up off their seats and turn them footloose! Disc one is full of pop gems including Rick Astley's "Never Gonna Give You Up", Kylie Minogue's "I Should Be So Lucky". While CD 2 churns out some 80's rock anthems with tracks like Europe's "The Final Countdown" and Kenny Loggin's classic "Footloose". Last but by no means least is Disc 3 which is home to some timeless dance and rap hits. NKOTB make a welcome appearance with "You Got It (the right stuff)"; Run-DMC represents 80's rap with the cult classic "Walk This Way" and The Pointer Sisters "I'm So Excited".

Out: 26th April – Big Tunes

To be in with a chance of winning this fantastic CD just answer this simple question: **Who had an 80s hit with "Never gonna give you up"?**



WIN
THIS



PANDEMIC – THE ALBUM

BK & Anne Savage

The world's No.1 hard dance producer BK has joined forces with dance music's force de jour Anne Savage to create the new studio masterpiece in the form of Pandemic, a 12 track long-player guaranteed to make your speakers bounce.

WIN
THIS

Anne draws on her rock band past and features vocals on Space Invader and Rock The Underground whilst Ben hails back to his rock studio days, stepping up to the mic for On The Edge, Pressure Down and Last Dance. Anne and Ben have also lovingly created some very clever cover versions, paying homage to three club classics that have all held personal meanings to them over the years. Each track has been tried and tested on the world's best dancefloors, but was equally created to listen to in it's entirety- maybe on Friday night whilst getting ready to go out!

Out: 5th April - Riot! Recordings www.annesavage.net

To be in with a chance of winning this fantastic CD just answer this simple question: **Which Mediterranean island is known for its hectic club events and chilled café society?**

WHIP IT

Whip it is a coming-of-age-on-wheels comedy set in the world of all-girl roller derby. However, the soundtrack of the movie features a wide selection of tastes from The Ramones to Dolly Parton – The Breeders to Goose. A motley collection that should sit very well in the car stereo for those cross-country trips that the Americans love and we in the UK can only dream about.

Out: 5th April – Rhino Records

To be in with a chance of winning this fantastic CD just answer this simple question: **What is Dolly Parton's theme park called?**

WIN
THIS



COMPETITION TIME
TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS

When Bent sent one of our correspondents to the US to report on the ever popular party Circuit we didn't know that he would return with an exclusive interview with the man who is currently tearing up the dance floors on that side of the ocean. Vissen (yes his name is just Vissen) has, in just a few months, become the Circuit's main attraction and one whose exciting new 'Zound' has captured the scene like no other. A cross between rock/house/disco with a twist of hard edged soul. 'Zound' and Vissen are so far ahead of the field all the other acts and producers are desperately trying to catch up. Here's Les Lea's exclusive report from Florida.

VISSEN

The name Vissen meant absolutely nothing to me. There were no attributable interviews or features on him to be found anywhere but I was able to glean a few things from one of the people he travels with. He used to be a model, he's been in some European films and he is lined up to appear in Avatar 2. To be honest, I was doubtful - I'd never heard of the man but the talk on the build up to the gig had been astonishing. From when the word got out (and I gather twitter and facebook were to blame for this) that Vissen was running the decks the night I met him, crowds began arriving early. This is not something the Circuit crowd do. They

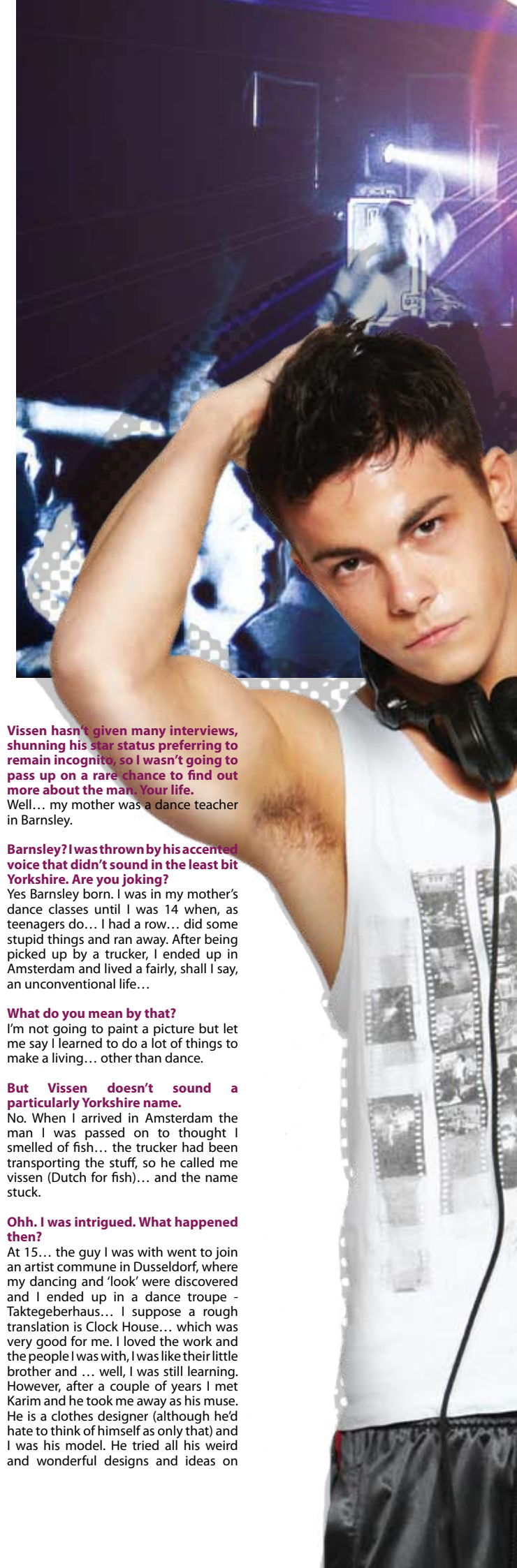
are far too cool for that but my eyes did not deceive me, they were queuing to make sure they were able to get in. I'd never seen such an enthusiastic crowd desperate to be part of "The best event anyone could ever experience", as a couple of body pumped hunks from Daytona were euphorically keen to tell me, and the joyous vibe seemed to have kept the entire city buzzing. Apparently, Vissen doesn't do interviews, he thinks the music is the important thing and not him but, my request for an interview was granted when he was told I was from a gay UK magazine. I met Vissen after a blinding set at Miami's famous SoBe Dark Knight all nighter and talked to the normally reticent star about his career and the rumoured role in Avatar 2 (?)

That was quite a set... the crowd just wouldn't let you go... how can you play for over 12 hours non-stop?

Adrenalin. Nothing more than pure adrenalin. I just feed off the crowd and in return... I try and make them not want to stop. I could have gone on... I was so aware of the power of the music and the people... God they were just unbelievable.

His enthusiastic mid-European accent was a surprise... and he was a lot smaller than he appeared on stage. It's been a spectacular brilliant year for you but how did it all start?

You mean the US part or ... my life?



Vissen hasn't given many interviews, shunning his star status preferring to remain incognito, so I wasn't going to pass up on a rare chance to find out more about the man. Your life.

Well... my mother was a dance teacher in Barnsley.

Barnsley? I was thrown by his accented voice that didn't sound in the least bit Yorkshire. Are you joking?

Yes Barnsley born. I was in my mother's dance classes until I was 14 when, as teenagers do... I had a row... did some stupid things and ran away. After being picked up by a trucker, I ended up in Amsterdam and lived a fairly, shall I say, an unconventional life...

What do you mean by that?

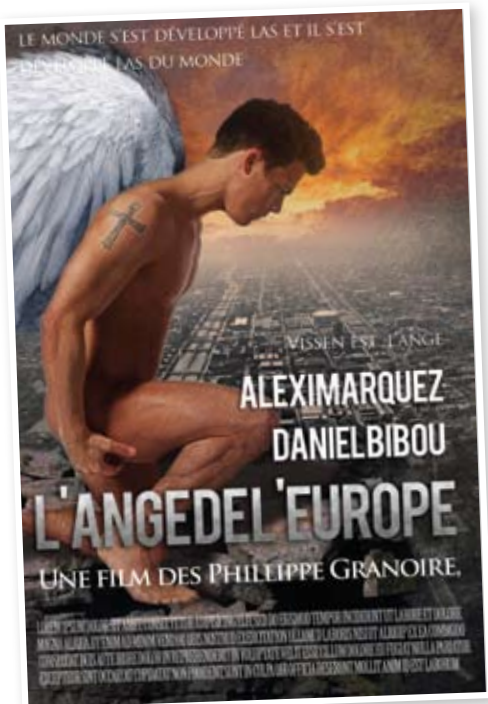
I'm not going to paint a picture but let me say I learned to do a lot of things to make a living... other than dance.

But Vissen doesn't sound a particularly Yorkshire name.

No. When I arrived in Amsterdam the man I was passed on to thought I smelled of fish... the trucker had been transporting the stuff, so he called me vissen (Dutch for fish)... and the name stuck.

Ohh. I was intrigued. What happened then?

At 15... the guy I was with went to join an artist commune in Dusseldorf, where my dancing and 'look' were discovered and I ended up in a dance troupe - Taktegeberhaus... I suppose a rough translation is Clock House... which was very good for me. I loved the work and the people I was with, I was like their little brother and ... well, I was still learning. However, after a couple of years I met Karim and he took me away as his muse. He is a clothes designer (although he'd hate to think of himself as only that) and I was his model. He tried all his weird and wonderful designs and ideas on





me... which I had to wear when we went to parties and events.

I could hear hundred's of excited voices waiting outside his room to congratulate him but he was polite enough to give me this personal time alone. How did you become a DJ?

By accident. Karim had booked a DJ for one of his after shows and the man took too much... erm schiz... shit and collapsed... very unprofessional... I just took over and... well... kept the party going.

That's unbelievable but who was the DJ?

I wouldn't embarrass him by telling you, he's still a big name, producing and writing as well as occasionally gigging and... I don't want to get sued. After that though, Karim used me at all his events and, thanks to his reputation, I built up quite a following. I worked in France and Germany mainly but he got more demanding of my time as I became more successful. Eventually, we split up but then I needed to work and found myself modelling for one of his great rivals. Now that didn't go down too well at all.

So you've been a model but I had heard you were in the movies and that you'd been approached by James Cameron about a part in Avatar 2... is this true?

I've made two films for a French production company. 'La famille n'importe pas' (The Family Is Not Important), where I played a nerdy manic son and 'l'ange de l'Europe' (The Angel of Europe), where I was a gay heroin addicted angel. Not a fun part as it was winter when we filmed and I was painted white, had these huge wings strapped to my back and was running around all but naked, just a tiny red pouch... and a few goose bumps.

What about Avatar 2?

It's true James Cameron was in the crowd for one of the big shows in Monte Carlo where I was DJing but we never met. However, the director of 'l'ange de

'Europe', Phillippe Granoire, did chat to him and I believe my name came up. However, I have heard nothing! Although Phillippe does want to do more things with me and he's a man hard to resist. He really puts his actors through it and he's a man you just don't refuse... anything.

How did you end up in the US?

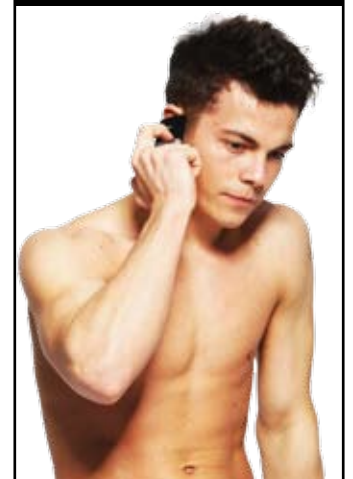
Aaah... it was a stroke of luck. I came over to New York with Phillippe's assistant Bibi. He needed to scour the city for locations and I came on vacation. When he returned to Paris, I had met this DJ at a very dark and ominous club in what used to be the Meat Packing area of NY. One night he was ill so I offered to do his set. Apparently, the different mix I brought to the club was not what they wanted but a guy, emerging from a darkroom, liked what he heard and asked me to play at his place in Boston.

You seem to have been very lucky...

Yes, I have been lucky. I've made some of it myself... I came up with 'Zound' for instance... but I get caught up with people's enthusiasm and, as I said at the beginning, it just feeds me.

His soft European accent and obvious enthusiasm had me transfixed and from being a Doubting Thomas I suddenly became a convert to the Vissen cause.

The moment 'the call' came in



Just as I was about to ask him about his record breaking Circuit shows his cell rings and the interview is cut short. After a couple of moments he mouthed the words 'James Cameron' to me, raised his eyebrows and then excused himself for more privacy. He didn't return. He had hinted earlier that he would be doing some gigs here in the UK but, he has a different ethos than most DJs I've met. He hates announcing his gigs too far in advance, often turning up, sometimes, unannounced and producing a storming set. In the US, even a rumour of him appearing is guaranteed to get the twitters going and thousands turn up at the venue.

Get ready for the word Vissen on twitter... you will want to be there.



'La famille n'importe pas'

Making us feel BRAND NEW

Katy Brand has been making us laugh with her witty characters, hilarious spoof music videos and celebrity sketches on TV for a while now so, at the start of her first national tour we sent Simon Savidge to meet her to discuss, being Beyonce, making people laugh and why her Big Ass TV Show had to stop.

When I first meet Katy my initial impression is of someone who is currently on a high (we meet after she qualifies for the finals from Lets Dance for Sports Relief) and there is a delightful crazy buzz in the air. "I am still slightly reeling from the Beyonce thing... I really wanted to do the dance and I had forgotten what the costume implications would be." I wonder if it's harder doing it live than making videos for her TV show. "It's worrying as you have only one chance live, you only have two minutes, and in terms of audience this was the biggest thing I had ever done. In digital terms 600,000 viewers is deemed really good so, seven million plus... is quite daunting. You don't know how you will react yourself... I was thinking that I might just sit on the floor and start crying (laughs) it's not out of the question."

As her three month nationwide tour kicks off I ask her what goes through her head when she's on stage. "Whenever I am performing live my brain always splits into many different parts; one bit is monitoring the reaction of the audience, one bit is constantly saying 'you're a dick, you're a dick' (laughs) and another bit's thinking 'no this is good this is alright'. Meanwhile, another bit is remembering the steps while another tells you that you just did everything wrong. I am assuming everyone else gets this and (laughs) that I am not just mentally ill."

"I AM CURRENTLY HOPING TO TRANSFORM FROM LADY GAGA TO THE QUEEN IN LESS THAN TWENTY SECONDS. NOT MANY PEOPLE CAN SAY THAT CAN THEY?"

A live show is no easy feat though and as we discuss it further you can tell that Katy is a woman who is both incredibly excited... and quite nervous, there is after all the logistics of doing the show live. "I am currently hoping to transform from Lady Gaga to the Queen in less than twenty seconds, not many people can say that can they? I am gonna give it a good go. I am looking forward to making jokes I know could never have got on TV without lots of lawyers."

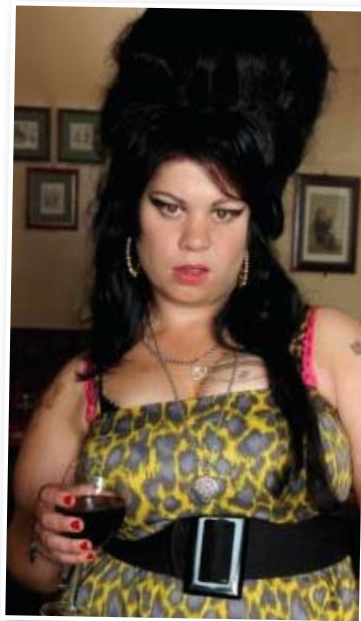
Despite all the success that Katy Brand's Big Ass Show had I am surprised that she decided it was time to put it to bed and, despite it being good to end on a high, she does seem genuinely saddened about it. "I knew after the third series I didn't want to do another show, yet there is still some fun stuff that I wanted to do with the characters... interestingly not the celebrity ones. I don't always want to tick a box and do the obvious thing. It is quite sad though, it was becoming all about the celebrities. All the press I did was about 'who was next' and 'why did I dislike so many people'. I don't dislike most of the people I have done, for the most part they are all quite charming."

However, the show ending doesn't mean this is the last that we have seen of the characters though some of the celebrity spoofs might be put to bed "My heart's with the other characters really." Before she stops doing celebs I ask her if she could do one about Lily Allen actually being in a retirement home fighting with the older inhabitants, which is greeted with hysterics. "If you see that on the telly... I will pretend we never met, just so you know that now."

You can tell that Katy has had enough of being asked about the celebs she has spoofed and who is next. "It's not so much irritating exactly... just I got bored answering it all the same old questions. So, I would answer with something flippant and silly and that would be the quote that would get in the press. I would like to officially say I have never hidden from Lily Allen in a toilet... I was joking, and the journalist knew it."

I change the subject and decide to look at the past, I wonder when Katy first knew that she was funny... was there a defining moment perhaps? "I don't know. I never had a realisation moment. I had funny friends at school and we were always giggling. I was often sent out of the classroom. I liked sending things up and not taking things too seriously. (Laughs) If anything I was just an annoyance. I called it being creative, just not in the way my teachers wanted. I still surprise myself that I can make people laugh."

It wasn't an instant career or an easy one for Katy to get into "there wasn't much in terms of drama at school. In fact it wasn't until university that I found people were doing this seriously. I joined the comedy society not really knowing what it was; in fact it was a stage in my first term where I just joined anything and everything. I joined the rowing team, the football team, rugby, I joined the Pacific Rim society..." Katy pauses as I splutter in hysterics and I get a raised camp eyebrow naughty look. "Yes the Pacific Rim society (laughs) be careful how you represent that one (laughs) erm... yeah (giggles) it's not as interesting as it sounds it was mostly about how you cook bean sprouts and nothing



more (laughs). I then tried Review... as I forgot the punch line of the joke, they all thought I was being satirical and I got in. Then I wrote a sketch, did Edinburgh by selling everything, lost lots of money and then it all sort of went from there. I had nothing to loose. I just thought 'so what if I'm crap' and went for it and hopefully it has turned out I wasn't."

People do say that all comedians make people laugh in order to cover up some deep despair that is haunting their inner soul. Katy is quite sure she missed out on that comedian gene. "It's the tears of the clown thing, which really doesn't apply to me. I think some comedians might be unhappy, but that could just be the energy you use in the show and you want to be on your own for a bit. I honestly constantly find everything hilarious in life and that's just me."

Time whizzes by with the laughter and jokes and all too soon its time to wrap up, I want to know what the future holds. It could just possibly involve the big screen. "I wouldn't mind winning an Oscar (laughs) I actually bet someone at school, during a very boring science lesson, £50 that I would win an Oscar by the time that I am 40, so I have nine years to go." Does she still keep in touch with this betting partner? "No, I am sure I could track them down though, I could pop it in my acceptance speech, really grass. I just did Nanny McPhee which was so exciting and so enjoyable. I would love to get into writing and performing in feature films, not because I am obsessed with being a star, I would like to write it and just give myself a nice funny cameo. (Laughs) Who knows in this industry... in one second it can all go tits up!"

Katy Brand's Big Ass Tour Live is touring throughout the country from now until June. To book tickets and for more information visit www.katybrandlaughs.com



ESpecial SWIMWEAR

According to Wikipedia:

A swimsuit, bathing suit, togs or swimming costume is an item of clothing designed to be worn while participating in water sports and activities such as swimming, water polo, diving, surfing, water skiing, or for any activity in the sun, such as sun bathing.

"We used to swim naked but that is now frowned upon so, we have a sexy range of fabrics, styles and colours to invigorate the senses, make us look sexy, feel gorgeous and tease our fellow enthusiast... there's nothing better than enjoying the bulge that promises so much."
(Aristotle - Olive Garden 2010)



SUMMER ES coming

We had such a great reaction to our underwear section last month, and the ES brand in particular, we thought you might like to enjoy a taste from their swimwear collection.

