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QeVoice Magazine w March 1998 w Issue 3.5 w El Niño was here.



page 13 **Perfectly Frank**

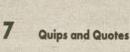
Interview by William Attewell

Congressman Barney Frank has been a champion of issues important to the gay and lesbian community and the Democratic Party. Recently, Frank spoke with Q. Voice about politics, sex scandals, and Tammy Baldwin.

page 23 **King Lear** Jorge Cabal photographs the cast of King Lear.



News & Views



10 The World in Brief with Rex Wockner

The Latest Dish

18 Art's Page

The Regulars



38

39

45

Casual Observer by Ed Grover

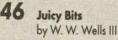
35 Watt's This? story/photo by Waswo

> Ethan Green by Eric Orner

Q.Books Radclyffe Hall: A Woman Called John reviewed by Ed Grover

41 The Bazaar One Stop Classifieds

> Q . Movies Live Flesh Reviewed by Kevin John



page 29 **Much Ado About Lear** Story by Dorothy Austin

same name on HBO and the Simpsons.

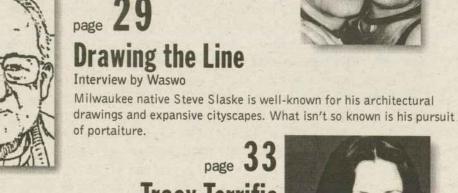
Ambiguity and audiences are at work in the PTTP' controversial production of King Lear at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

> On our cover: Reginald Meneses from UW-M's Production of King Lear. Photo: Jorge L. Cabal

NEXT Q. VOICE: Deadline: March 19 . Appearing: March 26

page 33 **Tracy Terrific** Inteview by Tim Nasson Q . Voice talks with comic chaemleon, Tracey Ullman about her just released book: "Tracy Takes On," her show of the





The Latest Dish

South Park Picks on Streisand

Barbra Streisand's prickly sensitivity must have been put to the test with the Feb. 18th episode of South Park, which portrayed Streisand as a bitch of monstrous proportions, literally. Taking on the diva was good for business, as the show received higher ratings than ABC's Prime Time Live, the first time a Comedy Central program has outdrawn a major network show. South Park definitely has a queer sensibility; its characters have included a sexually ambiguous teacher (who dressed like Marilyn Monroe for Halloween), a lesbian substitute named "Ms. Ellen," a gay dog and Brian Boitano.

Skating Out of Speculation

In a front-page story from February 15, **San Francisco Chronicle** sportscolumnist Gwen Knapp reports on the refreshing openness about sexual orientation the Canadian's Olympic Women's Hockey Team has. Coach Shannon Miller "is the only female head coach among the six hockey teams in the Winter Olympics," Knapp writes, adding she"s been the target of gay-baiting attacks.

"Rumors that she was having an affair with one of her players, and cutting other women in favor of her alleged lover, have persisted for almost three years," Knapp says, noting that she's since been cleared of all allegations.

"It's not unusual for people to make enormous leaps of judgment and connect women's team sports, lesbianism and unethical behavior. What is unusual is for a team to acknowledge candidly, and without apology, that there are lesbians on its roster. Most teams dodge the issue or dismiss it as irrelevant. Ultimately, they are implying that heterosexuality prevails and, by extension, that sexual diversity threatens a team or a sport," she writes. Miller is quoted as saying, "'Are there some gay women on our hockey team? Yes, there are. Do the straight women care? No, they don't. Is it an issue on our team? No, it is not.""

Spring Edition of A&F Quarterly is Out

If you haven't yet picked up a copy of this **Abercrombie & Fitch** catalog, here's your wake-up call. Four times a year A&F Quarterly comes chocked full of frolicking twinks sporting A&F's latest.

Yes, there are clothes, and even a few women thrown in for good measure, but it almost seems an after thought. The catalog features more full page homoerotic poses than most issues of **XY Magazine**, and the quality of the photog-



*PAGE 4

raphy makes it near coffee table book quality. For only \$10 an issue you can have it delivered to your home, just call 1-800-432-0888, or stop by any Abercrombie & Fitch retail outlet.

"Rainbo Toppers" Tries to Become New Symbol of Diversity

How many times have we seen a rainbow flag bumper sticker on the car in front of us and said, "There's one"?

Now, rainbow colored antenna balls designed and manufactured by PromoToys, Inc. as marketing tools for select products, have been ordered by Norcom Communications of Houston, TX, to be marketed by gay and lesbian communities throughout the U.S. as **Rainbo Toppers**.

These 'Tenna Heads will feature rainbow colors, a design that has come to represent diversity and which has become popular as bumper and window stickers at various Gay Pride parades around the country.

The balls will be introduced this year in Houston, Dallas, Austin, Miami, San Francisco and Palm Springs, according to **Jeanne Maree Smith** of Norcom. "Our plan is to distribute a percentage of annual sales of RainboToppers to nonprofit organizations that support HIV awareness and prevention," she said.

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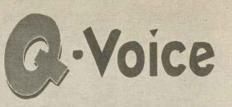
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Quips and Quotes



That Sinking Feeling

"In Rosarito [Mexico] during the Titanic filming, Leo[nardo DiCaprio] and four or five of his gang were tossed out of a local disco, Rock and Roll Taco, for 'dancing inappropriately, with one guy lying on top of another guy,' according to the club's manager."

-People magazine.

Inspired Rosie

"Any child can look at me and draw whatever conclusion they want to inspire them in their life. I do not mind being used that way. But I don't have a desire to do that for adults. I don't want to have some adjective preceding my name for the rest of my life, whatever it may be, however people want to pigeonhole me. Is that mildly vague enough?"

-Rosie O'Donnell to US magazine, February issue.

Let's Discuss: Is Hillary a Lesbian?

"None of what I'm about to say is necessarily a fact. But let's assume, OK, that his [Bill Clinton's] sexual relationship with Hillary is not all it's supposed to be, let's assume that some of the allegations that Hillary — sometimes not necessarily being into regular sex with men — might be true."

-Political guru and sometimes Clinton adviser Dick Morris on KABC radio in Los Angeles, Jan. 27.

"As a lesbian, I absolutely reject that [Hillary] is a lesbian. She's a puritan. The woman is an icebox."

-Author Camille Paglia on the Hillary lesbian rumors.

"She's not gay. God no. I've only met her once, and I can't pass . myself off as her best friend. But there's no way she's gay. Not in a million years [She's a] woman who very much responds to men."

-Lesbian author Rita Mae Brown on the Hillary lesbian rumors, to The New York Post.

Cease Fire!

"All that has to happen for hostilities between queers and Xtian fundies to cease is for you guys to stop fucking with us: stop telling lies about us on your idiotic TV shows; stop opposing equal rights for gays and lesbians; stop calling her Ellen 'Degenerate'; and stop having a shit fit every time we drop by Disneyland."

-Syndicated columnist Dan Savage.

Career Girl

"I see people, but I don't think I need to be in love right now. Actually, I have been in love, but much of the time I prefer [it] when I'm not. It's another job, another career."

-Filmmaker John Waters to the Advocate.

Chat-O-Rama

"Gay chat rooms can be either a hunting ground for That One Special Someone, a means to 1970s-style fast-lane promiscuity (but with 1990s-style efficiency), or a venue for that most distinctive '90s phenomenon of all, cybersex. Gay chat rooms can bring out the worldclass fabricator in a person who never thought he was capable of deceit, yet also allow some people to tell their own deepest truths for the very first time. Indeed, with their wide-ranging coverage of sexual fetishes, chat rooms have made it possible for many people to **discover** deep truths about themselves. Meanwhile, the plentitude and popularity of chat rooms with names like "str8 but curious" has bolstered suspicions that the percentage of people whose essential orientation is homosexual is not **under** but **over** 10%."

-Writer Bruce Bawer in an Advocate column.

Sexual Tension

PAGE 7

"American cinema seems less like real life. And each time, [filmmakers] are more afraid to represent life. Sensuality is one of the few presents nature has given us. It's a present we must celebrate. But here [in the U.S.], when a film explores that, it makes people nervous."



-Gay Spanish filmmaker Pedro Almodovar.

Compiled by Rex Wockner and our crack news sources around the world. Seen a good quip or quote? Send it to us at Quips and Quotes, QeVoice World Headquarters, P.O. Box 92385, Milwaukee, WI 53202, or e-mail to qvoice@aol.com

The Casual Observer

by Ed Grover

Using The "O" Word

n 1996 after I did the "Old Gays" issue for Q•Voice, I sent a copy to Shevy Healey of OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change). She had been of great help in directing me toward research resources and allowed me to quote from some of her writing. She e-mailed back congrats and brought up her pet peeve: Using every word but "Old" to describe who we are.

She counted the instances I did this and gave me a rough tally. It seems I used the words "Elder" 8 times; "Older" 25 times; "Senior" 3 times and actually only used the word "Old" 7 times. She said, "It's hard to use the word 'Old' given the amount of brainwashing we've had, but it is also so empowering when you can get past the bad stuff and just say it!" For most people what



comes up is the instant picture you get of "Old". As for the word "Older," her favorite retort to that is: "Older than what?"

So ... we're all old, or getting older — as in baby-boomers. That whole group is about to start joining the ranks of the retired, and the government is already going up for grabs on what to do about Medicare and Social Security. President Clinton has announced a proposal to make Medicare coverage accessible to those age 55-64 for premiums of \$3,600 to \$5,000 per year. This proposal includes the baby-boomers — about 3 million of whom are uninsured. I remember being without insurance for about 15 years and it was scary — I couldn't afford to get sick.

Naturally, the Republicans don't like this idea at all, while the Democrats are calling it a "humane effort." Clinton wants the national surplus from his proposed balanced budget to go into the Social Security fund. The Republicans want to give it all back in a tax refund. Get Real!

Sure, I could sure use a little extra money, but I'd rather see Social Security solvent so there will be enough for those who come along in the future.

