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ZAC EFRON HIGH SCHOOL HOTTIE

SAND, SEA AND SEXY SWIMWEAR

DARREN HAYES NOT TOO DELICATE

Sec. 27

MARIANNE FAITHFULL STILL AN ICON

GOSSIP WHATZON INTERVIEWS COMPETITIONS REVIEWS CLASSIFIEDS

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Marianne Faithfull Page 11



EDITOR'S WORDS

Is this the breakthrough that the gay community has been waiting for? Is this the final sign from heaven that homophobia has been eliminated from earth? Well maybe not but it is the best news in an otherwise depressing forecast.

Why all the hullabaloo?



The headline said: 'Gay couple voted top totty' and then went on to say. 'Two Hollyoaks hunks, Craig Dean and John-Paul McQueen, top of the sexiest soap couple poll. On-screen gay couple Craig & John-Paul (played by Guy Burnet and James Sutton respectively) have won over the hearts and loins of viewers and beaten off stiff competition from some of the nation's favourite soap pairings. The unlikely duo, and only gay couple to be short-listed, triumphed with a landslide victory taking over 46 per cent of the votes. Second place goes to Coronation Street's Liam Connor and Carla Gordon with 13 per cent of the votes, and third place is secured by tempestuous East End lovers, Sean and Roxy Slater (8 per cent). www.virginmedia.com/sexiestsoapcouples

I know this poll wont get the bells ringing from churches and cathedrals across the country but you have to admit, this is pretty positive in an otherwise barren and negative time. I know I'm grabbing at straws because in the same week, dear old David Beckham had to endure homophobic shouts of abuse from some of Spain's fans as a 'friendly' was played in that country. I gather the reason for this name calling was because a photo was published of Becks getting his arse squeezed in celebration by a team

mate after he'd scored. When asked about the 'affectionate' incident Becks smiled at camera and said "What can I say... he likes me." Happily, this kind of response is typical of the man but it must also frustrate the hell out of the homophobic sports iournalists and football managers, that the most famous sports person in the world isn't disgusted by



the gay debate. How galling that their spiteful gibes and insipid insinuations are so easily brushed off by a talented athlete who has the world's ear. How they wish they could get Beckham to go negative on the subject and pretend that their sport couldn't possibly have homos playing and enjoying it. Well, tough shit you lot, Becks is still one of the best adverts for gays everywhere even if the man himself isn't of our persuasion.



In a recent survey by a popular brand of aftershave 84% of those who responded said that they had performed sexual acts in the shower. The other 16% said that they hadn't been in prison yet



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milke. THINGS

IN A YEAR THAT WILL NO DOUBT BE FLOODED WITH INSTANTLY FORGETTABLE HAIRCUT BANDS, MILKE'S ART POP WILL CEMENT THE EARLY TASTEMAKER BUZZ THAT GREETED THEM AT THE END OF 2008.



Milke's songwriting, melodies, and production will see their songs move from blogs to radio with ease. Limited debut single 'She Says' received heavy support from Annie Mac, Pete Tong, XFM, Ed Banger DJs, and beyond. New single, 'Love Get Out Of My Way', mines the same rich vein.

Milke are inspired by the third French wave of Kitsune artists, electro pop, Stuart Price and The DFA, mixed with the pop sensibilities of Eurythmics, The Cure, Talking Heads, Stevie Wonder and Prince. With a KLF approach to creativity (minus the sheep slaying), Milke sing about displacement, mental illness, love and love-lost, obsession and sex. This release comes out on Friendly's label, Gulp, home of Joe and Will Ask, and New York scream/rap/pop act Black Peter Group.

The duo comprises Andrew Friendly (music) and Ra (vocal, lyrics). Under the producer/DJ moniker of Friendly, Andrew has released acclaimed albums and numerous club tracks including 'The Bump and Grind' and '2Black2Gay'. He's also remixed Justice, We Have Band, The Rivers, INXS, and many more. When performing live, Milke expand to a four piece (Ra on vocals and guitar, Andrew on keyboards and backing vocals, Luke on drums, and Dave on bass).

Andrew says: "The artwork is done by our friend Anthony Goicolea, who's a famous gay NY artist. We just loved the drawing, and he kindly said we could use it. It's love in a pure form, regardless of gender. It really resonates with the song and art is central to what we do. We're an East London duo. Here it's not so much about gay or straight (or black or white or Asian), it's all just mixed up together, and everyone parties, creates and hangs out together. We do play gay venues, and straight ones, and loads of mixed ones. Our lyrics relate to getting head, but not so much giving it. And falling in love, getting cheated on, monogamy, breaking up, falling in love again too quickly, and drowning rats to the soundtrack of Chic. So all themes which can be gay or not. Though listening to Chic is pretty gay."

'Love Get Out Of My Way' (out 16th March on GULP) is a taster of Milke's debut album, due for release later this year.

www.myspace.com/milkeme

1. Greet your mum with a kiss... then announce that you can taste spunk on her lips.

> 2. Point at complete strangers in the street and announce loudly

boyfriend's parents that their son "Takes it up the arse like a good un"

4. Wear skid marked undies when you're hoping to score.

5. Tell people you have the 'dick of death' as a euphemism that you have syphilis.

6. Wear your old uniform to school reunions.

7. Text "They all know" to everyone on your mobile... someone will commit suicide.

8. Wear rubber underwear if you're wanting a quick shag.

9. Have a cartoon character as a tattoo.



10. Holiday in **Bridlington unless** you're over 60.

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CITIES AND DATES



Ь



Isabel Catherine Bernadette O'Brien.

•Real Name; Mary

Born into an Irish catholic family in West Hampstead, London on 16th April 1939. •According to various sources it was her mother who nicknamed her Dusty as she was always a bit of a tomboy

and constantly getting into scrapes. •Of the female artists of the 1960's British Invasion, Where remare an uses on the 1900's university investories of the U.S. market syningfield made the biggest impression on the U.S. market where, over a seven year period, she scored 18 singles in

•Her dashing, glamorous image was supported by a ner uashing, yanuruus inaye was supported by a peroxide blonde beehive hairstyle, heavy use of eyeliner, the Billboard Hot 100. and luscious evening gowns. Depending on the and inscious evening yowns, bepending on the requirements of the song, she could be pop diva, soul

It wasn't widely known that although she could not siren or rock n' roll queen. read or write music, she produced some of her own

records but remained un-credited. •She was a perfectionist and it was often in the studios, when she couldn't make others understand what or how she wanted a piece of music to be played, that she was thought to be difficult. The

She was in the vanguard to bring acts to the UK of •Sile was in the vanguard to bring acts to the orton the then little know Motown record label... going 'diva' was born. so far as to devise and introduce a special TV music programme to feature them back in 1965 In 1970, Dusty told the a British newspaper" A many times that I've almost learned to accept itiany unites that i ve annost learned to accept it..... know I'm perfectly as capable of being swayed by a girl as by a boy. More and more people feel that way and I don't see why I

Later she stated that she had enjoyed relationships with both men and women shouldn't. relationships with both then and women and "liked it". But after this comment she rarely spoke in public as that was all interviewers seemed interested in. •Her career had a brief resurgence when Tarantino used her version of Son of a Preacher Man in the blockbusting Pulp Fiction... and her later collaborations with the Pet Shop Boys produced more with the ret show your end of the noise to hits and introduced her unique voice to

entirely new generation. •She battled with drugs and alcohol abuse for many years but found solace in her love of her pet cats. •She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1995 and died in March

1999.

Mr. Gay Ireland, Max Krzyzanowski, becomes Mr. Gay World 2009 in front of a sold-out audience

at the grand finale in Whistler, Canada. The hunky Dubliner won the Mr. Gay Ireland title in October, but has now gone on to beat 19 contestants from around the globe to take the coveted role. So huge congratulations to Max who works as a security guard and martial arts coach in Dublin. Olympic Gold Medalist Mark Tewksbury hosted this year's extravaganza of showbiz, stars and Speedos in a glitzy ceremony high in the Canadian mountains.

Photo: www.mrgayworld.org



This year's Red Nose Day is on Friday 13th March and is set to go back to its roots; asking people to 'Do Something Funny for Money!' With comedy being hailed as the new rock n roll and with comedians receiving rock god like status among their fans - NOW That's What I Call Comedy is a natural progression. This amazing DVD features a compilation of comedy from some of the greatest comedians of our time; comprising of the funniest shows on TV, hysterical stand-up acts and Comic Relief sketches.

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THE JUSTIN FASHANU ALL-5



Founded by the Justin Campaign against homophobia in football, a unique new team - The Justin Fashanu All-Stars is searching for new players. With a constantly changing line-up, the All-Stars will be open to anyone, regardless of sexuality, who wants to represent the campaign on the football pitch.

On 7th March, the team will be launched at the Justin Campaign Football Festival at Brighton's Jubilee Square. The team's pink and black kit – sponsored by Fatboy Slim himself Norman Cook - will be unveiled at 3pm, a week before the team make their first competitive bow at the Yorkshire Terriers' Fivea-Side tournament in Leeds.

Last year the tournament attracted nearly 30 teams eager to take part and this year looks likely to equal that number. Now in its 9th year, the competition, held over the 14th-15th March, will be at the South Leeds Stadium.

www.terriersfc.org

The premier event in the gay football calendar, the GFSN National Get-together (15th – 17th May) is where all members of the Gay Football Supporters' Network (GFSN), teams in the Gay National League (GNL), and their supporters meet up to play football, eat, drink, shop, attend the GFSN annual general meeting, and share their love of football, whilst experiencing the host city. Dave Kelly, Chairperson of host club Cardiff Dragons FC, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for Cardiff to really show off what it has available to visitors from across the UK. We're a growing city with an inclusive, friendly and lively community, and with a great programme of events for the weekend, we're relishing the chance to give the visiting teams and members the best Get-together ever."

The event also has support from local MP Jenny Willott, Cardiff Central, who added: "I'm delighted to give my support. I know that many LGBTI people enjoy football but perhaps feel too intimidated to join one of the non- LGBTI clubs. You now give them the option of playing a game they love. Go Dragons!"



- Supermarkt
- Corner shop
- Petrol station
- Post Office (if you can find one!)

As the second largest gay dating website in the UK with over 250,000 members, concerns are sometimes expressed by site users over the safety of online membership payments by credit card.

The Ukash voucher system is as easy to use online as cash, but without the need to give confidential card numbers or bank account details. Users of the Ukash system don't need a card or to divulge their financial details. There are no recurring charges or fees and no statements, thus allowing users to maintain full control of your spending. There is no doubt that the Ukash payment system – in essence paying cash on the internet - will set minds at rest concerning internet fraud and identity theft.

ALWAYS FAITHFULL

MARIANNE FAITHFULL WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL ROCH-CHICKS IN THE 1960'S WITH A SUCCESSFUL POP CAREER AND THE LIKES OF THE ROLLING STONES BOTH DESPERATE TO WRITE FOR HER AND GET INTO HER PANTS. SIMON SAVIDGE HAD THE PLEASURE OF CATCHING UP WITH HER TO DISCUSS HER NEW ALBUM, HER INSPIRATIONS AND JUST HOW IT FEELS TO BE AN ICON.

Tell me more about the new album Easy Come, Easy Go?

Well, it's sort of going back to the start a bit. I made an album of other people's songs a while back but last worked on a full album with my producer Hal Willner twenty years ago. We left a huge gap on purpose. In a way it's the album I wanted to make right now as song writing is a delight but a hard process and I needed some time off from all that.

How did you choose which songs to use?

I always go with songs that I love, I mean songs I either wish I had written or have always admired. I had some I knew I wanted to do and Hal brought in some I hadn't considered but think are fantastic. I wanted to do some fabulous songs but bringing in the Marianne Faithfull twist. This album was a trip to make though, so much fun; it wasn't a meeting of minds so much as a meeting of friends.

It is essentially a live album with the songs being done in one take, which goes with your nickname of 'One Take Faithfull'...

(Laughs) That nickname is delightful, not always true but delightful. I don't like long drawn out processes with music. All the long fiddly things are great to hear but can be quite complex to create and this album cut all that out, it's quite raw.

You have some great guests on this album...

Well I love Rufus Wainwright, that concert he did, the Judy Garland one, that was just fabulous, a real treat... plus, I know his family well, he's divine. Sean Lennon and I know each other and I knew his dad from the old days, Jarvis Cocker has been a friend for a while and like me lives in Paris. Oh and Keith Richards is a dear friend and I know him from way back obviously.

It's your 22nd album what inspires you to make more?

Oh darling l couldn't do anything else! You're not one of these people who wants me to retire are you?

Certainly not... should anyone have to retire?

Some people seem to think so. I mean I am aware maybe there is a date when you should stop but why really? I couldn't do anything else and I don't want to really. I am quite lucky now in the fact that I don't have to do things I don't want to. I'm not the same as when I started; the tail wagging, eager-toplease young girl isn't so much there now (laughs). I have mellowed a lot more but I still know what I do and don't want.

Do you ever feel that you have to change your style and sound to keep up with trends?

I think every artist wants to do something new, you have to have the desire to not repeat yourself, even if the subjects you write about are the same every time. I think change in sound happens through your own personality and as your likes and dislikes change. I don't do 'fake' changes, all these people who change their image and sound to keep ahead or up to date screams of insecurity to me. I do think we have some great new talent coming through though. I love Lily Allen and Amy Winehouse, they seem genuine.

Will you be touring with this album?

I do want to do some shows, in fact thank you darling as you've reminded me I need to speak to my gorgeous, friend at Chanel who is doing some outfits for me. I will be doing a show in London, which I haven't done for years and am very excited about. I have been doing a show in Europe called The Shakespeare Sonnets, which I will be bringing to London later, that's something quite different.

You have been doing a lot more acting in the last few years is that an avenue where we'll be seeing more of you? It's something I have always done on and off. I have been doing more recently as I like the challenge it brings and it's something new and creative, which is fabulous. I'll now only do projects I am passionate about. I think as you get older you realise you should only do what you really want to. What about musicals? You'd be great a Mama Morton in Chicago? Someone else has said that to me, do you think it's me though?

What about a Marianne Faithfull Musical?

That would be a trip wouldn't it? I don't know if I could write it myself though, I mean, I have already written the songs, I would just want a really wonderful story line... I think if someone wrote me one then I would do it. You're a writer you should do it... that would be groovy!

But you've written your memoirs...

That's different darling. That's looking back on your life and thinking about it and processing it, I don't think I would want that on stage... also, fiction is so much harder. I have been asked if I could do that and I think if I did it would be a revenge novel, mind you my first autobiography was pretty much that... only not fiction.

Is it strange having that much of your life out there?

It is, people thinking you made it up is even stranger. In a way it's also very therapeutic, it certainly was with the second book, which I found quite dreamy to make. I think it's good for people to hear my side of things.



As an icon... and a gay icon at that... do you ever look in the mirror and think 'Wow I am an icon'

Am I really a gay icon? Oh how groovy... that's fabulous. Well I always hoped I was one, like one of the old school icons such as Judy... that would be fabulous. I don't ever look in the mirror and think I am one. I guess sometimes you have a feeling inside that you're special but I think everyone should have that. I do like the idea of being a gay icon though.

In Absolutely Fabulous you played God, if you were God what would you do?

The list is endless, I would stop Gaza, sort the financial mess out, greenhouse gas. Everything seems very wrong at the moment, bar Obama, we love Obama don't we? I think darling... as God I would have to start from scratch, it would be a trip though, and how fabulous I could make things.

<u>'Easy Come, Easy Go' is out on</u> 16th March on Dramatico Records. You can find out more about Marianne at www.mariannefaithfull.org.uk

WWW.MAG.BENT.COM

INTERVIEW DARREN HAYES

THIS DELIGINATION OF THE ID SAVAGE GARDEN AND A

DARREN HAYES IS A MAN OF MANY TALENTS. BEST KNOWN FOR HIS TIME IN SAVAGE GARDEN AND A SUCCESSFUL SOLO CAREER, HE HAS NOW TURNED HIS HAND TO FILM. WITH THE HELP OF HIS PARTNER RICHARD CULLEN, WHO HE MARRIED IN 2006, WE SEE THE RELERSE OF A NEW DVD "THIS DELICATE FILM WE'VE MADE". WE SENT SIMON SAVIDGE TO DO THE INTERVIEW, LITTLE KNOWING THAT SIMON WAS ABOUT TO ADMONISH OUR STAR.