Head to the beach with something unique from Spain – ES, if you want something no one else has yet, this hot new line from Barcelona is what you need!

Now going into its fourth year of production the 2010 swimwear collection is very hot! Clean lines, fresh styles, bold colour combinations and amazing fit!

This swimwear and underwear for men, is honestly some of the hottest styles we have seen with perfect construction and craftsmanship. ES tries to be unique, different and fresh in a market that is fast and more brands are joining this fast market every day.

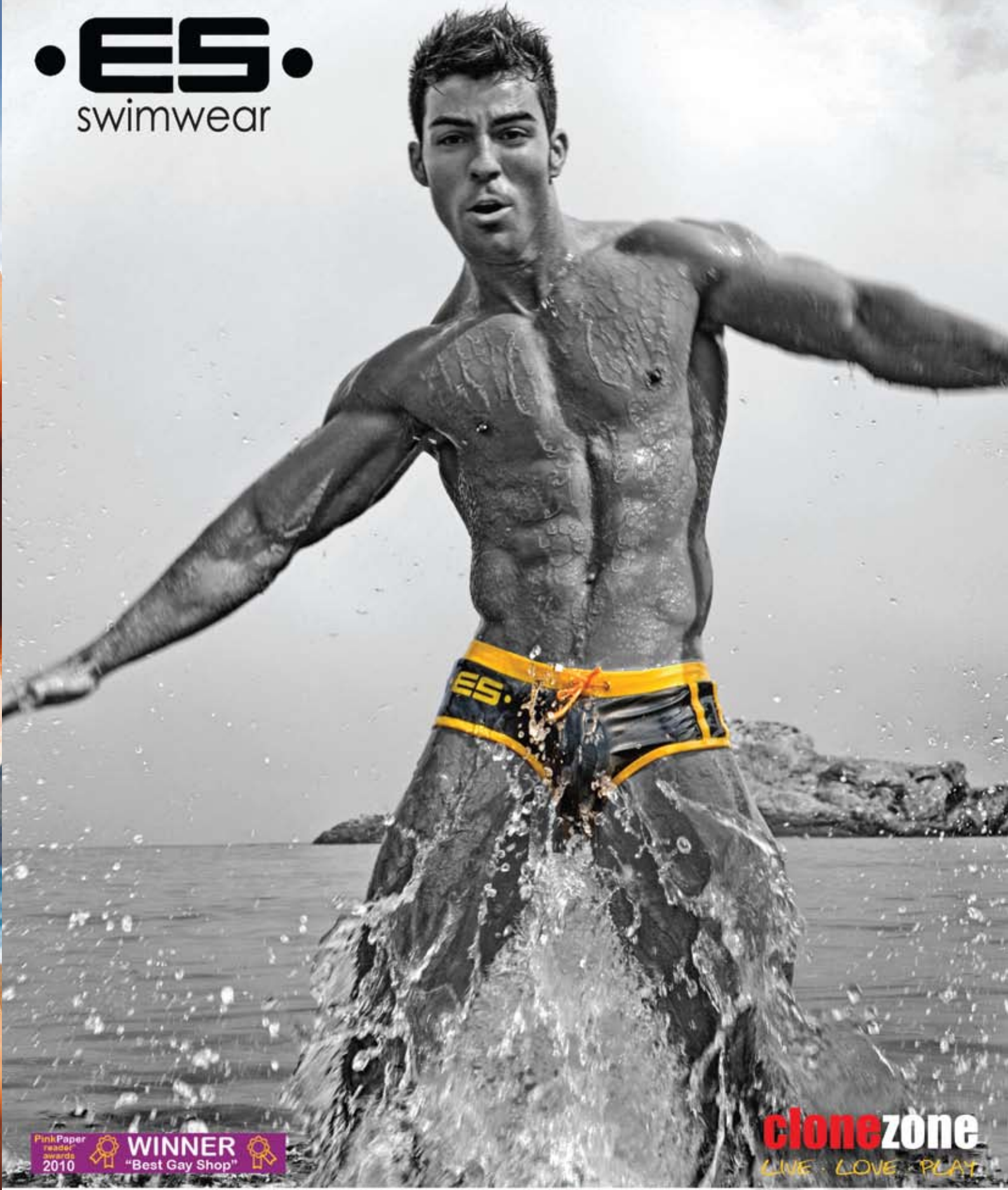
Their designs have a wonderful cut to them, accenting your body perfectly! I purchased some of their men's underwear and men's swimwear, and they fit comfortable and like a glove! Many of the swimsuits features the "Pack Up" system which can easily be removed if aren't in the mood for extra padding however is perfect for giving you that perfect "beach bulge" if you want it! It does not make your package look huge or anything. But it just accentuates your own package nicely and provides a wonderful, smooth fit.

One of the great things about ES Collection Swimwear is the high quality of craftsmanship. With extras like the metal grommet holes and the plastic tips you'll never have to "fish" out the drawstring. They also use high quality zippers, rubber logos, and just overall high quality finishing.

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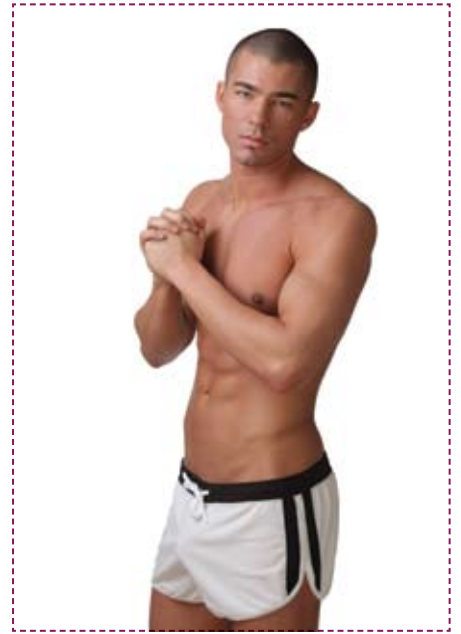
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sexy sensual summer swimwear

Swimsuits have been traced back to the Grecian times and early Pompeii frescos complement the belief bathing/swimming in clothing is nothing new.

Although the concept of wearing a special covering while swimming has been a constant for centuries, the look of swimwear has dramatically shifted, from 18th century bathing gowns, to one piece, to waterproof loincloths worn by Japanese men. What began as a way of preventing seeing the intimate body parts while getting wet, soon became by the 1950's a sexy way of showing off those very parts for everybody's appreciation.



£19.99 - N2N White & Black Sport Shorts
shop.bent.com



£41.99 - Bruno Banini Hands Up Swim Hip Shorts
(Free mini water pistol) deadgoodundies.com



£30 - Bruno Banani Eyecatcher Tanga Swim Brief
deadgoodundies.com



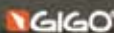
£34.99 - Timoteo Floral Speedster
shop.bent.com



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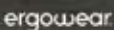
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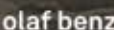

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TERRY GEORGE: TELLIN' STORIES

Rio and Madonna = Paradise

2010 marked my 9th year of photographing the fabulous Rio Carnival, the highlight of my calendar. The only downside is I took 8000 photos - I'm beginning to think I might have an illness! I hope there are one or 2 good shots within that.



Although I went to cover the carnival parade I became obsessed when I heard Madonna was spectating and found myself pointing my lens for an hour and a half through a whole samba school at Madonna to try and get some pics. She's someone I've always wanted to meet and I view her as a goddess of the music industry.

She was just 70 yards away from me on the balcony of a VIP box. She was the guest of the Governor of Rio Sergio Cabral, and was with her boyfriend, model Jesus Luz together with her daughters Lourdes and Mercy. The couple had apparently broken up 2 weeks before but it didn't look like that to me because she was running her hands through his hair and the pair seemed smitten. She seemed so small when I got up close to her, and I think she looks amazing for a woman of 51.

What did surprise me was that she came down from the VIP area with the Governor to within touching distance of me to mingle and get involved with the carnival. Normally only competitors are parading around down there.

Most of the public couldn't see her but she was centre of attention and ambushed by photographers and security, which caused a huge scene because they weren't paparazzi just taking carnival pictures. I felt really sorry for her as she couldn't move or enjoy it - it's taking intrusion too far and it must be so annoying that you can't do normal things.

I couldn't think what to say, I was the only other English voice nearby so what came out was the first thing that came into my head. "Madonna - you're boyfriend is beautiful." I shouted over the throng. She replied "Thank you." Of course, looking back I'm thinking what a berk I was... there are so many things I could have said if I'd had time... or a brain?

She moved onto another area of the Sambadrome, which in my opinion didn't give you the best views. She surprised me as she changed outfits into a Brahma beer t-shirt, I wouldn't have thought she was up for such blatant publicity. Her boyfriend wore the same too. They weren't drinking the beer though, just bottles of water.



When a float went past with a Michael Jackson impersonator on, Madonna went wild for it. It was eventually the winning float, a win for the Unidos da Tijuca samba school their first in 74 years. The float was led by a seven year old girl, the youngest to ever lead a samba school float but she was overwhelmed and tearful with all the attention from the photographers. It also caused something of a controversy in the media as the lead role is normally filled by scantily clad models.

Paris Hilton was there but not even watching the parade just playing with her iphone. It appeared as though this lack of appreciation to the hard work of those taking part was pointed out to her and she put it away to enjoy the parade. Like Madonna she was all over her man, Doug Reinhardt. I didn't get that close to her, but that didn't disappoint me too much.

What did disappoint me was when I saw other photographers with pictures of actor Gerard Butler who I really admire and was dying to meet.

But lo and behold I went for breakfast at the Copacabana Palace with my friends the next day and there he was. I asked him if he enjoyed the carnival and he mimicked me in a Yorkshire accent. I also asked him if he'd seen Madonna and apparently he introduced her on stage. He said he'd loved it and thought the entire event was fantastic.

I wanted to know how he got the amazing six-pack in the film 300 and he told me he'd had to take water tablets and they painted him up too. He said he was in no rush at all and happy to oblige... so I got some pictures with him. He was so friendly, but I was still shaking as I took his picture.

Meanwhile, there are four official days for Carnival, a pre-Lent festival tied to the Roman Catholic calendar, but the celebrating can start early and end later in many Brazilian cities. In Rio, one can attend indoor balls (which run all night long) or journey to the Sambódromo to view the spectacular parades of the escolas de samba ("samba schools"), which each feature around 300 drummers and percussionists, huge floats, and a few thousand costumed dancers.

There was a man on a rocket who caused quite a stir... and quite a racket. He launched himself right in front of me and I've never heard anything so loud, it scared me to death. He flew right over the floats and the crowd loved him. He had 2 fuel tanks on his back but kept having to land and change them as they only last a very short distance.

The original Brazilian Pool Party just gets better and better. It takes place in a fabulous outdoor space in Rio with a great view of the Guanabara Bay, the Sugar Loaf and Christ the Redeemer from the pool. The event has gained a lot of popularity over the past 5 years with both the local hotties and guys in town from other cities. It's a late afternoon "Tea Dance" that usually goes from around 4pm until 4am. We usually have fun at this event. The place is bedecked with things like giant colored sea horses and other sea creatures, tropical fruit and some typical Brazilian food all

EAST COAST

topped off with special Brazilian drinks like "caipirinhas" and served around the pool!

I travelled from Leeds to London by rail with East Coast Trains. I always find easier than flying down as the journey only takes just over 2 hours. Advance return fares, booked online, start from £23 Standard Class or £94 First Class; book via www.eastcoast.co.uk, call 08457 225225 or visit any staffed station

Flights to Rio were with British Airways. Book well in advance if you're thinking of flying during Carnival period. www.britishairways.com

Buy your tickets for the carnival at www.carnivalservices.com



SNOWDROPS AND *EXPOSED* BOTTOMS



I really like saunas. The combination of a hot steam-bath and a Jacuzzi – why, it's just about perfect!

One of my favourite places is a (gay) hotel in Berlin. It's one of the best and most relaxed stays that I know, and always provides me with very horny and sexy experiences. They have an outdoor Jacuzzi on the top floor, which is directly connected to their (indoor) steam-bath and dry sauna; and all these areas are open to hotel guests until 2.00am each night.

You can probably guess that I always use these facilities quite a lot when I stay at this particular hotel – and no less so during this past winter. After all, can you imagine what it's like to sit in a hot Jacuzzi with a cute twink at your side, whilst the snow is falling directly onto you from above and enjoying the brilliant skyline of Berlin at night ...?

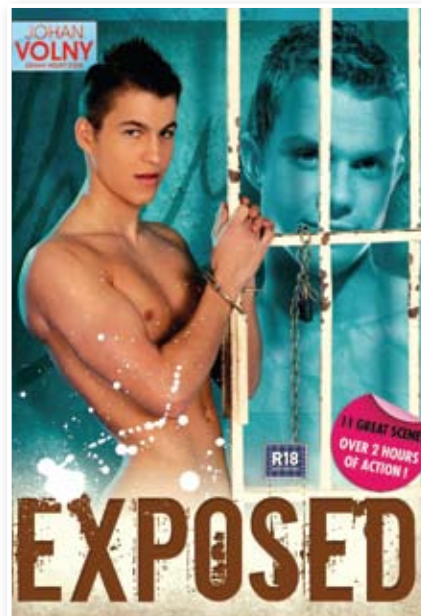
I remember my last stay at the hotel back in February. Every night I had a nice drink and snack in their posh urban bar, before spending a couple of hours in their fitness area. I then started off playing a bit with my friend in the Jacuzzi, drinking the complementary bottle of champagne that the hotel had given us... and having a bit of a wank (complements of me!). Then we'd go up to the steam-bath to have a bit more fun. It was so romantic and totally stunning, as we kissed and touched each other in the soothing waters whilst drinking champagne, as a terrible snowstorm raged down on us!

Needless to say, we didn't actually finish our business there. Instead we went to our lovely hotel room, where we could do the sort of things that are not exactly recommended to do in public. That said, I'm quite sure the general public have already seen me doing pretty much all these things given what I get up to on DVD! But a little privacy does have its advantages – and those big, cosy beds are the best place to keep it!

The strangest thing about this hotel is... some of the guests. When they first see me you can notice that they're confused and wondering to themselves if it's really me or not. Okay, when I'm naked in the Jacuzzi or in the steam-bath then they pretty much know right away, but at the breakfast buffet they need some time to make a judgement before asking me for an autograph. I guess I have to accept that I'm better known for being naked and engaging in explicit action. As such, wearing jeans and a tee-shirt can be rather irritating for me!

In the meantime... and so my readers know where to go in Berlin... Thanks to Christoph M and Christoph E @ Axel for always giving me a little extra and for your friendly smiles during my stays at your hotel. I love your place so much! Indeed, it's one of my favourite hotels in the whole of Europe!

Sadly, I won't have much time over the next few months to visit any saunas since my new DVD, "Exposed", is scheduled to be released in early April. The film is very special to me since it marks the first release of my brand new studio,



"Johan-Volny.com", and is the first DVD that I've produced and directed myself. In addition, I acted as cameraman and starred in some of the scenes, which means that it's a 100%, unadulterated Johan Volny production! Little wonder, then, that I have to promote it every which way I can.

For this first DVD, I have brought together my best friends from my home-town, Jimmy Call and Robin Few, together with some of my old (porn) mates such as Dominik Trojan and Alex Stevens. As a special bonus, I also want to introduce Chad Ward and Patrick, two buddies from school, who celebrate their porn debuts in "Exposed".

"Exposed" clearly proves that we have known each other for many years, with the sex between the us filled with the sort of animal magnetism you'd expect from good pals. A good example is the scene between Jme and Jimmy Call, in which I actually bottom for him - a very rare moment indeed given that I'm almost always a top. In short, the whole DVD is filled to the brim with the horniest gay sex that I can provide with the best and most popular Czech porn stars - two full hours of solos, duos and great group action!

I really hope that I shall be able to schedule some days in the UK soon, as I know that I have a lot of very loyal fans there and it would be great to meet a few of you. Maybe I can combine it with a trip to Leeds to meet the Bent crew.

Johan's new DVD "Exposed" is available for streaming on www.Homoactive.TV and on his own site www.Johan-Volny.com where you can find more horny exclusive photos and scenes.

You can buy the DVD "Exposed" on www.Homoactive.com from early April

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Anyone who's looked in the back of a gay magazine has seen them before, but soon adverts for escorts may become a thing of the past if Equalities Minister Harriet Harman gets her way.

As amendments to the Policing and Crime Act come into force on 1 April, which give police increased powers to crack down on brothels, Ms Harman has announced she would like to put a ban on all escorting ads in her next party manifesto. If brought into effect, the ban could see magazines that print escorting ads fined £10,000.

A similar law was brought into power in Ireland 15 years ago, but despite this, prostitution is on the rise and trafficking of young women to become prostitutes is still a major problem in many cities.

The proposals, which treat all sex workers as if they were smuggled into the country to be beaten by pimps, may work against prostitutes, and especially gay males in the industry.

Catherine Stephens from the International Union of Sex Workers said: 'I don't know of any gay escorts that have been trafficked. I'm sure there are illegal immigrant gay escorts but they're not being trafficked. There's a big difference between being an illegal immigrant and being trafficked.'

'If you stop people going into the office of a magazine to advertise then they're going to be driven into the hands of third parties and intermediaries as a way of getting work and they're much more likely to be exploited then.'

Banning escorting ads could push vulnerable sex workers into the hands of pimps or force them to work in brothels for lower prices and less choice over who they select as clients.

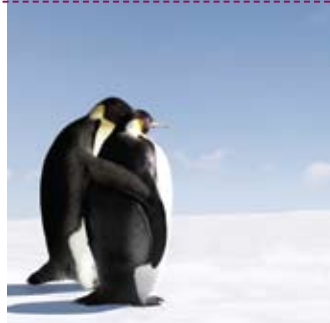


'I think the sex work scene is pretty quiet at the moment and one of the things that happens when there's a crackdown is that there's even less punters and so less ability to negotiate price. We see a decrease in safe sex because people are more likely to do things they don't want to do,' said Stephens, warning about the increased risk of STIs falling prices and fewer clients may cause.

The International Union of Sex Workers and Terrence Higgins Trust have long argued that there are a range of different types of sex worker, from so-called 'rent boys' to the glamorised Billie Piper variety. Because of this, the issues facing one set of sex workers may vary greatly from those facing another, and a blanket ban on escorting ads may will actually penalise those prostitutes who prefer not to engage in streetwalking, brothel-work or the services of a pimp.

While prostitution would still remain legal, it would be the prostitutes themselves who would suffer, rather than those who exploit them. This seems like a sly way to criminalise those whose sexual behaviour doesn't match the 'norm' rather than fixing the real problems of trafficking, prostitution by coercion and abuse of sex workers by pimps and certain clients.

Perhaps the next series of Secret Diary of a Call Girl will see Billie Piper forced to hang out in dingy alleyways instead of luxury hotels, charging 20p a ride instead of £300 an hour?



Me, as a penguin

What do you get when you cross a slightly nervous gay young man with an aquarium full of penguins, a heavily pregnant sister and her sofa-loving boyfriend?

'Two lesbians who keep tropical fish and a paedophile ring - they think that's enough for a seaside town, but it's not

for everyone is it? It's not for me.' Slick of the tiny seaside town he grew up in, Stitch has decided to hit the gay scene of Hull. Or at least to dip his toe in the water while staying with heavily pregnant sister Liz and her shabby sofa loving partner Mark. But why won't Stitch let anyone into the bathroom even though Liz is dying for a pee? And who is the man in the giant penguin costume?