On the local front: In an attempt to increase customer satisfaction and public accessibility, The Milwaukee County Department on Agent's (MCDoA) Information and Assistance phone lines will now be staffed from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. This change in hours will accommodate those individuals from the community who need to obtain information early in the day. The phone number to call to reach an Information and Assistance Social Worker will remain the same: (414) 289-6874.

In the Madison area, SAGE/Dane is involved with "Shake It Up!" in getting out some Annual Political Effectiveness Awards on March 15. The bad guys (Serattti and Tommy Thompson to name but two) are all getting day-glow painted cow-pies delivered to their offices. Sounds like fun.

SAGE/Dane's men's and women's groups continue to meet on a weekly basis for movies, chats, tea, good dish sessions and other supportive activities.

SAGE/Dane recently formed a Housing Committee to study the possibility of developing a financially viable gay and lesbian retirement facility. Preliminary discussion began with a gayfriendly housing developer. The proposed building is to be designed from the input of potential occupants. To this date I've heard nothing of the outcome.

Sage/Milwaukee has found itself a home at Lake Park Lutheran Church, where they continue to meet, show movies and have other events of interest. The SAGE women bowl on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Landmark Lanes. SAGE/Milwaukee also has some events, like their "Annual Hearts and Flowers" Pot-Luck and Tea Dance, at local bars. I went down to "Just Us" for this last event, specifically so I could talk to Eldon Murray, Founder and Chairman of the Board of SAGE/Milwaukee, who was named to the Advisory Board of Commissioners of MCDoA in 1997.

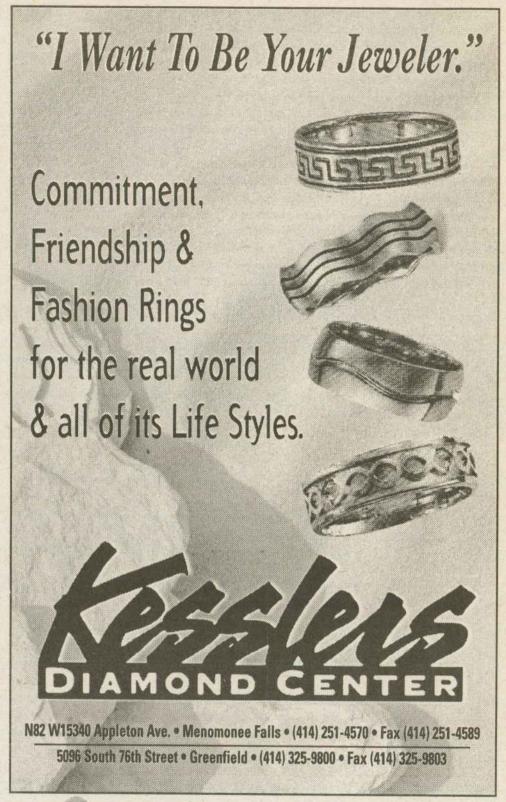
Eldon told me that SAGE/Milwaukee is sponsoring a new men's discussion group beginning Friday, March 27. The group will be facilitated by Jeff Buckles and will focus on topics of interest to mature men. Topics will include Dating and Sex, Forming Relationships, and Socialization in general. The group will meet at the SAGE room of Lake Park Lutheran Church from 6 to 8 p.m. It is hoped that group members will socialize after the meeting. For more information call SAGE at (414) 271/0378.

New on the Milwaukee scene is Arlene Kochman, MSW, CSW, who was the Executive Director of SAGE/New York before moving here to work for CAIR. Kochman leads the SAGE Bereavement Support Group, and is currently on the Board of SAGE/Milwaukee. She is also involved with a new service for SAGE members who wish to get information about social services that are available in the community. If you feel you need help with such a resource for yourself or someone you are caring for, please call SAGE at (414) 271-0378.

Eldon also mentioned that some research has recently been done that indicates that men above the age of 50 are being diagnosed with AIDS faster than in the younger groups. He said, "We always seem to think it's the young people." He said that articles were published recently in the gay publications and the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel. So, when you see all those reminders about safer sex, remember that they're not just aimed at the young crowd. If you're still active, play safe. Let's be careful out there.

The Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) of the Medical College of Wisconsin received a grant to study Mid-Life and Aging Assessment for people who are 50-years of age and over and are HIV positive. They will explore the special issues and needs of this population. A group of eight to ten people is dealing with these issues in a time-limited, professionally led group. This study will help CAIR to make a proposal, which will go to the National Institute of Health. They will try to devise a model AIDS prevention program. For more information on this study group, you can call Arlene Kochman of CAIR at (414) 456-7731.

So, there it is ... a bit more information than you thought you knew about what's going on with us "OLD" folks. We've been busy and, as the SAGE name translates: it's Senior Action in a Gay Environment. They're looking for new members, so give them a call.



PAGE 9

The World in Brief

THE NETHERLANDS OKS GAY ADOPTION

Marriage law and the month-old "Registration of Partnership" law are now virtually identical in The Netherlands.

The government said it is removing the only clause thatmade the two laws significantly different: Registered partners will now be permitted to adopt children.

"There must be better legal protection of children brought up by two people of the same sex," the cabinet said in a prepared statement. "That means adoption must be possible for two peopleof the same sex."

The cabinet also granted non-biological parents equal say in children's upbringing. "This right is acquired automatically if a child is born within a registered partnership," the government said.

Even though there are now no significant differences in the rights and obligations of married heterosexual couples and gay/lesbian or straight registered partners, registered partnership is still not marriage itself. Dutch activists, therefore, plan to continue to fight for the right to marry under the regular matrimony laws.

Denmark, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden also have registered-partnership laws. In general, the laws grant all rights of



matrimony except access to adoption, artificial insemination and church weddings. Hungary recognizes common-law gay marriage, withholding only the right to adoption.

N.Z. TRANNY HONORED

New Zealand's "Tranny Granny" has become the first transsexual to be made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for service to the community.

Jacqui Grant, who lives in Moana, was honored for her work with young people, including having fostered more than 50 children over the past 18 years.

Grant has lived as a woman for over 25 years and is thought to be the only transsexual approved for fostering by the state Children and Young Persons Service. She also runs courses for children with behavioral problems and founded Moana Zoo, a 50-acre (20hectare) home for endangered animals.

Grant is presently a candidate for the Moana/Paroa ward of Grey District Council. Recent polls suggest she has a good chance of winning.

BALEARICS NIX TRANNY PROTECTIONS

A Parliamentary committee in Spain's Balearic Islands (which includes Ibiza and Mallorca) has declined to add transgendered identity to the islands' anti-discrimination policies.

The committee also vetoed proposals to make it easier for transgendered persons to change their names and receive governmentfunded sex-change operations.

The measures were supported by MPs from the United Left, Nationalist and Socialist parties but the center-right Popular Party, which holds a majority of seats, opposed the changes. The vote was 8-9 with one abstention.

The proposals were put forth by the Gay and Lesbian Balearic Association, Ben Amics.

130 MURDERED IN BRAZIL LAST YEAR

Eighty-two gay men, 42 transvestites and six lesbians were murdered last year in Brazil because of their sexuality, according to a new report from Grupo Gay da Bahia (GGB). A majority of the killings took place in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

"Anti-gay intolerance and violence, particularly killings, are increasing in frequency, cruelty and impunity," GGB said.

"[According to] a survey carried out by DataFolha and Agencia do Estado: of all social minorities in Brazil, homosexuals are the main victims of prejudice and discrimination, more hated than

PAGE 10

blacks, Jews, women, indigenous or elderly people.

"Homosexuals are insulted and assaulted by strangers and relatives, thrown out of their homes, beaten by the police, rejected by churches and by the military."

GAY GOVERNOR STANDS TALL

The openly gay governor of the Colombian province of Valle del Cauca, where Cali is located, isn't taking any crap over his sexual orientation.

Gustavo Alvarez Gardeazabal, who was elected Oct. 26, responded recently to verbal gay-bashing from an opponent by declaring, "I govern with my head not with my ass."

A well-known author, Alvarez Gardeazabal previously served as mayor of the small city of Tulua.

In other news, Colombia's Gay and Lesbian Information Network met for the first time in months Feb. 4 and discussed plans to re- launch its newsletter. Before it went broke, the publication had grown from a one-page letter to 27 people, to a 16-page magazine with a circulation of 3,000.

ISRAEL FUNDS ALL DRUGS FOR PWAS

Israel's Health Ministry agreed last week to fund all treatments for people with HIV. Some national health-insurance schemes had refused to pay for the drugs but now they will be fully reimbursed from government coffers.

GAY MAN TOR-TURED BY MAFIA

A gay shepherd in Africo Nuovo, Italy, was tortured and left for dead by the Ndragheta Calabrian Mafia Jan. 30, police said.

They blamed the attack on relatives of the 65-year-old lover of the shepherd, who is 20 years old. Two suspects have been arrested for kidnapping and attempted murder.

The attackers abducted the young man,

drove him to a deserted location, beat him with sticks, bound him with barbed wire and hung him from a tree, where he remained until discovered the next morning by a passing motorist.

According to one mainstream report, "The Mafia has a 'code of honor' which forbids homosexuality."

GAY TRADE UNION CONFERENCE PLANNED

Gay groups and trade unions are staging The 1998 International Conference on Trade Unions, Homosexuality and Work in Amsterdam this summer prior to the Gay Games.

"Trade unions are responsible for defending all workers rights, and sometimes explicitly stand for human rights in general," organizers said. "Still, many trade unions do not have a tradition in defending the rights of lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender workers. The international conference, during the last three days of July, is meant to serve as a platform for exchange of experience and information."

For more information, write P.O. Box 732, NL-2700 AL Zoetermeer, The Netherlands. E-mail: modijk@knoware.nl. Phone: 011-31-30-273- 2627. Fax: 011-31-30-271-0512. Web: http://utopia. knoware.nl/users/modijk/.