It's not the normal way to begin an interview; "I have a bone to pick with you Mr Hayes" but it is the way this one started. "I have you to blame for the fact that during my school days everyone called me 'Savidge Garden' and constantly asked if I wanted a drink of 'cherry cola.'' Most pop stars wouldn't quite know how to deal with this confrontational opening gambit but Darren simply breaks into a huge smile. "Well," he informs me, "I have been called - that guy from Savage Garden for years... no one knew my name... so, he chortles, "go suck eggs." He continues on the theme, "I was watching Celebrity Big Brother with Ben Adams, who I thought was quite adorable actually, and he was saying how he was excited that the British nation would see that his surname wasn't "from A1", I still have that with Savage Garden... its crazy.

Talking of reality shows, our Darren has been asked to take part but is of the opinion that he's just too private and shy to be that open with a viewing public. Perhaps, as an alternative, I venture, if there was ever a time when a reunion with his old Savage Garden mate would be profitable, now would seem to be ideal. Had he in fact had any thoughts in that direction? "No, not really, I mean, in reality we weren't together very long. We weren't a flash-in-the-pan exactly... and we had some huge hits... but only two albums in a very short space of time. have actually been solo a lot longer and released much more than we did as a band, and I don't mean that in a bitchy arrogant way." He admits that sometimes he's been a bit defensive talking about the band because he thinks people are looking for the gossip or simply 'to take

the piss'. He points out. "I don't think we had enough time to get in our stride. You look at artists like Kylie or U2, they have the time to do a few albums and get things right or wrong. We didn't. In some people's eyes I will always be the boy with the dodgy haircuts who sang (laughs) wearing wild Gaultier tops and nail varnish. That's why I think people will rip the shit out of it and maybe see it as being naff. However, I think it's probably me who needs to get over it. will always perform those songs and actually, people of late, have been really respectful of them. I tell you what I find slightly weird... and slightly cool... is people doing cover versions of our songs."

Darren is himself no stranger to cover versions having, over the last few months, put some of his own on the internet, in particular covers of two of his favourite artist's songs; an acoustic version of Kylie's '2 Hearts' and an electro-romp version of Madonna's 'Dress You Up'. Chanteuse, and fellow Aussie, Tina Arena did an album of covers so, is this something Darren would be interested in perhaps releasing? "Not really... I don't know if I could commit to a whole album of it. I mean Tina's albums are amazing, but for me it's just something I do for fun... for me really... and of course my fans. I like to have them on the tour as it's something you can have a play around with. It's my guilty pleasure along side X Factor."

His latest project is the DVD release of This Delicate Film We've Made, which is a mixture of animated pieces and new videos to go with some of the songs from his last album. "It's something trippy and fun, something I just wanted to have a go at, it's by no means original. I mean the Eurythmics made an amazing movie around the time of their Savage album...' he stops and laughs 'did you get ribbed for that one too?' I say nothing and he cackles. "You poor guy. Anyways... I loved that... Kate Bush did something similar, Michael Jackson did Thriller and Moonwalker. It's absolutely an indulgent thing, and it's the ultimate extension of the album for me really."

The double album was such a big musical production and the tour became a huge theatrical creation... did he regret any of it? "I wanted it to be an experience. However, it became a huge pain in the arse." He chuckles at the memory, "The time machine we designed was so big it barely fit anywhere (quite the opposite to Spinal Tap's theatrical calamity) and cost me a fortune. Typical gay man (he laughs) it's all about the aesthetics.. I am still paying for it but it looked great." Composing himself he continued. "I mean, the smartest thing for me to do commercially would be to release a 60's pop revival record or a huge album of radio friendly ballads. I guess I just see this is an art and a craft and being on my own label it's something I can do. I am also lucky as back with Savage Garden did all the huge arena tours and now do things like the Royal Albert Hall and make crazy videos. I have to have a reason to get out of bed in the morning and the key to it is happiness and fun. With the DVD it was also so nice to work so much with Richard, as the last album and tour really took up two years of my life."

Although his gay tendencies were known for some time to his family and fellow musicians in the industry, he seemed reluctant to throw his hat into the ring and come out publicly. "If I am completely honest it took me quite some time to squash my internal homophobia aimed at myself, for some reason I had some shame. Now I am out and it's fabulous darling (laughs)." Although previously married, he divorced from his Australian wife in 2000. Richard and he had their Civil Partnership in June 2006 but, I wondered, has married life changed him. "It's lovely when we go through passport control and they ask me why am I living in the UK, and I say... because I married my boyfriend (just in case you don't know Richard is British and Darren is Australian). It's almost worth the holiday alone (laughs), you feel quite powerful saying it. It's beautiful." With Darren being in the public eye I asked if his marriage was in anyway political. "I got married for one reason only and that's because I love Richard. I did feel very strongly about it politically and I do think we should have the same rights as straight couples. It's an amazing civil right to have in the UK. I didn't anticipate what it does to you emotionally. Whatever that tiny chip was on my shoulder about being gay - it's finally smoothed that over. It's just lovely."

This Delicate Film We've Made is out now on Powdered Sugar in all good DVD retailers. For more information on Darren visit www.darrenhaves.com





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adam lowe

of the **MONTH**

> THE RAPSTALLIONS

This EP from the Rapscallions is a debauched, gaslight nightmare of old taverns, smoky backrooms and drunken fisticuffs. There's something Dickensian about the aura of the tracks, all with an ironic swagger that transforms otherwise whimsical rock into something more ubstantial and interesting. These are gentlemen punks who wanted to make their rock 'botoxed to hell' with Dick Turpin flavour. This new genre they've labelled Rockney, and quite appropriately. Listen to it, absorb it, love it.

BEN MONTAGUE

Can't Hold Me Down Out: 23rd March

Formula 1 boss Eddie Jordan is one Ben's fans, and after being invited back to a Grand Prix party, he ended up taking to the stage for an impromptu collabo with Roger Taylor from Queen and Pink Floyd's Nick Mason. Since then he's been picked up by Peter-John Vetesse, the producer behind Annie Lennox and the Bee Gees, and has released this, his superb first album. Ben will take you by surprise, but won't fail to deliver.



SHONTELLE

Shontelligence Out: 9th March

Shontelle has been called the new Rihanna, but that isn't quite fair on Shontelle. Her talents definitely lie in the same realm of R&B and hip-hop, but Shontelle has her own unique character that comes across tangibly in her debut album. A grade A student and former pro sportswoman, military officer and entrepreneur, there's something dynamic and intelligent about this that puts Shontelle head and shoulders above Rihanna. This girl is definitely in charge, not some record label pawn put in place to churn out more of the same. Give it a whirl and . see if you agree.



> OFFICIAL SECRETS (GT

The Girl from the BBC

This polished indie-pop treat is the handiwork of foursome Official Secrets Act. Radio 1's Zane Lowe made it his record of the week and The Guardian has labelled the band 'Thunderously exciting' This love song is allegedly based on a real encounter at the Beeb, ruffled with a treated piano, Synths, guitars and a tight disco-funk backbone. Comparisons to ELO, Television, Bowie and Fire Engines are inevitable, but I'd give these guys a listen anyway.

CAHILL FT NIKKI BELLE

Sex Shooter Out: 2nd March

Funky house music might seem to some to have had its heyday, but when artists like Cahill make music like this, it reminds you that we don't just live in an era of electro. Funky house has a place and it has a new champion. 'Sex Shooter' was originally a 1984 smash for Prince's buddies Apollonia 6, best known for its super-sexy video. Now it's been revamped, remixed and reinvigorated, to become something worthy of hitting your dancefloor.



MARINA AND THE DIAMONDS

Obsessions/Mowgli's Road Out: 9th March

Marina is a pocket-sized Welsh country girl with Greek goddess touches. She spends her time making vintage clothing, songwriting and selling homemade merchandise. The Guardian called her a 'seriously warped mind in the body of a fox', but we think she's a self-made, cobbled-together genius. Production is by Liam 'Sneaker Pimps' Howe and she has aural echoes of the battily surreal Kate Bush and the hauntingly cathartic Regina Spektor. This double A-side is guaranteed to impress.

FABRIC 45 Omar-S – Detroit

Out: 2nd March

'Fabric 45' sees Omar-S take the helm, with a stunning, arresting portrait of where this self-made musician came from and exactly where he's going. AKA Alex Omar Smith, Omar-S fuses techno and house, contorting them into intelligent dance music with clear grassroots origins. Gone is the nepotism and boys' club aura of other mix albums, where labels pick their friends to remix their other friends' music. This is definitely something fresh and original.



TACUE

ROYKSOPP

Happy Up Here Out: 9th March

Royksopp were famously slated in sit com Spaced for being mere ambience. Well nothing's changed, but if you're the manager of a restaurant looking for new muzak to replace those Sade and Police covers, you might consider giving Royksopp a chance. Mildly annoying, perfect for the bath and great if you've had a lobotomy, Royksopp do here what they always do.



BY J<mark>ason Guy</mark> Hof the MONTH



The first release on the new DigiTraxx abel and what a stormer from UK producer Daz Bailey. The EP is made up of 2 quality pieces of uplifting, melodic, progressive house – Shimmer and Stylistic. The latter is my favourite and

had a packed dancefloor throwing their arms into the air on the first play. Radio 1's Judge Jules summed this up perfectly with wow, this one really does it for me as far as the hairs on the back of the neck are concerned."

www.myspace.com/dazbaileymusic

YOW DOES IT FEEL

Barcelona based DJ Angel returns to Toolbox House with vocalist Tammi Wright, with the follow up to their hit 'Wiser'. I personally prefer the original mix; uplifting, vocal led house at it's finest that

has already been tried and tested on some of the biggest sound systems in the UK. Mention must also go to label Honcho Nik Denton's tougher, after-hours remix. www.toolboxmusicshop.com

PETE COODING & JAMES FEAT DRU - RUNNIN 205 m VAN

These 2 renowned DJs and producers in their own right have joined forces to produce this monster of a track. Sampling Carrie Lucas 'Dance With You' familiar to most as the sample in Armand Van

more Helden's 'You Don't Know Me'. Head straight for the Mark Knight & Funkagenda remix for a deep, tribal mix that grows and grows until it dropdowns into a killer breakdown. www.positivarecords.com



WHEELS AND DISCO - GOOD BLUEI TIMES Ē REAT

Liverpool based Dave Whelan and Mike Di Scala are back. They've taken the soulful, powerhouse vocals from Detroit City's Mighty Marvin and reated a feel good, main room anthem. Take our pick from the excellent remix package

hat includes a peak-time commercial houser from DLG, Dennis The Menace's house mix or the funky piano-fused offering from Squire. All do the track justice.

www.3beat.co.uk



JJoy is Malta's top DJ with a career that dates back to 1997. For 'Me To You' he's teamed up

with vocalist supreme Marcella Woods (brother of Michael Woods and his Out Of Office vocalist). The standout mix here is from Gee Bros who creates an uplifting electro tinged tech-house affair. www.loverushdigital.com

F YOU HRIG

ONE OF THE MOST IN DEMAND DJS IN THE WORLD, CHRIS LAKE'S BREAKTHROUGH CAME IN 2005 WITH THE RELEASE OF HIS SMASH HIT 'CHANGES', CATAPULTING HIS NAME INTO THE RECORD BOXES OF DJS ACROSS THE PLANET. HIS 2007 TRACK 'CARRY ME AWAY' HIT THE NUMBER ONE SPOT ON THE USA BILLBOARD DANCE CHART AND NOW HIS LATEST RELEASE 'IF YOU KNEW', DESCRIBED BY PETE TONG AS "A CROSS BETWEEN 'CHANGES' AND 'PJANOO'" LOOKS SET TO BE HIS BIGGEST RELEASE YET (IT SHOT STRAIGHT TO THE TOP OF THE MUSIC WEEK (LUB CHART!)

How did this track come about? The vocalist's voice (Nastala) is amazing!

Ha… I'll be sure to let her know. So the track; Nastala and I sat down in the studio about a ear ago, and wanted to write something that ad the potential to go beyond the dance-floor;

something that would really strike a chord with the general public.

At Bent we love your recent remix of Sia's "Buttons". You've also remixed the likes of Deadmau5 & De'Lacy, but what's our personal taste in music?

Photo: Marc Broissely Yeah, Sia's amazing isn't she? We saw her ive in late last year, what a voice! I really don't have a personal preference when it comes to music, I think it'd be easier for me to say what I don't like... R'n'B... urgh! No seriously, I'm a big fan of anything deep, dark and twisted, but love some of the

fluffy stuff too.

What's next on the horizon for you?

Well I've just finished all the masters for my first album, which we're launching with Nervous Records at WMC in Miami. Following that, it's pretty much a world tour, starting with six weeks in the States, then moving back into Europe for the summer.

How do you feel the UK clubbing ompare to the rest of the world

That's a good one. Everyone's different in some way you know? One thing about the UK is the history; the fact dance music got here so early on, it's ingrained

in our culture... the UK knows how to have it! This country's been doing it for years and I think it sets a standard the rest of the world looks at with respect.

Your most memorable DJ experience?

My first trip to Brazil. It was quite a shock how good it was. My first gig at Warung was unbelievable. It's quite simply a mesmerizing spot (it's a club on a beach!) and the crowd reaction was one of the best I have ever had!

And your worst DJ horror story?

can't say I have any HORROR stories. One gig I did in Manchester about 3 years ago was funny though. Was playing, and Micky Slim (a close friend) came into the booth to have a few drinks with me. He got so drunk, fell over, and slipped onto the master power switch for the club. Lights out, and no music. The next thing you hear is Micky screaming at the crowd, trying to egg them on. Made the night to be honest!

Do you play at many gay clubs?

I have played a few gay venues but not specifically on a gay night. You always know you'll have a good night at the gay venues. The people there always seem to have the right attitude.

Do you notice a difference between gay and straight crowds? Apart from there's more shirts off, obviously!

Well the gay crowds make me feel like I should put more effort in down the gym! Haha. The crowds seem less pretentious to me. You know what, if I had a body like a lot of the gay men in the clubs, I'd join them with the tops off, but right now I'd probably make them vomit! ww.chris-lake.com



ONE OF THE MOST IN DEMAND AND INSTANTLY RECOGNIZABLE DJS IN THE WORLD, ERICK MORILLO STARTED DJING AT THE AGE OF 11. SEVERAL YEARS LATER AND AFTER SCRAPING TOGETHER ENOUGH MONEY TO BUILD HIS OWN STUDIO, HE TENTATIVELY APPROACHED RECORD LABEL STRICTLY RHYTHM WHO SIGNED HIS FIRST RELEASE 'THE ANTHEM'.

The follow-up track "I Like To Move It" released on Positiva under the pseudonym Reel 2 Real, which became one of the biggest worldwide hits of 1994, making him a millionaire. He now owns his own record label Subliminal Records, has remixed everyone from Whitney Houston to Macy Gray and holds his legendary parties at Pacha, Ibiza every summer. This month sees him returns to the UK and the label that kick started his career, Strictly Rhythm with a 3 CD compilation, featuring a selected mix of exclusively reworked classic tracks alongside future releases.

You own a record label, you're an international DJ and you have numerous other business interests. How did you get to where you are, was it luck or hard work?

think it is a combination of both, it's definitely hard work though, and I have been a workaholic since I was 21. Taking on the DJing; travelling 52 weekends out of the year, leaving on Thursday night, coming back on Sunday night, then come Monday morning being in the office and running a business. It's definitely hard work. I believe that my attitude has been always about rocking a party, being consistently good at every club that I play. A lot of DJs have come and gone, faded into the background. That's why I am playing main stages in big festivals, not just doing the dance tents.

Where do you spend most of your time now?

It really depends. I would say I spend most of my time on a plane. In the

summer time I live in Ibiza, from the beginning of June to the end of September, then in the winter I go back and forth between New York and Miami, but Miami is my base.

Any celebrity friends in Miami or New York?

I hang out with a lot of different people. I'm not really a name dropper, I'll just say that I have quite the colorful cast of friends, especially in Miami. I kind of live a dream type lifestyle because its late nights and there is always something going on. You know, pool parties at 3 or 4 in the morning, then waking up and making music. I'm like a big little kid.

So it's like a rock and roll lifestyle?

Rock and roll is old skool, that's the nineties. It's a house lifestyle really. I'm a very lucky person. I'm living what they say is the dream. I started DJing when I was 11, because I loved music and then it turned into something that people actually pay me for. Now I travel around the world having reached a level of success where I can travel on private planes and own homes and really live the dream. I guess that's the best way to describe it.

What's been your biggest gig so far?

It was at the Leeds Love Parade. They did it in a park and there were 75,000 people in front of that stage and that was pretty amazing. The rush that you get from playing in front of a massive crowd like that, especially when its going off, when you connect, its kind of like having an orgasm.