Arcola Theatre, London - 27 April - 22 May
(020 7503 1646, arcolatheatre.com)
The Octagon, Hull - 24 May (01482 387490, octagon.goodwintrust.org)
The Lowry, Salford Quays - 27-29 May
(0843 208 6000, thelowry.com)
West Yorkshire Playhouse - 10-12 June
(0113 213 7700, wyp.org.uk)

Get a fair-trade grip

Bulldog, the UK's largest natural skincare brand for men, is now the first male grooming company to launch a range of Fairtrade products. The range contains green tea from Sri Lanka, organic shea butter from Ghana, organic sugar from Paraguay, sesame seed oil from Nicaragua, and Brazil nut oil from Peru.

£3.69 - Bulldog Eco-System Shave Gel
£6.49 - Bulldog Eco-System



Queer Up North is 18

This May one of the UK's most groundbreaking arts festivals, Manchester based Queer Up North, celebrates its 18th birthday with an outstanding line-up of theatre, cabaret, comedy, art and music.

To mark its coming of age Queer Up North is bringing back some key works from the festival's history in new and developed productions. The extensive programme, running city wide for 14 days also features world premieres, new commissions, old favourites, and provides a platform for new artists.

Trailblazer

Quarantine and Company Fierce - Susan and Darren
29 April - 8 May, Sachas Hotel, Manchester

A re-working of the highly acclaimed 2006 performance, created by dancer Darren Pritchard and his mum Susan, remade for 2010 to reflect the changes in their relationship since the show was first made.

Highlights

Starving Artists - Road Movie
19 - 22 May, Library Theatre

Festival favourites Starving Artists revisit their award winning 1995 smash hit, Road Movie. Writer Godfrey Hamilton reworks this beautiful tale of love, travelling and loss, set against the AIDS crisis of the early 90s, with a tour de force performance by Mark Pinkosh.

Christopher Green Queer Up North's Big Birthday Bash

22 May, secret city centre venue tbc
An interactive extravaganza and subversive homage to that most Northern of institutions, the Working Men's Club. The evening will be hosted by QUN favourite Christopher Green, (best known for his outrageous character, Tina C). Chris will be joined by a dream team of party guests, including Stockport housewife Mrs Barbara Nice, a new strip routine from Ursula Martinez

and karaoke from Kazuko Hohki and her Frank Chickens.

La Gayola - The Queer Up North Spiegelent
26 - 31 May, Sackville Street, Manchester

The La Gayola Spiegelent features an outrageous line-up of cabaret, burlesque and music including: Justin Bond; Taylor Mac Meow Meow; Bourgeois and Maurice and a full length show from Empress Stah, who proves that diamonds are indeed forever.

Qasim Riza Shaheen - Nine Acts of Reciprocity

15 May - 11 July, Gallery Oldham
According to the Natya Shastra (the Hindu 'bible' for the performing arts), the human being is comprised of nine sentiments; love, humour, sadness, fury, heroism, disgust, wonderment, terror and peace. Nine Acts of Reciprocity is a gallery installation by Manchester-based artist Qasim Riza Shaheen based on this concept.

Boutique Events

A cornucopia of events, screenings, comedy nights, literary brunches and poetry events presented in conjunction with partner venues city-wide.

www.queerupnorth.com



The NHS provides GUM (Genito-Urinary Medicine) clinics in most major towns and cities across the UK offering free HIV testing and sexual health screening.



Understanding GU Services

Most clinics have health advisors who can talk to you about any worries you have about your sex life. They will also be able to advise you on what vaccinations are available and help you decide whether it is a good idea for you to take an HIV test.

There is no need to feel embarrassed about going to a sexual health clinic. Staff at the clinics are professionals who are trained and expected to treat you with sensitivity and respect. Services are confidential (your confidentiality is protected by law), but if you still want to use a false name you can do so.

All general GU clinics will offer gay men Hepatitis B vaccination and many will also vaccinate you

against Hepatitis A. They will often discuss any worries or queries regarding STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections) that you may have.

It is suggested that you should visit a GUM clinic for a check-up at least once every six months whilst sexually active although, if you have had high risk sex, or are worried you have come in contact with a sexually transmitted infection, you can have one before this time. However, if you think you have come in contact with a virus or infection it is recommended that, unless you are displaying symptoms, you should wait a week before being tested. Most clinics offer a drop-in service, the time of which will be specified in the listings, during which you can just turn up to get a check up, some will offer a mixture of drop in and appointments, few offer a



may circulate about the pains of having a sexual exam, it is actually quite painless. The only discomfort is usually due to psychological blocks against examinations of such a nature, the only advice to give in this regard is to relax. The minor discomfort of a sexual health exam is nothing in comparison to the risks of not having one regularly.

If you are worried about any NHS/GUM facility there are many private firms and hospitals that offer the same service but at a cost.

check up by appointment only service.

What to expect during your check up

Boys should expect to have their penis examined by a doctor or nurse, they could also be asked to provide a urine sample, to have a cotton wool swab taken from the tip of their penis, from the anus, or to have a blood test taken.

Where horror stories



For further info check out these sites:
www.nhs.uk
www.gmfa.org.uk
www.tht.org.uk
 Keep safe, be sure, stay sexy

QUESTION	ANSWER	AVERAGE	18-24	25-30	31-35	36-40	41-50	51-60	61+
Have you ever been to a GUM clinic for a STD test?	Yes	42%	25%	42%	59%	53%	50%	45%	35%
Did you go willingly?	Yes	98%	92%	96%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Were you scared about the results?	Yes	49%	49%	59%	38%	53%	51%	46%	50%
Are you glad you went?	Yes	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	97%	98%	100%
Would you recommend a friend to get tested?	Yes	99%	100%	96%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%

QUESTION	ANSWER	AVERAGE	GAY	BISEXUAL	CURIOUS
Have you ever been to a GUM clinic for a STD test?	Yes	42%	50%	28%	13%
Did you go willingly?	Yes	98%	99%	98%	60%
Were you scared about the results?	Yes	49%	49%	50%	25%
Are you glad you went?	Yes	99%	98%	100%	100%
Would you recommend a friend to get tested?	Yes	99%	99%	100%	100%

QUESTION	ANSWER	AVERAGE	ACTIVE	ACTIVE/VERS	VERSATILE	PASSIVE/VERS	PASSIVE
Have you ever been to a GUM clinic for a STD test?	Yes	42%	38%	45%	43%	54%	32%
Did you go willingly?	Yes	98%	100%	98%	99%	96%	97%
Were you scared about the results?	Yes	49%	59%	35%	45%	59%	48%
Are you glad you went?	Yes	99%	98%	100%	100%	96%	100%
Would you recommend a friend to get tested?	Yes	99%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%

QUESTION	ANSWER	AVERAGE	CONDOM ALWAYS	ALMOST ALWAYS	HARDLY EVER	NEVER
Have you ever been to a GUM clinic for a STD test?	Yes	42%	37%	48%	49%	29%
Did you go willingly?	Yes	98%	98%	98%	100%	100%
Were you scared about the results?	Yes	49%	48%	53%	40%	0%
Are you glad you went?	Yes	99%	99%	98%	100%	100%
Would you recommend a friend to get tested?	Yes	99%	100%	98%	100%	100%

PEP

Post Exposure Prophylaxis



PEP must be taken within 72 hours of possible HIV exposure. The faster you start PEP the more effective it is.

PEP should be available from sexual health clinics and A&E departments.

On occasion people do experience side effects.

PEP is not a cure for HIV

There is no guarantee that it will prevent HIV transmission.

Condoms and lube used correctly are the most effective way of preventing HIV transmission during sex.

Yorkshire MESMAC:
0113 2444 209

The Brunswick Centre:
01422 341 764



"100" REASONS TO GAZE AT THE MALE FORM



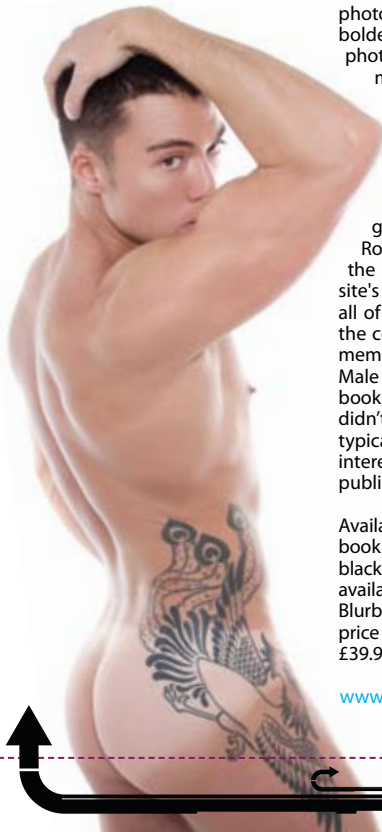
Acclaimed British photographer Dylan Rosser will return next month with "100," his new book celebrating his centesimal model added to his Web site, The Male Form, which he launched last year in an effort to centralize and provide easier access to his work.

Rosser's first two published books, "X-Posed" and "RED," which both featured a collection of sexy and tasteful nude photographs of fashionable male models, each became one of publisher Bruno Gmunder's top-selling books of 2008 and 2009. This success allowed the photographer to come back bolder than ever with his new photo book dedicated to all 100 models that have graced his Web site. The book will also include some never-before-seen images.

"What started as a small showcase for my work has grown considerably," says Rosser. "And that's because of the wonderful support of the site's members, and of course, all of the models. I'm expecting the core customer of '100' to be members of my Web site, The Male Form, so that makes the book more of a niche project. I didn't feel it was something your typical book publisher would be interested in, so I decided to self-publish this project."

Available from April - 120-page book will feature colour and black-and-white images, and available exclusively through Blurb (www.blurb.com). The retail price for paperback is £29.95, and £39.95 for hardcover.

www.themaleform.net



WIN THIS

◀ LAW ABIDING CITIZEN

Clyde Shelton (Gerard Butler) is a family man whose wife and daughter were brutally murdered during a home invasion. When the killers are caught, a hotshot young Philadelphia prosecutor is assigned to the case. Against his will, he is forced to offer one of the suspects a light sentence in exchange for testifying against his accomplice.

Fast forward ten years. The man who got away with murder is found dead and Shelton coolly admits his guilt. He then issues a warning to Rice: either fix the justice system, or key players in the trial will die. Soon Shelton follows through on his threats, orchestrating a string of ingenious assassinations from his jail cell. Now Rice finds himself in a desperate race against time facing a deadly adversary who always seems to be one step ahead.

Out: 12th April - DVD & Blu Ray - Momentum Pictures

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this simple question:

What number was the title of the Gerard Butler movie based on the Spartans fight with the Persians?



WIN THIS

◀ BOYS ON FILM 4

Picking up where Boys On Film 3: American Boy left off, with nine award-winning and hotly anticipated short films about objects of desire, and whether the attaining of them is worth the struggle. Elliot Tittensor (TV's Shameless) stars as Daz in headlining film Protect Me From What I Want, a gripping British film debut that sees him woo a young lad in an underpass, only to be threatened with a break-up the following morning. Passive and submissive roles are tackled and tugged in gay graffiti tale Vandals and Icelandic grapple-fest Wrestling, while Postmortem, My Name is Love, and Iris Prize winner Steam look at promising encounters that turn awry. I must for the collector of ground-breaking gay cinema.

Out: 26th April - Peccadillo Pictures

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this simple question:

Which 80s group had a hit single with Girls On Film?



WIN THIS

◀ HUMPDAY

It's been a decade since Ben and Andrew were the bad boys of their college campus. Ben has settled down and found a job, wife and home. Andrew took the alternative route as a vagabond artist, skipping the globe from Chiapas to Cambodia.

When Andrew shows up unannounced on Ben's doorstep, they easily fall back into their old dynamic of macho one-upmanship. Late into the night at a wild party, the two find themselves locked in a mutual dare: to enter an amateur porn contest together. But what kind of boundary-breaking, envelope pushing, art film can two straight dudes make?

After the booze and big talk run out, only one idea remains - they will have sex together - on camera. It's not gay; it's beyond gay. It's not porn; it's art. But how exactly will it work?

Out: 12th April - DVD - Momentum Pictures

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this simple question: **The word porn is short for which word?**



WIN THIS

◀ ME AND ORSON WELLES

Student Richard Samuels (Zac Efron), who lucks his way into a minor role in the legendary 1937 Mercury Theatre production of Caesar, directed by a youthful Orson Welles, cannot believe his luck. Over the course of a magical week, Richard makes his Broadway debut, finds romance with an ambitious older woman, and experiences the dark side of genius after daring to cross the imperious, brilliant Welles. The teenager has to grow up fast if he's not to be left in the wake of his motivated cast and director.

Out: 19th April (Tesco exclusive) - DVD - CinemaNX

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this simple question:

Zac Efron was the star of which series of Disney musicals?

COMPETITION TIME
TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS



◀ THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS

This dark comedy presents a look into the astonishing revelations about a top-secret wing of the U.S. military and offers an eye-opening and hilarious exploration of the government's attempts to harness paranormal abilities to combat its enemies.

A reporter is in search of his next big story when he encounters a shadowy figure who claims to be part of an experimental U.S. military unit, the New Earth Army. According to him, this unit is changing the way wars are fought. A legion of "Warrior Monks" with unparalleled psychic powers can read the enemy's thoughts, pass through solid walls, and even kill a goat simply by staring at it!

George Clooney, Jeff Bridges and Ewan McGregor star in this mad and darkly dark 'comedy'. **Out: 19th April - DVD & Blu Ray - Momentum Pictures**

WIN THIS

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this simple question: **In which TV medical show did George Clooney rise to prominence?**



◀ THE LAIR - SEASON 3

Prepare to leave Twilight to the tweens as cult horror hit The Lair returns for another round of blood-curdling sexploits. Revenge is on the cards for the members of the notorious men-only sex club as evil vampire Colin returns from beyond the grave to create havoc for the small town as he masterminds a rival nightclub to bring down the original, murderous coven. Meanwhile, Thom struggles with being the only human member of The Lair - is it only a matter of time until he's dragged to the dark side?

As the series star Peter Stickles says: "There is something incredibly primal about the attraction to vampires. It's almost useless to try to stamp reasoning on it. I think a lot of the attraction lies with the immortal youth and beauty, of course. Of course a show revolving around

sexuality of vampires would work!" We couldn't agree more. **Out now - DVD - TLA Releasing**

WIN THIS

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this simple question: **What is the name of Bram Stoker's most famous vampire?**



◀ DREAD

This is the eagerly-awaited new instalment in Clive Baker's "Books of Blood" franchise and is a psychological thriller centring on three college students who study other people's fears. As the study progresses, one of the students begins to seek salvation from his obsession by exploiting the terrors of his fellow participants.

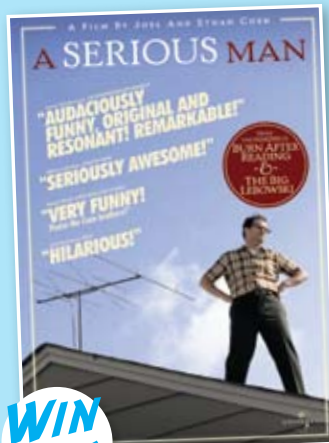
Out now - DVD - Lions Gate Home Entertainment

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD just answer this simple question:

Complete the name of one of Clive Baker's most famous horrific creations... Pin _____?

WIN THIS

◀ A SERIOUS MAN



Set in 1967 Midwest America it tells the story of an ordinary man and physics professor Larry Gopnik in search of answers, as his life is turned upside down by a series of unexpected events. Following the sudden announcement from his wife that she is leaving him for his smooth talking associate, life as Larry knows it quickly begins to unravel.

Larry's unemployed brother is fast becoming a burden and pressures at work are escalating. Meanwhile his dangerously beautiful neighbour torments him by sunbathing nude and he finds little solace in his kids. Consulting three different rabbis, Larry embarks on a twisted journey of faith, family, delinquent behaviour and mortality in a desperate search for answers.

Out now - DVD & BluRay - Universal Pictures

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this simple question:

A rabbi is from which faith?

WIN THIS

"A fun, frothy, hot 'n' heavy slice of homotainment... impure unadulterated entertainment" - GaydarNation

Out Now!

Prepare to leave *Twilight* to the tweens as cult horror hit *The Lair* returns for another round of blood-curdling sexploits. Featuring a slew of sexy new characters and all the high-camp drama and bloody action you've come to expect, *The Lair Season 3* takes the smash hit series to wild new heights!

Available at:

Visits us online at: **tlareleasing.co.uk**

hmv hmv.com

Watch hundreds of other gay films instantly at **tlamovies.co.uk!**

The Lair Ultimate Box Set exclusively at HMV



CLASH OF THE TITANS

Out: 2nd April
Aussie hunk Sam Worthington hits the 3D screens again in Clash of the Titans, the ultimate struggle for power pitting men against kings and kings against gods. But the war between the gods themselves could destroy the world. Born of a god but raised as a man, Perseus (Worthington) is helpless to save his family from Hades (Ralph Fiennes), vengeful god of the underworld. With nothing left to lose,

Perseus volunteers to lead a dangerous mission to defeat Hades before he can seize power from Zeus (Liam Neeson) and unleash hell on earth. Leading a daring band of warriors, Perseus sets off on a perilous journey deep into forbidden worlds. Battling unholy demons and fearsome beasts, he will only survive if he can accept his power as a god, defy his fate and create his own destiny. 3D goggles at the ready.



▲ THE GHOST

Out: 16th April

Superb thriller based on Robert Harris' acclaimed novel, is the story of a ghostwriter hired to take over writing the memoirs of one former British Prime Minister Adam Lang (Pierce Brosnan) after the ex-Prime Minister's first co-writer dies in an accident. Soon after the Ghost (Ewan McGregor) accepts the assignment, a high-ranking

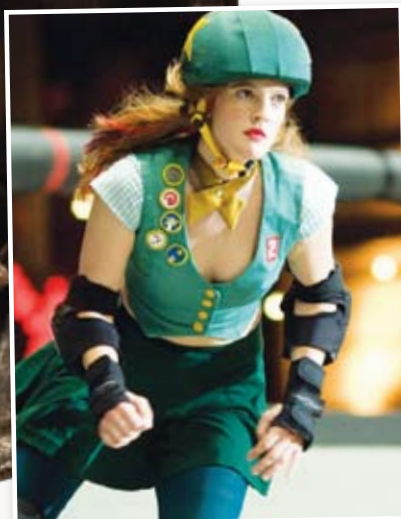
British official accuses Lang of illegally seizing suspected terrorists and handing them over for torture by CIA, a war crime. Also stars Kim Cattrall as the PM's media-handler turned mistress. From acclaimed director Roman Polanski and resonating with topical themes, this atmospheric and intriguing political thriller charts one man's determination to discover the truth and to tell it, if necessary, from beyond the grave. Highly recommended.

MOVIE BUZZ

Sigourney Weaver has signed on to star as a vampire queen in Vamps, a romantic horror-comedy from Amy Heckerling (Clueless). The film is a modern-day story focusing on beautiful young vampires (Alicia Silverstone and Krysten Ritter) who are living the good nightlife in New York until love enters the picture and each has to make a choice that will jeopardize their immortality.

Director David Fincher (Benjamin Button, Fight Club) is the front-runner to direct the American remake of the The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo based on the late Stieg Larsson's bestseller, which is in cinemas right now in the novel's native Swedish language. A must-see film by the way.

Perfect casting for a villain. Hugo Weaving is set to join the cast of The First Avenger: Captain America as the film's baddie, the Red Skull, Captain America's arch-enemy since 1941, when he engaged in espionage and sabotage as Hitler's right-hand man.