SOUTH AFRICAN LESBIAN COP WINS PARTNER BENEFITS

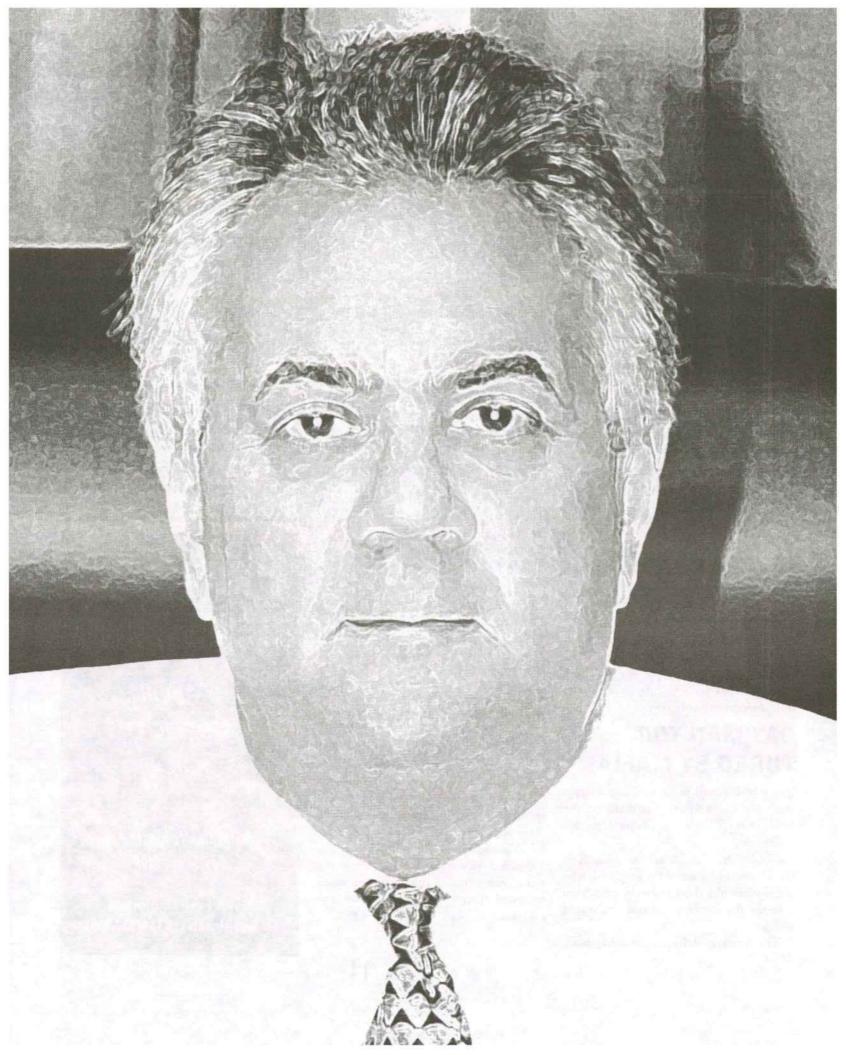
South Africa's Pretoria High Court ruled Feb. 4 that South African Police Services Medical Aid violated the constitution when it refused to extend health coverage to lesbian police officer Jolande Langemaat's lover of 11 years, Beverley-Ann Myburgh.

South Africa is the only nation in the world with a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation written into its constitution.

AGE



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I 1980, Congressman Barney Frank was elected to the United States House of Representatives where he continues to serve today. In his freshman year, he was voted the outstanding freshman in a survey conducted by Public Television. In their most recent evaluation of Congress, the Almanac of American Politics said, "Frank is on of the intellectual and political leaders of the Democratic Party in the House, political theorist and pit bull all at the same time."

Frank has been a champion of issues important to the gay and lesbian community. Herb Moses, Frank's partner, is a Milwaukee native and UW-Madison graduate. Recently, I spoke with Frank about politics, sex scandals and Tammy Baldwin.

WA: You are coming to Wisconsin to help out Tammy Baldwin on her campaign...

BF: Right. The primary reason I'm coming is to speak at a Temple in Glendale. Herb [Moses] is from Wisconsin and his parents live in Glendale and his father asked me if I would speak to the Brotherhood Night at the Temple. When I learned we were doing that we called Tammy and said, "Look, we're going to be out there, can we help?"

WA: Oh, so your partner's from Glendale?

BF: He actually lived in Milwaukee and went to Marshall High

School. He graduated in 1973 and went to UW-Milwaukee and then to UW-Madison. He graduated from Madison. Then he moved to Washington; that was 20 years ago. We get back to Milwaukee at least once a year and his parents now live in Glendale — they moved out of Milwaukee.

WA: I'd like to talk about Tammy Baldwin... What do you think the importance of it is to have an openly lesbian legislator in Congress?

BF: First, it's very important for those of us who are "out" to be part of the mix. Obviously, we have a number of very friendly and supportive people and, particularly, we're a small enough minority that we're never going win any victories without strong support. On the other hand, being there, in person, adds a dimension ... for one thing it just helps destroy the prejudice.

One of the things we know is that being out is the most effective anti-prejudice weapon we have. Members of Congress are pretty important people — so are Cabinet Secretaries, etc. I mean, for all those people in Washington, [who are] dealing with me or hopefully with Tammy — or with Steve Gunderson when he was still there — [this] is one of the few times when they are dealing with openly gay or lesbian people. There still isn't a lot of that in our society.

Although the Clinton Administration has been very good, and

Interview by William Attewell

• P A G E 13

I think most Americans are not as homophobic as they think they're supposed to be. When someone who is openly gay or lesbian is elected that gives them licence not to be bigoted.

now that's fairly common within the administration, but that's very important. It's just the prejudice reducer. There was an article in the New York Times Sunday Magazine recently, talking about a guy who was discouraged by the anti-gay and lesbian feeling he's found in the suburbs of America. He did notice that in the

Milwaukee LBGT

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Community Center

Boston suburbs it's much less than elsewhere

I think the fact that I represent some Boston suburbs and I'm openly gay ... I think that helps. Secondly, one of the things that legislators do is bring their experiences to issues. You know, legislators are representative of the country, both by winning elections, but also we're representative in a statistical sense. There are people who have had all kinds of experiences.

Until fairly recently the gay and lesbian experience was not one that was representative. I'm here, and Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-AZ) acknowledged being gay a while ago, but Jim isn't terribly active in gay and lesbian issues. Two out 435 or two out of 535, counting the Senate is not a large number. No one person can do all that much, so it's important to have more people.

Finally - well no, next to finally - it would be helpful that Tammy would win for the first time as an [open] lesbian. There have been four of us [gay men] who have been open about our homosex-G uality in Congress - all of us after we were elected. It would be helpful to have someone win despite that. I think most Americans are not as homophobic as they think they're supposed to be. When someone who is openly gay or lesbian is elected that gives them licence not to be bigoted.

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Finally, Tammy is a very able legislator with a lot of legislative experience. You know she's not just a stick of wood who's going to be there with a sign on her saying, "I'm an open lesbian." She's bright and able and is a good legislator and she'll be very helpful.

WA: I've found her to be incredibly focused. I'm wondering what your impressions of her are?

BF: I have too, and look, you have to be. It's a very consuming job. That's a great advantage.

WA: I wanted to talk about President Clinton and his current

PAGE

situation. You've had some experience with scandals of that nature in the past?

BF: Yeah, I had one. Most of what this guy accused me of was false and was found to be false. A lot of people believed him when he said that I was letting him use my apartment for prostitution. I knew that was bullshit! The House Ethics Committee finally concluded that it wasn't true. In fact, one of the things I did early on was say that I wanted the Ethics Committee to look into this because I knew I could disprove most of this stuff.

I would caution people that "you don't jump to conclusions" about what is or isn't true. In my case there was some truth mixed in. Yes, I had hired him for sex. When I was closeted that was one of the dumb things I did - dumb, because I was an elected official and I shouldn't have been doing it. Almost everything else he said was false. Investigations have a purpose - people should not be jumping to conclusions.

WA: I'm sure that you're a loyal Democrat, but what's your sense of how serious this is?

BF: I just answered that. I don't know. I think Kenneth Starr should never have taken the job - he's much too partisan. This leaking, recently, is outrageous. On the other hand, that's why you have an independent counsel. We will know in a couple of months - there's no need to rush to judgement. I think the press has really been outrageous. You can't report an investigation as if it was a ball game ----[as if] you're doing a play-by-play.

WA: Is there any important legislation coming up this session - that should be a focus for gays and lesbians?

BF: With the Republicans in control of Congress, we're not going to be able to pass anything affirmative, I think. We might be able to do an improvement on the Hate Crimes thing. ENDA might be able to pass the Senate. The Republican

leadership would never let it come up in the House. I don't think we're going to be able to get too much done.

Dick Gephart has said that the next time the Democrats take over the House of Representatives he will get the Anti-Discrimination bill passed. I'm afraid that this is one where as long as Newt Gingrich or Dick Armey is the speaker, it's never going to happen. We want to just keep it to argue for it.

WA: I'm guessing that you must love your job and that it's all consuming for you.

BF: Well, particularly having come out — oh, almost ten and a half years ago — and Herb and I have been together for a little over ten years, I find that I wouldn't be able to do the job well if I didn't also have a personal life. So, I carved out a sphere for a personal life as well.

WA: What is it about being

BF: I think fairly quickly, and I can be fairly well-spoken on short notice. I don't have, on the other hand, a lot of discipline. I was originally going to be a political scientist — I was studying for a Ph D.

I would not have been good at that because my attention span is not what it ought to be. This is a job where you have to deal with twelve things in a day. I'm able to switch gears and focus very quickly — better than a lot of other people. I'm not as good as other people at longer-term concentration, so that's helpful.

WA: I get a sense that people sometimes get very discouraged with politics... and don't feel they can affect the political process... do you agree with that assessment?

BF: No. In fact, it's precisely because most people don't do a lot politically that if a few peoquit. As long as my health holds out — and I hope it does. I'm 57-years old and I've been in Congress 18 years. I would expect to be doing it well into my 70s. I don't think you can say beyond that because you don't know how good your energy level and your acuity is going to be, but as of now I would expect to be doing this another 15 to 20 years.