And your most memorable?

Playing the closing party of the Space Terrace, Ibiza straight after September 11th. I ended the night with Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York". People were crying and waving American flags, everybody was singing. It's my most emotional memory as a DJ.

Can you tell us a bit about your new compilation on Strictly?

It's very sexy, I am really happy with the selection of tracks, it's like house, mixed with trance, mixed with minimal, it has a little bit of everything including some upfront tracks that will be released about the time of the compilation. There are some remakes of classics, a little bit of everything, really sexy, and I think that is the key. I think everyone will love it. For me it's the best Strictly compilation to date, hands down and I've heard them all.

Finally, how do you feel about'l Like To Move It' today? It always reminds me of the Chewit's advert"I Like To Chew It'! I can't believe its still going, 17, 18 years down the line. It's in the Madagascar movie; McDonalds recently picked it up for a national campaign in the US as did Chrysler. It's just going and going. It's generated so much income in the last two years that I am flabbergasted. It's one of those records that you say in the music industry 'you need one record and if you have one record you have it made' - it's that record.

"Strictly - Erick Morillo" available on CD triple pack or digital download from the 2nd March. www.strictly.com



WANT A TV WEDDING?



ITV are looking for a couple who are planning to get a civil partnership some time between March and June this year... it's for a new series on Living called Four Weddings. To be shown in the summer. They say they wont get involved in the planning, just send along a crew to film the event and they also promise that it wont only be fun to take part because there's a chance to win a fantastic 5-Star honeymoon. If this sounds like your thing then get in touch with the production team via email on: iona.mackenzie@itv.com



WALK FOR LIFE

Crusaid's Walk for Life; Europe's largest fundraising walk for HIV and AIDS will take place on Sunday 7th June 2009 at Potters Fields Park, Tower Bridge. As always, participants will embark on a 10k walk around London's iconic sights in a bid to raise money for the charity's work supporting impoverished adults, children and communities affected by HIV and AIDS in the UK and internationally. . Last year, thousands of people took part in the fundraising walk raising over £300,000 for the charity and Crusaid hopes more people take to the streets this year to help support those most in need.

If you would like more information about how to get involved in Crusaid's Walk for Life, please contact Ellie Arkwright on 0207 539 3892 or email elliea@crusaid.org.uk

"Engaging and entertaining... then ultimately thoughtful and haunting" – Shadows on the Wall



OUT NOW

Adoring Stevie Nicks fan Gypsy takes her Goth-loving gay best friend Clive from a small town in rural Ohio on an unforgettable road trip to the bright lights of New York City.

"Satisfying! It is funny, it is sad, and it's also very sexy"

- Cinemaqueer.com



OUT MARCH 9

Enjoy a shaken and stirred cocktail of sexual intrigue, humour and drama when an unlikely group of friends and lovers converge at mountain retreat. From bedhopping to breakups this is 72 hours they'll never forget.

tla releasing TLAreleasing.co.uk

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With more than 70 concerts from over 60 choirs, cabaret from the biggest names on the alternative cabaret circuit, world and European premieres, public workshops, masterclasses, film and expert panels, Various Voices, run in partnership with Southbank Centre, promises to be a highlight of this year's LGBT calendar. Most events are open to the public including choir concerts, outdoor shows, ballroom dancing and performances by some high profile performers. You can listen, sing, dance, laugh, clap and thrill to the many events that are planned for this fabulous experience.

Various Voices 09: The festival takes place at London's Southbank Centre this May Bank Holiday weekend, 1-4 May www.variousvoiceslondon.org.uk



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Starring Samantha Barks - runner-up in the BBC series 'I'd Do Anything' - as Sally Bowles and Wayne Sleep, reprising his role as Emcee. Kander and Ebb's landmark musical turns Weimar Berlin of 1931 into a dark and sexually charged haven of decadence, its extraordinary and morally ambiguous inhabitants determined to keep up appearances as the real world - outside the comfortable sanctuary of the cabaret - prepares for the nightmarish chaos of war.

Alhambra Theatre 6th Apr – 11th Apr Bradford

Tel: 01274 752000

EIMB

X Factor finalist Scott Bruton and Emmerdale's Ben Freeman star in this musical trip down memory lane. Based on the successful albums of the same name, Dreamboats and Petticoats tells the story of two young musicians, Norman and Bobby, who back in 1961, at the beginning of the pop boom, compete to win the hearts of their fans and also the gorgeous Laura. Written by the folk who brought you Birds of a Feather and Goodnight Sweetheart, Marks and Gran and featuring songs of the period, guarantees a great night out.

Touring all over the UK get more info from www. kenwright.com





Are you searching for that special someone? Do you think that your soul mate just doesn't exist? Just what can you do to enhance you chances for netting that love of your life? GMFA's Getting a Boyfriend course is here to help. This one day course will help you approach relationships with a new understanding of yourself and what you want from your lovelife. It is designed to give gay men a greater insight into the processes involved in looking for a partner and establishing a relationship. The course covers the time from preparing for and meeting a potential partner up until about three months into the relationship. It is designed to help you understand whether you are ready for a relationship; what you bring to, and want from a relationship as well as the qualities that attract you to a man. Practical exercises will help you to have a better understanding of yourself, and of what you look for in a relationship and in a potential partner.

All of GMFA's courses and workshops are free of charge to participants but places are limited and must be booked in advance. To book a place, go to www.gmfa.org.uk/national or call 020 7738 6872.

Getting a Boyfriend is a one-day course which takes place on Saturday from 10am to 5pm. The full list of dates for the course is:

Saturday 4th April - Brighton, Leeds, Newcastle, Norwich

Saturday 18th April - Birmingham , Cardiff, Liverpool, London

Saturday 25th April - Bristol, Leicester, Manchester, Sheffield, Southampton

MARCH 2009



ALL CROCK PORT

IT HAS BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE HER STUNNING 'THEY' TOOK OVER THE CHARTS FOLLOWED BY THE DIVINE 'JUST A RIDE' AND POSSIBLY ONE OF OUR FAVOURITE POP SONGS OF ALL TIME 'WISH I' HIT THE CHARTS. NOW THE DELIGHTFUL AND LOVELY JEM IS BACK WITH HER AMAZING SECOND ALBUM DOWN TO EARTH. WE SEAT SIMON SAVIDGE TO BEFRIEND HER AND TEST HIS CAMPOMETER AND WITH THE SECRET HOPE SHE IS LESS DOWN TO EARTH AND MORE DIVA!

The new single 'It's Amazing' was on the Sex and the City Soundtrack, which Sex and the City Girl would you be?

I have to say that I think I am all of them, no really I am, I mean come on we all are. Some days you have your Samantha days other days you're more Charlotte. For a while emails were going around saying the girls would be in the video, which was too much but it didn't happen sadly. Then we talked about having Mr Big in the video but I said it would be sacrilegious... people might think I had stolen him of Carrie and then I get labelled a right bitch and the magic would be ruined for all the fans. We love the fact she turned down Mr Big so that gays like us wouldn't have the 'magic' ruined. And we know exactly what she means by a Samantha day, sauce pot 10/10.

What's the campest thing that you have ever done?

Well, and I hope this wont be misconstrued, when I am back home in Wales, I am the 'gaylord' of the family, but not in a horrid way. One of my friends told me off but my great aunt started it as she's from the days when gay meant happy and I'm happy clappy and so she says I'm 'Lord of the gays'. I also danced on a beach in a hula skirt and flower garlands for the 'Wish I' video, which also was the theme tune to Celebrity Love Island, which is kinda camp too.

Lord of the Gays but in a nice PC way, we like, we also kind of love the Celebrity Love Island acknowledgement, she likes the trash too. 8/10

How many gay friends are too many? (Shocked) There are never too many are you crazy?

Hmmm but does she need one more – please note at end of interview she gave a huge hug announcing that she had found her new gay best friend, fickle but we love it. 8/10

What's your biggest extravagance?

I guess I would have said shoes, I am one of those people who either dresses really down or really up but either way its gotta be about the shoes. However, I think it's actually my hair when I am in L.A. I have this fabulous hairdresser Mark who turned out to be a fan, brilliant, and he does people like Natalie Portman and Cate Blanchett. He's got me addicted to a woman who dyes hair but is sooooo expensive, I have to keep reminding myself I am not actually one of the Sex and the City girls. She does do Sarah Jessica Parker though come to think of it.

What? You mean Sarah Jessica Parker isn't a natural blonde? We are shocked and are so up on the S&TC gossip. Plus shoes and hair so our way of thinking. 9/10

Dressing room demands..

don't have many well any... room temperature water is one and I like flowers. (When suggested she should have puppies she goes all joyous) Puppies... do people have puppies, that's amazing it would make you so happy. I wonder if Mariah does that, I would like to write for her. What happens to them after? I am a bit low maintenance really, next time I see you I am going to have puppies and only blue smarties and one pink wall, you've created a monster.

We cannot wait to see what Jem's rider is when we next interview her, we'll give her the benefit of the doubt now (and you should have seen her suite) but we will be checking up on this in the future. 7/10

Kylie or Madonna

I love Kylie and she is lovely but I have to ay Madonna... and I can because I wrote a song called 'Nothing Fails' that ended up on her album American Life. (There are then squeals of delight and 'no ways' when she finds out Simon had it at his wedding.) That album is so not appreciated! I was told, but am not sure if its true, that 400 songs were sent in and it got down to two... and she chose mine. I feel very lucky she doesn't choose other peoples songs often. I found out when I was living in North London carrying my Tesco shopping, it was quite surreal. She also sent me a note and they gave me like two minutes to send one back, I wrote something like 'cheers love' (laughs) well maybe not that exactly. The gooevness that came from a good gay wedding gets bonus points and he fact she has corresponded with the Madge has bowled us over. 11/10

Do you like a gossip?

(Laughs) Hmmm, I have this habit that when I do I drop my voice and whisper, which accentuates it. I'll do it but then tell myself and my gossip pals off afterwards. It's not good karma. I have had some of my songs on Gossip Girl... or does that fall into the 'campest thing' question?

Dropping your voice for a gossip, now that is something we so need to be better at. Having gossip pals is so going to be the expression of summer 09. 8/10

Biggest diva strop..

Not in a fashion way but I did once almost refuse to fly to Japan. I had been put in the middle seats so many times and I kicked off a little bit and was a bit like 'for fucks sake if you put me in one more middle seat I will scream... in fact I wont go on'. The truth is if you're in first it's not so bad, but middle seats drive me up the wall.

We've never heard of middle seat strops on planes especially when you are in first. Well done Jem this shows signs of much promise. 9/10

Primark or Prada?

Hmmm... oh... well... Prada. We don't have Primark in America.

She knows of the Primarni, she doesn't shop there though... hmmm we are torn on this one 6/10

Tell us a dirty joke.

Oh no I am rubbish at jokes. I do have quite a dirty laugh. I did write a song for this album called I Want You To and I actually had to change the lyrics as it was too dirty. I was actually perving myself out thinking 'Iem you dirty minded young lady'. Originally it wasn't for me, but even I thought 'come on now girl calm down'. It's still very sexual though, quite saucy. More proof she is a complete sauce pot and quite a minx. We wanted a dirty joke in welsh though 8/10

84/100 Very impressed, she may still be down to earth but Jem has a saucy side and could turn diva any moment, something we hope to cultivate with her in the future.

The single 'It's Amazing' and album 'Down to Earth' are out now on Dramatico Records.

For more info visit www.jem-music.net



Actually, she's better known for bursting into a full throatal assault on some Operatic aria but on this occasion she quietly asked if I'd mind swapping seats with her so she could sit next to her husband. If you haven't guessed by now, it was Lesley Garrett on her way to perform in Cape Town. I agreed to move on condition that she got me tickets for her performance and she said she'd see what she could do. Apparently NOTHING, as I'm still waiting for the bloody things. I'm not one to bear a grudge... fz@x* B+!~# . Anyhow, I'll tell you all about Cape Town next month as it was my first taste of South Africa and the place was fantastic.





Meanwhile, on the way back in the departure lounge the Lord of the Fop himself was sat next to me. I had met Laurence Llewelyn Bowen before under very different circumstances. Then he was on a very cold and windswept Blackpool sea front doing a live insert into a BBC early evening programme about Mr Gay UK. The poor guy was huddled up in all his finery and still absolutely freezing but he should have counted himself lucky because the contestants were stood in just their swimwear. Anyway, I digress, this time he looked a lot calmer and as usual, guite immaculate but wasn't in the least chatty. Once on the plane, he pulled on a rather natty pink pullover... and even for me... that was camp. So, I immersed myself in a book... and I'm getting pretty good at colouring in these days.



And a huge GOOD LUCK to my dear friend Gareth Gates who takes on the leading role in the West End production of Joseph and the Amazing Techicolor Dreamcoat.

Next, it's a dash over to Brazil to cover my favourite event - the Rio Carnival. Tell you all about that another time.

See yer Terry

MR GAY **FILL**

've kept myself pretty busy! I went to Bristol recently, I had a gander about town, loved it! Unfortunately, I didn't get to sample any of the nightlife as my duty to get pissed with my mate Matty for his Birthday called me back to the big smoke! My journey back to London town was hilarious! I got on the old National Express coach and took a seat at the back (long legs need the space) and a most interesting gentleman happened to sit down next to me. When I say interesting... I mean shitfaced. Wankered. Pissed as a fart. Despite all my futile attempts to ignore this fellow and watch Bridget Jones on my laptop (stereotype I know but it's so funny), he continued to chat complete and utter drunken bollocks at me – even though I had head phones on. First he takes out a beer and offers me one. 'No, thanks mate'. Then he downs half of it, whips out a bottle of vodka and proceeds to make a beer-vodka cocktail. He offers again, 'Erm, Still no, thanks mate'. Hahaha. Did-my-head-in! In the end I got off 2 stops early just to escape. How random is that story?

The weekend that followed was heaps of fun! Me and my friends went to G.A.Y for a good old dance and to see Lily Allen – who was really good to be fair. I was loving the weekend extension as well thanks to all the snow!! It was wicked. I got snowed in at Matty's house for 2 days because all London transport came to a grinding halt haa. Me and all his housemates had a massive snowball war and a little party. Good times! Everything is still caked up here and apparently there's more on the way.....get in!

UP AND COMING!



If you're ever in Brighton keep your eyes peeled for a hilarious, fresh new drag talent on the scene. Ladies and Gentlemen, it's my honour to introduce to you the fantastic rock drag queen, the vivacious... Violet Venom! Sharp and explosive, there is no end to her talents she sings rock songs and is a hilarious stand up comedienne! You have to check her out – she's a must see. Catch her at Ghetto Brighton every weekend! The lovely lady is also doing a catwalk for designer 'Red Mutha' at Studio Neon very soon. So keep a look out!

I'm now sat on a train to Manchester for my mate Mark's birthday!! Ah busy beyond. Can't wait though, I love Manchester. I'm going to get some shut eye now peeps, take care y'all see you next month.

See you all soon my loves $\frac{6}{1}$ n 6

For those who are still wondering: Yes it was me on 'In It To Win It' at the beginning of February with the lovely Dale Winton. Walked away with £20,000 so that wasn't bad... spent it all though. Well what do you expect... a boy needs to have fun!

Dino.mrgayuk@yahoo.co.uk





Zürich. EuroPride 09 coming soon.

MySwitzerland.com

Come and party with us from 2nd May to 6th June 2009! Check it out on MySwitzerland.com/gaylesbian.

AHT EREF. ANNAL AUARDS



The Albert Kennedy Trust, the charity for young homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender homeless people, honoured its supporters at the annual Alberts award ceremony.

Celebrity LGBT guests, actor Sir Ian McKellen and retired NBA basketball player John Amaechi, were on hand to present awards to volunteers, mentors, carers and staff, who made outstanding contributions to the trust and those who rely so desperately on its help.

Tim Sigsworth, AKT Chief Executive explained that the need for AKT remains as great as ever. "When I tell people what I do for a living people often say to me, 'Surely parents don't reject their children for being gay these days?" Sadly though, they do. In many ways, things are worse now as young people perceive it will be okay to tell their parents

- so they often come out at a younger age. Because homophobic prejudice is still so rife in society, many of these people are face a harsh reality when, instead of support, they have to suffer hostility, abuse and bullying from family and peers. Last year 1400 young people contacted AKT for help."

www.akt.org.uk



'What Do You Need?' is a national survey of people with HIV undertaken by Sigma Research and commissioned by Terrence Higgins Trust and the Department of Health. It found that 36% of respondents had faced HIV related discrimination in the previous year. Discrimination came from family members, their own community, doctors and other health professionals. The survey of 1,777 people with HIV in the UK found that discrimination was compounded by homophobia, racism or asylum and immigration related prejudice.