▲ WHIP IT

Out: 7th April

Whip It!, the directorial debut of Drew Barrymore, stars Ellen Page (Juno) as Bliss, a rebellious Texas teen who throws in her small town beauty pageant crown for the rowdy world of roller derby. Marcia Gay Harden (Mystic River, Pollock) plays Bliss' disapproving mother, while Kristen Wiig (Saturday Night Live) and Juliette Lewis (Old School) play roller-derby stars. Whip It! also stars Eve, Jimmy Fallon, and Daniel Stern. This is a chick flick of the first degree but with balls. Worth checking out.

Sir Ian McKellen updated his personal website recently saying The Hobbit will "start shooting in New Zealand in July." The report went on to say filming will take over a year and the first draft of the script "is crammed with old and new friends, again on a quest in Middle Earth." We can't wait.

After his star turn opening the Oscars openly gay actor Neil Patrick Harris has joined The Smurfs as the first live-action human character and now Glee star Jayma Mays has also joined the cast as the pregnant wife of Patrick Harris's character. Also, Hank Azaria will play Gargamel, the sworn enemy of the Smurfs. Katy Perry will be voicing Gargamel's creation, Smurfette. The story takes place in Central Park in New York City and centres on the happy expectant couple's lives being turned upside-down upon meeting the blue creatures.

Ivan Reitman will direct rom-com Friends with Benefits starring Ashton Kutcher and Natalie Portman and while the story is being kept quiet, it is said to revolve around the ease with which men and women become sexually involved, but have a far more difficult time establishing emotional bond.



▲ **DEAR JOHN**

Out: 14th April

Directed by Lasse Halstrom (the guys made most of the Abba videos) and based on the novel by best-selling author Nicholas Sparks, Dear John tells the story of John Tyree (beautiful Channing Tatum), a young soldier home on leave, and Savannah Curtis

(Mama Mia's Amanda Seyfried), the idealistic college student he falls in love with during her spring vacation. Over the next seven tumultuous years, the couple are separated by John's increasingly dangerous deployments. While meeting only sporadically, they stay in touch by sending a continuous stream of love letters overseas - correspondence that eventually triggers fateful consequences. Sappy romantic drama with delicious eye-candy.



▲ **CENTURIAN**

Out: 23rd April

Boasting savagely violent battle scenes and an adrenaline fuelled chase through the breathtaking Scottish highlands, Centurian is set during the war between Roman soldiers and Pict tribesmen during the 2nd century Roman conquest of Britain. Hunky Michael Fassbender stars as Quintus Dias, Roman

centurion and son of a legendary gladiator who leads a group of soldiers on a raid of a Pict camp to rescue a captured general (Dominic West). The son of the Pict leader is murdered during the raid, and the Romans find themselves hunted by a seemingly unstoppable group of the Pict's most vicious and skilled warriors, led by a beautiful and deadly tracker (Olga Kurylenko), who are hell bent on revenge. Without relying on CGI, the films action scenes are at times hard to watch and full of gore - love it.



▲ **KICK-ASS**

Out Now

A twisted, funny, high octane adventure. Kick Ass tells the story of average teenager Dave Lizewski (Aaron Johnson), who decides to take his obsession with comic books as inspiration to become a real-life superhero. As any good superhero would, he chooses a new name - Kick Ass - assembles a suit and mask to wear, and gets to work fighting crime.

There's only one problem... Kick Ass has absolutely no superpowers. His life is forever changed as he inspires a sub-culture of copy cats, meets up with a pair of crazed vigilantes - an eleven year old sword-wielding dynamo, Hit Girl (Chloë Moretz), and her father Big Daddy (Nicolas Cage) - and forges a friendship with another fledgling superhero, Red Mist (Chris Mintz-Plasse). But thanks to the scheming of a local mob boss Frank D'Amico (Mark Strong), that new alliance will be put to the test. Really good fun.

RISING STAR BEN HOLLINGSWORTH

Hot new talent Ben Hollingsworth stars as Mick Jones alongside Demi Moore and David Duchovny in the black comedy The Joneses. The picture perfect Joneses have better goods and game than any other family in town. The only problem is they're not a family - they are employees of a stealth marketing organisation, and their job is to make everyone else want what they've got. Unfortunately as the employees become more like a family, cracks begin to show including Mick turning out to be gay.

were able to find the right immigration lawyer who could make it happen and I think that his visa might have gone through the day before we needed him."

About his role, Ben explains, "I feel that Mick is somewhat of a moral centre to the script. I think it has a lot to do with the fact that he makes some choices and struggles with some issues that are very real to the human condition and real to a lot of teenagers growing up." About his co-stars, Ben describes his on-set experiences with Duchovny, "David's great. We have had a blast goofing and tormenting the cast and crew on set with some fun stuff. It just keeps everyone on their toes." About Demi, he adds, "She's got a very youthful and soulful spirit about her which I love, it's great."

For the role of Mick Jones, director Derick Borte auditioned over 100 actors and didn't find anyone who embodied what he wanted until he saw Ben's tape. Borte explains, "As soon as I saw his tape, it wasn't even over yet and I knew he was the guy." Unfortunately, there was a major obstacle - Ben lives in Canada and at the time of his audition did not yet have a work visa. Borte continues, "I wanted to hire him and they said we have seven days left until we shoot and he doesn't have a visa, so it's probably not going to work... luckily we

Next up for gorgeous Ben Hollingsworth is the lead role in the much buzzed about TV series The Beautiful Life, produced by Ashton Kutcher and co-starring Mischa Barton.





Adrian Gillan hits the sights, spas, shows 'n scene in shimmering Las Vegas.

Gay Vegas!

You don't so much visit "Vegas" as smash right into it, rearing up out of the Nevada desert like some giant flashing, flexing one-armed bandit - its supersized follies, casinos, hotels, shows, restaurants, bars and malls all vying for queer attentions.

Indeed, your plane well-nigh lands on The Strip: that miracle mile or three of stylish yet quintessentially teeth-'n-tits facade, like an old-style all-American frontier town's main saloon-lined street - on acid. Not-so-mini versions of the Eiffel Tower, Lady Liberty and Sphinx go head-to-head with real-life lions, exploding volcanoes and eternally sinking pirate ships - plus a plethora of quick-hitch wedding chapels.

Of course, you don't have to go seriously astray in "Sin City". Beyond the gaudy gambling glitz, Vegas is awash with world-class shows, boutique labels and fine dining; plus chic hotels 'n spas.

TOP 10 REASONS TO HIT VEGAS

1. THE STRIP - Day or night, take in folly-upon-folly-fronted hotel mega-complexes that have sprung up, largely since the early 1990s. Starting south: Luxor (Pyramid, Sphinx); Excalibur (fantasy castle); New York, New York (Statue of Liberty, Empire State, Chrysler, Brooklyn Bridge, rollercoaster); MGM Grand (lions - giant gold statue, plus real live lions hanging out with their keepers, and cubs you can pose with); Planet Hollywood; Paris (Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe); Bellagio (art gallery, dancing fountains); Mirage (volcano - regular eruptions); Venetian (St. Mark's Square, Bridge of Sighs, gondolas); and Stratosphere (horrendous rooftop rides).

2. DOWNTOWN - Until the 1990s resurgence of The Strip, Downtown was the main event, and still heaves with famous neon signs and casino frontages, fighting back. The main drag has now been covered over by what claims to be the world's largest screen, creating the Fremont Street Experience - hourly from 7pm to midnight.

3. SHOPS - perhaps most notably the Fashion Show Mall (crammed with designer labels); and the Venetian (arrive by gondola to start your spree).

4. SPAS - Two of the best are surely the minimalist Spa at Aria; and the Qua Spa at Caesar's Palace, itself a fantastic hotel made famous by the likes of Sinatra and as the setting for numerous films such as Rain Man and The Hangover.

5. SHOWS - There are dozens on at any given time, many long-running. Check out tuneful Jersey Boys (Palazzo), impersonator-brimming Legends in

Concert (Harrah's) or aquatic-acrobatic Le Reve (Encore); or even a couple of the several Cirque du Soleil shows, such as raucous, off-topless Zoomanity (New York, New York) or the excellent new celebratory Viva Elvis (CityCenter).

6. EATERIES - Vegas now features so much more than mere all-you-can-eat buffet specials, including the lower-budget BLT Burger (Mirage); Spanish tapas joint, Julian Serrano (CityCenter); Italian, Sirio (CityCenter); brunchy super-size-portioned Serendipity 3 (Caesar's Palace); exotic Jasmine (Bellagio), complete with dancing fountain views; Rat Pack-favoured 1950s Golden Steer (308 West Sahara Avenue; T: +1 (702) 384-4470); youthful, trendy Rare 120 (Hard Rock Hotel); top-notch French joint, Joel Robuchon, and its adjoining L'Atelier de Joel Robuchon (both MGM Grand); and modern creative funky Sinatra (Encore). Also check-out cocktails at Laguna Champagne Lounge (Palazzo); or at Gold Lounge (CityCenter).

7. QUIRKY MUSEUMS - including the Auto Collections (www.autocollections.com); Liberace Museum (www.liberace.org); Atomic Testing Museum (www.atomictestingmuseum.org); and Neon Museum (www.neonmuseum.org). Don't miss the Dolphin Habitat (Mirage).

8. "WELCOME TO VEGAS" SIGN - The iconic "Welcome to fabulous Las Vegas, Nevada" sign, on the southern tip of The Strip, could surely have only been scrawled by a gay man or gay-minded female. Strike a pose!

9. WEDDING CHAPELS - There are on average around 230 marriage licenses issued per day in Las Vegas, couples lured largely by the city's relaxed "quick-hitch" laws; plus also by camp ceremonies laid on by many venues. Some offer gay commitment services - The Little Church of the West (www.littlechurchlv.com), though highly cute, does not.

10. OUT-OF-TOWN - You can make exciting daytrips, by car or helicopter, to nearby Grand Canyon; or to the mighty Hoover Dam (www.usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam), and its very own manmade Lake Mead (www.nps.gov/lame) for fishing, boating or swimming (www.lasvegasboatharbor.com).

GAY SCENE

As if the shows, spas 'n shops weren't enough to make Vegas a top gay US destination! Then there's the sizable scene - with mini-clusters on Naples Drive near the airport, plus Downtown - including:

Spotlight (957 East Sahara Avenue; www.thespottlightbar.com) - Popular Downtown bar!

Krave (3663 South Las Vegas Boulevard; www.kravelasvegas.com) - Only gay club



on The Strip! Large; loved by tourists. 8½ Ultra Lounge & Piranha Club (4633 Paradise Road; www.piranhavegas.com) - Near airport, favoured by locals.

VIVA ELVIS: THE KING IN THE CITY!



Vegas wouldn't be half so gay without the King! Never forgotten. 365/24/7 impersonation, celebration.

1956: Elvis' first Vegas concert - An already-chart-topping 21-year old Elvis makes his first appearance in Las Vegas, at the New Frontier Hotel, winning a chill reception from an older crowd.

1963: Viva Las Vegas - Elvis hits town to shoot what would be his by-then 15th film, Viva Las Vegas, giving the city undoubtedly its most famous theme tune.

1967: Marriage - 32-year old Elvis marries Priscilla Anne Beaulieu in a private

ceremony at the Aladdin Hotel.

1969-1976: The King returns - Thirteen years after his first appearance, Elvis returns to Vegas, starting an annual string of sell-out month-long runs at the then-newly-built International Hotel, renamed the Las Vegas Hilton in 1971.

STAY & PLAY

Monte Carlo (3770 Las Vegas Boulevard South; www.montecarlo.com) - Comfortable, central hotel and casino complex right on The Strip that shouldn't break the bank.

Aria (3730 Las Vegas Boulevard South; www.ariasvegas.com) - Luxury hotel and casino, part of the spanking new CityCenter complex.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Three nights in Las Vegas with Virgin Holidays (ABTA/ATOL) - including scheduled flights with Virgin Atlantic from London Gatwick direct to Las Vegas, accommodation at the 4* Monte Carlo Resort and Casino on a room only basis, with car hire included - starts from £670 per person, including all taxes. Start your hols before you've even taken off, in the V ROOM at Gatwick Airport - adults £17, kids £10. To book: www.virginholidays.co.uk, 0844 557 3859 or visit one of over 40 shops located in Debenhams and House of Fraser stores.

More: www.visitlasvegas.com



Tribute to Oscar Wilde's Arrest

April 2010 marks the 115th Anniversary of the famous Irish novelist, poet and playwright, Oscar Wilde, being arrested for "gross indecency" in Room 118 of The Cadogan Hotel in Knightsbridge, London.

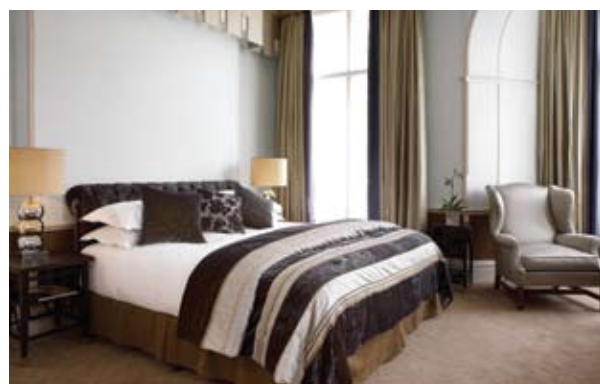
To commemorate and pay tribute to Oscar Wilde, who was a frequent visitor, The Cadogan will host a high profile celebrity event on 22 April 2010. The charity event will include an Auction where the proceeds will go to the Elton John AIDS Foundation. Bids can also be placed on the web prior to the event. Exciting lots will include luxury products and experiences. "The only way to get rid of temptation is to yield to it," Oscar Wilde.

Throughout 2010 guests at The Cadogan Hotel can immerse themselves in the loves of Oscar Wilde, such as many splendid dishes and drinks related to this bygone era.

Guests who wish to experience Oscar Wilde's decadence should reserve The Cadogan Hotel's "Green Carnation Package". This flower was Oscar

Wilde's trademark accessory and was later adopted by the gay community as a symbol for homosexual men.

The Cadogan Hotel, 75 Sloane Street, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 9SG
Reservations on 020 7235 7141 or visit www.cadogan.com



CADOGAN LONDON

Abbadetta Italy

2 weeks, 20th June and 5th Sept

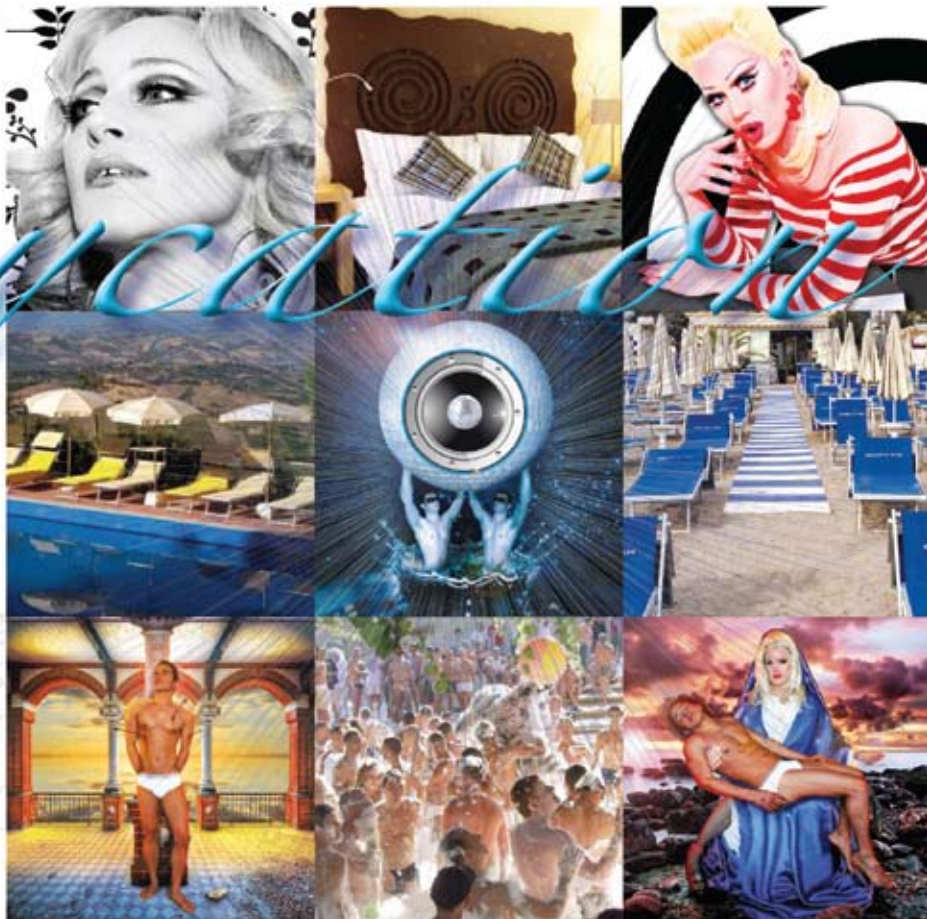
Gaycation

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This summer's hottest ticket. Featuring our very good friends Kandi Kane Baxter, Laquisha Jonz, DJ Corey & just confirmed our very own Madonna, Melissa Totten. For the summer's hottest and wildest week of partying check out



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or call 020 8902 7177





The Funkiest B&B in the UK

By Lee Hudson



No matter what time of year a visit is planned, Cumbria's Lake District is one of the most beautiful, breathtaking and picturesque areas in the UK. With many people deciding to holiday 'at home' for 2010 this, the largest of Britain's National Parks, is sure to be at the top of the destination list. The entire area is full of hotels and B&Bs to cater for the influx of visitors but one of the most outstanding is the Windermere Suites, voted the Funkiest B&B in the UK at the official AA B&B Awards.

This accolade wasn't given lightly and it is a testament to the taste and style of owners Victoria and Colin Monk, who spent £1.6 million on its refurbishment, and who have transformed a rundown building into a series of 8 individual boutique suites. Each one offers the WOW factor; luxury and space with contemporary designer furniture, which is available to buy should you fall in love with any of the décor. There's

a large bathroom (complete with colourful sexy chromatic lighting) and a double bath just bubbling for two to share; huge soft towels and fluffy bathrobes to complete the feeling of being treated well by people who know how to treat their guests.

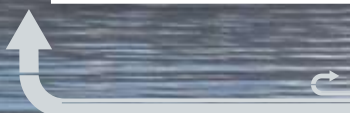
It isn't surprising that the Windermere Suites have become popular as a romantic destination for those wishing to get away from it all, to have some privacy or to celebrate a honeymoon or anniversary. The superb breakfast is ordered the night before from a tasty and comprehensive selection of options, which is then delivered to your room... so there is no need to have that possible embarrassing post coital breakfast-room moment.

They even offer as possible options for their guest's enjoyment:
The Romantic package - A bottle of house champagne, rose petals,

Howbeck chocolates, and fairy lights to set a romantic atmosphere. Or perhaps the much more fun alternative: The Naughty package - Naughty dice, mask, tickling feather, massaging body butter, and a vibrating mini massager, all beautifully packaged.

The Windermere Suites offer the perfect get away - whether you want to explore the fabulous scenery or have those more private, personal moments, you will not be disappointed. Even with its 5 star award there is nothing stuffy or pretentious about this place. Couples, no matter what sexuality, are made welcome by the hosts and friendly staff and are given every facility to achieve that little bit of heaven here on Earth.