WA: You've been through quite a few elections. How difficult is that process?

BF: If it's a very tough election, it's about as bad as anything I can think of that doesn't involve severe pain. I hate it. Anyone who tells you that he or she likes campaigning is either a liar or a sociopath. It's a very unpleasant business.

Fortunately, for me, I haven't had a very tough election since 1982. I had one when I first ran for the State Legislature in 1972, and then I was reelected easily.

I think [Whitewater Special Prosecutor] Kenneth Starr should never have taken the job — he's much too partisan. This leaking, recently, is outrageous.

in Congress that you enjoy so much?

BF: Primarily, it is the chance to fight for things that I think are very important, morally. I'm here because I think the world could be a fairer place; it's fighting for fairness.

Secondly, what makes me very lucky, I think, is that I've managed to find a job that I think is important [and] that plays to my talents. You know, we're all combinations of things you're good at and things you're not good at. This job gives me a chance to do some of the things I'm good at.

WA: What are you good at?

ple want to do things, they can. Most politicians would be glad to hear from people — they don't hear enough.

Members of Congress are much more responsive to public opinion than people think. The problem is that they don't always hear from the people they should hear from. I think that, surely, you don't win everything you want right away; there's no guarantee of success, but we could have a lot more impact if people were involved.

WA: How long do want to keep serving in Congress? BF: I have no present plans to

In 1980 I had a tough election for Congress — primary and final. In 1982 I had a tough reelection because there was a redistricting.

Beginning with 1984, my election has not been seriously in doubt. I work hard at my job. I don't like campaigning, and if I had to campaign for myself — it's fun to do it for other people — if I had to fight hard every two years, if this was a closely contested seat — I would have quit.

WA: Do you still end up having to raise a lot of money?

BF: No, I only raised \$33,000

PAGE 15



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last year.

WA: That's not a lot.

BF: No. I don't think you need to do a lot and I haven't bought a TV ad since 1982. I spent a lot of time going around my district while I'm not an official candidate. Herb Moses, my lover, has been living in Washington for 20 years. I try to spend every other weekend here with him, and of course I'm here during the week. We try and spend as much time as we can together — we're probably together 70 percent of the time.

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He had a job where he was working for the Fanny Mae Corporation. He just quit to be a full-time potter, so we'll probably have more time together.

WA: Oh, that's interesting. Has he sold any stuff?

BF: Yeah, actually he's sold to a couple of restaurants. He'd been a part-time potter as a hobby and he started selling stuff. A lot of our friends and relatives buy their gifts from him. Recently he started supplying restaurants. There are two restaurants in Washington that he does the pottery for-dishes and tea pots and Saki bottles. He's got another one opening up.

WA: How does he make you a better person?

BF: One, I think every human being has emotional and physical needs. You read a lot about people being oh so busy that they don't have time to have a personal life. They're usually closeted gay people and it's terribly frustrating. You don't do your job well if you try to make that the outlet for personal emotions that ought to have a personal outlet.

Secondly, he's very smart. It's very helpful to have someone in whom you can have complete, total confidence--who's not pursuing a separate agenda, but shares with you everything you've got to think about as I do with him in his job. He's just another smart person with a little perspective who can share the stuff with you. Plus, I've been out for 10 years; he's been out for twenty. Even though I'm older, he's sort of had more experience in the gay world. That's been very helpful.

WA: You're 57 now. I was reading in the New York Times about "Pre-Geezers" — not quite old enough to retire, but sort of on the edge of the baby-boomers. I was wondering how you're handling aging?

BF: Well, you adapt to it. I'm actually prebaby-boomer. [I was born] before World War II. My energy-level isn't what it used to be. When I first came here ... I could work seven days a week without stopping. I now find that at 57, I have to conserve my energy. I don't find that on any given day that there are things I used to do that I can't do now, but I can't do them as steadily. I am more

• P A G E 16

careful of my schedule — I say "no" to more things. I don't travel as much or work as hard. I budget days-off more than I used to.

WA: Another Presidential election is coming in the year 2000. Vice President Gore seems to be good on gay issues, and so does [Richard] Gephart. I'm guessing that with either one of those two — you'd feel pretty comfortable with them.

BF: You've hit a very important subject. I think the year 2000 will be the first time in history that gays and lesbians have the chance to be full participants in the presidential process, the same as other groups.

1992 was the first time people began to compete in serious ways for gay and lesbian votes — I went up to New York from Washington in '92 to help Bill Clinton against Jerry Brown. By '96 we were ready for a full role, but there was no nomination fight on the Democratic side. In 2000 there are going to be a series of Democratic candidates — whoever they are — Gore, Gephart, Bob Carey or Bill Bradley — they're all very good but not perfect, which is a nice situation, because we have the job on the Democratic side of making good better.

One of the things I'm working on now is to organize with some other people the National Federation of Gay and Lesbian Democrats — we're going to have an organizing convention not far from you in Chicago, on May 9th.

It has a two-fold purpose. One is to make the Democrats better than they are. And, two, to point out to gay and lesbian people what a big difference there is between the parties.

One of the major differences between the parties now is that the Democrats are basically supportive and the Republicans are basically opposed. I've been urging people not to commit to anybody for the nomination of 2000 — anybody who's gay or lesbian, that is, but to help us organize so we can maximize our ability. First of all, to get Gore and Gephart to improve their position some — they're both very good. I'd like to get them committed to domestic partnerships — that's the next step, I think, in terms of what they're committed to. Also, I have to keep up the pressure on gays in the military.

I'm hoping we will get a maximum gay and lesbian presence to put pressure on the Democratic candidate, just the way environmentalists do and feminists do and African-American's do. Once we have got the Democrat as good we can get him or her, then [we'll] work very hard to get gay and lesbian votes in the year 2000 for the Democrats. If your issue is primarily gay rights, then the Democrats are infinitely better than the Republicans.

WA: What is the status of the Timothy McVeigh case?

BF: The judge reinstated him. The Navy has to now decide whether or not they're going to appeal; they haven't decided yet.

I've been very critical with the administration over this Timothy McVeigh case, although they just did do something good. The General at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base issued the statement about non-discrimination and left out the part about sexual orientation. He took the thing that says no discrimination ... because for civilians, even in the military there's supposed to be no discrimination based on sexual orientation. This General issued it and left out "sexual orientation." We complained to Secretary of Defense Cohen, and it has just been reissued with "sexual orientation" back in, so there is that kind of effort.

We are having very vigorous conversations insisting that the Navy not appeal. The issue here is, whether from his standpoint he wants to stay in, because it's going to be unfortunately unpleasant for him. There's a lot of bigots around.

On the other hand, he's got 17 years in and 20 is when you get all the benefits. One possible discussion has been, should he be allowed to retire now, but with the full benefits of a 20-year veteran?

WA: Is there anything else that you think is important, Congressman. I'm sure there is, but I..

BF: No. Herb and I are very pleased to come back to Wisconsin. He cast his first vote in Madison. He was 18 when he first voted and that would have been '76 when he did that. He has a particular kind of interest in helping Tammy because he's returning to the place he first voted. ▼



PAGE 17

.....Art's Page

Skylight Opera to Present "A Chekhov Trilogy"

Skylight opera Theater continues its 39th season with the Midwest premiere of *A Chekhov Trilogy*, a trio of one-act operas with music and libretto by Richard Wargo, based on various short stories by Anton Chekhov. *A Chekhov Trilogy* received its world premiere at Chautauqua Opera in 1993 and was directed by Dorothy Danner who has been with the project since its first workshop in 1985. A performances of the "Trilogy" will take place at the Cabot Theater at the Broadway Theater Center, 158 N. Broadway, from March 27 through April 12.

Artistic Director Richard Carsey will conduct this acclaimed new opera and compares the experience to "a fine meal, with each of the three acts becoming the hors d'oeuvres (The Seduction of a Lady), the main course (A Visit to the Country), and finally the frothy desert (The Music Shop).

In Part I: "The Seduction of a Lady," Peter Semyonych is, by his own report, "the greatest seducer of other men's wives." Assisted by a trio of on-stage musicians, this Russian lothario reveals how he will win the uncontrollable passion of his best friend's wife, using the unsuspecting man, himself, as his agent of seduction.

In Part II: "A Visit to the Country," Tania, a wealthy landowner on the brink of financial ruin, conspires to marry off her younger sister, Nadia, to a prosperous lawyer, Misha, in order to annex his wealth and save her estate. As planned, Misha falls helplessly under the spell of his native countryside and hopelessly in love with Nadia--until the drunken husband reveals the wife's plot. Misha is offended and leaves, disillusioned. Devastated, Tania resolves to find another way to save her home. Not yet aware of Misha's departure, Nadia sings from the balcony as the moon rises while Tania begins writing a letter, inviting another visitor to come for "A visit to the country."

In Part III: "The Music Shop," a henpecked husband has been dispatched by his opera-star wife to purchase the music that she must sing at the wedding of the prince. Unfortunately, he cannot remember the title or the tune. What ensues are hallucinations of the rage of his Wagnerian wife, his own unhappy fate when he returns emptyhanded, and a mad scramble by the shop proprietor and his efficient clerk as they are forced to sing snatches of everything in their shop--from Carmen to Mozart--in order to jar his memory.

Tickets prices range from \$21.25 to \$43.25 (tax included) and are available at the Broadway Theater Center Box Office or by calling (414) 291-7800. Group dis-

Parsons Dance Company Returns to the Pabst

David Parsons and his sensational dance troupe will be at the Pabst Theater on Wednesday, March 11 and Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m. The program will feature the Midwest premiere of *Channeling*, a work co-commissioned by the Pabst Theater.

Channeling, written and choreographed by David Parsons, is based upon the influences of television and the mass media upon the collective consciousness of humanity. Game shows, talking heads, commercial, televangalists, television theme songs have all entered the realm of pop culture through the media of pop culture, in fact, one cold argue that TV has created pop culture.