Marc Thompson, Acting Head of Health Promotion at Terrence Higgins Trust said "Despite provisions in the Disability Discrimination Act, large numbers of people with HIV are facing discrimination on a regular basis. In the family, this could be name-calling, marginalisation or even issues like the refusal of family members to share kitchen equipment. People with HIV also reported breaches of confidentiality or refusal of services from health or care professionals". The survey, which looked at a number of health needs, also found that over a half of people with HIV were unhappy with their sex lives and two-thirds of respondents had experienced problems with sex in the previous year.

What Do You Need 2007-2008 can be downloaded from www.sigmaresearch.org.uk

FACEBOOK BLACKMAIL BEWARE - seems to be the watchword when using some of the online social networking sites.

BEWARE - seems to be the watchword when using some of the online social networking sites. Recently an elaborate, and some would say, disturbing sex ring was uncovered in Wisconsin, USA. Eighteen-year-old high school student Anthony Stancl is accused of creating a Facebook profile belonging to a nonexistent teenage girl and then, between the spring 2007 and November 2008, using it to convince more than 30 of his male classmates to send in nude photos or videos of themselves. Stancl then told many of them that unless they engaged in some sort of sexual activity with him, he would put the photos or videos on the Internet. At least seven of them have said they were coerced into sex acts, which Stancl allegedly documented with a cell phone camera. When police eventually searched the student's home they found about 300 photos of underage males, some of which were as young as 15, on the 18 year-olds computer. If the prosecution goes ahead, he could face up to 300 years of jail time.

CLOREZONE SAVED The iconic CloneZone brand will continue even though the company has been

The iconic CloneZone brand will continue even though the company has been acquired by Libertyville UK Ltd, which is part of the Nexus Group. The new owners will continue to trade under the CloneZone banner from four retail stores in Soho; Earls Court; Manchester and Birmingham as well as the wholesale and internet businesses. In addition, the website will be re-branded and the product range extended, offering customers more choice. Former directors of Clone Zone Limited, Mike McCann and David Edwards, were invited to join the Board of Libertybelle to ensure the continuity of service and standards. The acquisition has secured 22 jobs.

REVIEW JOHAN'S BLOG

I have been excited for weeks as my partner was a damn hot guy. I wanted to do a scene with him since I saw him in a gay magazine months ago. It was planned that we do the shooting in a shower and that we kiss and touch each other. Then some cuddling etc. The regular soft program we all have done thousands of times at home with our friends. No big deal! As the movie is for an American company we were told that it was important that we must not get an erection... and that touching of the penis and any body fluids were strictly forbidden. Hell, who doesn't get an erection when they takes a shower with the hottest and horniest guy on earth? So we had to stop the shooting every few minutes and I switched the water from comfortable warm to ice cold. It is crazy: Not to get an erection is more difficult than getting one!Because of our natural reaction the director was swearing at us... and after some more breaks he lost his temper. He told us that he was leaving for 10 minutes and that we had to do everything that was needed to erase our excitement in that time. So we had a glorious time with out the cameras rolling... they really missed out on a pretty hot scene!

I am sure you are all waiting for some special and spicy reports about my private sex life. Well, what should I say? Of course I have lots of sex! Why not? I am young – and horny most all day. For some years I have a boyfriend but that does not stop me to look for (and have sex with) other guys. I am mostly into young, sportive, muscular boys (18 – 20). My boyfriend is over 30 so my private sessions are a nice, different and delicious. Of course I like threesomes with my boyfriend and a younger guy. So sometimes when my boyfriend and I go out we pick up a cute young lad and have fun with him at home.

And what do I like? Oral and rimming, of course. Who does not like to be rimmed? In the movies I am mostly active and dominant. But in private I can also be very passive. It always depends on the guy and his dick. Any way I am pretty much versatile and enjoy to switch the parts.

Now I have to go to the gym, maybe I meet some cute lad there. You never know what will happen in the showers! And I love a shag in the showers after some exhausting long training (or a fast blowjob if there is not enough time).

Take care and talk to you soon.



For more: www.JohanVolny.com

IL EXCLUSIVE JOURNA'S BLOG BLOG

ACTUALLY, I AM QUITE NERVOUS. THIS IS MY VERY FIRST BLOG IN A BRITISH MAGAZINE AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU EXPECT!

Horny stories about my sex-life? More private information? Some details about the "adult entertainment" business? Maybe a combination of both?

At the moment I am working hard on my own new internet site where I have several photo galleries, some nice clips and news about myself online. But there should be a big re-launch in the upcoming weeks and then there will be much more streaming clips – including chats with me and lots of hardcore activity. OK, let's get down to the nitty gritty. So, I am filming some nice hardcore scene where I shag young cute guys for their first time. They are real first timers and it's great fun. It's always very interesting for first-timers: Of course they have very tight arses (and that's very important) but they are also little bit clumsy and shy. You really have to handle them with care. I definitely like to watch their faces when you first enter them. It is always a mixture of shock, pain and horniness, but they always relax after a few minutes and then you see just pure lust in their faces. As you may know, my dick isn't that small so I

have to be quite gentle with them and I have to say that it is not easy to be deflowered by me and my dick. Thankfully, they all agree that they've enjoyed it; shooting loads all over the place and seem proud that they survived a 23cm dick on their very first session.

August Street

Also, I had my first softcore shooting and it was more exhausting than I thought. Funny thing by the way: I have done more than 40 hardcore movies for my company Staxus / Homoactive but it was my first ever softcore...

bent

march 2009

The Wonderful World of:



GAY ADVERTS



youtube.com/watch?v=o833KuKjUyg

gay pimp - soccer practice



youtube.com/watch?v=HRf4aX6tPAk

SAFE SEX CARTOON



youtube.com/watch?v=R_Xft8yb-88&feature=related

Fucures Herrich Landcom

youtube.com/watch?v=JXUFAJO7ebc

BT PHONE CALL

<u>us marines messing about</u>



youtube.com/watch?v=NX5ZVC1YY1k

SATISFACTION



youtube.com/watch?v=3hrL2COkxaA





Jean Genet's notorious first play takes elements of the thriller and subverts them with disturbing games of language, transgression and transformation.

A poisoned teacup, a mysterious 'Monsieur', a profusion of flowers and two sisters caught up in a fantasy of conspiracy and murder. When left alone in the house, Claire and Solange Lemercier indulge in secret rituals of hatred and revenge, directed against their wealthy employer. They both love and hate their mistress and are drawn daily to act out fantasies of power and submission. Will the game ever reach its conclusion and with what consequences?

This Phizzical production of The Maids directed by Sâmir Bhamra features a cast of male and female actors rotating performances on an alternate or weekly basis. Although, the first performance of The Maids had a female cast, Jean Genet's long time friend and supporter, Jean Paul Sartre, states that Genet's intention was always for the production to feature young men playing women, because female actors did not need to "play" women. They naturally have a softness in their voice, skin and demeanour. He wanted the actors to appear "de-realised" – and to create this artificial state, he wanted to eliminate nature i.e. soften a broken voice, cover-up the blue/green tones of a beard, soften the hard muscles to imagine a world momentarily without women.

The Maids tours

Now – 7th March, Watermans, London 8th March, Harrow Arts Centre 10th March, Byre Theatre, Fife 17th March, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton *19th March, Stahl Theatre, Oundle *26th March, Rich Mix London; 31st March, Wilde Theatre, Bracknell 9th May, Canolfan Ucheldre Centre, Holyhead

*The male cast features Jeremy Williams, Robby Khela and Pritesh Chauhan

www.phizzical.com and www.watermans.org.uk



CALLING ALL BOOK GEEKS!

Our very own self confessed Gay Book Geek Simon Savidge is on the hunt for the Great Gay Reads of All Time. He needs your recommendations and input. You can go to http://greatgayreads.blogspot.com to see his journey through the highs and lows of gay writing. To email him with suggestions of your favourite gay reads drop him a line at greatgayreads@googlemail.com



▲ TABOO

By Sean Wolfe

A new collection of provocative stories that span the complete spectrum of forbidden desire from a master of erotic gay fiction. Sophisticated and sensual, fearlessly controversial and irresistibly erotic, these sizzling XXX-rated stories confirm that the only way to get rid of temptation is to yield to it. £9.99 – Kensington

BARBIE LOVES LA By Greg LaVoi

She always looks trendy and g.o.r.geous as privileged readers will get an enviable guide through LA from one of its most famous inhabitants as the 'girl who goes everywhere' Barbie, shows off her favourite hot spots. Even better, the dreamy photos are complemented by her personal diary entries on her affairs of the heart... and shopping trips. £16.99 – Angel City Press



ULTIMATE GAY EROTICA 2009

Edited by Jesse Grant

Plenty of choice around at the moment for gay erotica and this compendium presents the hottest never-been-seen work from some of the genre's top writers. Twenty short, but sexually charged, bursts of eroticism to leave readers breathless and panting for more.

£9.99 - Alyson Books



By Mark Jenkins

Capturing the male body with a masterful play of light and shadow, Mark Jenkins' first book, conjures water as a glistening medium of liquid illusion with stunning men of classic beauty, strength and intensity. The viewer is confronted with aesthetic precision and clarity. which culminate in an erotic experience that is born in the spotlessness of muscular bodies and intimate sensuality without being overtly provocative. £24.95

Bruno Gmunder

IF YOU CAN IMAGINE TWO MISS MARPLE TYPE OF CHARACTERS WHO CREATE more problems than they solve... You are halfway to discovering the DELIGHTS OF THE BRENDA AND EFFIE NOVELS. STIR IN THEIR GAY SIDE KICK, who likes arughty adventures in Sand Dunes, toss in some seriously

Supernatural goings on and you might come up with something as brilliant as paul MAGRS (PRONOUNCED MARS) LATEST NOVEL CONJUGAL RITES. BENT TRACKED THE AUTHOR down for a full explanation.

Okay, they are comic gothic mysteries. All the things that shouldn't be sexy but are! You know horror, old women and monsters, the worst kind of detectives in a detective novel who end up in fistfights.

Where did you come up with the amazing characters Brenda and Effie?

My mum would say that it's a concoction of my Nan and her best friend who I doted on when I was younger. I think it's a real mix of people I have known and some of my favourite stereotypical old bats. They just arrived in my head fully formed one day and I wrote a short story about them. It took about seven years and suddenly the whole scenario came to me and it just keeps coming.

How long after creating the first novel did you know you were making a series? Instantly really (laughs) my main worry was selling it, I didn't know if anyone

else would want it or get it fortunately they did. I guess it fits into a mix of genres, its sort of a cosy mystery like Miss Marple, it's a dark comedy too and it's an adventure. Once these two start having these adventures they can't stop. Now they have a gay sidekick who does some shenanigans in the sand dunes how did the residents of Whitby react to that?

They didn't really, well not to my face (laughs) I mean Brenda isn't bothered it's Effie who has a slight issue with it, which was something I wanted to bring up. I have to say the residents of Whitby have been brilliant, they have a party for the book launch up there and everyone gets dressed up… its great. Quite camply surreal but great! I am doing a gig in London soon which is themed so that's fun. (Laughs) You do sometimes worry that you might go up and say 'fantastic costume' and find they haven't dressed up.

As a gay author did you feel you had to have a gay main character?

Not at all, it just worked and it did mean I could address I few things I suppose. I like the way he has developed as the stories do. He's become part of their gang and his story gets bigger and stronger. In the fourth one he is going to find a fella, but of course being a Brenda and Effie novel the fella isn't all he seems.

50 you already have the fourth in the bag? I do indeed it's called Hell's Belles and will be out in November I think.

It would make a fantastic TV sho

Thank you, we've had talks and one has rights but then we have lots more lining up, which is brilliant but also a little difficult. Who would I like to play Brenda and Effie? Annette Crosby as Effie I think has been a hot favourite but it changes. I could see Patricia Routledge as Brenda, but I don't know (laughs) it's a very physical role though with the fights and stuff and I can't quite envisage it, we will see.

Have you always been interested in the jothic and the supernatural?

Yeah definitely, in real life and in literature, I mean I love Bram Stoker's Dracula, which is a masterpiece and at the same time, I love Most Haunted. I think that's on one level hilarious and also very interesting.

So what's next?

Some more Brenda ideas, I am really into the fashion, entertainment and music industry so maybe something on that. Oh, the sequel to Strange Boy, which is a book dealing with growing up. The title at the moment is 'The Diary of A Doctor Who Addict' which is a bout being twelve. I also have a top secret Doctor Who project.

MARCH 2009



ROADWARRIOR: CONFESSIONS <u>OF A MALE STRIPPER</u>

ON THE FACE OF IT NICH MOLLOY HAD IT ALL – ATHLETIC BODY, A LOVING GIRLFRIEND, A FAST CAR AND A WELL-PAID JOB... SO WHY DID HE DECIDE TO TURN HIS BACK ON A BRIGHT FUTURE AND THE 'CORPORATE SLAVE NATION' TO FORGE A CAREER IN STRIPPING? HERE NICH AKA SEXECUTE TELLS US WHY HE THOUGHT HE HAD TO WRITE THIS BOOK.

It began as an anti-prejudicial project. Male strippers are boxed and categorized in the extreme. For example, all strippers are gay, all strippers are prostitutes, all strippers have slept with thousands of women/men, all strippers are thick/mentally disturbed, etc. I have an IQ of 153 and don't fit any of the above boxes. I had a six figure salary in my early twenties with a FTSE 250 company. I gave it all up to be a 'drop out' in many people's eyes, yet I have never been happier. I wanted to write something that challenged so many people's pre-conceived notions.

Who do you think will read your book

Nobody that I am aware of has written candidly about this off-shoot of the sex industry before. Here you have it, warts and all. Although far less so these days, strippers were once very minor celebrities generating tabloid coverage (eg The Chippendales). We now live in a celebrityobsessed culture and this book documents life at the very bottom of the showbiz ladder. Also, sex sells and this book has plenty of it. Whilst it has a gossipy element to it, lots of thoughtful analysis is thrown into the mix the psyche of the male stripper.

Who do you prefer to perform in front of a gay crowd or a women only show?

I actually find the gay audience easier to play than the female crowds. Gay men are harder to impress than the girls (who will scream at any old monkey in a fireman's uniform), but they are much more appreciative of a decent show. You also know where you stand with the gay crowd. When they say they want to get into your knickers they mean it! The female audience is more likely to say it to get attention without really meaning it. I love the forthright directness of the gay scene.

www.Amazon.co.uk, www.waterstones. co.uk, and via all good bookshops. You can also order your signed copy direct www. malestripperbook.co.uk or go to one of his shows !

You have already written some Doctor Who books, where do you think the gay man's love for Doctor Who has come from and what do you make of the new Doctor?

l think it's loner kids at school, well kids that were a bit different; I am implicating myself of course. I think it's people who have a huge imagination, surrealism and want to escape. I also think it was the hero being a pacifist, who uses his brains and wit to get things done, not a gun or violence. I think it's also the fact there is so much camp in the show. As for the new one, I don't know really. I am trying to figure out if I taught him or not in creative writing (laughs) but they all looked like floppy haired public school boys. I think your hearts always with the one you grew up with. I would love to see John Savident, you know Fred Elliott, and some old guy would be great. I once saw him play Coco Chanel, but I might be misremembering that wrongly (laughs) or have just dreamt it.

You can read all about Brenda and Effie and their fabulous adventures in Never The Bride and Something Borrowed both out now. The latest in the series Conjugal Rites is out on March Sth all published by Headline.





TO THINGS YOU NEVER HIEW

1. Read for a role in Cameron Crowe's Elizabethtown but lost out to Orlando Bloom. The movie flopped.

2. He has a dog named East, that is half American bulldog and half English bulldog

3. Is a strong Catholic believer and former vegetarian.

4. Is of Irish and Italian descent.

5. Has signed on to do three Fantastic Four films. Two have come out already.

6. Has played the role of boyfriend/ex-boyfriend of real-life girlfriend Jessica Biel twice: once in Cellular (2004) and again in London (2005).

7. Chosen by Empire magazine as one of the 100 Sexiest Stars in film history.

8. After school plays and regional theater, he moved to New York and attended the famous Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute.

9. Chris' first big movie role was as Jake Wyler in Not Another Teen Movie (2001).

10. Has three other siblings, an older sister named Carly, and two younger siblings, a gay brother named Scott and a sister named Shana.