Windermere Suites, New Road,
Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2LA
Tel: 01539 444 739
www.windermeresuites.co.uk



TENERIFE

For Sale or Rent

Fish and Chip Restaurant

Takeaway - Licensed Bar and Cafe in One

Located in the very beautiful town of Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife

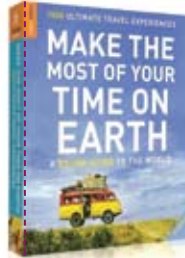
Wonderful Set-up - would make an excellent Gay Bar – Restaurant

POA. Jamie 0044 (0) 7552 984 813

BENT BITES

Pocket Towel

As anyone who has ever tried to jam more than a few days worth of kit into a rucksack or beach bag will know all too well, towels are the arch enemy of packing light. The Pocket Towel is the perfect solution. Not only does it pack up absurdly small taking up less space than a lemon, but it dries in nano seconds (figuratively speaking). Made from an ultra-fine woven micro fibre it unfolds to 80 x 40cm and its super-absorbency will soak up three times its weight in water. **£9.99** - iwantoneofthose.com



Ultimate Travel Experience

Keeping the world at your fingertips has never been easier since the Rough Guides hit the bookstalls and travel fairs. There is hardly an inch of the globe that they haven't investigated and reported on to make your travel experience less of a strain. Now they have condensed all of the original experiences and images from Make The Most Of Your Time On Earth; 1000 Ultimate Travel Experiences, into a perfect compact edition just right for your backpack. **£12.99** - **Rough Guides**



Time to take a Tantric Massage journey with Yorkshire's new Tantric Master...

What is Tantric Massage?

Tantric Massage is a way of developing and healing through ecstatic touch. A blissful state is achieved through a combination of deep relaxation, breath-work, meditation and body massage. Tantric Massage is a naturist experience where every part of a man's body is sacred and receptive to being energized.

Choose between 5 very different Tantric Massages

If you are a Sensual Man who enjoys touch, meditation

or relaxation go for the "E" Tantric Massage; the ultimate sensual massage.

If you are a Spiritual Man keen to explore his own inner Chakra energy and balance between body, mind and spirit, try out the "Chakra" Tantric Massage to get in touch with your Chakra energy.

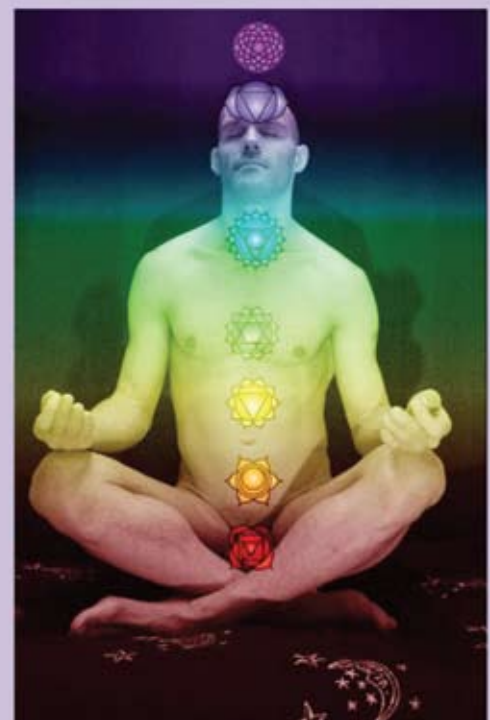
If you are a Sexually Aware Man who wants to develop his potential to become multi-orgasmic and experience whole body orgasms, consider between the "G" Tantric Massage, pleasure OR the "A" Tantric Massage, which takes you to your deepest core OR the "YY" Tantric Massage for an exquisite tantric fusion.

Located in Sheffield, close to the M1, Yorkshire's Tantric Master is already working with clients from Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield, South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Manchester.



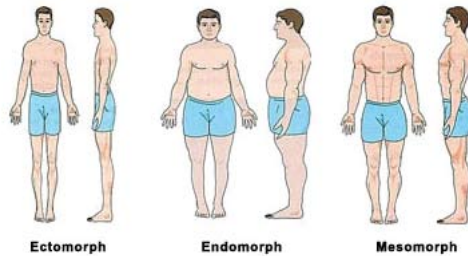
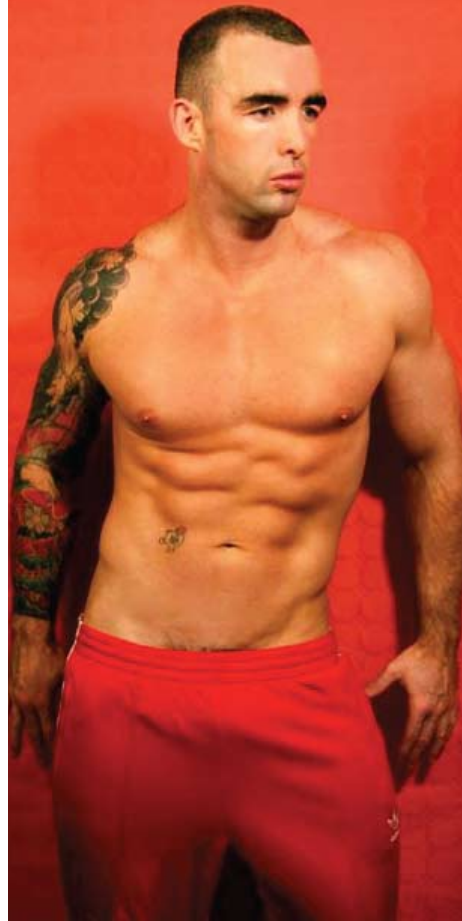
Yorkshire Tantric Master

Sensual - Spiritual - Safe



www.tantricmassageformen.co.uk

Ready for the ultimate massage experience, then visit comprehensive new website: tantricmassageformen.co.uk



ECTOMORPH: THE HARD GAINER

*Do you have light bone structure, small joints, and find it hard to gain weight/muscle? **You are probably an ectomorph/hard gainer***

Do you watch your carbohydrate intake too much?
Do you just eat complex carbohydrates?
Do you go low carb/high protein?
Do you?
Forget what you learned! You are a hard gainer. Your physique and dietary needs differ completely when compared to the big jointed mesomorph next to you!

He may be eating a salad and steak with a small serving of rice... but that

isn't going to cut it for you! That's not going to create the anabolic fueling you need!

The majority of hard gainers/ectomorphs need to consume at least 4000 calories a day, sometimes as much as 5000-6000. Yes, that is a lot of calories!

With that amount, it is very hard to achieve your intake with just complex carbohydrates and protein... Plus, your energy requirements are much higher. You also have a completely different anabolic situation than endo's and even meso's (people who gain fat easier and those that gain muscle easily).

You need to focus on being anabolic a lot more - focusing on extra rest, limiting cardio, heavy weight training, and high GI (glycemic index) foods that spike insulin levels/create an anabolic environment.

Mesomorphs can generally get away with limited calories, limited insulin spike/energy before training, and less sleep/rest and gain well.

What to do:
Decrease the cardio and other calorie devouring activity - get just enough to be fit and healthy.
Go heavy and intense in the weight room and decrease the volume - less sets and time in the gym.
See that bagel - two bagels? Fill it up with that jam/jelly and have it with a protein shake before the gym. You need that insulin spike! After training? A protein shake with a couple of bananas could do the trick.
Taper your carbohydrates in the evening but never reduce them to zero. Eat carbohydrates even for your last meal. Eat the majority, especially high GI carbs in the morning and before/after training.. But still consume for your other meals.
Take a good quality protein powder

Jarrett James.
"One of London's top personal trainers"
Smarter strength and conditioning
Contact: 07891037283
Website: www.jarrettjames.co.uk



SUPER SPRING OFFER

Mark Carter, former Mr Gay UK and British Police Officer has launched his own sports brand, MarkCarterSports.com

The Sports Science graduate and former professional football coach has developed the brand which begins by targeting weight loss. His new product, which should compliment a healthy lifestyle, aids natural metabolic burning of unwanted fat, thus allowing people to lose weight and feel good.

Carter stated, "I am very excited about this product and its initial and continued success - I have always been keen on making my body look its best throughout my sporting years, trying different supplements and weight loss techniques for photo shoots and of

course various Mr Gay competitions. However, I have never come across a fat burning product that I can say really works like this one."

"Mark Carter Fat Burners® (capsules) can be used by healthy individuals - both men and women - who either want to shed unwanted fat from those hard to reach stubborn areas or rip their already toned stomachs down to reveal the famous 6-pack. They also suppress the appetite and prevent in between meal snacking - which is key to losing and maintaining your chosen weight. The product contains key natural ingredients and has already provided amazing results. Users - especially those with current or previous illness - are advised to contact their GP before starting any diet or weight loss regime.

The product has been significantly reduced for a limited period in a Super Spring Offer, and is now priced at £29.95 - this still includes free P&P!

It's a small price to pay for a big step forward to looking the best yo
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the ultimate

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Basement Sauna Guide



MANCHESTER • LEEDS •
GRAN CANARIA

Basement complex the UK's leading Gay & Bisexual Sauna Group. Award winning venues in prime locations, offer a safe and friendly place to meet horny guys. The only UK sauna group that operates its venues 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Basement Manchester: Our flag ship, is set in the basement of a stunning Victorian mill building on the edge of Manchester's trendy northern quarter, just 5 min walk from the gay village and Piccadilly train station.

Basement Leeds: Purpose built just three years ago, on two floors in a railway arch just a few steps away from Leeds' gay scene and yards from the city's train station. Both venues offer the best in sauna facilities; with stunning lounges, fun wet zones and large cruising areas.
www.basementcomplex.co.uk

Now with even more venues in Gran Canaria.

Basement Studios: World famous for being Gran Canaria's only resort dedicated to nudism and sexual freedom. A gated resort of modern pool-side bungalows with Jacuzzi, a bar cafe, outside cruise area plus much more on offer to our residents. Day guests... more than welcome.

Base Bar: Dance Drink Cruise: This is the Yumbo Centre's newest bar /club bringing you the top DJ's of the island and one of the largest cruise areas and not forgetting first class entertainment and fantastic value!
www.basebargc.com

Le Leche: Our brand new terrace style lounge bar, this is a fresh and contemporary experience to watch the world go by as you relax and enjoy panoramic views over the Yumbo Centre. Open all day and through to the early hours... with a large selection of coffees and mouth watering deserts plus not to be missed... our fabulous cocktails.
www.basementstudios.es



Basement complex

24 HOUR SAUNA

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OF THE CLUBS, BASEMENT IS
THE PLACE TO BE ALL NIGHT**

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Email: info@citysteam.co.uk

Open every day from midday

Five more sauna 'rules'!

- 1 For some unknown reason, it is considered embarrassing to make it with someone you already know.
- 2 Spending hours deciding what to wear to the tubs is a particularly inane waste of time.
- 3 The law of the weight room: People working out are doing it for your benefit, not theirs.
- 4 If you're feeling particularly guilty after a hard session... good... the sauna has served its purpose.
- 5 Never bring take-away into the sauna or steam room... even if it would liven up your noodles.



THE PIPEWORKS HEALTH AND LEISURE CLUB

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Jacuzzi | Solarium | Steam Room | Dry Sauna
Rest Rooms | Sling Room | Tea & Coffee Bar
Internet Lounge | TV Lounge

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Wednesday 12noon - 3am | Thursday 12noon - 4am | 24HR WEEKEND
Friday 12noon until 4am Monday

2-6 Union Street, Belfast Tel: 028 9023 3441

GLASGOW

35 Man Spa Pool | 20 Man Steam Room
20 Man Dry Sauna | 14 Rest Rooms | Sling Room
Tea & Coffee Bar | Internet Lounge | TV Lounge

OPENING HOURS: Monday 12noon - 3am | Tuesday 12noon - 3am
Wednesday 12noon - 3am | Thursday 12noon - 3am
Friday 12noon - 3am | Saturday 12noon - 3am | Sunday 12noon - 3am

5-10 Metropole Lane, Glasgow Tel: 0141 552 5502

NEW LOOK WEBSITE WWW.THEPIPEWORKS.COM LAUNCHING SOON

W3

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Gay & Bi-Sexual Men

1-3 Charles Street, Blackpool, FY1 3EJ

(01253) 751199

Monday to Friday

12 noon until 12 midnight

£5 12 noon - 1pm **£9** 1pm - midnight **£12** unlimited returns within the day

36 HOUR NON - STOP

WEEKEND EXTRAVAGANZA

12 noon Saturday until 12 midnight Sunday

£5 12 noon - 1pm **£9** After **£12** unlimited returns within 12 hour period

www.WET WET WET SAUNA.co.uk
Gay & Bi-Sexual Men

WHATS ON

CRUZ 101 PRESENTS EASTER 2010



Cruz 101 presents five fantastic Easter parties as only Cruz can! 'Disco! Disco!' is the name of the game as Cruz spends the weekend playing the very best mix of the latest pop and dance tracks mixed with disco classics and pop anthems at the funkier Disco in the village. Resident DJ's Almighty Donald, Rob James, Tony Woof, Darren Leasley, Spook & Deeno play an exclusive mix of music we can guarantee you will never, ever, hear anywhere else! So crack open your eggs, pull on your platforms, big wigs and best disco outfits for the dancing weekend of the year!

THURSDAY 1ST APRIL - 11PM - 5.30AM

You'd be an April Fool to miss this one! Cruz and Poptastic funk the night away at Back2Back where John Hamilton & the Poptastic gang play their inimitable mix of pop, disco, & r'n'b while downstairs in Sub Rob James plays a funky mix of house and dance classics. Back2Back will be giving you the chance to win cash every Thursday.

FRIDAY 2ND APRIL - 11PM - 6AM

If you like it big then this is the place to go! Like every Friday, the 2nd is a BIG GAY FRIDAY!. Miss Cara & the Cruz team 'get down on it' at the biggest Friday night party in the Village. Dress to impress, sequins, flares, spandex - and that's just what your hostess Miss Cara will be wearing! This Friday's even bigger with brand new pop sensation "Untouched" live on stage performing their new single.

SATURDAY 3RD APRIL 11PM - 6AM

You're a Queen, and everyone likes a bit of drama, and that's certainly what you get at Cruz every Saturday! Drama Queen is the only place to throw shapes and work the dance floor like a diva in true Drama Queen style to pop, dance, r'n'b floor-fillers upstairs while Darren Leasley takes over the reins in the depths of Sub with a harder edgier sound.

SUNDAY 4TH APRIL - 11PM - 5AM

You can scream as much as you like as DJ Spook plays a mash up edgy pop and funky house to round off the weekend. Requests played all night from the Village's greatest selection of pop, disco, dance & r'n'b with a healthy dose of house upstairs in Cruz from DJ Spook.

MONDAY 5TH APRIL - 11PM - 5AM

Start of the new tax year! Disco inferno gets a shot of Viagra and pumps you full of classic 70's, 80's and 90's pop and disco legends with DJ Deeno slipping you seven inches of the greatest Disco classics while Miss Cara dusts off the mirror balls and glams the club up into a boogie wonderland for a Disco Inferno Extravaganza.

For full info on each night log on to www.cruz101.com



Manchester's Favourite Gay Venue

**CRUZ
101**



Filthy Gorgeous Easter

5 nights of Filthy Gorgeous fun!

Thursday 1st April • 11pm - 5am

Cruz & Poptastic shacked-up in bed together on April Fools Day!

Friday 2nd April • 11pm - 6am

Featuring brand new pop act 'Untouched' www.myspace.com/untouchedofficial

Saturday 3rd April • 11pm - 6am

Pop, disco, dance & RnB anthems • vocal trance, bouncy house

Sunday 4th April • 11pm - 5am

A mash-up of edgy pop & funky house

Monday 5th April • 11pm - 5am

70's, 80's & 90's pop & disco classics



FEDERATION CRUCIFIED

Following on from the massive sell out event on New Year's Eve, the Fed crew bring the eternal light back to the Ritz in Manchester, on Easter Sunday for Federation Crucified. After setting a new standard for Saturday night clubbing with their hugely popular new club night Freakshow the team turn their attention back to Federation reinventing and updating the UK's most loved clubbing event for the 2010 bank holiday season, with all new spectacular and choreographed theatrics. Federation's DJ Disciples Gregg Holden, Jason Guy & Nik Denton will be providing the essential ascension taking you to the next level with their trademark funky, chunky soundtrack. Federation wouldn't be complete without their heavenly troop of entertainers, Divine Drag (who we're told started work on their costumes in February!) and spectacular shows.

10pm - 4am @ The Ritz, Whitworth Street, Manchester

£12 Advance tickets available from www.ticketweb.co.uk, Clone Zone, The Village Off License, Spirit, Manto, Velvet, Taurus, Spar (Oxford Rd and Piccadilly) in Manchester & Fibre in Leeds.

Followed by Federation presents The Final Blow Out.

3.30am - late @ Sound Control, 1 New Wakefield Street, Manchester

(Cross the road from The Ritz, under the bridge, then turn left)

Limited joint Federation and After Party tickets £16 from www.ticketweb.co.uk and Clone Zone, or get a £6 ticket from the Ritz (This is a ticket only event.)

FEDERATION STREET TUFF

To celebrate seven years as Manchester biggest and most love clubbing event Federation gets Street Tuff on Bank Holiday Sunday 2nd May.

So, everybody shake your stuff,

Fed is here and they're street tuff.

Funky music, they can't get enough,
Know what it is, their just street tuff.

Join the urban turf war as Federation's 'Street Tuff' rallies champion break dancers, ripped cage fighters and Rebel MC's to their cause.

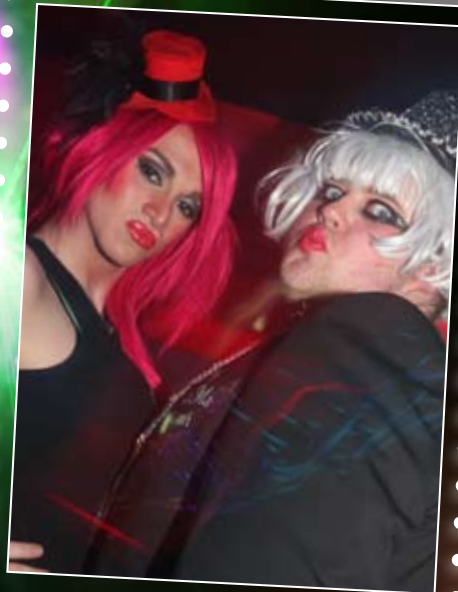
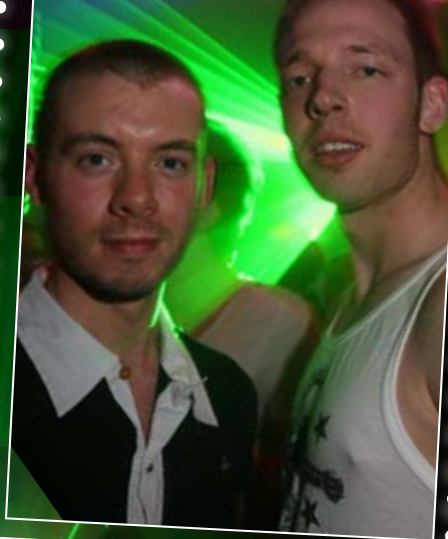
For more info go to www.clubfederation.com and join them on facebook

Bank Holiday Sunday 2nd May 10pm - 4am
@ Ritz, Whitworth Street, Manchester

Other Federation Events Coming Up.