A dance about watching television may sound like an unlikely piece of entertainment, but Parsons presents it as a satire on commercials, horror flicks, politics, sex — all things that sell.

Tickets can be purchased at the Pabst Box Office, 144 E. Wells St., or by Phonecharge at (414) 286-3663.



• P A G E 18

counts and discounts for students and seniors are available. Or, you may also use the Internet: http://www.execpc. com-skytix.

Fugard's "Valley Song" Sings Out at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre is proud to present Athol Fugard's first postapartheid play Valley Song March 28-April 19, 1998 in the Studio Theatre of the Broadway Theatre Center. Milwaukee Chamber Theatre Associate Artistic Director Jim Tasse will stage the production that will feature actress Tamica Ellis and Artistic Director Montgomery Davis.

Praised by critics as one of his finest works, Valley Song, is the story of a grandfather and granddaughter in the remote village on the South African Karoo in present day seen through the eyes of The Author. Abraam "Buks" Jonkers is a simple man devoted to his 17-year-old granddaughter, Veronica, and to the tendering of his few acres of land for vegetables. Veronica dreams of a career as a singer, away from the valley, in Johannesburg, and is determined to find the courage to step into an uncertain future while not shaking her "opa's" perfect world.

Valley Song had its world premiere at The Market Theatre in Johannesburg in 1994. The production, which featured Fugard in the roles of The Author and old Buks, set out on a regional tour to critical acclaim for its simplicity, its beautiful language, and its emotional impact.

One of the world's master playwrights, Athol Fugard was one of the loudest voices speaking out against racial oppression in South Africa. His legendary plays include *Master Harold ... and the Boys, Sizwe Bansi is Dead, The Road to Mecca,* and *The Blood Knot.* Milwaukee Chamber Theatre produced his *My Children! My Africa!* to critical acclaim in 1993.

Valley Song will open Saturday, March 28 and close Sunday, April 19, 1998. Wednesday, and Thursday performances are at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 4 & 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 and 7 p.m. Ticket prices for Valley Song for Friday & Saturday performances are \$27 (\$29 for Opening Saturday Night), and Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday performances are \$24. \$2 senior discounts and \$15 student tickets are also available on all performance dates. Purchase tickets in person at the Broadway Theatre Center box office, 158 N. Broadway, or by phone at 414/291-7800. Group rates are available by calling the Chamber Theatre office at 414/276-8842.

Playwrights Studio to Launch "School Girls in Uniform"

What do you get when you drop a crew of misfits into an ultra-orthodox military school? School Girls in Uniform, Michael Neville's new comedy



opening March 144 at the Studio Theater at the Broadway Theater Center.

School Girls in Uniform, which Quentin Crisp calls "wickedly funny," is based very loosely on the scandalous German tearjerker Madchen in Uniform. "The movie and the Broadway play, which were done a thousand years ago, were about subterranean, illicit quivering," said playwright Neville, Artistic Director of Playwrights Studio Theater. "School Girls had subterranean quivering, but it's strictly rock-androll with a bottle of Wet."

The comedy stars Sarah Behrendt as Cat LaRocque, a street kid from a rich family. Her mother is the international courtier,

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PAGE 20

Nina LaRocque, and is played by Elaine Thornton-Wylder. Her father, played by Lane O'Brien is the good-natured ne'er dowell, Black Jack LaRocque. Cat finds the family she never really had at the Charlotte Corday Military Academy for Young Ladies. Mystery lurks in her personal and family background. She has always coped until now, when her life threatens to blow up in light of her sexual orientation.

Her crisis intensifies when she is called upon to mentor Manuelita Maldonado, played by Jennifer LaPorte. Manuelita flaunts her beauty and is the daughter of the dictator Tierra Del Culo. The offbeat family mem-



-Michael Neville

bers and pals who rally around Cat make her orientation seem positively staid.

Mark Bucher, Artistic Director of the Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theater, directs and says, "I love School Girls' narrative drive. It's like Daphne du Maurier meets Barbara Cartland." School Girls is produced in association with Pamela Brown and Amethyst Productions.

Performance dates are Saturday March 14 at 10:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, March 20 at 10:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 21 at 10:30 p.m.; and Sunday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and all performances are at the Studio Theater at the Broadway Theater Center, 158 North Broadway. For reservations and further information, call the Broadway Theater Box office at (414) 291-7800.

Milwaukee Art Muesum to Rock

It's Only Rock and Roll: Rock Currents in Contemporary Art will open at the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM) in the Journal/Lubar Galleries on March 20 and run through May 24. This is the first art exhibition to examine and celebrate the widespread impact of Rock 'N Roll on contemporary art from its beginnings in the '50s (with tributes to the Everly Brothers) to today (with homage to deceased grunge rocker Kurt Cobain). The exhibit comprises more than 100 works in all media by many of the most important contemporary artists.

Some of the artworks include actual portraits of musicians, some incorporate rock imagery, use song lyrics or even include objects such as a guitar. In others, the artist's inspiration from music really isn't apparent. Because rock music is multi-faceted, this exhibition adheres to the broadest interpretation of Rock 'N Roll, to include early influences such as rhythmand-blues and jazz. The exhibition is segmented into several categories to help the viewer understand a plethora of creative works. It provides a comprehensive picture of Rock 'N Roll's influence on artists.

The exhibition opens Thursday, March 19 with a 5:30 preview in the Journal/Lubar Galleries, followed by a 6:15 lecture by curator David S. Rubin in the Vogel/Helfaer Galleries (east wing). The lecture is part of the Layton Lecture Series. On Friday, March 27, 94 WKTI personality Bob Reitman will discuss Rock 'N Roll with some of the artists featured in the exhibition in the Volgel/Helfaer Galleries at 6:15 p.m.

For more information call (414) 224-3200.

Asian-American Art at MIAD

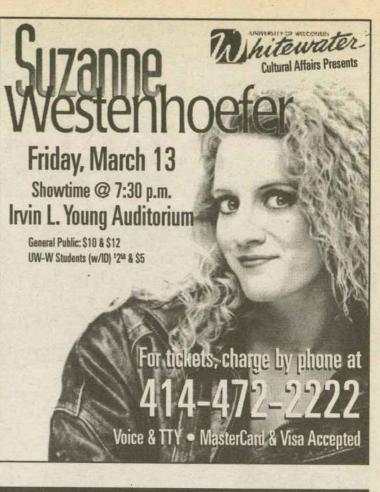
For many Asian-Americans, the delicate balance between two widely disparate cultures strongly impacts personal identity. *East of the Sun*, an exhibit at the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design (MIAD), expresses this balance and struggle through contemporary work by Asian-American artists.

East of the Sun opens March 3 and continues through March 28. S symposium with several of the artists will be held on Friday, March 6 from 5 to 7 p.m., followed by an opening reception at 7 p.m.

Co-curators Fred Liang and MIAD faculty member Jason Yi invited artists from across the country to participate, including Tomas Vu Daniel, Imi Hwangbo and Hoang van Bui, who was selected as one of the artists to contribute work to the Centennial Olympics in Atlanta.

MIAD is located at 273 East Erie Street in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All MIAD galleries are free, open to the public and are handicap accessible. For more information please call MIAD at (414) 276-7889.