DUPLICITY

Out: 13th March

A caper pic set in the world of big business. Oscar winner Julia Roberts and Clive Owen reunite for Duplicity from writer/director Tony Gilroy (Michael Clayton). In the film they star as spiesturned-corporate operatives in the midst of a clandestine love affair. When they find themselves on either side of an all-out corporate war, they discover the toughest part of the job is deciding how much to trust the one you love. CIA office Claire Stenwick (Roberts) and M15 agent Ray Koval (Owen) have left the world of government intelligence to cash in on the highly profitable cold war raging between two rival multinational corporations. Their mission? Secure the formula for a product that will bring a fortune to the company that patents it first. Roberts doesn't make many movies these days so is almost a movie event when she does.



TRAITOR

Out: 27th March

Don Cheadle (Hotel Rwanda, Crash) and Guy Pearce (Memento, L.A. Confidential) star in Traitor, a taut international thriller set against a jigsaw puzzle of covert counter-espionage operations. When straight arrow FBI agent Roy Clayton (Guy Pearce) heads up the investigation into a dangerous international conspiracy, all clues seem to lead back to former U.S. Special Operations officer, Samir Horn (Don Cheadle). A mysterious figure with a web of connections to terrorist organizations, Horn has a knack for emerging on the scene just as a major operation goes down. Obsessed with discovering the truth, Clayton tracks Horn across the globe as the elusive ex-soldier burrows deeper and deeper into a world of shadows and intrigue. Lots of twists and turn.







▲ marley and me

Out: 13th March

Newlyweds John and Jenny Grogan (Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston) unsure of his preparedness for raising children, decide to adopt a dog. Then came Marley. The Grogans adopt the cute, twelve pound yellow Labrador, who in no time at all, grows into



a 100-pound steamroller of unbridled energy that turns the Grogan home into a disaster area. Amidst the mayhem he generates through the years, Marley sees the Grogans through the ups and downs of family life, through job and home changes, and most of all, through the myriad challenges of a growing family. A comedy smash in the States over last Xmas, is good to see Rachel from Friends can make hit movies.

WATCHMEN

Out:6th March

A complex, multi-layered mystery adventure, Watchmen is set in an alternate 1985 America in which costumed superheroes are part of the fabric of everyday society. When one of his former colleagues is murdered, the washed up but no less determined masked vigilante Rorschach sets out to uncover a plot to kill and discredit all past and present superheroes. As he reconnects with his former crime-fighting legion – a ragtag group of retired superheroes, only one of whom has true powers – Rorschach glimpses a wide-ranging and disturbing conspiracy with links to their shared past and catastrophic consequences for the future. Their mission is to watch over humanity... but who is watching the Watchmen? Forget X-Men, the Watchmen is the superhero fighting film to go crazy for.

LESBIAN VAMPIRE KILLERS

Out: 13th March

James Corden and Matthew Horne from Gavin and Stacey try to emulate their TV success with a homegrown big screen horror comedy flick to rival Hot Fuzz. Their women having been enslaved by the local pack of lesbian vampires thanks to an ancient curse, the remaining menfolk of a rural Welsh town send two hapless young lads out onto the moors as a sacrifice. Those two hapless lads are Corden and Horne. And if you haven't seen them on TV, you need to know that they have a great comic chemistry between them.

MOVIE BUZZ

A sequel to the Sex And The City movie is on its way - Sarah Jessica Parker, Cynthia Nixon, Kim Cattrall and Kristin Davis have all signed on to reprise their roles in the hit film. The four main actresses had, until now, only expressed their interest in shooting a second film in the franchise after the global success of the 2008 big-screen adaptation.

Diners in a New York tearoom were given a theatrical treat when Rupert Everett began rehearsing lines for his forthcoming Broadway debut in Blithe Spirit. The British actor is set to star in the revival of the Noel Coward classic alongside Angela Lansbury and Christine Ebersole at New York's Shubert Theater this month.

British comedian Stephen Fry used his time while stuck in an elevator in London to blog about the ordeal to his online fans. The funnyman was on his way to a meeting at the top of the city's 33-storey Centre Point Tower when an electrical fault brought the device to a halt, leaving all the passengers trapped.

The director of Jude Law's new movie Rage has praised the actor for making the "courageous decision" to tackle the role of a transvestite. The 38-year-old British star is set to shock fans as he dons women's clothing, a wig and make-up for his performance as supermodel Minx in the upcoming picture.

Hollywood bosses are set to turn the life of tragic star Judy Garland into a major movie. Film mogul Harvey Weinstein's company has acquired the rights to Gerald Clarke's biography of the singer/ actress, Get Happy: the Life of Judy Garland. Garland died of an accidental overdose in 1969 at the age of 47.

Goldie Hawn is plotting a movie comeback and wants to star alongside her A-lister daughter Kate Hudson. Hawn has been in acting retirement since finishing her last movie, 2002 comedy The Banger Sisters.

Cartoon hero He-Man is to be brought to life on the big screen in a new movie. Warner Bros has joined forces with action filmmaker Joel Silver and Kung Fu Panda director John Stevenson to create a live action version of the 1980s series.

Sylvester Stallone is bringing back Rambo for another big screen outing. The action man was suitably impressed with the success of his 2008 film, Rambo, and now he's scouting for locations for a fifth movie.



QUANTUM OF SOLACE

The hunky Daniel Craig returns as James Bond in this thrilling, action-packed adventure, which starts shortly after Casino Royale ends. Betrayed by the woman he loved, 007 fights the urge to make his latest mission personal. On a non-stop quest for justice that criss-crosses the globe, Bond meets the beautiful but feisty Camille who eads him to Dominic Greene, a ruthless businessman and major force within the mysterious "Quantum" organization. When Bond uncovers a conspiracy to take control of one of the world's nost important natural resources, he nust navigate a minefield of treachery, deception and murder to neutralize 'Quantum" before it's too late! Out: 23rd March - MGM and Twentieth entury Fox Home Entertainment



- BOYS ON FILM VOLUME 1 -HARD LOVE

A long awaited compilation that showcases nine incredible short films and documentaries, 'Boys on Film' deals with a wide range of contemporary topics – the pitfalls of online cruising, falling in love with your straight best friend, long distance relationships, growing old and gay gracefully, not to mention a fantastic mix of gay rodeos, sexually frustrated zombies and a documentary about the history of the Speedo. With over 2 hours worth of content and featuring some shorts that have never been shown in the UK before, Boys on Film is essential viewing.

Out 9th March - £14.99 – Peccadillo Pictures

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD all you have to do is answer this simple question: In personal adverts what do the letters 'wltm' stand for?



URBANIA

Simmering with an unnerving blend of eroticism and cruel certainty, Urbania is a psychological funhouse of moody cityscapes and taboo urban myths. Dazzling blue-eyed Charlie, a lost soul with a haunting past, wanders the dark streets of nocturnal New York City looking for a mysterious and handsome stranger he lusts and loathes. Stalking the night with both pent-up anger and bubbling sexual desire, he encounters kidney thieves, arrogant pickups, and dying friends (Alan Cumming – X-Men 2). Never completely sure of what is real or imagined; Charlie spirals into frenzy, desperate to find the answers to his puzzling life. **Out 23rd March - £9.99 – tla releasing**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD all you have to do is answer this simple question: What character did Alan Cummings play in X-men 2?



3-DAY WEEKEND

Long-term couple Simon and Jason, along with Cooper and his latest boytoy, meet annually for a three-day getaway. Looking to spice up the tradition, they add a twist – each invites one attractive, single friend to their mountain retreat. Soon a frisky former college roommate, a yoga instructor with a penchant for baring all, a bashful co-worker and a high-priced rent boy arrive to stir things up! From bed-hopping to break-ups this is 72 hours they'll never forget! **Out 9th March - £14.99 - tla releasing**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD all you have to do is answer this simple question: Who had a hit in 1987 with the song Rent?







ZAC ATTACK

WANT THE INSIDE SCOOP ON THE HUNKY HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL HOTTIE? YOU GOT IT! ZAC WAXES LYRICAL ABOUT COLLEGE, SHAVING HIS HEAD AND THE SECRET SCENES FILMED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE HSM3 DVD... THAT BOY IS SUCH A SWEETIE

You've got the world at your feet, Zac! Have you got any advice for people who want to follow in your footsteps?

The one thing I would say to anyone who is considering acting is do it because you love doing it. Don't do anything just to be famous. It would really suck if you had the fame without the love for what you do.

Do you still enjoy acting?

Are you kidding me? Of course I do! I wouldn't change anything for the world, although the fame part of this industry is tough to handle at times. I can tell you that fame is probably the most unadorable thing about acting. High School Musical is what got me here today and I'm very grateful – but the fame part isn't so much fun.

ls it difficult to relax when you're photographed wherever you go?

To be honest, I can't handle the paparazzi. They're everywhere. One of them was in a dumpster trying to take my photo the other day. It was crazy! Another time, one was hanging off the back of a pick-up truck driving down a road. They think they're being clever, but they're not.

Would you like to get away from all the paparazzi then?

Sure, I'd love to take a year off and travel the world under the radar. I would love to do it really low key. I wouldn't need to stay in fancy hotels or anything; I just want to explore – but I don't know how I'd do it. Would I shave my head to try and go incognito? Ha ha! I'm not telling.

What did you learn on the set of High School Musical 3?

I learned loads! I couldn't believe how much they stepped up the choreography and the music and everything. It's been an amazing experience.

Do you ever see the choreography and think, 'There's no way I can do that!'?

Sure, but you just have to get on with it. You have to meet everyone's expectations because you don't want to be the one to crack. You just have to put your heart into it and go for it.

What was the atmosphere like on set for the third movie?

I think we found the delicate balance between work and play on the set of High School Musical 3. We kept it interesting and had fun, but we also worked very hard and that's something that's very difficult to achieve. Usually, you either work too hard or have too much fun on a movie set – but we did both. I think we perfected that.

Are you going to miss the East High basketball court?

Ha ha! I'll never forget filming Now Or Never for the third movie. It was completely surreal because we were playing against a real team. Every time you missed a shot, people would boo. It was crazy!

How does it feel to know that you've finished all three films?

It's very strange. You know when the kids leave the wardrobe in Narnia and they're the only ones who really know what happened inside? Finishing High School Musical is kinda like that. It's very much like a fairytale because we've been in this crazy, crazy world together.

Does this mean you have a special bond with your cast mates?

Sure. It's really cool that we've got each other to relate to. I go home and it's fun to laugh about my adventures with my high school friends, but none of them can really understand all of the exciting and amazing stuff that's happened to me. But they also don't understand some of the things that aren't so great, too, like the fame.

Spill the beans, Zac... Do you sing or lip synch in front of the cameras when you're shooting the musical scenes?

We do actually sing when you see us singing in the movie because it makes the performance much more real. If you lip synch, it doesn't feel right and it doesn't look genuine, so it's much better to sing along to the music. We'll all sing along with the playback wherever we are shooting.

Are there any scenes that didn't make it

into the big-screen version of the movie? There are – and they were recorded especially for the DVD. There's a reprise of the song Right Here, Right Now, which is a really cool scene you'll see for the first time on the DVD.

With HSM behind you, are you scared or excited about the future?

I'm all of the above! It's scary and exciting, but that's exactly how you feel when you finish high school. You feel ready and you feel prepared, but you don't necessarily know what's going to happen. You're eager to find out!

So what is next for you?

've signed up for a movie called Footloose with [HSM director] Kenny Ortega. We're just trying to figure out how to do it at the moment – but it will be great to work on a musical movie again.

Will there ever be another High School Musical?

Everyone always asks this question! I will always support these movies. We've found something that kids are relating to around the world and that's very special. We didn't have anything like this before – and I think it would be great to continue the tradition for as long as kids continue to respond to it. We'll just have to wait and see what the future holds.



- HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3

Now in their last year, the movie sees hoopshooting Troy and brainy babe Gabriella struggle with their hopes and dreams for the future as they face the prospect of being separated after graduation. Troy is torn between a basketball scholarship and an internship at the Julliard school of performing arts – both of which are miles apart from his high school sweetheart. Meanwhile fellow Wildcats Chad, Ryan and Sharpay battle with their own teenage troubles and find themselves questioning who they really are and what they really want again.

As always, the High School Musical heroes do things their way by make a song and dance over everything to figure things out for themselves.

Out Now – Blu-ray £22.99 DVD £17.99 -(c) Disney

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD all you have to do is answer this simple question: What is the name of the school's basketball team?



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www.bjornborg.com

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www.olafbenz.com

Models: Dino Gamecho - Mr Gay UK/ Fresh Image Mark Appleyard – TerryGeorge.com Mathew Rough – TerryGeorge.com

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Swimwear available from: www.deadgoodundies.co.uk

WWW.MAG.BENT.COM

www.andrewchristian.com

CAN'T GET OVER HANDVER!

BERLIN BORING? ADRIAN GILLAN HAILS HORNY HERRS LESSER KNOWN GERMANIC GEM, HANOVER!

The state capital of Lower Saxony in Northern Germany, just South of Hamburg, on the River Leine, Hanover provided Britain with its 18th and 19th Century monarchs, mainly by the name of George; and miraculously emerged from the ashes of WW2, an enticing mix of historical reconstructions and cutting edge architecture!

Dozens of theatres, museums and art galleries, not to mention the world-renowned State Opera (built 1845-52) deliver top class entertainment in this metropolis of ½-million. From the stately royal baroque Herrenhausen Gardens to the maritime atmosphere of the popular Maschsee Lake and the cosmopolitan bustle in between, Hanover is a city of truly delightful contrasts.

Meander along the clearly marked Red Thread walk around Hanover's most beautiful and attractive central spots. Explore the City Centre - from the Central Station to Kröpcke, via Grosse Packhofstrasse to the Platz der Weltausstellung. Picturesque corners of the historic, half-timbered Old Town (Altstadt) quarter entice you – including its early 16th Century Old Town Hall. Other city highlights include the reconstructed 14th Century Marktkirche and the New Town Hall - built in 1913 and seat of the mayor.

Relax in the Eilenriede, Europe's largest city park, including a fine Zoo. Browse the arty Sprengel Museum - complete with works by Niki de Saint Phalle, whose distinctive, zany Nanas spill out onto the streets. Even head out of town to discover Hameln (Hamelin), of Pied Piper fame!

TO STAY

Concorde Hotel am Leineschloss (Am Markte 12; T: +49 511/35 79 10; www.concorde-hotels.de/ en/h_a_leineschloss/index.html) – A chic art hotel amidst the idyllic Old Town. Relax after a busy day in its stylish bar or cosy lounge. Next-door, the bistro Belmondo!

TO BOOZE 'N CRUISE

The gay scene is all clustered neatly near the centre...

FOOD Café Konrad (Knochenhauerstr. 34; T: (+49) 511 323 666; www.cafekonrad.de) – Modern, central multi-level café-bistro with street tables and summer garden, offering tasty, great-value food and excellent service. Le Fiacre (Weißekreuzstr. 20; T: (+49) 511 342 33; www.lefiacre.de) - Popular gay bar/bistro for last 35 years, North East of train station, albeit a tad rent-frequented.

BARS

Π

Belvedère (Gretchenstr. 16; T: (+49) 511 388 3301 – Friendly bar, likewise North East of train station Caldo (Bergmannstr. 7; T: (+49) 511 15 173) – Popular heaving, buzzing bar for the young pre-club crowd.

Fire-Bar (Knochenhauestr. 20; T: (+49) 511 215 7557 – Chicer, if generally quieter, than Caldo. Good food too.

CLUB

Fever (Mehlstr. 1c; www.fever-club.de) – Hanover stalwart gay-club, trolling a mix of House Trance, Charts, 80's and basically anything and everythin Open Weds – Sun, from 10pm on.

SAUNA

Vulkan Sauna (Otto-Brenner-Str. 15, entrance Hausmannstr; T: (+49) 511 15 166) – Large and clean; busy weekends, to let off steam. Sex clubs / shops

Kool's Kino (Scholvinstr. 2; T: (+49) 511 320 635; www.kools-hannover.de) – Sex cinema.

Joe's Dark & Play Rooms (Odeonstr. 6; T: (+49) 511 169 0664; www.joeshannover.de) – Like it says on the tin! Irrgarten (Reitwallstr. 4; T: (+49) 511 363 1523) – Another sex cinema.

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Air Berlin offers two daily nonstop flights from London-Stansted to Hanover. Tickets can be booked online www.airberlin.com, by calling the 24 hours service centre 0871 500 0747 or via trav agents.