Bank Holiday Sunday 30th @ Ritz in Manchester

Saturday 5th June @ Flamingo in Blackpool
(Now on the first Saturday of every month)



EVERYBODY SHAKE YOUR STUFF..
FED ARE HERE AND THEY'RE STREET TUFF

FEDERATION

PRESENTS



BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 2ND MAY

FEATURING DJs

GREGG HOLDEN, JASON GUY & NIK DENTON

**ALONGSIDE MC BRANDY, BREAKDANCERS,
CAGE FIGHTERS, STREET DRAG & MORE**

ADVANCE TICKETS £12 / MORE ON THE DOOR
ON SALE FROM CLONE ZONE, THE VILLAGE OFF LICENCE, SPIRIT, MANTO, VELVET, TAURUS
& SPAR (OXFORD RD/HULME ST AND PICCADILLY) IN MANCHESTER & FIBRE IN LEEDS.
OR ONLINE FROM TICKETWEB.CO.UK

10PM - 4AM

THE RITZ. MANCHESTER

WWW.CLUBFEDERATION.COM



**MANCHESTER
PRIDE'S
FUNDRAISING
DINNER**



Hot Village and Manchester Pride are proud to announce the Manchester Pride Dinner, which will be taking place at The Palace Hotel on Thursday 23 September 2010. Tickets are priced from £45 with all proceeds going to Manchester Pride.

The aim of this black tie charity event is to raise funds towards the Manchester Pride Fringe 2011, enabling Manchester Pride to support even more community events next year. It will also provide the perfect opportunity for Manchester's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community to get together again and celebrate Manchester Pride 2010.

To purchase tickets, please visit:
www.manchesterpridedinner.com

This year's Manchester Pride takes place from Friday 20th – Monday 30th August 2010. For more information, visit: www.manchesterpride.com



**RECREATION -
SUNDAYS @ SPIRIT**

After a year absent from Manchester the 'queen of house' returns to the Gay Village for a series of Sunday night parties.

Recreation originally launched back in 2003 with a ground breaking music policy and a DJ line up designed to tip Manchester Gay scene on its head. Over the following 6 years Recreation dished out some of the most talked about parties of the decade and, as well as hosting monthly parties at Paradise Factory and Sub (Below Cruz), has an impressive history of throwing huge one-off events: Uni Challenge, Manchester Pride, and Federation After Parties are just the tip of the iceberg.

During the short break from Manchester, Recreation has exported its sound to the capital, enjoying a good run of parties with the support of DJs Lee Yeomans and Max Sanna.

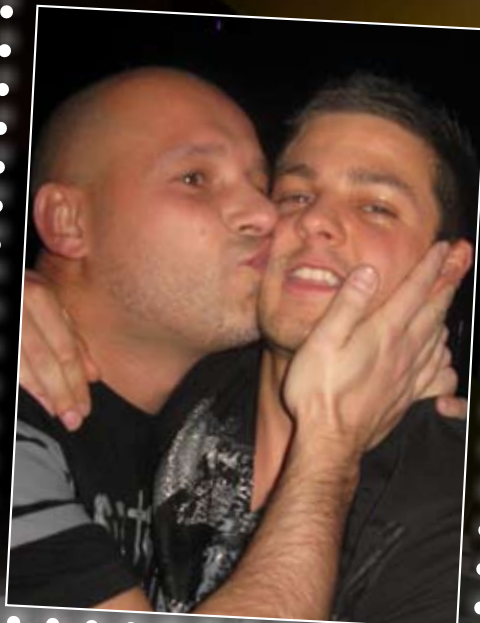
Now the clubbing legend returns to Manchester with its original resident Nik Denton and a brand new line up of DJs to take on this new season of Sunday night parties. They include Andy Mac, Chris Bell and Ross Homson. Guest DJs from Organic, Federation and Freakshow will also feature heavily over the coming months.

The Sunday Night clubbing void on Canal Street is just about to be well and truly cancelled!

Launching Sunday 14th March @ Spirit

9pm until 2am - Free Entry all night

Drink promotions all night: Including £1.85 a pint, £1.85 VK, £2.25 WKD





Spirit

Recreation

ON SUNDAY @ SPIRIT

FREE ENTRY

6 YEARS AFTER RECREATION FIRST ROCKED THE VILLAGE THE MOTHER OF ALL FUNKY, CHUNKY HOUSE NIGHTS LANDS BACK IN MANCHESTER FOR A NEW SERIES OF PARTIES - THIS TIME FILLING THE SUNDAY NIGHT CLUBBING VOID.

THIS NEW SUNDAY NIGHTER WILL FEATURE A LINE UP OF DJ'S DESIGNED TO KEEP YOU DANCING RIGHT THROUGH TO THE VERY END OF THE WEEKEND - WEEK IN WEEK OUT!!!

DJS

NIK DENTON

ANDY MAC

CHRIS BELL

ROSS HOMSON

AND SPECIAL GUEST DJ'S FROM FEDERATION
FREAKSHOW & ORGANIC

DRINK PROMOTIONS ALL NIGHT:
£1.85 A PINT | £1.85 VK | £2.25 WKD
£2.50 DOUBLE SPIRIT + MIXER

9PM TIL' 2AM @ SPIRIT, CANAL ST, MANCHESTER



THE MARDI GRAS

The Mardi Gras has lots lined up for you with top cabaret throughout April. Apart from their usual line up of cabaret and male strippers they also have some special guests joining them every Friday starting with Sonia on Good Friday followed by Jackie Webb as Diana Ross, winner of Pop Idol Michelle McManus, Angie Langford as Shania Twain and Toyah on 30th April.

The Mardi Gras has it's All Day Charity on Monday 3rd May in aid of Heal Body Positive and there will be lots going on. The day is hosted by the captivating Miss Stella Artois and she will be joined by twenty cabaret acts including Chelsea Stevens,

Brad Leigh Scott, Diane Lee Carol, Tameka, Joanna Shorrock and many more. DJ Captain Ginger will be your DJ for the day and there will Auctions Raffles and much, much more.

You can also catch Stella Artois every Sunday from 2:30 for her very own show where she sings an array of songs from the musicals and tells some good clean jokes! It's a great day out and Stella is sure to keep you entertained.

For full details of all that's going on at The Mardi Gras visit their website :

www.themardigrasblackpool.com.



Michelle McManus

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enbrook

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A Flamingo Eggstravaganza.....

Good Friday
2nd April

FOAM PARTY

Hold On Tight...Our Biggest One Ever!

Easter Saturday
3rd April

fierce

DJ Paul Gregory
DJ Stuart Robinson

Easter Sunday
4th April

Open until 5am
Exclusive DJ Set from the Legendary

K-KLASS

+ LIVE PA: BOBBI

"Rhythme is a mystery" "Let me show you love"
"Gettin' Ready" "Finally"

Easter Monday
5th April

Gareth Gates

Live DJ Set



Flamingo

44 Queen Street, Blackpool. FY1 2AY. Tel: 01253 649151.
www.flamingoonline.co.uk www.facebook.com/flamingoonline

MAY BANK HOLIDAY

MARDI

Fridays in April

Friday 2nd April
GOOD FRIDAY
Personal Appearance
SONIA



Friday 9th April
Jackie Webb
is **Diana Ross**

Friday 16th April
Michelle
McManus



Friday 23rd April
Angie Langford
is **Shania Twain**

Friday 30th April
BANK HOLIDAY
WEEKEND

Toyah

www.deanstockings.co.uk



Cheap drinks noon until 7pm
Admission £3 From 9pm
Open until 3am

FRIDAY 30th April



Joanna Shorrock
(Vocalist)
11pm

TOYAH



www.deanstockings.co.uk

with **DJ Captain Ginger**
and **Stella Artois**



Admission £3 from 9pm
Cheap Drinks noon until 7pm
Open until 3am

SAT

Double
wi



Double Impact f



Nathan

SUN

Stella
Fr
wi

Chel
Mau
St
wi



Chel

GRAS

MAY BANK HOLIDAY

THURSDAY 1st May

(Afternoon)

Impact (Male Stripper)
with DJ Captain Ginger

(Evening)

Claire (Vocalist)

Nathan Moore

from Brother Beyond



Claire



Moore

with DJ Keiron
and Stella Artois

Cheap Drinks
noon until 7pm

Admission £3 from 9pm

Open until 3am

FRIDAY 2nd May

(Afternoon)

Artois 2:30pm until 7pm

Impact (Male Stripper)

with DJ Captain Ginger

(Evening)

Chelsea Stevens (Vocalist)

Maurice Malone (Vocalist)

Staxx (Male Stripper)

with DJ Captain Ginger



Chelsea Stevens



Maurice Malone

MONDAY 3rd May ALL DAY CHARITY EVENT

In aid of



Show starts 2pm



Diane Lee Carol



Darren Thomas

Diane Lee Carol
Darren Thomas

Jo Summers

Ryan Knight

Nikki Miller

Steven Hayles

Shelly Timmins

Hayden

James Reay

Brad Leigh Scott

Andy King

Tameka

Dominic

Claire

Lee Brady

Chelsea Stevens

Mark Clegg

and Joanna Shorrock

+

Staxx (Male Stripper)

Your hostess for the day

Stella Arois

with DJ Captain Ginger

Auctions, Raffles and much more!

Cheap Drinks noon til close - Open until 3am

All door proceeds to Heal



Ryan Knight



James Reay



Claire



Chelsea Stevens



Nikki Millar



Brad Leigh Scott



Tameka



Lee Brady



Joanna Shorrock

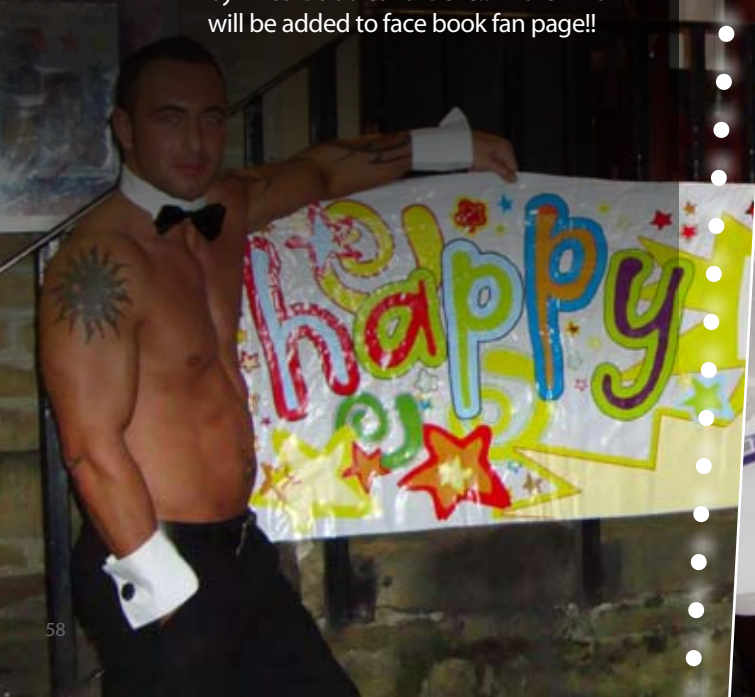
THE NEW UNION

A big THANKS to all the customers and staff who helped make our 4th Birthday go so well, it was a great night and we had a blast. Now all eyes are set for those who lie an excuse to drag up because on the 3rd April our Easter Eggstravaganza has a Rocky Horror theme and there will be prizes for best costumes, drinks offers and spot prizes on the night.

Sarah Jay will be leading the Karaoke special on 6th April so get gargling, practice your scales and give us what you've got... in the nicest possible way.

Looking forward to a couple of events: 15th May sees our beach party & bbq, prize for worst shirt, there will be a wet t-shirt comp, drink offers, the usual spot prizes... so come and make a splash!

On 12th June we have a special charity fundraising night in aid of 'Andrea's Gift Brain Tumour Research' & 'Brake' the road safety charity. Danielle & Mark have volunteered to have their heads shaved (this is the way they find out) so they will be looking for your kindness to sponsor them. We'll have a charity auction, raffles and the night will be sponsored by Corona & hosted by Miss Bubbles la Belle!! More info will be added to face book fan page!!



THE NEW UNION

HUDDERSFIELD

SATURDAY
3rd
APRIL

EASTER
EGGSTAVAGANZA,
ROCKY HORROR THEME
NIGHT, PRIZE FOR BEST
COSTUME, DRINK OFFERS,
SPOT PRIZES

TUESDAY
6th
APRIL

KARAOKE
WITH
SARAH
JAY



SATURDAY
15th
MAY



BEACH PARTY & BBQ,
PRIZE FOR WORST SHIRT,
WET T-SHIRT COMP, DRINK
OFFERS, SPOT PRIZES

SATURDAY
12th
JUNE

CHARITY NIGHT IN AID OF 'ANDREA'S GIFT' BRAIN TUMOUR
RESEARCH & 'BRAKE' THE ROAD SAFETY CHARITY



HOSTED BY MISS
BUBBLES LA BELLE!!



SPONSORED BY

Corona
Extra

OUR WEEKLY LINE UP

TUESDAY

KARAOKE

FREE POOL

(21:00 TIL CLOSE)

WEDNESDAY

WHAT THE
CUSTOMER WANTS...
"SOMETHING FOR
EVERYONE"

FRIDAY

THANK FK IT'S FRIDAY!**
START THE WEEKEND OFF
THE NEW UNION WAY!!

BUY 2 WKD'S OR 2 CORONA'S AND GET A
FREE SHOT* FREE POOL 21:00 - 23:00

SATURDAY

SAUCY SATURDAY
WITH MISS
BUBBLES LA BELLE

THE NEW UNION

HUDDERSFIELD

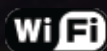
3 UNION BANK, HD1 2BP 01484 535 435



ALL GAGA AT THE VIADUCT

Yes it has finally happened. Leeds' top showbar has finally gone GaGa. It was bound to come about, all those boys dressed as girls, all those girls dressed as boys and that overwhelming delight in making people stop and stare has finally taken its toll. So, the 'Big Sunday Night' show... and for one night only... Lois Page's Lady GaGa tribute show, a powerful and provocative modern performance makes its city debut. Lois has the Image, vocal style and excellent stage presence of the very quirky and extraordinary 'Lady GaGa'. She brings to life a fantastic tribute to the iconic star, including her recent hits Just Dance, Poker Face, Paparazzi and Love Game. This high energy tribute show is an eye popping, jaw dropping 60 minute performance, which will never fail to impress.

Join the clan on GaGa day at the Viaduct on Sunday 25th April - frock up, join in and have a memorable night out .



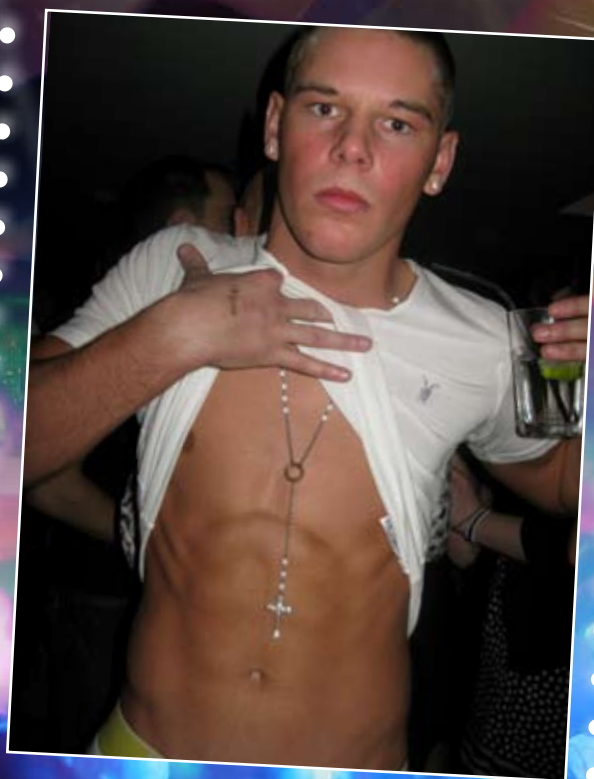
Kandyfloss

Kandyfloss is the new Monday night pre HOMO party with music from 8:30pm till late & drinks from just £1! DJ Jonny & DJ Timmy will be selecting the songs playing you hot new tracks, Kandy pop & your requests!

Don't forget, Fosters is just £1.50, House Doubles are just £2 & Delicious shots are just £1!!

It's free in all night and then you just take a few small steps to HOMO at our sister venue Mission2 right next door!

See you Monday for more Kandyfloss!



the VIADUCT SHOWBAR

BIG SUNDAY NIGHTS

SUNDAY 4TH APRIL WITH
LIZZY DRIP
Drag Comedy Show

INTERNATIONAL DRAG ARTISTS
& TRIBUTE ACTS!

SUNDAY 25TH
APRIL WITH

LADY GAGA A-LIKE
An explosive tribute to Lady Gaga!

MONDAYS

Big beats, camp pop & dance

From 8pm till late

with DJ's Timmy & Jonny Boy

Kandyfloss

NEW Pre-Homo Party

Fosters £1.50 a Pint All House Doubles £2

Shooters just £1

TUESDAYS

KARAOKE NIGHT

(FIRST TWO TUESDAYS OF EVERY MONTH)

WEDNESDAYS

MOVIE NIGHT

THURSDAYS

DJ TIMMY ON THE DECKS

FRIDAYS

**COLLAR 'N' CUFFS CABARET WITH
ANNA GLYPTA AND ANJA BACH**

SATURDAYS

**DRAG DJ ANNA GLYPTA &
DRAG ARTIST ANJA BACH'S
SATURDAY SOLO SHOW!**

SUNDAYS DJ TIMMY ON THE DECKS

AWARD WINNING

83

BEST BAR NONE
BEST OVERALL WINNER
BEST PUB

WE NOW HAVE FREE Wi-Fi FACILITY FOR ALL OUR CUSTOMERS
THE VIADUCT | LOWER BRIGGATE | LEEDS | LS1 4AE TEL: 0113 391 2741 VIADUCTLEEDSFACEBOOK

facebook



THE COURTYARD PARTIES 2010

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

With summer just around the corner, and to drag off all those winter blues, there's no better way of having some alfresco fun than hot-footing it Fibre and Queens Court in Leeds as they announce their mighty events, 'The Courtyard Parties'.

Taking place in the courtyard between Fibre and Queens Court, these music and fun extravaganzas have become one of the biggest clubbing institutions in the city every summer with around 2000 people attending each one. Throughout last summer, the place was packed out before the party even started, so the organisers have decided to start the proceedings earlier this year at 2pm right through until midnight.

This year's launch date is on Easter Sunday 4th April and will be the official pre-party to the Federation in Wonderland 'Mad Hatters Tea Party' so you are encouraged to wear your mad hats and outrageous Easter bonnets throughout the day. DJ's include residents from both Fibre and Queens Court (Stuart Robinson, Christian Appleby, John Marshall, Smith n Western, Josh Domello & Nicki Myers) and you can expect massive production provided by the same technical team as Federation. The admission price is just £3 if you head down before 7pm or £5 after... so what you waiting for, get those shorts and vests at the ready!

The Courtyard Parties 2010 @ Fibre & Queens Court, Leeds LS1



THE COURTYARD

P A R T I E S

Fibre

QUEENS COURT

LOWER BRIGGATE LEEDS



**ALL DRINKS
£2.50!
SHOTS £1!
FROM 2PM - 4PM
From both
Queens Court
& Bar Fibre**

EASTER BANK HOLIDAY

SUNDAY 4TH APRIL

OPENING PARTY

SUNDAY 2ND MAY

BANK HOLIDAY

SUNDAY 30TH MAY

BANK HOLIDAY

SUNDAY 27TH JUNE // SUNDAY 25TH JULY // SUNDAY 29TH AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY // SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER CLOSING PARTY

NOW OPEN FROM 2PM UNTIL MIDNIGHT // WWW.BARFIBRE.COM // WWW.QUEENSCOURTLEEDS.COM // £3 B4 7PM // £5 AFTER

**QUEENS COURT & BAR FIBRE
COURTYARD LEEDS**



FIT FOR ALL QUEENS

Queens Court has always been a friendly bar with customers and staff alike making for an enjoyable atmosphere. After the much lauded re-vamp some wondered if things would be the same and we're glad to report... it has all got better. Well established as one of the top destinations on the Leeds Gay map out of town visitors are always keen to see what QC has lined up.. Not only does it have some of the best nights out with a DJ every night of the week in the bar, it also serves the best food from its extensive menu every day from mid-day until 9pm and not forgetting the traditional Sunday Roast... on Sunday.