PAGE 21



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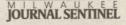
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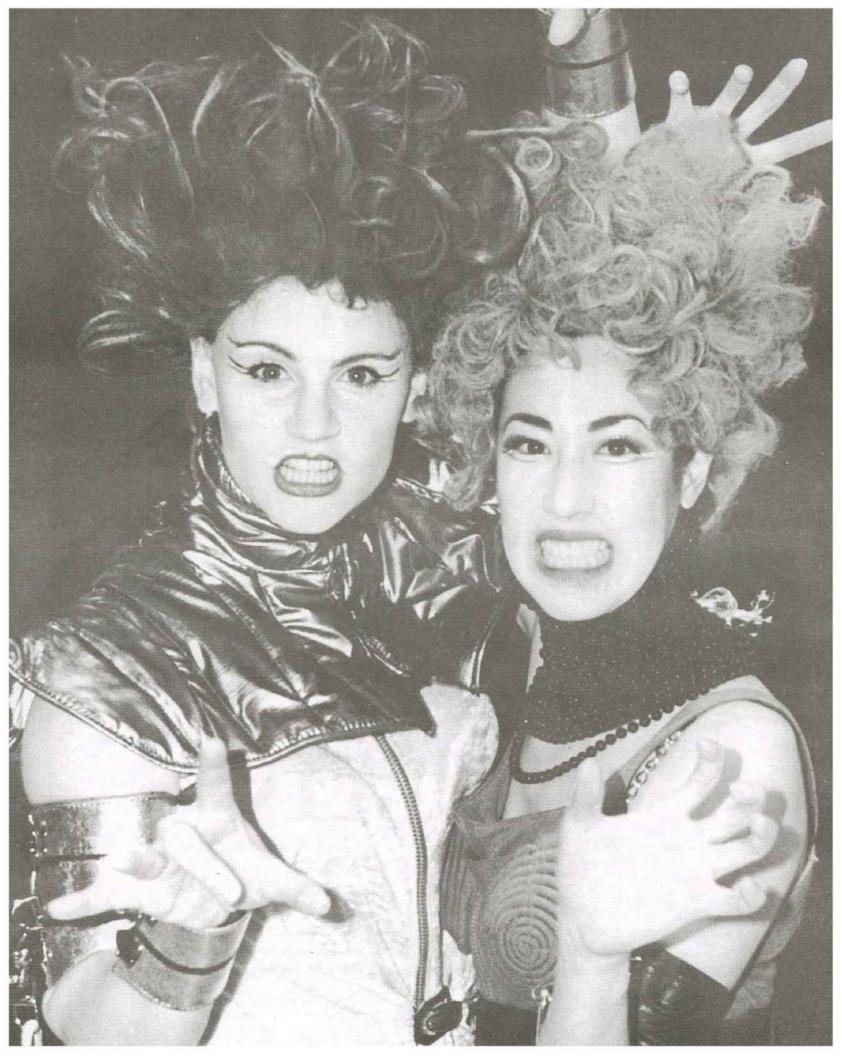
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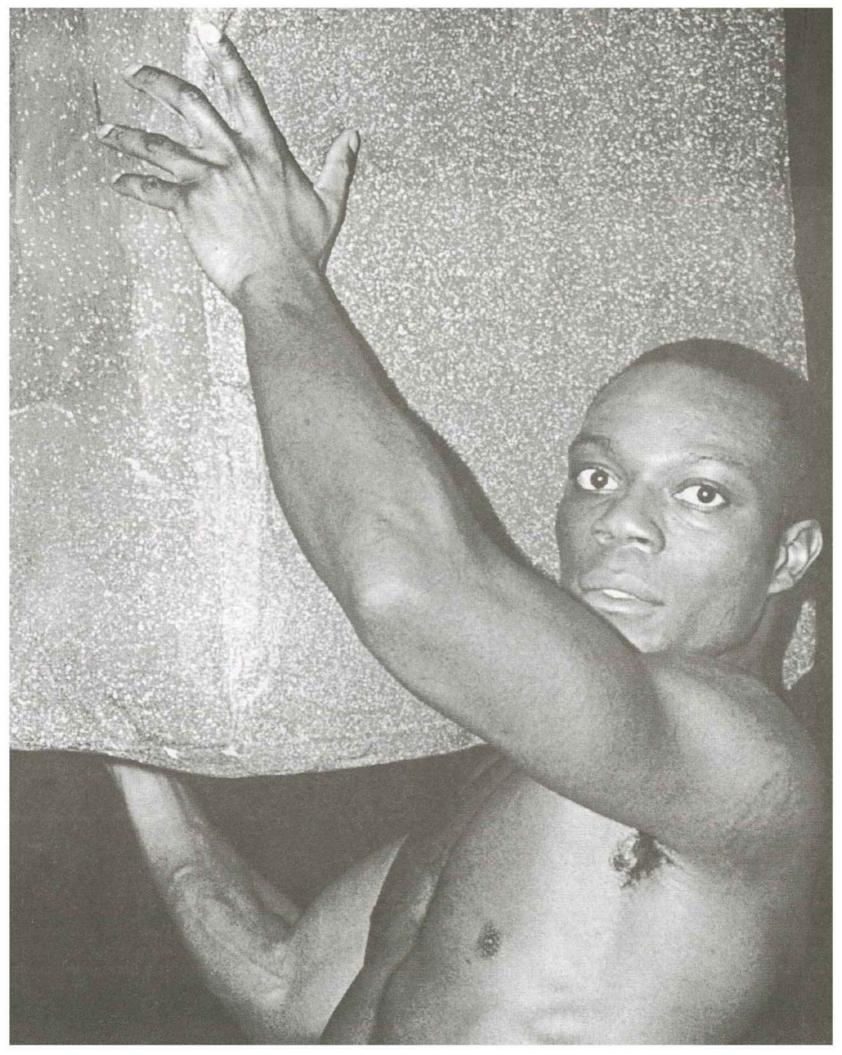
LEAR

Photographed by Jorge Cabal

Page 23. Molly Haner as Cordelia; page 24 Megan Cornelius and Ellen Rae Huang as Goneril and Regan; page 25, Pep Planas and Michael Brown as The Fools; page 26, Chuk Iwuji as Edmund. Costumes designed by Rosemary Ingham. Special thanks to UW-M's Progessional Theatre Training Program,

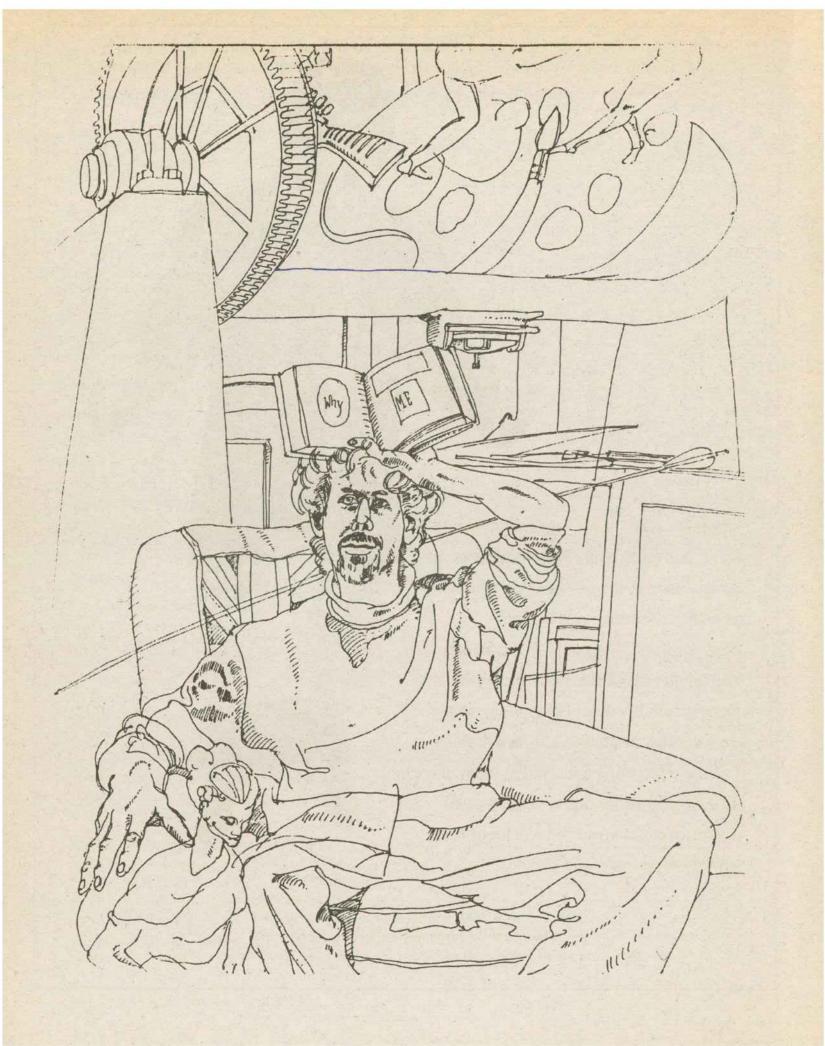




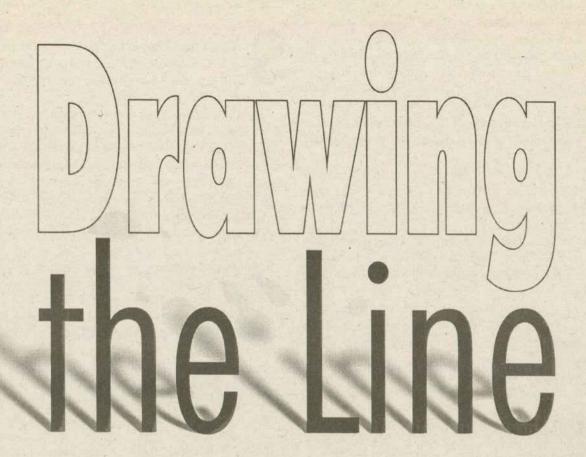


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Milwaukee native Steve Slaske is well-known for his architectural drawings and expansive cityscapes. What isn't so known is his pursuit of portraiture. With the opening of *Drawn from Life* at the Charles Allis Art Museum, Slaske talks about his love affair with ink and pen.



n one of my favorite drawings from Steve Slaske's new exhibit, a young man stretches between the facing seats of a railway car that glides through southern Ontario. His jeans are rumpled, his tennis shoes untied, and a casual growth of stubble darkens his chin. A watch is seen on the sleeping subjects thick forearm. Titled Steve Vanney on the Algoma Central Railway, it captures comfortable masculinity with sensual ease.

Slaske drew this portrait with a skill he has perfected throughout his life. With no need to do preliminary sketching in pencil, Slaske now draws immediately in ink, with a confidence built from years of observation and practice.

"I've always been fascinated with how much you can convey with a single black line. I think the problem with doing pencil sketches first is that you get so caught up with being completely accurate. It's a live person sitting there! Working directly from life I feel like I've captured a moment in time."

Steve's success in capturing precious moments is amply displayed in *Drawn from Life*, an exhibit of over forty portraits in ink on paper at The Charles Allis Art Museum. The show includes renderings of Mayor John Norquist, Paul Cebar, Joel McNally, Frank Zeidler, and Archbishop Rembert Weakland. But it is perhaps the small portraits of Slaske's casual acquaintances that are most endearing.

A display case at the Allis is filled with just a few of Slaske's many sketch books. They contain, among other things, a capturing of candidate Bill Clinton speaking in front of Grandma Emma's Restaurant. But most of these sketches are of friends, strangers, and people met along the road.

"I like to travel. I was recently in

STORY BY WASWO • DRAWINGS BY STEVE SLASKE OPPOSITE: TIM HAGLUND IN HIS STUDIO

G . P A G E 29

"The portrait I did of Mayor Norquist is not one of my favorites. I think my mistake was letting him read through the sitting. He was moving around and looking down. I felt guilty for taking his time..."

Amsterdam and London. A lot of these little drawings are travel drawings, drawings I made during my trips. I have filled forty or fifty sketchbooks. I've been drawing people as long as I've been drawing buildings. So it's not like I just recently decided to draw people. But it's the first time I've decided to exhibit this work."

Amazingly, most of the portraits in *Drawn from Life* date from no further back than October of 1997. Drawings of semi-anonymous individuals such as *Gary* and *Jeff lounging* are softly erotic ... a far cry from the rectilinear architecture that has previously held Slaske's attention.