For general info about Hanover, and the greatvalue 1- or 3-day Hanover Card which offers free public transport and discounts on key attraction www.hannover-tourismus.de or www.hannover.

TO PONDER

You've started working out at your local gym. You've come equipped with the exercise Bible: The exercise magazine, loaded with tons of Pretty Pictures of Berutiful People wearing Little or no clothing, along with the miracle exercises that got them that way. Will you Look exactly like the Person in the magazine Who swears by nothing but a particular Programme?

HERE ARE 10 QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK Yourself in order to make sure you get What you ask for.

What are you hoping to achieve from the exercise programme?

It is important to have a clear picture of what it is you are expecting from an exercise programme, or at least have a good idea of what you can actually expect from the exercise programme in terms of results. Results are not overnight miracles, but rather gradual progressions where the outcome is usually seen after a significant period.

How much time are you able to devote to exercising?

Ideally, cardio vascular training requires at least 3 days per week at a minimum of 20 minutes of continuous exercise (running, stairclimbing, etc). weight training, on the other hand, requires about 2-3 times per week of whole body training to get good results for the beginner lifter.

How much effort are you willing to put into exercising?

With cardiovascular exercise, the exercise needs only to be at a 60-80% of your maximum heart rate; this is a point where you are breathing somewhat heavily, but are still able to carry on a conversation while performing the exercise. When it comes to weight training, the trick is to overload the muscle(s) enough, then to do slightly more the next training session (ie: 'progressive Resistance').

What activities/pastimes do you enjoy doing? Many times exercise does not even seem like work if it is an activity that you love to do. DO WHAT YOU LOVE TO DO, and do it often.

MARCH 2009

Do you like to exercise alone, with a partner, or in a group?

Some people are more self-motivated, while other people feel they're more likely to get a good workout or stick with a workout programme if they exercise with other people.

Is there a particular sport in which you would like to excel?

Are you a competitive athlete who needs to improve upon an aspect of your fitness or technique or do you just want to simply improve upon a particular sport just for the love of it?

Do you have any (physical) limitations/medical conditions?

Having limitations of any kind, or any medical condition just means that the exercises have to be modified according to what you are able to do.

Do you like to exercise in a gym, at home, or outside?

Some people do have a preference, so keep that in mind when choosing what you want to do.

Are you basically an active, very active, or sedentary person?

If some people are as active as they say, ideally, there should be no need to 'exercise' because they would already be exercising more than enough.

Do you travel often?

You may even need a different exercise programme that is tailored especially for when you go on trips. Please consult a local trainer, or myself.

RULES-OF-THUMB TO MATCH AN EXERCISE PROGRAM TO YOUR NEEDS:

Losing weight

In order to melt off fat, which is not the same as just losing weight; it would be a good idea to pursue an exercise programme that requires a lot of activity. A good weight-training programme would help to shape your body, and even help burn more body fat by keeping your resting metabolism at a higher level.

Gaining muscle mass

Weight-training would be the answer here. The key to effective weight-training is 'progressive resistance' where you try to do a little more work with each workout, to stimulate your muscles into growing.

Increasing muscle tone

Performing repetitions of 15 and above (even above 12) is the preferred choice to getting good muscle tone without adding too much muscle 'bulk' (this is essential for all you models out there).

Increasing strength or power

Keep the repetition much lower, such as 6, 4 and even one. -Increasing cardiovascular endurance: One would need to do cardiovascular/aerobic exercise such as running, cycling, rowing, etc.

Increasing flexibility

Stretching exercises are performed for this purpose. It is strongly suggested that stretching be incorporated into everyone's exercise regimen.



hilfiger eau de toilette 100ml www.tommyhilfiger.co.uk

Like walking on jelly



itockist 0845 217 1360



Photo: Darrell Hirst

CLUB OF THE MONTH

Saucy Events is launching its dangerously hot club nights this Easter Weekend!

Saucy is the brand new events company launching on Saturday 11th April at Quake nightclub in Woking, Surrey. The 1000 capacity club will feature Tina Cousins singing her top 10 hits live on stage, there's also a bucking bronco rodeo, a massive raffle, pole dancers, drag queens and so much more.

Saucy Events is supporting the local charity GaySurrey and the scheme Club 4 Good. Whilst clubbers will be strutting their stuff on the dance floor, all proceeds of the raffle and some from the door will go straight to the charities such as those who support anti hate crime, anti bullying at school and pro-gay family groups. With the club nights taking place on a regular basis, there will be new and exciting events such as paintballing, go-karting, weekends away and even a saucy workout at the gym! Travelling from Surrey, Saucy will venture into Hampshire, Berkshire & surrounding areas bringing the South's gay community together for some hot fun times! These events are geared towards both the gay & lesbian community.

Barry Kent the founder & promoter of Saucy Events say: "I can't wait for the launch on Easter weekend. There's such a need for these nights in the South East. Just take a look at the Saucy group on Facebook! Within six, weeks it reached over 1100 members all wanting more info about such events. Saucy will take over straight nightclubs for one night only & turn them gay. With ever-changing drinks promotions, new themes & new venues you're sure to have a fantastic time by meeting new faces rather than the same crowd all the time!" To buy tickets for the launch or for more detailed information about Saucy Events visit

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QUAKE NIGHTCLUB WOKING SURREY FROM 9PM TILL LATE - E8 BEFORE 11PM, E10 AFTER, STUDENTS EG **SATURDAY 11TH APRIL 2009** [ERSTER WEEKEND]

Ride the Bucking Bronco, Tina Cousins, Big Brother Guests, Fantastic drinks promotions, Free drinks for drivers*, one of London's Finest DJs, Chart/ Dance/Funky Music, Miss Saucy & Drag Guests, MASSIVE raffle prizes, male/female pole dancers.

Free soft drinks based on driver bringing 3 people.



Advertise your event, venue or brand here for only £100!!

NOTTINGHAM CLUBBING

A stone's throw from the lively, cosmopolitan bar districts of Hockley and the Lace Market and minutes from the rest of Nottingham's gay venues; NG1 is more than just a postcode. This 820 capacity superclub is a Midlands mecca to all serious clubbers. Boasting 4 distinct, air-conditioned environments to cater to every whim of the discerning, disco baby, NG1 and its notoriously late, late nights are not to be missed. Hop on board 'Night Train' – every first Saturday (10pm- 6am) with DJs Sharon

Hop on board 'Night Train' – every first Saturday (10pm- 6am) with DJs Sharon O'Love and Deano for electrifying house and commercial beats from dusk 'til dawn. This recently launched late-night sensation is attracting a truly diverse crowd seeking the most hedonism from their weekend as possible. Join the fun. Every last Friday, direct from Manchester, brings the ever-popular Poptastic providing the ultimate in Party Night frivolity. The main arena plays pop of every variety in any combination, whilst arena 2 hosts a very distinct Indie ambience. Check in the club or on the website for any upcoming themed Poptastic nights.

NG1 holds appeal for all and never fails to deliver on fun, a friendly atmosphere, reasonably priced drinks and an

assortment of music and environments in which to enjoy them. Two dancefloors, a plush reception bar and a snug lounge make for great people watching, and for smokers, the large, all-weather, heated and seated smoking area is a true breath of fresh air.

NG1 is open Friday (10-4), Saturday (10-6) and Sunday (11-4). A breakdown of nights and admission prices can be found on their website www.ng1club.co.uk



EVERY 1st SATURDAY - EVERY MONTH

SAT 7TH MARCH SAT 4TH APRIL SAT 2ND MAY

10[™] - VERY, VERY LATE DJ'S SHARON ©LOVE + DEANO

76-80 LOWER PARLIAMENT ST - NOTTINGHAM - NGT TEH - WWW NGT CLUB CO.UK

10

Photos: Mark Hawkins

FEDERATION REVEALED

The wind is cool; the air is chilled so what's a girl to do. I'm not impressed with lashes that you have to stick with glue.

I'm taking more adventurous than boobs bought from a pack.

I'm stressed to bits with tits that get no action so I act... I'm feeling pretty certain that I'll lay under the curtain

And my mind will start to think about the things I want to shrink.

So then the drugs will take effect but I don't know what happens next.

So I succumb to slumberland and hope the surgeons washed his hands.

As they prepare a brand new me that's much better than previously.

Although it came with quite a price but that's just fine because it's nice.

Well now I'm off to shower clean after this makeover extreme.

With just one thing that's left to say and that's I've finally got my way....

Join us on the 7th March where we'll be revealing Federation's fresh new look, including a brand new stage set and themed décor to brighten her smile, a full face lift to take back five years to her younger stunning looks. Her ears pinned back to experience the new sound of her DJs. Lipo suction to her pricing resulting in a much slimmer ticket price, a whole new wardrobe for her dancers and entertainers to give her radiance, sumptuous new chill-out space (intensive care ward) featuring hospital beds, extra seating complete with trolley service to help her repair and recover.

All this and a few explosive surprises... Plus a new ticket price of £10 which includes entry to the official after-party at Mission for all at Federation.

Available from Fibre, Ace Clothing, Crash Records in Leeds and Clone Zone in Manchester or online from ticketweb.co.uk or £15 on the door Join a reunion of the original Federation legends Stuart Robinson, Marc Leaf, Michael Park playing upfront funky, chunky & tuff house in main room. DJs SAS take over the loading bay with two decades of house anthems & classics.

Plus all new entertainers and shows Kick start your night at our official pre party @ Fibre from 8pm and your last chance to get hold of an advance ticket and catch our VIP shuttle service to Victoria Works from 10:45pm until 2am. Carry on the party at our official after party, In:Session @ Mission, now free for everyone at Federation, use your ticket stub or get a hand stamp from Federation. Catch our VIP shuttle service to Mission from 4am Federation Extreme Makeover Saturday 7th March

@ Victoria Works, Bowling Green Terrace, Leeds 11pm until 5am

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loin the official facebook group or sign up for our free podcast/music downloads clubfederation.podomaric.com

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EXTREME MAKEOVER



REVEALING A FRESH NEW LOOK

SATURDAY 7TH MARCH

JOIN A REUNION OF THE ORIGINAL FEDERATION LEGENDS

STUART ROBINSON, MARC LEAF, MICHAEL PARK & SAS

PLUS ALL NEW ENTERTAINERS AND SHOWS

11PM UNTIL 5AM @ VICTORIA WORKS BOWLING GREEN TERRACE, LEEDS

NEW TICKET PRICE £10

(INCLUDES FREE ADMISSION TO THE AFTER-PARTY @ MISSION) AVAILABLE FROM FIBRE. ACE CLOTHING. CRASH RECORDS IN LEEDS. CLONE ZONE IN MANCHESTER OR ONLINE FROM TICKETWEB.CO.UK

WWW.CLUBFEDERATION.COM

Photos: Mark Hawkins

BOYZ 'N' GIRLZ CUM OUT AND PL

The Courtyard Parties 2009 Leeds now legendary out door Courtyard Parties will be back for 2009. Taking place in Leeds City centre between Bar Fibre and Queens Court, these unique events go down as the highlight of many peoples summer.

Fibre and Queens Court, these unique events go down as the highlight of many peoples summer. The Courtyard Party residents, Smithn Westn, Stuart Robinson, John Marshall, Ginna, and Jason Guy will be providing this year's sound track to the summer. With amazing drinks offers at both Bar Fibre and Queens Court, no wonder the Courtyard party attracts such a magical blend of people with the mix of sounds and fantastic atmosphere. Also this year, we will be pushing the boat out with production. The courtyard will feature a brand new thumping sound system courtyard will feature a brand new thumping sound system alongside two lasers. -Make a note - this year's Courtyard parties take place:

Sunday 12th April (Bank Holiday / Opening Party) 💼 Sunday 3rd May (Bank Holiday) 🖛 Sunday 24th May (Bank Holiday) Sunday 28th June

Sunday 26th July Sunday 30th August (Bank Holiday) Sunday 27th September (Closing Party) 4pm – Midnight Entry £3 before 7pm / £5 after. Drinks offers at bo<u>th Queens Court and Bar from 4pm til 7pm.</u> 4pm – Midnight www.barfibre.com

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WWW.MAG.BENT.COM

NORTH

Photo: Darrell Hirst

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ALL CHANGE

The Viaduct in Leeds has announced that Sunday Night is cabaret night with an all new production and a sparkling new cast. The delightfully delovely Miss Roxy and Miss Carla Jackson hold court from 8pm until late, with a show that continues to entertain throughout the night. Not only that but Viaduct's policy of keeping prices real means that special drinks promotions will be available as well as free admission. A new addition to the Viaduct is the launch of a brand new Members Bar where Topless waiters, shots dancers and shooter boys will be on hand to serve their exclusive customers from 2am-6am. The launch night is set for 21st March and to get youself that fantastic Member's card pop in to get a registration card or check out: www.facebook.com/viaductleeds 15.

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VIADUCT

Colvin Klein

Join our exclusive saturday late night

Topless waiters and shots boys Launch Nite 21st March Application forms available at the bar

WHAT'S ON AT YOUR VIADUCT

MONDAY – KARAOKE WITH DJ JACKIE TUESDAY – CHILLOUT NIGHT WEDNESDAY – PROMOTIONS NIGHT THURSDAY – GLAMOUR WITH MISS CARLA JACKSON FRIDAY – LUCY LASTIC PRESENTS "DIRTY LAUNDRY" SATURDAY – ANNA GLYPTA'S CAMP ATTACK SUNDAY – DAZZLING DIVA'S CABARET SHOW

The Viaduct, Lower Briggate, Leeds LS1 4AE Tel: 0113 3912741 viaductleedsfacebook

Advertise your event, venue or brand here for only £100!!

ABOUT TIME..

Is the quote often heard from many men and women who have enjoyed the theme nights at Blayds on Saturdays throughout February. The 'women only' night went down a storm when DJ Ltrax provided the entertainment in the form of some hot trax and Karaoke, which saw so many Xfactor wannabes having a go... and pretty damn impressive they were too. This means that everyone is looking forward to the next women only event on the 14th March. Meanwhile, the Bears, Cubs and their admirers has already generated a lot of interest from Facebook and at the bar itself. Blayds hopes to cater for more and more special interest groups, so if you have any ideas, please let the nice folk behind the bar know... Oh yes... and keep it clean.

www.facebook.com Blaydsbarleeds

NORTH

A big Blayds Thank you!

Support has also come from local businesses which again both Robert & Duncan couldn't have done it without them, specially from Janice at The Ballon Studio who supplied all the display for the re-launch party with the creative and design team help to provide innovative funky & fabulous decorations, they also provide lavish centrepieces, enchanting magical mood lighting, luxurious linens, soft velvets, satins & silks. Ballon Studio will take the stress out of your party and create your dream event and can be contacted on 0113 22 55 666

ballonstudio.co.uk

Upstairs at

3-5 Blayds Yard. Leeds, LS1 4AD

blayds bar (ABUV)



for Leeds

Something Fresh

THE CHAMPAGNE SHOWGINIS

Every Friday Drag DJ Anna Glypta

Sunday 1st March Male Stripper (Romeo) Sunday 8th March

Champagne Show Girls

Saturday 14th March Women Only

Sunday 15th March
Dame Shirley Bassey Experience

Saturday 21st March Men Only - Bears, Cubs and admirers

> Sunday 22nd March Champagne Show Girls

Saturday 28th March A Night at the Movies Come as your favourite movie star - Oscar for the best lookalike

Sunday 29th March

Upstairs at

HAPPY HOUR Every day from 5pm - 8pm All pints £2 and house spirits double & mixer £3

For more information on future events join Blayds Bar Leeds on Facebook.com

blayds bar (ABUV)

The entertainment will be held upstairs at Blayds (ABUV) and will be free entry. The room can be hired for private functions, contact Robert or Duncan on 0113 2445590 for more details 3-5 Blayds Yard. Leeds, LS1 4AD

NORTH

Photo: Darrell Hirst

PINK POUNDER

As one famous saying goes... if it ain'i broke, don't fix it ... and taking this theory to their collective hearts, the nice folk at Queens Court are pleased to announce the continuation of the ever popular "PinkPounder" every Thursday night from 8pm until 3am. Expect a trendy crowd of sexy boys and hip girls, whipped into a frenzy by DJ Scott Kelly of Homo and Climax. Two dance floors open, the music policy promises to be funky, slick and fresh, with a commercial soundtrack perfect for all those who like to start their weekend early. Dirt-cheap 'beat the credit crunch" drinks are available all night, including premium spirits such as Smirnoff and Bacardi and a top range of draught beverages. Doo tax is £2 before 10pm and £3 after, half price with NUS card. Drag host Chelsea Denton will be on hand to greet guests at the door and ensure everyone has a glamorous night, in her own inimitable way. So, party the night away with style from 8pm to 3am at Queens Court Leeds. Don't miss out on Queens Court's happy hour every day between 5pm and 8pm when all drinks are virtually half price!!!!.