The drinks offers are also something to shout about with Happy Hour everyday between 5pm-8pm where all drinks are discounted from as much as half price.

Every Monday and Thursday the drinks are from as little as £1 from 8pm-4am.

Monday you have Miss Orry and Marky Mark playing the hottest tunes around.

Thursday you have Miss Orry and Amanda Hammond playing the music while our very own Chelsea hosts the evening adding her stamp onto proceedings until 4am.

Friday and Saturday the Bar plays host to dj Darren Sellers and Glen Battensby.

In our club The Loft each Friday it's just £2 door tax and all drinks are £2 each from mid-night till 5am. Saturday the Loft opens at 10.45pm with all drinks just £2.50 until 5am.



GARLANDS & ANIMALS *garlands*

Liverpool based superclub Garlands visits Mission in Leeds on Thursday 1st April to kick off the Easter weekend with a roar!

Famous for its "anything goes", bright coloured in-your face extravaganzas, Garlands is responsible for throwing one of the busiest parties in Ibiza with its Wednesday night antics at Eden.

Expect a night of clubbing as it should be - with smiles everywhere and only the very best upbeat funky house to make your bank holiday weekend one to be remembered!!

It wouldn't be Garlands without a wild theme (see what we did there?), and this Easter it's all about the zoo - think monkeys hanging from Mission's dark arches, lions at the bar, and penguins doing their make-up in the toilet - it's Garlands, anything goes!

There's no work the next day - no need to call in sick!

If you're working in Ibiza this summer, the Garlands team will be in the building running auditions for promotions staff - its a great opportunity to get yourself noticed before you hit the white isle!!!

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Arena 1 - Wildlife on 1 | Arena 2 - The Really Wild Show |
| Dave Booth | Dale Castell |
| Josh Demello | Luke Pompey |
| David Ryan | Ginna |
| + More TBC! | D & G |
| | Mr X |

And of course, cause most of you animals are nocturnal, we'll be staying open until 8am.



U-POP

THURSDAYS



www.queenscourtleeds.com

£1 Drinks

Double Spirit and mixer £2.50
Thursdays 8pm til 4am

The hottest place to be on Thursdays
with your hostess Chelsea

With Amanda Hammond and Miss
Orry on the decks all night!
£3 B4 11pm and £4 after.. ROAR

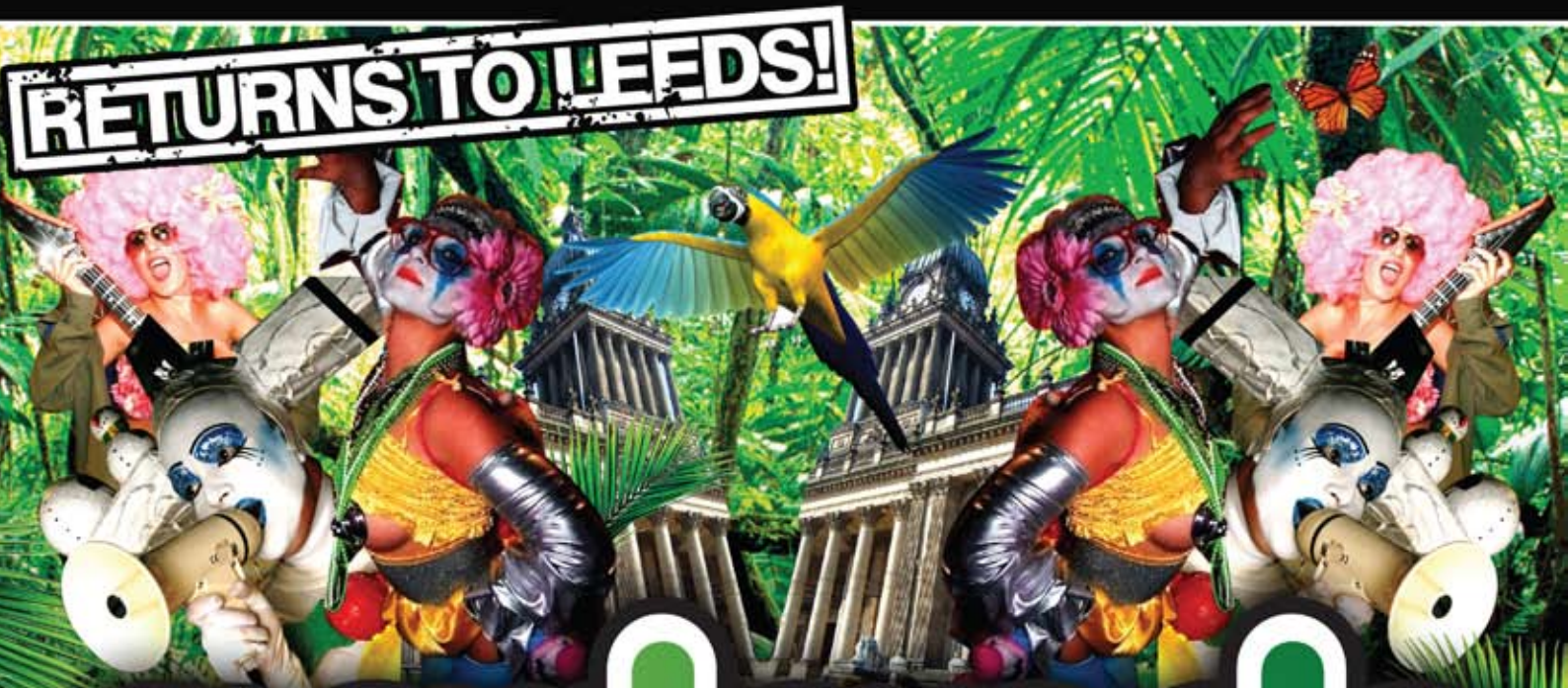
QUEENS COURT

the loft
QUEENS COURT

Queens Court Bar and the Loft Nightclub, 167-168 Lower Briggate, Leeds LS1 6NA Tel: 0113 2459449

IBIZA RECRUITMENT NIGHT - DRESS UP AND STAND OUT!

RETURNS TO LEEDS!



garlands

BED-LAM

MISSION, HEATONS COURT, LEEDS

EASTER THURSDAY 1ST APRIL

DAVE BOOTH, JOSH DEMELLO

DAVID RYAN, DALE CASTELL

LUKE POMPEY, GINNA, D&G

MR X & MORE TBC

£8 EARLY BIRD TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

WWW.SKIDDLE.COM // WWW.TICKETARENA.CO.UK // WWW.TICKETWEB.CO.UK

DRESS CODE:
CHESTER ZOO!


MISSION

SUMMER 2010
garlands EDEN
TUESDAYS IBIZA
WWW.FORREST.COM

OPEN : 10PM UNTIL 8AM | ADMISSION : £8 EARLY BIRD, £10 ADV, MORE ON THE DOOR | MISSION NIGHTCLUB 8-13 HEATONS COURT, LEEDS, LS1 4LJ
WWW.CLUBMISSION.COM | WWW.GARLANDSNIGHTCLUB.COM



CANDYLAND

Summertime has begun and it promises to be a hot one at Candy with weekends crammed with sexy boys and hot girls. Friday is Candyland, with 'beat the budget' drinks starting at £1, giving you a neat shot of DJ Scott Kelly (Homo,Climax) on the second and fourth Friday of the month. Whipping the crowd into a frenzy, Candy Resident DJs, Timmy Tease & Marigold Addams will be providing the ultimate in party night frivolity every Friday and Saturday. At weekends the doors open at 9.30 and you can get free

entry before 10.30. Door tax is a reasonable £3 Fridays & £5 Saturdays with two dance floors spread over Candy giving variety and excitement to your night out and keeping the drinks prices real, shot girls and boys will be on hand to serve their eager customers throughout the night. The spacious outdoor heated smoking area gives another dimension to the venue especially on a summer evening. Bradford's gay scene has never been so good offering the ultimate night out and something for everyone.



Candy is one of Yorkshire's Largest Gay & Straight-Friendly Nightclubs boasting 2 Floors of Music Every Friday & Saturday! Plus: Regular Drinks Promotions, Famous Faces & Guest Performers!

Candy

Nightclub & Show Bar

Fridays

Cheap Drinks All Night!

Selected Shots **£1.00**
Selected Bottles **£1.50**
Available **ALL NIGHT!**

FREE ENTRY* B4 10.30pm, Just £3 After / Open 'til 3am

Saturdays

Featuring Monthly Celebrity Guests!

Shots from **£1.20**
Bottles from **£1.70**
House Doubles **£2.80**
includes mixer

FREE ENTRY* B4 10.30pm, Just £5 After / Open 'til 4am

*excludes some special events

**Sackville Street
Bradford BD1 2AJ**

www.ClubCandy.co.uk

Sonia!

Performing Live Saturday May 1st!



TIME TO BE MISS UNDERSTOOD

Starting from Easter Thursday we launch of our exciting cocktail menu and the chance to 'buy one get one free' while listening to our amazing resident DJ . There is also a charity night in aid of 'Martins House', a hospice for terminally ill children, with the amazing Rose Kelly entertaining.

Good Friday DJ Daz Cruz at the Village and Miss Missy Mincing at the Uber.

Saturday DJ PJ at the Village and Matt Zina at the Uber

The first of the terrace parties looks to be a fantastic weekend with some amazing entertainment planned; fantastic female vocal duo Secrets Out and Yorkshire's outstanding heavyweight drag group Bears Aloud. Also, don't miss - MISS UNDERSTOOD - voted UK's number one Pink tribute act who will be headlining the entire event. Andy Train will be entertaining throughout the day and 'That Blonde Man' will be keeping the decks alive. All this takes place on the Sunday from 3pm so get there early and enjoy a fun-filled day of top class entertainment.

Membership Club has launched and has done very well with hundreds of members in the first week, already the first members have been awarded their weekly prize draw. The benefits to being a privilege member; from cheaper drinks, free cloak room, member's keying, Q-Jump and lots more, being in this group is obviously the group to belong to. Simply fill out an application at the club and hand it in to the team.

The Village appears to be going from strength to strength and things just look to be getting better. A new stage is being built in the terrace for entertainment and, when the sun is shining, BBQs are planned.

Keep on checking Bar Uber and Village face book pages for future events

Happy Easter to all





UBER VILLAGE

BANK HOLIDAY SPECIAL



THE UBER

CHARITY NIGHT IN AID OF MARTIN HOUSE CHILDRENS CHARITY
FEATURING **ROSE KELLY**
CABERET + DJ + LOTS MORE

THURSDAY

SPECIAL GUEST DJ
£1.00 = SHOTS
£1.50 = BOTTLES
£2.00 = DRAUGHT

the village

FREE ENTRY WITH TICKET

THE UBER

DRAG CABARET

FREE SHOT CARD WITH TICKET

FRIDAY



DJ DAZ CRUZ
COCKTAIL LAUNCH
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

the village

FREE ENTRY +

THE UBER

DJ MATT ZINA

FREE SHOT CARD
EASTER RAFFLE DRAW

SATURDAY



PJ THE DJ
SAM SOLACE

the village

LIVE PA
PERFORMING HALLELUJAH

£1 - SHOT £1.50 - BOTTLE £2 - DRAUGHT

TERRACE

PARTY

ALL DAY SUNDAY FROM 3PM

ANDY TRAIN (HULL PRIDE / EDINBURGH FILM FESTIVAL)

*** MISS UNDERSTOOD**

ENTERTAINMENTS

- * BEARS ALOUD**
- * ANDY TRAIN**
- * THAT BLONDE MAN (DJ)**
- * SECRETS OUT (VOCAL DUO)**

(UK NO1 PINK TRIBUTE)
PERFORMED IN FRONT OF
40,000 PEOPLE AT THE
CARDIFF MARDI GRAS



£7

ALL INCLUSIVE TICKET FOR THE WEEKEND INCLUDES ALL DRINKS PROMOS AND SUNDAY RAFFLE FOR A 19" TV/DVD 10 FREE SHOTS WITH PER TICKET

THE VILLAGE, 11-17 BARRY STREET, BRADFORD, WEST YORKSHIRE. BD1 2AL

T: 08456 434340 WWW.THEVILLAGEBRADFORD.COM



PUCKER UP BOYS, HUSTLABALL LONDON RETURNS IN LESS THAN 6 WEEKS!

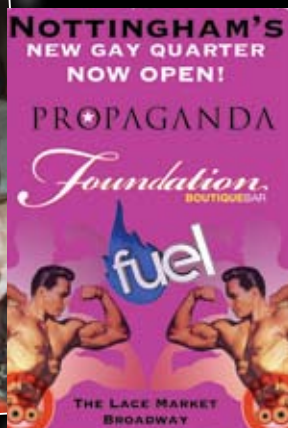
Get ready for another close encounter of the most intimate kind at this unique "sex cabaret" and mega dance party, with some of the biggest names in the porn and dance industry. After ten years of notorious events in New York City, Berlin, Las Vegas, San Francisco and Los Angeles, HustlaBall will hit U.K. shores in May, injecting London with a heady mix of super decadence and glamour.

The list of participating porn studios is endless, with huge names such as Alphamale Media, XXXAmateurHour.com, Bel-Ami, Titan Media and Chi Chi LaRue bringing pornstars over for the party.

As well as the porn stars, HustlaBall's legendary mix of sex and cutting edge music serves up a night which will appeal to everyone from vanilla disco bunnies to the downright debauched and insatiable. A roster of DJs will be rotated throughout the club, with light-and-sound installations and kink-themed rooms offering aural, visual, and sensual surprises on multiple levels of the venue.

HustlaBall London @ Renaissance Rooms, Vauxhall
Sunday 2nd May

www.hustlaball.com



FUELLING THE NOTTINGHAM SCENE

Nottingham's thriving new Gay Quarter 'The Lace Market' on Broadway began with the opening of Propaganda Bar in 2009. The icy cool bar has led the way with drinks promotions & entertainment and has raised the standard of gay bars in the City.

In April of this year Propaganda was joined by Foundation - Nottingham's first Boutique Gay Bar. It was another huge step in the right direction towards making The Lace Market Nottingham's new Gay Quarter.

The latest piece in the Lace Market jigsaw is Fuel Night Club. A two floored extravaganza! With Pop to Electro, there is something for everyone.

On Wednesdays' all 3 venues present 'pounded' - £1 Drinks across 3 venues making it the cities biggest Wednesday night out!

With three exciting venues now open flourishing and The Lace Market is now really offering Nottingham the choice and the variety that the scene deserves.

www.propagandanottingham.co.uk

rentboy.com

and ALEX ERFAN
present



Hustlaball

LONDON 2010

BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY, 2 MAY

RENAISSANCE ROOMS, VAUXHALL LONDON
50 PORNSTARS AND PERFORMERS | 10 WORLD-CLASS DJs

→ WWW.HUSTLABALL.COM ←

www.
MANHUNT.net

rentboy.com

ALEXERFAN.COM

THE QUEER BALL PARTY

The first enthusiastic guests at this year's Queer Ball Launch Party in Edinburgh arrived in the spirit of things dressed in kilts, dinner suits and bow ties, stunning ball gowns, fancy dress, and smart jeans and t-shirts.

The new look Assembly Rooms foyer greeted them with the red carpet rolled out specially, a pink and black heart bejewelled floral display on reception and the Queer Ball logo flitting across the walls.

It was then upstairs to the main event of DJ Trendy Wendy in the Pink Ballroom, and the Shoogle Sisters Ceilidh Band in the Music Hall, with the Love Booth and the LGBT Centre for Health and Wellbeing stall ready to greet everyone in The Crush Hall on arrival.

Champion gay ballroom dancers The Sugar Dandies glided beautifully, gracefully and elegantly across the dance floor and later Diaquiri Dusk recited her cheeky Scots Lass poem before launching into a saucy stripped tease Highland Fling. The local 18 strong Gay Gordon's dance troupe then marched onto the floor to show off their new routine including Strip the Willow to much clapping, applause and the audience joining in with their own version.

The Queer Ball Launch Party was organised by Queer Events on behalf of LGBT Centre for Health and Wellbeing as part of a bi-annual charity fundraising event. The event was made possible by a team of volunteers who organised, set-up and ran the event on the night. The next ball is planned for October 2010 so get the date in the diary, get your kilt pressed and ready and don't forget to get your tickets early and see you all there!



HUNKY



CHAT TO 100'S OF HUNKY LADS



NATIONAL CHAT

**08712
207 590**

**SCOTLAND
08712 207 591**

**NORTHERN ENGLAND
& IRELAND
08712 207 592**

**SOUTH WEST, WALES &
MIDLANDS
08712 207 593**

**LONDON & THE SOUTH EAST
08712 207 594**

Over 18's only. Calls cost 10p per minute. Mobile charges may vary. Customer Service Helpline: 0844 243 0071. Service provided by All Points North Publications.



**MAN
— 2 —
MAN
chat**

**08712
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033**

10p per min

Over 18's only. Calls cost 10p per minute. Mobile charges may vary. Customer Service Helpline: 0844 243 0071. Service provided by All Points North Publications.



Getting down to business

By Les Lea

To say I was nervous would be an understatement... a huge understatement.

I had seen his advert in the back pages of a gay free sheet a couple of months earlier and it had taken me all that time to pluck up the courage to call his number. The advert simply said "Massage Given - Men Only - reasonable rates - call" and a mobile number and that was it. I knew what he was offering and in all truth I was getting desperate. In the village where I lived there was no gay life that I knew of, although there were rumours about two farmers who worked the high fields, but to me it all seemed like gossip. Not that I hadn't had the odd night-time fumble when I thought about one of those guys. He was ruddy featured, about 30, stocky and just oozed manliness. The summer before I'd seen him driving a tractor in a pair of cut-offs and he'd had an immediate effect on my libido. I suppose it was partly due to him that I was desperate to try something myself. Whether he was gay or not, I knew I was and desperately needed to have contact with another guy. That phone number provided the opportunity I needed, even if it did take a while for me to pluck up the courage to ring it.

I was sweating profusely as I dialled and nearly lost my nerve when a soft,

slightly accented voice said "Hello, Timo speaking, how can I help you?" I stammered an apology in case I'd got the wrong number but asked if he had placed an advert in the paper. His voice became more animated, "Yes, yes, it's so good of you to call." I was taken aback. I don't know why as I had no idea what to expect but he was obviously used to people getting tongue-tied and awkward when they called. "The massage? Yes? That is no problem. We can arrange a time now if you like." He waited for my response but I was still too timid to offer much in response other than a murmured "Mmm" in agreement. Again he took the lead, "If you want to call back when you want to arrange something please do... I shall look forward to it." Suddenly realising he might put the phone down, and me not being too sure I could get up the courage to call again offered, "Friday... erm... Friday evening?" He asked me to hold on a moment while he checked. I assume he was looking in a diary or something, "Yes that looks terrific. Would you like me to come to you... or would you like to visit me?" He told me where he lived and the price and, on Friday, 10 minutes early, I nervously rang his door bell. A young Thai looking man answered the door. He was slim and had a gorgeous smile on his face. He slightly bowed and invited me into a warm living room with yellow and orange furniture and fixtures. The low lighting making the place look both welcoming and oriental and I

**HAVE A NIGHT
IN WITH THE
GUYS**

**TEXT NIGHTIN
TO 89885**

TRUE CONFESSIONS

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think I breathed for the first time since I'd arrived at his door. I got myself comfortable on the offered bed that appeared to be the centrepiece of the room and we chatted a short while. I told him how nervous I was and he smiled and offered reassurance to me. He explained what he did but told me not to worry, he wasn't in any rush and I should relax and enjoy the experience. He stripped me naked and I lay there desperately trying to relax and lose the hard dick that was now digging urgently into the comfortable blanket covered mattress. I watched transfixed as he stripped off down to a tiny pair of white underpants. His ultra-slim hips emphasised a package that looked both cute and impressive on his trim frame and my thoughts went to what it would be like to feel him... He started gently smoothing oil in to my back and his soothing hands and gentle manipulation of my muscle groups made me feel terrific. After a while he asked me to turn over but I felt embarrassed because I was sporting such a stiffy. He told me not to worry. So I scooted over and presented what I had to his gaze and fabulously oily fingers. He teased the rest of my body first before eventually taking my solid throbbing dick in his hands for a slow, gentle but highly sexual wank. My relief was embarrassingly quick.