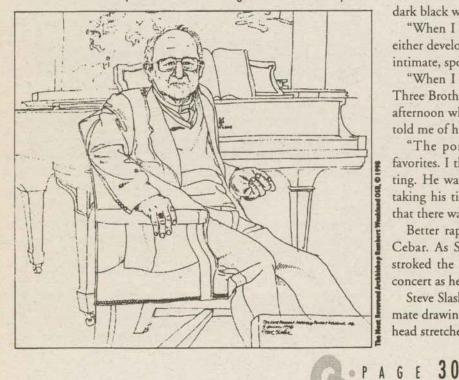
The shaky cityscapes with which Slaske first caught Milwaukee's attention date from the late 1970's. Unfortunately, Steve early became typed as a drawer of buildings, a pegging with which he has seldom been comfortable.

"I have a degree in architecture, though I never worked as an architect. I started out on my own, doing a lot of architectural illustration. I've always loved line, contour drawings ... capturing something with line.

"I became a very active preservationist just from drawing all these buildings. I was very active in the fight to save the Plankinton Mansion. I further developed my appreciation of historic architecture through drawing.

"But people would look at my drawings and always get involved in a conversation that was more about the buildings than the art.

"Archbishop Weakland was a person who just radiated goodness. I think I've captured some of the gentleness in his eyes..."



That's part of the reason I needed to move on to other things."

S laske currently makes his home on Milwaukee's west side. He lives in a what was designed as a planned community: eight separate houses, built in the 1920's, sharing a common yard.

"There are things I miss about the eastside. I always use to live on the eastside or downtown. But it's a neat experience to do the neighborhood thing. The west side has changed my art a bit. I tend to look at things on a more intimate level now. Rather than doing expansive city views, I get more into smaller subjects."

In one of Slaske's portraits, Archbishop Rembert Weakland is seen sitting casually in front of his piano. Behind him, a large abstract painting hangs on the wall. Slaske has colored this abstract with waterpaints.

"Weakland's office was very austere, but he had this one bright painting over his piano. The painting was done by an ex-priest.

"Weakland just made me feel so at ease. He was the first one who looked directly at me the whole time I was drawing. It was very comfortable. Archbishop Weakland was a person who just radiated goodness. I think I've captured some of the gentleness in his eyes.

"Another person who just radiated goodness was former mayor Frank Zeidler. It was almost a spiritual occasion spending time with him. I had never met him before. But the drawing just flowed."

Zeidler is drawn sitting in an impressive chair that has carved lion heads on the arms. A stack of papers looms on the table. A dark black wall plaque hints something mysterious in G-erman.

"When I draw from life, the people are sitting right there. You either develop a rapport with the person or you don't. There's a real intimate, spontaneous character to these drawings.

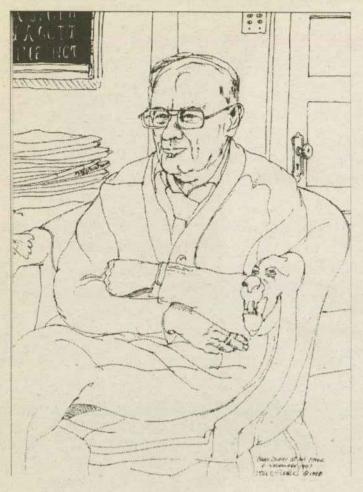
"When I drew Branko Radicevic, who is one of the owners of Three Brothers, he told me his life story. I drew him on a Saturday afternoon when the restaurant was closed. We talked for hours. He told me of his experiences escaping from Yugoslavia in the 1950s.

"The portrait I did of Mayor Norquist is not one of my favorites. I think my mistake was letting him read through the sitting. He was moving around and looking down. I felt guilty for taking his time, so I didn't object to his working. But because of that there was no real interaction."

Better rapport was established with Milwaukee musician Paul Cebar. As Slaske worked, Cebar strummed and hummed and stroked the guitar. Steve Slaske found himself enjoying a private concert as he drew.

Steve Slaske's parents are lovingly shown in one particularly intimate drawing. They are seen sitting back to back, with his mother's head stretched to his father's shoulder. Slaske's mother suffers from a muscle problem in her neck. His father is actually supporting her head. But the drawing tells of support given from affection rather than necessity.

In what some consider an unflattering self-portrait, Slaske shows himself sitting cross-legged on the floor. His cat, Abby,



"Another person who just radiated goodness was former mayor Frank Zeidler. It was almost a spiritual occasion spending time with him."

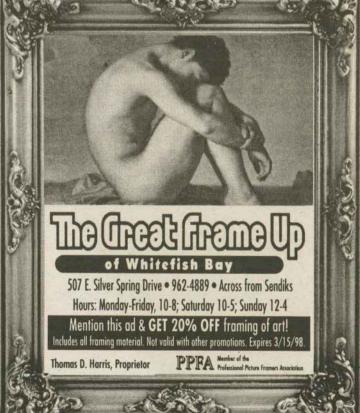
rests just behind him. There is a relaxed comfort to this drawing ... something almost boyish. It is a pose and setting reminiscent of a collage dorm. This is not an artist of grandiose pretension, but a hard working man caught with his shoes off. A thoughtful and practical person lounging in private tranquility.

Drawn from Life can be viewed at the Charles Allis Art Museum through March 15th.

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. ₽ A G E 31



Q•Voice talks with comic chameleon, Tracey Ullman about her just released book: "Tracey Takes On," her show of the same title on HBO and the Simpsons.

Tracey Terrific

by Tim Nasson

racey Ullman is not shy and had no problem taking on a lot of subjects when we spoke for nearly an hour recently. "If I had it my way today," she says, "I'd have three minutes of my show on The Simpsons."

For those who may be unfamiliar with Ullman, or just beginning to grow fond of her due to the success of her hit show Tracey Takes On on HBO, or the recently released book of the same name (Hyperion) that 'takes on' characters that appear on her show (we'll get to those soon, seeing she plays them all herself), Ullman was the catalyst for what has turned the Simpson's into the cartoon phenomenon of the millennium and what has since spawned numerous copy cat prime time animated network television shows.

"I've always loved animated shows," Ullman says, "And when I first heard about The Simpsons and took a look at some of the short films that had been made, I wanted to somehow incorporate them into my show. I mean Marge was too weird to pass up."

Over ten years (and some fine tuning)

later, The Simpsons has become a television icon and Ullman has survived.

Ullman's latest achievements prove to all that she is one of the most talented comediennes in the world. It isn't that she just dons wigs and costumes and takes on the personalities of everyone from a gay flight attendant to a tough talking, sexually overcharged, middle-eastern male cabby driving in New York City.

"I love those British Airways stewards," says Ullman. "I've been flying back and forth from London for years and the character Trevor Ayliss just happens to be gay. He adapts to anyone. One minute he can have this deep, masculine accent and say to the guy sitting in front of me, 'Can I get you a cocktail?' and the next minute he can come talk to me and say, 'There is trouble in the galley' or 'Oh, that woman in 3-B is such a bitch'.

"In order to showcase a broad spectrum of society I think there needs to be a speckling of homosexuality."

Ullman's ability to capture and master the personalities of so many types of people is what has both made fans out of many and outraged some. The gay community has seemed to have taken a liking to her,

PAGE 33

apparently because of her sharp wit and clever writing. Ullman has won not only applause but also awards from the gay community because of her non demeaning and honest depiction's of gay characters throughout the many years she has been performing.

On the other end of the spectrum though, comes a little heat.

"Take for instance, Mrs. Noh Nang Ning," she says, "Forget all the PC crap. I label Ning as an indeterminate Asian based on a hard working donut shop owner that I see everyday working at Yankee Doodle Donut. I have gotten calls from some in the Asian community lambasting me for unfairly portraying minorities. For god's sake, I and a thousand other people see this woman everyday. I am not making anything up."

"Everyone's been in Chic's (another popular character) cab in NYC. You get in and you hear the crazy music, and have to hold your breath, the smell of English Leather aftershave is so strong. Then as he takes off, he does ninety miles an hour and you have to say, 'Can you slow down please? I have two children in the back here who do not want to die.' I love playing a heterosexual man, who thinks he can get chicks just by saying, 'Do you want to have sex with me?' There is nothing redeeming about him which makes it fun."

Doing a dozen or more characters, with diverse ethnic backgrounds puts the tongue through a lot of work as well. Ullman seems to be giving Robin Williams a run for his money and it was apparent on a recent Tonight Show segment that pairing them up on stage or in a movie would be a terrific success. All of the accent work that Ullman captures perfectly is inspired in part by Pygmalion.

"I loved Henry Higgins. Although I lived only fourteen miles out of London while growing up," Ullman confesses, "It was apparent, as soon as I opened my mouth that I was not from there. Each area in England has its own class and accent. And I have always been fascinated with accents. I took jobs in certain places with my only intention being that I learn the local accent. I never really wanted to do impersonations. What I like doing, is capturing real people and creating real situations that they get into."

As with any show on television, filming is not easy. It seems a harder task for Tracey Takes On because of all the work that Ullman herself takes on by doing most the characters. "We only do ten or twelve episodes a year on HBO," says Ullman, "But it's all still a lot of work of course. We write the episodes in February, March and April, then do preproduction for a couple of months and then tape during the fall. It all seems like a blur of wigs, teeth and glue."

"One of the best things about being on HBO is that we are not censored," says Ullman who has no agent or manager, rather, who works alongside her husband in securing deals throughout the world for the show.

Ullman, quite the commodity in the publishing and television industry, has yet to make a splash on the big screen. "I have always played second banana in theatrical movies I have done," says Ullman with a laugh." Even so, she has had prestige than most people ten times more popular than she on the silver screen have had. She has worked for Woody Allen (Bullets Over Broadway) and opposite Meryl Streep (Plenty). One of her new goals is to write a feature film for herself to star in.

While registers are ringing in sales of her latest collection of videos and her latest book, and while families are tuning into to laugh at her wacky creations, four time Emmy Award winning and Beavis and Butt-Head, King of the Hill and South Park fan Ullman will be rooting for Titanic to win Best Picture. Don't rule out Ullman herself winning a statue in the near future.