The Bridge Factor

sponsored by Smirnoff Starts on 26th Feb Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Celebrity judges

Campland

Every Friday Hosted by award-winning Dj Danny Cher Bailey and the outrageous Miss Daisy Dupont Also Theme Nights 70's, 80's Plus Spin the Wheel with great offers

Saturdays

Danny Cher Bailey spins all the best tunes

Karaoke Sundays With Judy and Leroy

Bridge Night Monday

With Dj Degsie Drink offers

Tuesdays

With Miss Dasiy Dupont Giveaways and drinks promotions

Join us all me, Miss Myra our lovely manager Stuart and our stars behind the bars

The Bridge, 1-5 Bridge End, Leeds LS1 7HG

BRIDGE FACTOR

The Bridge in Leeds is gearing up for Bridge Factor 2009 – with more cash prizes than ever before. Last year's winner Chloe was the hit of Leeds Pride with her on-stage performance so, maybe it could be you who steals the show this August. As well as the contest, The Bridge has got a whole host of treats lined up including; Campland every Friday, Danny Cher Baily discoing it up on Saturday, while Sunday it's time to exercise your vocal talents at karaoke. DJ Degsie supplies the tunes on Monday and the vivacious Miss Daisy Dupont flaunts her wears every Tuesday.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH better than ever t's back bigger and

The only place for Gay Boyz, Girlz & their Friends to be seen!!

DRINKS FROM

EVERY THURSDAY Bom till 3000 WITH TWO FLOORS of funi FUNKY HOUSE & COMMERCIAL DANCE

CAMP POP 'N' CHEESE with DJ Scott Kelly of Homo @ Mission & Climax Sheffield

<u> queens-coutteouts D-RINKAWARE.CO.UK</u> DOOR TAX • FREE B4 8pm • £3 B4 Midnight • £4 After Midnight



NORTH

FORE FOUR FOR

However we spell it, 'Leeds 4th LGBT Pride is 4 us all'. That's the message from this years planning group who are pulling out all the stops for Yorkshire's 4most LGBT event. Tom Doyle, chair of the planning group said, 'The success of Leeds Pride is amazing, in 4 short years we have become one of the top mass participation events in Leeds city centre with an estimated 12 to 15,000 people taking part.'This year's event on 2nd August will again begin at Millennium Square at noon with the main stage sponsored by Real Radio. A bevy of top class and local acts is promised to entertain the crowds.

3pm is set off time for the massive parade of thousands of LGBT people, our family, friends and allies proudly processing on foot, in wheelchairs, on floats and buses through Yorkshire's stunning capital, eventually dispersing in the queer quarter around Lower Briggate and the Calls.

www.leedspride.com

THE NEW UNION

Since opening its doors in March 2007, Wakefield's 'The New Union' has grown from strength to strength, and that's thanks to our customers who have supported us. Whether it be a relaxed bite to eat through the day from our fantastic extensive menu, offering good home cooked food, a chilled after work drink, or simply a good night out, there is something for everyone.

Now at the heart of the Gay Community, The New Union attracts visitors from all over the UK.

Our Entertainers Marky Mark and Tommi B take you through to the early hours with the latest in house, chart and cheesy pop. Camp karaoke on Thursday nights test those vocal chords and is always good for a laugh!

Make a date in your diaries and join us to celebrate our 2nd birthday on Saturday 28th February. Live entertainment, cabaret and give-aways as well as the usual drink offers can be expected!



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BANISH THOSE BLUES

It may be cold and dismal of late - but a warm welcome always awaits at Flamingo - Blackpool, where a huge range of events and promotions helps you banish those winter blues, and the constant talked about credit crunch. It's not only weekends Flamingo excels, with regular cheap drink nights on Monday and Wednesday these popular nights attract locals and visitors alike. For those of you planning ahead, there is a bumper Easter planned, an Ibiza Foam Party on Good Friday, and the most in demand DJ's in the country playing a live DJ set on Saturday – Freemasons. If you haven't managed to catch them yet, you don't know what you are missing, they are awesome. Easter Sunday sees a welcome return for X-factor finalist the Spanish singing siren Ruth Lorenzo, her last visit brought the house down. Camp returns to Flamingo on Easter Monday with a live PA from Charlene.

Flamingo launches a new website in the next month, so keep checking the website for a new look for all ITP venues, and some exciting new features, offers, downloads and promotions exclusive to their website users. www.itpleisure.com/



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Good Friday Ibiza Foam Party "Bigger & Better"

Easter Saturday Freemasons "Exclusive DJ Set"

Easter Sunday Ruth Lorenzo "X Factor 2008"

Easter Monday Charlene "I've Never Been To Me"



Find us on Facebook

Windows Live

44 Queen Street, Blackpool, FY1 2AY, Tel: 01253 649151 www.Ramingoonline.co.uk

NORTH

BRAND NEW CLUBBING NIGHT IN MANCHESTER

Thursday nights are about to get exciting again in Manchester's gay village with the launch of a brand new event at superclub Essential, Thursday 26th March.

Essential knows how to pull the crowds in and with a celebrity packed line up already confirmed we're sure there will be hotties queuing round the corner to get in. Kelly Llorenna, Chahil featuring Nikki Belle and Out of Office featuring Marcella Woods are all confirmed to perform LIVE on stage.

Marcella woods are all confirmed to perform LIVE on stage. Top Pop DJ Nicksey (Key 103) will be on the Main Arena decks whipping you into a Pop frenzy, whilst DJ Aphrodite' and Thaddeus will be pumping out the house tunes from the Essential Lounge.

£1.50 drinks offers all night and special free admission for members and NUS card holders. For full events listing; www.essentialmanchester.com

BRAND NEW THURSDAY NIGHT - BRAND NEW THURSDAY NIGHT

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VIP Launch Thursday 26th March

for guestlist e-mail **and the set of the set**



PERFORMING HER MASSIVE DANCEFLOOR HITS

SPILIA

11PM - 4AM



Admission: Members & NUS FREE Others £2 B4 midnight, £4 after

Thursday 2nd April: Angie Brown performing Rockin' 4 Myself, I'm Gonna Get You, Playin' With Knives + more Thursday 9th April: Out Of Office feat. Marcella Woods performing Break Of Dawn, Hands Up, Beautiful



NORTH

QUEER BAR - THE LORD OF SUNDAY CLUBBING

The Sunday Sabbath has always had a home at Queer as the warm up to Essential. Now as a new clubbing season dawns the whole legendary event relocates to its spiritual birth place to fill out both Queer and GLAM every Sunday till an extended 4am.

With special guest Pop deejays entertaining our gorgeous clubbers in GLAM and Essential All-Stars mixing House tunes and dance floor anthems in Cafe Del Queer, this is sure to be where the Sunday faithful will party from dusk till dawn.

To spoil you further free admission will be given to all clubbers, plus take advantage of Queer's drinks offers all night, every night. £1.50 bottle VHF or Carlsberg and £2 house spirit & mixer (Vodka, Gin, Brandy, Whiskey).

Essential closes Sunday night in preparation for a great new event, coming soon.....for full event listings see; www.essentialmanchester.com





K.

By public demand...

Launch Party Sunday 1st March

FREE ADMISSION 9pm - 4am

GLAM - POP & PARTY TUNES QUEER - FUNKY HOUSE AND DANCE ANTHEMS

£1.50 bottle Carlsberg or VHF

£2.00 House Spirit & Mixer (Vodka, Gin, Brandy, Whiskey)



Essential closes Sunday night in preparation for a great new event, coming soon... www.essentialmanchester.com

TORTH



BOOGIE ON DOWN FOR A '70'S DISCO PARTY & CRUZ 101'

Cruz 101 re-creates those psychedelic days of the 70's and 80's with a weekend of funky pop and disco classics at the oldest & busiest disco in the Village! Strap on those platforms, pull on the big wigs and flares and get on down at Miss Cara's boogie nights.

Kicking off on Thursday 26th March -Cruz and Poptastic funk the night away at Back2Back with John Hamilton & the Poptastic gang spinning pop, disco, dance & r'n'b classics, while downstairs, in Sub, Rob James spins his unique mix of progressive house and trance. If you like it big then you're gonna get it on Friday 27th with a *Big Gay Friday 70's Style. Miss Cara & the Cruz team get down on it at the busiest Friday night party in the Village. Dress to impress - sequins, flares, spandex... the brighter the better. Pop & disco anthems with a 70's flavour upstairs and sultry house classics in Sub. Saturday 28th gives you that weekly fix of Drama Queen - the only place to throw shapes and work the dance floor like a diva in true Drama Queen style. Pop & dance, littered with loads of sparkly disco Cruz floor. fillers upstairs from the 80's and 90's, while Little Miss Natalie and the SuperChoons Crew take over Sub with uplifting trance and dirty bouncy house. Sunday Night Screamers on the 29th is dedicated to all the screamers who won't let the weekend finish. DJ Spook plays pop & disco with a healthy dose of party classics. The party comes to a close on Monday 30th with a Disco Inferno Extravaganza – Part 1. Disco Inferno Interno Extravaganza – Part 1. Disco Interno is the longest running night ever – over 16 years! This is part 1 of 2 specials featuring the original DJ's who kicked off this unique reinvention of the 70's. The night gets a shot of viagra and pumps you full of classic 70's, 80's and 90's with Almighty Donald slipping you seven inches of the greatest disco classics making you scream for more more more' and making you scream for 'more more more' and 'play that funky music'! Reliving her youth, Miss Cara dusts off the mirror balls and glam's up the club into a boogie wonderland. Collect 70p vouchers over the weekend for this amazing night or save for part 2.... coming soon!

or more info log on to www.cruz101.com

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Re-live those halceyon days of the 70's as Cruz 101 steps back in time for a Monday night Disco Inferno extravaganza at Miss Cara's Car Wash! Almighty Donald will play an ecclectic mix of the greatest 70's Disco Classics with Hi-NRG pumping Dance Floor Anthems & Euro Beats

Mon 30th March

Manchester's Favourite

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NORTH

FEDERATION MANCHESTER - EASTER 2009

The crème of Manchester's gay clubbing returns with the much-awaited first Federation of 2009. On Easter Sunday the 12th April, indulge yourself with the fierce, funky sounds of DJs Gregg Holden, Jason Guy and Nik Denton.

Once again The Ritz will be transformed by a full lighting system with lasers and a sound system to rock your ribcage, while the stage will be filled by the fit Federation Go-Gos, the weird and wonderful One-Love entertainment troupe and the extravagant gaggle of drag queens, The Fedettes. Other events for Manchester planned are Federation Manchester's 6th Birthday on Bank Holiday Sunday 3rd May and Bank Holiday Sunday 24th May so put these dates in your diary now.

Federation Manchester

Easter Sunday 12th April

10pm until 4am

@ The Ritz

Whitworth Street, Manchester

Full ticket information can be found at www.clubfederation.com

Free guestlist places will be given out on Facebook – make sure you join the Official Federation Facebook Group. You can also subscribe to the free Federation podcasts at www.clubfederation.podomatic.com

MARCH 2009

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THE CRÈME OF MANCHESTER GAY CLUBBING



FEDERATION MANCHESTER

EASTER SUNDAY 12TH APRIL

INDULGE YOURSELF WITH THE FIERCE, FUNKY SOUNDS OF DJS GREGG HOLDEN, JASON GUY & NIK DENTON

PLUS SHOWS FROM THE FEDERATION GO-GOS, ONE-LOVE ENTERTAINMENT TROUPE & THE FEDETTE DRAG QUEENS

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hard on,

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NORTH

organic move on manto

Organic and their after-hours collective move into Manto for a brand new series of parties in collaboration with the legendary Breakfast Club, together providing the ultimate after party for Saturday nights out in the village! Since Breakfast Club closed their doors almost three years ago Organic has filled the shoes as leaders of after-hours clubbing for Manchester Gay Scene. Now they will keep the clubbing hungry up late together in partnership with what they are calling 'Organic Breakfast' The launch party starts at 2am on Saturday Night/Sunday Morning of 01st March and features Breakfast Club and Organic legends Nik Denton and Gregg Holden, along side residents Babyjane & Ross Homson. Look out for the forthcoming Breakfast Legends night where a special guest DJ from the original years of Manto Breakfast Club classics. To find out more on Organic Breakfast Club classics. To find out more on Organic Breakfast Club classics. To find out more on organic Breakfast and their forthcoming events visit the website: www. organicmanchester.com or join their group on facebook.

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If you are planning a trip to the south coast this month you couldn't have timed things better because, no matter what the weather, Brighton's Winter Pride will keep you entertained. Last year the festival was a fantastic success with over seventy events across the city from Hove to Hanover. Thirty-seven different venues were involved along with local community groups, businesses and volunteers. This year it looks set to be bigger and better, with a whole new batch of fun events just made to tickle you gay funny bone... and all in aid of raising funds for the Summer Pride that has become one of the biggest events on the gay calendar.

Brighton Winter Pride - 7th -15th March www.brightonpride.org

WHAT HAS PRIDE EVER DONE FOR YOU?

Pride London has launched a search to find those people who's lives have been changed by Pride events to act as ambassadors for Pride London 2009.

Pride London is looking to talk to anyone who has a story to tell about how Pride, or a Pride festival event and how it influenced or changed their life in some way, and to find out what Pride means to them. We would especially love to hear from those who took part in Pride prior to the decriminalisation of homosexuality.

Maybe your first Pride London Parade helped you to realise it was OK to be gay, perhaps you and your partner met at Pride? Whatever your story we are looking for volunteers to be involved in some of our media work leading up to Pride '09 and we would love to hear from you. Commenting on the search, Patrick Williams Director in charge of

Williams, Director in charge of Equality and Diversity said "At Pride London we know how important it is to celebrate what

it is to be Gay, Lesbian Bisexual or Transgender, and we also know how much all of the nearly million people who turn up every year to watch the Pride London Parade enjoy it. We are really looking forward to hearing about some of the special moments which Pride has given to some of those people." www.pride¹ndon.org

ALL SYSTEMS GO

The launch party for Blackpool Pride 2009 took place recently and kicked this year's programme of events off in style. Nearly four hundred revellers packed into Mardi Gras on Talbot Road for a fun packed evening of great music, laughter and live entertainment.

Attended by The Worshipful Mayor of Blackpool, Councillor Mrs Mary Smith and the Mayoress Julia Massey, entertainment was provided by vocalist Sharon Wallace, Shania Twain tribute act Angie Langford and Blackpool vocal duo Unique88, who performed their final performance together to rapturous applause. A highlight of the evening was the auction and raffle presided over by Miss Stella Artois and Miss Roxy Hart, who not only had the audience in stitches but helped bring the total raised on the night to £1492. Mark Seargent, Chairman of Blackpool Pride said "What a wonderful boost to our 2009 campaign the launch party has been. It was so encouraging to see the event full to capacity and the tremendous fund raising effort will certainly set us on our way to making our May festival an amazing success'

Work is now underway to stage what is planned to be the biggest and best Pride yet.

www.prideblackpool.com



north East's Biggest gay pride

Record numbers are anticipated at the 2009 Northern Pride festival, which will see Newcastle become a northern Mardi Gras, With an estimated 5000 people expected to attend the Pink Picnic it really will be the place to see and be seen this summer. After hosting a successful festival in 2008, northernpride plans to improve on its fantastic first year, and to this end, are pleased to announce that this year's main event will be on Saturday 18 July 2009. With the appointment of John Harrison, who has extensive experience of events management on the gay scene, as Entertainments Director, northernpride believes that 2009 will be even bigger and better than ever before. Tom Gorman, Chair of the northernpride committee said "We're very excited about northernpride 2009, after an amazing event last year this will be a bigger and better celebration of the lesbian, gay, bi and trans communities. I look orward to seeing even more people joining us to have fun and enjoy an entertaining, safe and welcoming estival" We want to ensure that this year's event is as well advertised as possible, and so we are in the process of redesigning our website, www. northernpride.org.uk, and have relaunched our Facebook group. There are more plans in the pipeline o ensure that this year's event truly reflects the diversity of the North East's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities. ww.northernpride.org.uk

16th/17th/oy Wristbands now on sale www.prideblackpool.com

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Many have hailed Vauxhall as the new Soho – in other words... the place to be seen. One brand who made their latest venture right at home there is Chariots Sauna and even though it is 3 years old, as you walk in it feels like it was built yesterday. As far as I'm concerned Chariots Vauxhall has it all: The staff are all incredibly friendly and the night manager Stefan is stunning, if they don't sell it for you... perhaps this will.