It was almost instant. That soft, feather-light touch had me shooting my biggest load ever and right into the lovely Timo's face. I tried to apologise but he smiled and said that I had

obviously needed it. He carried on massaging my legs, arms and chest and after a very thorough massage of the rest of my body returned to my semi-hard cock once again. He slipped out of his little briefs and told me he was going to give me a total body-on-body massage. He oiled up his own torso and lay on top of me. He squirmed and wriggled against me and it didn't take long before our two cocks were rubbing up against each other. Christ, this was both intense, erotic and more than what I could have dreamed of. He seemed to sense when I was near to orgasm so he would pull away and concentrate on another part of my physique leaving my cock to throb against my abdomen. Eventually, when he'd got my cock to the hardest I think it had ever been, he wiped off the oil, slipped a condom over it and straddled my hips. No sooner was I inside his tight little bum hole than I came. I hadn't wanted to. I had wanted this first time with somebody to be a slow process, but my inexperience showed as I moaned and let loose at the same time. I hadn't expected the occasion to be so damn sexual but Timo had been a great teacher and moved my sexual experience into another dimension. I was scared and nervous but now I'm aware, happy and in desperate need to experience more. It may have just been a matter of getting down to business for him.... but it was a life-changing experience for me. I did more in the couple of hours with him than I'd ever done in my life before and now... I want more.

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- 01 I banged my pool cue into a lads d**k then rubbed it better (18+)
- 02 I caught my mate w**kin with mi bruv's sweaty footy shorts on his face
- 03 I got a boner watching mi mate playing footy & his filthy dad saw me
- 04 I kissed mi f**k buddy for the first time while he was deep in me!
- 05 I'll take yer full length in mi gob. Hold the back of my neck & force me!
- 06 I grabbed the w**k mag off the str8 scally and grabbed his c**k (18+)
- 07 I w**ked off a scally thug to stop him from deckin me
- 08 Lads get well horny playing strip snooker in the crowded pub (18+)
- 09 Hard hung lads let you carry on slamming after you have c**m (18+)
- 10 I luv mi bird to bits but I luv having sex with guys, love to get f**ked!
- 11 My mate took me in from the rain & pulled my wet trackies off (18+)
- 12 Me & my bezzie mate had fun while his bird watched. She loved it!
- 13 Mi sleeping mates boner was up against my arse (18+)
- 14 Me & you get our boners out in the sauna and have some hot fun
- 15 Naked college boy w**king on the top of his desk for sir (18+)
- 16 Newsagent gets a shock when a naked 18 y/o walks in to get papers
- 17 Old man & teenage lad rub their c**ks together till they cum (18+)
- 18 I'm a slender teen and I'll try my new swimming trunks on for you (18+)
- 19 Rude scally lad loves c**k. He'd love to get down on his knees (18+)
- 20 Lads swapping their speedos in the local baths (18+)
- 21 Nasty scally lad gets his 7 inch cock out on the bus & gets blowy (18+)
- 22 18 year old chav guy gets his sweaty boner out of the crowded train.
- 23 Scally pissed in a bottle & poured it over his sleepin mates d**k!
- 24 Fit f**king scally lad strips off in the off license (18+)
- 25 Sir got mi mums boyfriend to spank my ass at college (18+)
- 26 I love skinny lads with big fat c**ks (18+)
- 27 Slender bloke with donkey d**k loves whipping his c**k out in public!
- 28 Wet tongue under a guys stinky foreskin for a sweaty cheesy taste!
- 29 I love sucking lads big d**ks n getting my lips round it!
- 30 Sweet hoody points hit rock hard c**k at me in the urinals! (18+)
- 31 Teach me what you want to do with my sweet c**k
- 32 Hot teenage lad will lick your tight arse (18+)
- 33 Shop boy loves going commando at work (18+)
- 34 I love the feel of a lguys smooth shaved c**k & balls
- 35 Was watchin my mate play footy when his dad made a move on me.
- 36 I let two blokes watch me get a boner at the urinals
- 37 Hottest thing I ever saw was two guys pissin down an alley
- 38 Mate, you're my fantasy f**k & I'll tell you everything I wanna do to you
- 39 Rude boy gets his c**k out for a w**k on the bus. (18+)
- 40 Mate get yer hand up the leg of mi footy shorts
- 41 Wrestling with my fit mate gets me c**k rock hard
- 42 Oh yeah! Love a young guys d**k deep in my throat
- 43 Dirty old man fiddled with 18 year old lads hard d**k.
- 44 The Dr pulled my pants down to see my hard c**k
- 45 Uniform off to reveal his hot body and big d**k & balls.
- 46 Oh yeah! It feels good to have it sucked
- 47 After the footy game antics....
- 48 Your hand up the leg of footy shorts

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Find more out about Simon or message him your problems at www.myspace.com/simonsavidge

SIMON SAYS...



Dear Simon,
My best friend is driving me insane ever since he met his latest boyfriend. Everything is a drama and I get phone calls, emails and texts almost daily filled with worry about how the relationship is going, how he might not have had a text for a whole day and should he do this or should he do that? The thing is he has only been dating this guy for about three weeks and it's the only subject of conversation. What do I do, I want to be a friend but at the same time I want to be able to talk about normal things.

Paul, London

Dear Paul

It sounds like your friend is quite insecure and, who isn't at the start of the relationship? Contacting you about not being texted is slightly obsessive but the best thing you can do is firstly be there for him as you are mates, secondly just try and change the conversation after three minutes each time he starts obsessing over it all. If he doesn't stop then maybe just ask if you can change the subject. It is early in the relationship to be obsessing over these things but all relationships go at different paces, so maybe it will even out soon.

Dear Simon

I have a friend who has moved into my flat. I originally agreed to two weeks for free (which my other friends thought was mad) it has now been four weeks and, though I have mentioned that he should really be contributing towards the rent, he isn't. Mind you this guy can't even seem to buy milk, toilet roll or really anything to share and keeps eating the food that I cook when I get home, or hinting I should cook for him. It is leaving me out of pocket as well as questioning just what sort of a friend he is. What should I do? I should mention he is looking at flats.

David, Edinburgh

Dear David

This is one of the pesky things that can happen from time to time and

just shows what different people we all are. I know many people who have been in both situation, but the common practise seems to be that the person staying contributes some money a week for bills and communal items, and maybe a bit extra just as common courtesy. It does sound a little like your friend is slightly abusing the situation and I think a sit down and a chat is the only way forward, it's your house after all. You're not his slave so tell him to get his finger out... or get out.

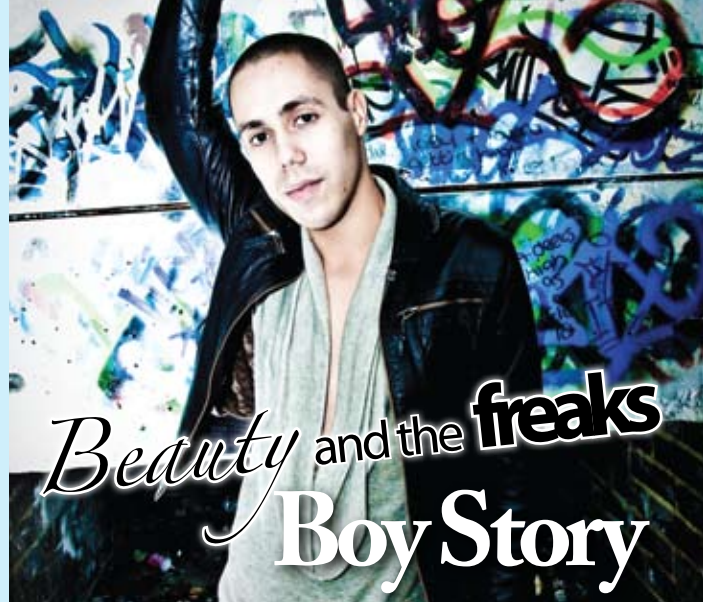
Dear Simon

I don't know what to do about one of my friends. Whenever he meets a man he vanishes. You won't hear from him for weeks, maybe months at a time and yet sure enough when the relationship breaks down he is on the phone within a day or two. It's getting quite predictable and I don't think or friendship will ever be what it once was. The thing is do I tell him or the next time he vanishes and then calls after a few months simply stop answering them?

Ryan, Leeds

Dear Ryan,

I think we are all guilty of having gone quiet on friends and wrapping ourselves in the world of a new love almost to the point of excluding others, sometimes you just can't help it when you are smitten. I think the normal time this is allowed to happen is maybe two months max, after that it's just rude! It's also not on to just phone everyone you haven't spoken to for months because you're single. Maybe once in the history of our love lives this is acceptable... in this case the regularity begs the question of what he wants friends for? Just as cushions for comfort when things go wrong? It sounds like you have had enough and maybe telling him how you feel is the way forward, what have you too loose?



People think men are complicated. Even men think other men are complicated. Let me let you in on a little secret: men aren't complicated at all. Men are really rather simple.

So he doesn't call you back? Then he's not interested. Or maybe he does call you back, but only once in a blue moon? Then you're a booty call. A fuck buddy.

If a guy's interested, you'll know.

If you want to survive the dating world, here are my simple rules to getting what you want and wanting what you get.

Be honest

If you just want a shag, make it abundantly clear. True, when your first words to him are 'Are you top or bottom?' it might seem obvious—but some guys really are dumb. Or maybe just naïve. But if you're honest, they'll likely shag you anyway and if they do get all clingy, it's their fault not yours. If you're not honest and you promise to meet them for a romantic dinner (which you watch as he calls the restaurant and books) but don't, you can hardly be surprised when he rings you calling you a bastard.

Don't be afraid to ask

If you're into something kinky, don't be afraid to ask. In all likelihood, they'll respect your honesty even if they're not game. But if you phrase it the right way, with a cheeky smile and a knowing wink, they might give it a go anyway just for the fun of it.

Be respectful

Even if they're the worst shag in the world, or even if they were a one-off, you had a private moment together. Sex is highly personal and whilst sharing it with your friends (or readers) is fine, it shouldn't be used as a tool to humiliate or hurt someone. If they have a really small cock, only your best friends should ever hear that—and only then on the express promise they keep it a secret.

Don't be too easy or too difficult

If you're too available, he'll get bored very

quickly. Just because you've been together a week, it doesn't mean you'll get married. Whilst it can be very easy to get carried away with the excitement and fantasy, remember you live in the real world.

Conversely, don't be too contrary. Mess someone about on purpose and they will get wise and they will move on. Keeping your cool is not the same as playing mind games. Even if the other person doesn't get sick of you, any relationship that results will be flawed because you've already established an unequal power dynamic. The result is that whether you like them or not at the beginning, you'll soon begin to despise them for putting up with your shit. Love isn't special when it's given willy-nilly. You won't respect them unless you feel their love is genuine and that they're with you by choice, not because they're codependent.

Be open-minded

Love might not look like you thought it would, but that's no reason to be scared. We only see the Clinton's Cards version of love—but there are as many different types of love out there as there are people. Every relationship is unique. Compromise is overrated in some respects: you need to compromise on when you have dinner and where you go shopping, but you needn't compromise on your morals, beliefs and lifestyle. Anyone who loves you will love you because of (or in spite of) those things. Just be willing to come at things with an open mind, which is far more important. Be willing to try new things, but don't be afraid to say no if you're uncomfortable. Accept that people are different and may have conflicting ideas, but if they love you they'll respect you anyway.

If you look at life as a game and love as play, it all becomes a lot less serious and as a result much more fulfilling.

Beoncé

U+, THT's lifestyle magazine for gay men living with HIV is back in 2010 with a fresh, new look. The latest edition looks at some of the things men can do to stay well like starting to get fit and eating right.

It also includes interviews with two HIV positive men who talk frankly about their experiences, how they're getting on and how they've dealt with the challenges that living with HIV can sometimes bring. U+ also focuses on treatment options and hears from three men – one diagnosed with HIV in 1984, one in 2001 and one in 2003 – to find out what HIV meant to them when they were first diagnosed and what their medication options have been since.

In addition to real-life interviews, the magazine is packed with features on diet

and exercise along with practical advice on how men can improve their health without succumbing to faddy diets or detox regimes. Guest columnists include Anna Denny, nutritionist at The Food Chain, who gives tips on eating well. There's also useful information on the increased risks associated for positive men who smoke, and much more.

Single copies are available. To get hold of your free copy contact Stephen Adair, on 0207 812 1783 or email stephen.adair@ttht.org.uk

U+ magazine is published as part of the CHAPS national partnership programme – a partnership of community-based organisations, co-ordinated by Terrence Higgins Trust, delivering HIV prevention and sexual health initiatives to gay men and bisexual men in England & Wales.



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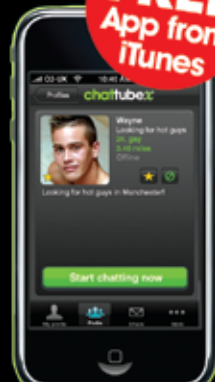


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ARIES (Mar21/Apr20)

You might expect a generous sprinkling of fortunate breaks over the weeks ahead. If you're single, April will be a month you will enjoy because there is every chance of romance becoming a big part of your life. From a social point of view expect to be in demand and even more popular than ever. As you get drawn into new friendships and new situations be sure to stay loyal to old friends. Prepare yourself for a high level of action in your workplace towards the end of April.



CELEBRITY PICES

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 21/03 Matthew Broderick | 04/04 Robert Downey Jr. |
| 22/03 Andrew Lloyd Webber | 05/04 Bette Davis |
| 23/03 Chaka Khan | 06/04 Zach Braff |
| 24/03 Steve McQueen | 07/04 Russell Crowe |
| 25/03 Elton John | 08/04 Julian Lennon |
| 26/03 Diana Ross | 09/04 Rachel Stevens |
| 27/03 Mariah Carey | 10/04 Haley Joel Osment |
| 28/03 Vince Vaughan | 11/04 Joss Stone |
| 29/03 Lucy Lawless | 12/04 Claire Danes |
| 30/03 Celine Dion | 13/04 Al Green |
| 31/03 Ewan McGregor | 14/04 Sarah Michelle Gellar |
| 01/04 Debby Reynolds | 15/04 Emma Thompson |
| 02/04 Alec Guinness | 16/04 Charles Chaplin |
| 03/04 Eddie Murphy | 17/04 Victoria Beckham |
| | 18/04 Melissa Joan Hart |
| | 19/04 Hayden Christensen |
| | 20/04 Adolf Hitler |

TAURUS (Apr21/May21)

Don't be too stubborn over the weeks ahead; it is essential to find compromises within a close relationship. Let others see you are willing to at least consider the changes they're suggesting and to go along with their ideas and plans. It might seem at first as if you are being asked to give more than you are receiving in return. By the end of the month you will be left in no doubt that making adjustments to please your loved ones will have been emotionally rewarding.

GEMINI (May22/June21)

There will be changes in your lifestyle over the weeks to come and these will bring benefits your way. It will be easier now to make time for fun and romance. Friends are keen to spend time with you and the results will be an unusually busy and sociable episode. If you're closely linked to one special person you will happily put some time regularly aside in order to focus exclusively on keeping them happy!

CANCER (June22/July23)

An ambition you are determined to see fulfilled over the months ahead will take priority now. After doing some research it may turn out that you will have to spend a little cash to get onto the path you are aiming for. Rest assured the investment will be worth any minor inconvenience it causes now. Friends are in a helpful and supportive mood and there will be ample opportunity these next few weeks to enjoy some intimate romantic moments with your lover.

LEO (July24/Aug23)

In money and legal transactions over the next few weeks, go out of your way to encourage others to be open and honest with you. In work, too, you will discover colleagues are extra willing to be open about their thoughts. They're also keen to listen to what you have to say. Progress will be made because of your willingness to attack your work with zeal and enthusiasm. The only thing you must be careful about throughout April is your health. A change of scene will be emotionally uplifting.

VIRGO (Aug24/Sept23)

Expect this to be a good phase, money-wise. You might receive some out-of-the-blue cash but your hopes lie more in the earnings area. You might come across a few bargains in an auction or flea-market and sell them for a cheering profit. Or you might need cash for a special purpose and there should be no trouble arranging a loan. In romance, you and your partner need to continuously communicate loving energy through touch and loving gestures. In other words it's a great time to get physical with each other!

LIBRA (Sept24/Oct23)

Good organisation is something to aim for over the weeks ahead. Be sure not to let a friend's fun-loving mood distract you from your goals. Think about the need to use your time, talents

and energy wisely if you want to make a success of current efforts. You will also be surprised at the difference it makes to your happiness and satisfaction if you combine forces with those who share similar intentions. Out of this some strong relationships will develop.

SCORPIO (Oct24/Nov23)

A proposal submitted some time ago that was temporarily shelved will soon come up for another scrutiny. Others expect you to get involved and this may mean an increase in workload over the weeks ahead. By mutual consent you and your partner might pull out of social plans in order to spend more time with each other. This is an excellent time for seeking solutions to joint matters that have recently made you feel uneasy or unsettled.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov23/Dec21)

A glamorous newcomer to your world might tempt you to break plans already made for the weeks ahead. You will be tempted by those who offer spur of the moment treats or outings but think about how this might let other people down. There's no reason why you can't accept these invitations, but for another time. Someone who lives abroad might contact you or make a surprise appearance this month and you might succeed in cajoling a feebly-protesting partner that it is time to book a holiday.

CAPRICORN (Dec22/Jan20)

Home security will be important to you over the weeks ahead. It is possible too; that the security you long for will be linked to another person. You might be seriously thinking about moving in with your lover. If there are question marks lurking in your mind, ask plenty questions. Once you discuss joint long-term plans in full, you will feel happier about the situation and more certain of what your decisions are going to be.

AQUARIUS (Jan21/Feb19)

With so much going on in your local community and possible new associations being made on the internet, there is scant chance of you feeling bored over the weeks ahead! A friend or colleague will be glad of your help when they get themselves into a tricky situation. Their predicament could have annoyed you if it wasn't also so amusing. Your partner will soon receive some pleasing news that leads to you both indulging in a private celebration.

PISCES (Feb20/Mar20)

Keep a close eye on your spending these next few weeks. Don't allow a moment's carelessness leave you out of pocket. Your long-term prospects are looking brighter as long as you make decisions based on facts and not possibilities. You and your partner might be making some unusual plans for the future that are so private that very few people will get to hear about these. A career achievement will boost your prestige.



COMPETITION TIME

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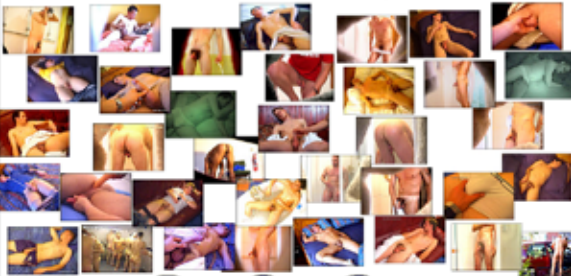
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