The building is set under two rail arches, which gives it a slightly 'illicit' feel even though it is anything but... with its modern slick layout it never feels cramped, the well thought out lighting adds to the fantastic mood of the place, which seems to have endless space. Weekends are busy with around 500 men paying the venue a visit but even weekdays the popularity doesn't seem to decrease much at all. Clientele are from a real range; twinks to bears, muscles to skinny, which is why the management don't feel they need to do themed nights - the crowd is so mixed there is something (and someone) for everybody.

So whether you are in the two steam rooms or saunas, lost in the never ending maze of corridors, which lead you through glory hole cabins, private cabins, mirrored cabins, two video rooms and a dark room or dipping in the Jacuzzi... you're sure to have fun.

Vauxhall Chariots, Albert Embankment, London SE1 Opening hours Tuesday – Friday 12pm – 9am, Saturday – Monday open 24hrs www.gaysauna.co.uk/Vauxhall/ vauxhall.htm relax, steam, jacuzzi, meet men ...sauna, get clean, get dirty...

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JOCKS 'N' COCKS AND SO MUCH MORE

The Greenhouse in Luton keeps going from strength to strength as they introduce their special Jocks n Cocks night every 3rd Saturday of the month. An excuse, as if you all need one, to done your favourite undies and show off what you've got... there's something very sexy about that lovely bulge and now everyone can appreciate it. The Luton venue has all the usual amenities: Jacuzzi, sauna, fantastic new steam room, cinemas, showers and private rooms. Last month the venue celebrated its 12th anniversary with a huge party and continues to offer specialist nights and entertainment. There are hotel rooms available at £35 for a double room and even better mid week rates. The Greenhouse, Luton is busy with hours that seem to attract their incredible mix of customers.

10am – Midnight Mon – Thursday 10am – 4am Friday 10am – 6am Saturday 11am – Midnight Sunday

For further info call 01582487701 or visit www.gay-sauna.com





BELFAST

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MARCH 2009

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3y Lee Hudson

Thursday, 9pm on the dot and I was knocking on the door of my regular appointment, Mr. Davies. He'd booked my services for the past three months, every two weeks, same time, same place and I assumed, same sex. He said he liked my long slender legs, and 'admired greatly' (his words not mine) my tight, hairless but always available bum. The money was always there on the table when I arrived, should I want to check it, but I knew from our protocol, so far the money would be correct and that he'd be upstairs waiting until I stripped off and got myself ready for his appearance. It was a little bit of theatre that he enjoyed, making an entrance in whatever outfit he'd decided would complete the scene for him. Sometimes it was leather, occasionally rubber or some kind of uniform but often just leather straps and harnesses that framed his hairy body and emphasized his growing excitement. My job was simple; get my kit off, brace myself over the bed and wait for his 'surprising' arrival. l stood naked in front of the mirrors that surrounded the bed; he normally enjoyed watching himself as he stuffed my arse. He said he liked to see himself... and me... from as many angles as possible as his latex covered thick knob did its work. However, this time he reached under the bed and pulled out something and told me to get into them - it was a pair of waders. I'd seen anglers use them but couldn't understand why he wanted me to put them on but, as he was paying for my time, I never deliberately disappoint a client. This time he stood there completely naked with a raging hard on and as I looked at him quizzically, I tentatively slipped a foot into each wader. Bloody hell, the effect was startling. All those images reflecting back at me said one thing. HOT. The room was, as always, very warm and a slight, sweaty sheen had broken out all over my body, which complimented the shininess of the rubber. Then I moved my legs slightly and the sensation of that rubber sexily massaging the back of my bum cheeks and gently grazing against my balls sent my cock into throbbing ecstasy... I'd never been so hard. He let me enjoy this new feeling as he admired the look, letting his hands smooth and stroke up the rubber ending up gently massaging my arse cheeks. His hands were everywhere and as his feather light fingers touched my rigid cock, he slowly bent me over the bed. He admired my position for a longtime; obviously, the waders had given a different aspect to my bum hole. Eventually, he moved forward and forced his cock into what he'd paid for. As he shagged me in his usual no-nonsense, hard kind of way, the waders rubbed at my bollocks making the overall sensation just too much to endure. I held off for as long as possible but this was all new. The situation got the better of me and I exploded in moments, which isn't like me at all. He must have felt my arse tighten as came in seven long spurts and I heard him let out a huge 'Whoop' of joy as he continued to reach his own orgasm. He was like a man possessed as my arse was pounded hard and frantically to completion, it was almost as if he'd never shagged me before. A new strength and purpose seemed to have gripped him and as my body rippled under the onslaught, the rubber vibrated against my thighs, bum, bollocks and dick making me into an instant rubber slut and enjoying a completely new fetish.



ADVICE & COMMENT SIMON & BEYONCE

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

Simon

SQUS

Dear Simon

I had an operation a few months ago on my testicles that led to one of them being removed. Since then it's been a struggle to get used to it and has put me completely off sex. Well that's not technically true, I am scared of being rejected. I know people find that part of the anatomy quite a turn on and with only half what other men have I feel inadequate. Anon, Manchester

Dear Anon,

What you have gone through is quite an ordeal without adding more pressure on yourself. You need to talk to your GP as there are prosthetics that are available should vou feel the need, and if he may be able to suggest a help group. I have slept with a guy with only one testicle and it didn't put me off. Guys will like you for what you have got... not what you haven't.

Dear Simon,

Things haven't been right with me and my partner for some time. I had been mulling over the idea of dumping him but kept thinking that I should give him another chance. Suddenly he sat me down and told me it was over, that he doesn't feel the same as he did about me once and has actually been sleeping with other people. I want revenge but at the same time I want to stay friends. What should I do? Mark, Edinburgh

Dear Mark,

OK Mark let's take a bit of a sensible look at this. He's had the guts to sit you down, while you were just happy to let things bob

along. If you were really thinking of dumping him... why didn't you? Could it be that you are only now thinking you wished you 🧧 had... and got in first so to speak. What revenge are you planning? Sleeping with someone else, sleeping with someone he's slept with hoping you're better a better shag? Whatever your plan just think on... there will be absolutely no chance of staying friends if you do something stupid. No one likes a nut case... just get over it and move on. Stop thinking that Gossip Girl is a guide to how life should be lived.

Dear Simon

l can't stop watching straight porn. l am addicted. I don't know what it is as I don't want to have sex with women at all but watching a man giving a woman a good sorting out really gets me off. I still want to have sex with men, I just want to watch them at it with a girl too. Bob, London

Dear Bob,

l don't see a problem here. If straight porn is floating your boat then good for you. If you're focused on the guy all the way through it... then you know where you feelings lie. If the girl is turning you on maybe you should go out there and try it. I know gay guys who like straight porn because they can simply pretend that they are the woman on the receiving end of a hard 'straight' shagging. Sexuality is fairly fluid so do what turns you on. I am sure with the joys of the internet you should have no problems. Go out and play I say.



He wore an All Saints leather jacket and those baggy jeans safety-pinned at the ankles. His tops were always low-cut and when he wasn't wearing pointy shoes he was wearing black pumps, as is all the rage now in that particular brand of dive where you get a line of Special K with every drink. Top the image off with bleach blonde hair and a predilection for wearing sunglasses in the dark, and there you have him. The boy beautiful. A portrait of the young man as pretentious.

I should have known better. I did know better; I was being optimistic.

There was something about his diminutive charm and his cute, puppy features that made me want to mother him. I took him for dinner, introducing him to squid and pigeon. I told him how I used to cut manilla envelopes along the side, open them out, and turn them into covers for the books I wrote as a child. I told him about our games of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe in the snow, when I always played the White Witch. I wanted to open up more, tell him deeper things, darker things, but years of practise taught me to keep that back. And he seemed different to those Vivienne Westwood clones undulating in the damp corners of warehouse nightclubs. Sure, he liked to party, but he liked to lie next to me in bed, staring at the ceiling and talking for hours. He liked to fall asleep in my arms on the sofa. He was more interested in having a good time than scoring his next fix of whatever party drug was in vogue. I could relate to that. It made me feel younger. fresher, as though I hadn't been through the motions with guys like him a million times before.

So I smiled and said all the right things, and occasionally swooned and choked and giggled.

He seemed eager. Every day, he'd text or call. 'Can we meet up today?''Want to go shopping tomorrow?"How's your day been?'The usual.

It was fun. It was summer. Everyone else was doing it, so why not me? 'He's a tramp.' I was told, 'He's a thief.' 'He's a

liar.''He'll play you like everyone else.'

No, I thought. I'll give him a chance. And for every naysayer, there was someone willing to sing his virtues: 'He's a sweetheart."He's lovely."He's not a slag. The usual unspecific faint praise.

10.255

We went to the beach. Took our shoes off and stepped out over the rough shingle. Together we hobbled, as if over hot coals. to the water, laughing and joking. The sea scythed inwards as though ready to swallow up the land, a deep, grey thing so unlike the blue waters I'd splashed in as a child visiting ancestral islands. We collected crabs in the tupperware containers we'd brought our sandwiches in. Little presents left to us by mermaids; tokens of affection passed between us like notes at the back of the classroom.

He made a face with shells and held my hand. His little fingers stroked the tender ball of my palm, tickling me. I switched my phone off and pretended we didn't have to return home tonight or tomorrow. As if we could suspend whatever passed for reality and stay instead in this fun place, where serious matters were irrelevant.

I knew it wasn't love It wasn't about that He was energetic; he was delicious. His smile was as wide as the moon.

Yes, I thought. I'll give him a chance.

'What are you thinking?' he asked, dangling his legs into limpid pools, his jeans rolled up to his knees. His legs were hairier than I thought possible for someone who looked so vouna.

'Nothing much,' I replied, beaming, 'What are you thinking?

He smiled, flashing the front tooth that overlapped its neighbour. 'It's just such a nice day.

When he leaned over to kiss me, I bent in closer, to feel the warm zephyr of his breath against my neck. He planted it, wet and soft, below the cusp of my ear and I shivered, not from cold but from him. I didn't want it to end.

'So what are you doing tomorrow?' I asked. I wondered where next we could go.

'I have a date,' he said, making little splashes with his toes.

Lalmost backtracked and said, 'Pardon?' But I couldn't. Instead I played it off, as though I weren't shocked, a slow landslide of despair cascading down my back.

'Oh, cool,' I said, trying to smile still. I looked down at my own feet. They were pink and smooth, pumiced by the salty water, but the gaps between them were starting to get sore.

'Shall we get back soon?' he said. 'It's going to rain.

I nodded. 'Yes, it is,' I said, and realised I couldn't look at him any longer.

Sevoncé XXX



Competition Time Bent, APN House Temple Crescent Leeds, LS11 8BP or

comp@bent.com (inc. name and address) 6. Proof of delivery or email will not constitute proof

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Philip has just started to write detailed monthly travel horoscopes in addition to his existing content of weekly love & gay horoscopes, daily horoscopes and weekly & monthly in depth scripts for phone lines.



Sc. S.

lustrations: Oliver Weiss/oweiss.com

PISCES FEB 20th - MAR 20th

You don't have to warn someone that pride goes before a fall; they will witness this for themselves this March. A colleague or acquaintance may have over-committed themselves and have made one too many promises. You intend to stay well within your limits. Love plays a big part in your life at the moment. An affectionate and adoring mate knows how to make you feel special. Watch your diet as the month ends or you could put on a few extra pounds.



CELEBRITY PISCES

20/02 Ivana Trump 21/02 W.H. Auden 22/02 James Blunt 23/02 Melinda Messenger 24/02 George Harrison 25/02 Sean Astin 26/02 Johnny Cash 27/02 Elizabeth Taylor 28/02 Vaslav Nijinsky 01/03 Ron Howard 02/03 Daniel Craig 03/03 Jean Harlow 04/03 Chastity Bono 05/03 Rex Harrison 06/03 Betty Boo 07/03 Rachel Weisz 08/03 Freddie Prinze Jr. 09/03 Juliette Binoche 10/03 Prince Edward 11/03 Rupert Murdoch 12/03 Jack Kerouac 13/03 Adam Clayton 14/03 Michael Caine 15/03 Michelangelo 16/03 Jimmv Nail 17/03 Kurt Russell 18/03 Vanessa Williams 19/03 Bruce Willis 20/03 Holly Hunter

Aries (Mar21/Apr20)

As March begins, you will be glad to see the back of a project that has gone on for ages. It may have been left half-finished because of a lack of funds or help. Getting some things over and done with could also signal the return of your vitality and your enthusiasm for the job. Seek the company of quiet friends during the middle few weeks of the month. Excitement, in any way, would not be good. Romance will be low-key but not without its pleasurable moments.

Taurus (Apr21/May21)

You might fall out with someone you normally get on well with. While defending your own interests, you could actually start to realise others do have a point in what they're saying. Even so you will need time, over the weeks ahead, to think over the things they suggest. Also, because you aren't discussing trivial matters, you must let others know they shouldn't rush you. A neighbour is meddlesome and nosy towards the end of the month. Refuse to answer their prying questions.

Gemini (May22/June21)

You achieve something, as March begins, that takes you by surprise; you really didn't think you had it in you! Give yourself a pat on the back. You're feeling more confident but take care not to go over the top or there may be a long way to fall on the other side! Let things simmer down and get over the excitement before you take on anything more. Expect the latter half of the month to be sociable and you could be on the receiving end of a surprise invitation.

Cancer (Jun22/Jul23)

You are in a surprisingly determined mood now. If you have been avoiding legal or financial dealings, this is the month you will take the bit between your teeth and go all out for what you want. At work you will be more than up to taking on new responsibilities. In fact you're only too ready to step onto the breach left by a departing or sick colleague. You get your ideas across effectively; this will go a long way towards advancing your career. Your openness enhances romance this March.

LCO (Jul24/Aug23)

Finances are in for some improvements. In order to see the full benefit you may still have to cut down on personal expenditures for a wee while. Such measures will be worth it as this could remove something that has been a serious worry for some time. Although you're on the go a lot, you end the month longing for peace and seclusion. Indulge yourself in a purely escapist exercise without feeling even the tiniest bit of guilt! Your partner and friends are incredibly obliging.

Virgo (Aug24/Sept23)

The start of March could see the end of one phase in your life and the start of a new set of conditions. If you are feeling apprehensive about

this apparent watershed don't be. You will soon adjust and you may even find new circumstances more preferable. A new romance may encounter some bumpy patches at first but it will, on the whole, be a stable one. A softly-softly approach in your closest relationships will serve you best throughout March.

Libra (Sept24/Oct23)

You're full of energy as March begins; why not put this to good use in a work situation or for a group you're involved in? Others will be grateful for your willingness to set a new project in motion. You and someone you've recently met are working extremely well together. Sport too, could help to burn up some of your energy over the weeks ahead. At home, a top-to-toe cleaning session could be on the cards later in March.

Scorpio (Oct24/Nov22)

A romantic few weeks are forecast. It's a time when you'll be able to give full rein to your passionate and demonstrative nature. Even so it would be wise not to let a note of jealousy creep into your relationship. Not only would this spoil what could be a wonderful time but it is probably totally unjustified. Be discreet about who you confide your innermost thoughts to as March comes to an end.

Sagittarius (Nov23/Dec21)

Emphasis is on home and family affairs. You're slightly restless and you might feel inclined to take a few days off work in favour of a family outing. If you've been focusing a lot on your work recently, your sentiments will be appreciated by your loved-ones. Joint arrangements will keep you fully occupied mid-March. If you're single, new opportunities will come through an old friend as the month ends.

Capricorn (Dec22/Jan20)

You're unusually communicative; this should be a great advantage in your closest relationships. There may be an urgent need to put your point of view forward; others will listen to what you have to say. Your partner or a close friend will urge you to enter a joint venture during the middle of the month. Make your feelings clear from the start. Jointly means fifty-fifty so do be sure that you get your say in all important matters.

Aquarius (Jan21/Feb19)

Your powers of communication will be a great advantage as March begins. Someone turns to you to break some difficult news to a neighbour or colleague. They may need support, if only briefly, and are the best person to give it. As the weeks progress, you might feel at a little low. This is probably the result of the hectic and demanding start to the month. Put your feet up and relax and your vitality will soon be restored.

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march 2009

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