THE BRACELET

ST. CAMILLUS

HIV/AIDS Ministry

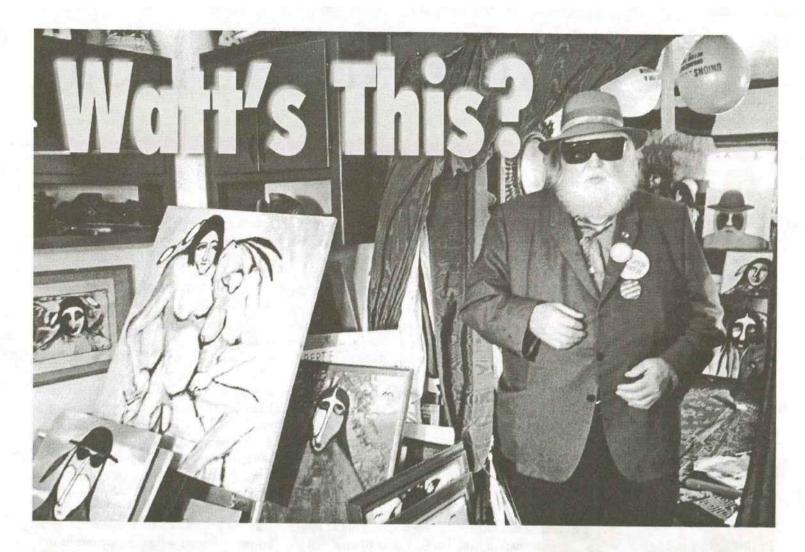
Wear it as a reminder that there is NO CURE for AIDS. Wear it in memory of those who have lost their battles against AIDS. Wear it in support of those who today continue to fight. Wear it... UNTIL THERE'S A CURE.

St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry now benefits from the sale of this powerful bracelet.

The bracelet, a 1/4" cuff with a raised imprint of the AIDS ribbon is available in Silver Plate, \$20.00; Sterling Silver, \$70.00; and in 14 Karat Gold, \$350.00. Size Small fits a wrist measuring 4 - 5"; Medium, 5.5 - 7"; Large, 7.5 - 8.5"; and Extra Large 9 - 10". The inside of the bracelet featuring two small panels — one panel reads "Until There's a Cure," the other can be used to engrave remembrances.

Proceeds from the sale of The Bracelet are directed toward HIV vaccine research, youth education and care services. For more information or to order phone **1-800-88-UNTIL**. Mention St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry, Code #PUBS50 and we will receive 25% of each purchase.

PAGE 34



've donated my paintings to Tommy Thompson, George Bush, Donald Trump, and the Pope!" says local innovator Bob Watt. "I sent fourteen paintings up to the Packers, one for each player!"

The ever colorful Watt is easily recognizable in his bright red hat, fish tie, and assorted sloganeering buttons. Perhaps he is even more well-known for the garden of plastic flowers that has sporadically decorated the roof of his car, or the carefully arranged bric-a-brac (Wattnots?) that adorn the outside of his home.

"I put up a display in front of my house and the building inspectors always come and yell and say I have to take it down. I get all kinds of praise from my neighbors, so I don't understand it."

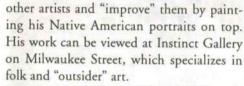
Bob Watt first made his mark upon the Milwaukee scene as a poet, and still gives readings with the White Trash Poets Society. He has published ten volumes of verse, including The Twelve Bulls of Zen Made Easy, Watt's Happening, and The Anti-Sex Book.

"I wrote the *Anti-Sex Book* because people accused me of being too sensual. I wanted to write a book to offset that . . . to undo the damage I supposedly had done. I wrote sixty pages of all that could go wrong with sex. It turned out being not that much against sex. It was mostly a fun book.

"I sent my Anti-Sex Book to Hillary about four months ago. I asked her if she'd approve of my sending one directly to Chelsea. But I never heard a word."

Watt has had better luck receiving responses from other beneficiaries of his generosity. He proudly displays letters received from Tommy Thompson, George Bush, and the Jimmy Carter Library.

"The Pope sent me a real nice letter back!" As a painter, Bob Watt has filled hundreds of canvases with his signature "Indian heads". He is known to buy the work of



Perhaps in the future Watt will follow in the footsteps of other Wisconsin folk artists, creating a large scale installation comparable to Fred Smith's Concrete Park. Fred Smith fabricated

deer, lumberjacks, and oxen out of concrete and broken glass. His homage to northwoods lore is now preserved as a State Historical Park in the town of Phillips.

Watt, who also creates sculpture, dreams of finding a similar rural location to develop and show his work. "I'd like to put a display out somewhere along the highway. I need a place like an old farm ..."

Donations, anyone?

-photo/story Waswo



Much Ado About Lear

by Dorothy Austin

mbiguity and audiences are at work in *King Lear* at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Fine Arts Theater. Not to mention a talented cast and it's director, Bill Walters. Walters described his taste for ambiguity, layers of meaning, gender politics and the role of theater in our lives in an interview in breaks between rehearsals. The Shakespearean tragedy runs through March 7.

Not entirely new, to be sure, but unusual for Milwaukee and uncertain in its reception by local audiences is the choice of a young woman, Natasha Piletich, 23, to



Natasha Piletich as King Lear. Photo: Jorge Cabal

play old King Lear. In Walters' view there are several motivations for placing a woman in the role. "There is really no difference in acting, whether one is male or female," Walters contends.

"A 63-year old can play Juliet and a 23year old can play Lear," he said.

Also, he cast her in the title role to give her a challenge and an opportunity to extend herself and her skills, and because he knew she could meet the challenge. Walters is an assistant professor in the Professional Theater Training Program at UWM and Piletich is a third-year student.

"She is a woman and a powerful actor. No matter how good an actor she is, no matter how good the makeup, no matter how good the costume, w will always somehow know this is a woman playing this part. And, for me, this is theater, this is interesting. This ambiguity is one of the things I hope for," the director said.

"But doesn't this ambiguity throw people off?" a reporter asked. Walters replied, "I think people should be thrown off in the theater." He conceded that, committed though he is to ambiguity, he has an impulse to desire clarity, but he feels that as an artist one of his functions is to go against the grain, and he wishes to provide other people with this experience.

"Ambiguity is part of a strategy from postmodernism," he said, but he does not see his view as classic postmodernism ... meaningless. "There is some kind of meaning [in King Lear]," but he did not wish to say what it was or is. "The audience is complicit with us," he said.

Walters emphasized the difference between movies, television and live performance. "Movies and TV have become very easy, things we can slip into as an escape, but theater can and does throw us off, and keeps us thinking," he said. Also, he added, "casting a woman in the role adds another dimension to gender politics."

"We see a woman playing a man playing Lear. And, we see that there is probably an abusive relationship of some kind there between Lear and his daughters — and we see that in a certain way, maybe the way they have grown up, has something to do with the way they behave. And that is very contemporary," Walters said.

"Also, casting a woman as Lear sends a signal to the audience that they must use their imagination. If an 83-year old played Lear, that is different, realistic, but this is more theatrical and the audience becomes



complicit with us We are trying to keep the theater theatrical," he said.

As for the young woman, Natasha Piletich, who has the role itself to live with, she has found preparation for it to be very little different from the way she would prepare for any new role. Most important is the research to understand Lear, and then in a sense to put on this persona. True, she has lowered her center, lowered her rich voice. And she has thought about Lear since December.

She sees Lear as "an old man who hungers for power — whose manhood is weak, and who needs to prove himself" and who wears a "big costume, a big voice and a big attitude." She speaks of herself as Lear. "In the beginning of the play I feel very good — very much in control, but as the play moves along I ... go mad, because I can't reconcile myself to the idea of not being dominant — not important, not the ultimate power."

Piletich finds exploring the role interesting. "As a woman I have never had great power, and never will in my lifetime be in a position of great power, — she said. However, she feels that she is on the brink of a career in the theater. She describes herself as a person of Serbian heritage, the daughter of a blue-collar family, and one who was encouraged — even pushed, as a child — to do recitations. She has known from the time she was five or six years old that she was bound for the theater.

Now ,she has promising leads to other roles here and in Chicago, and may even try New York some day since she has brothers [living] there.

Meanwhile, she is both grateful for, and undaunted by, the current nightly transformation into Lear. And, her role is not the only departure from convention in the play.

When you have a play with a text that will run four, to four-and-a-half hours, you know you have to cut. So what do you cut? Walters said, "We've cut, rearranged, condensed, overlapped. And maybe, there is a light rewrite here and there. But Shakespeare rewrote the King Lear we know from an earlier play, and were he alive today, he would grant the right to rewrite."

Walters noted that in "Shakespeare's time the play was a mix of theater, super bowl and social." Now, theater, in his view, has to be shaped to fit our tastes and attention span. Yet, the most drastic changes in Lear have not been made through cuts or judicious rewriting, but through the interpretations of the actors, with more than a hint of irony.

For example, maybe the two daughters, Regan and Goneril, are not purely evil, and perhaps the third daughter, Cordelia, who in Act Four expresses her love for her father — her disinterest in personal ambition, even as she raises an army — is not totally good. So, relationships may not be what they seem. But one, the relationship of the brothers, Edmond and Edgar, was tender and beautiful, and that made the betrayal more painful.

"The only thing I wanted to avoid was taking the text at face value," Walter said. He could have made the changes at home, with a glass of Port in front of the fireplace, but he involved the cast instead. He brought a sheaf of questions about the text to the staff. Discussions ensued, and cast members raised their own questions. Then they let the text fight back and defend itself.

Still, Walters thought in terms of audience. He said, "I hope we can constantly remember that the play has to be active, alive, attuned to the audience. I hope I realize that we will have great variety in the audiences. Some will not have read it, some will not have seen it, some will be very familiar with it, and some will be very traditional. If they are familiar with it, and highly traditional, they may bristle at some changes depending upon how open-minded they are."

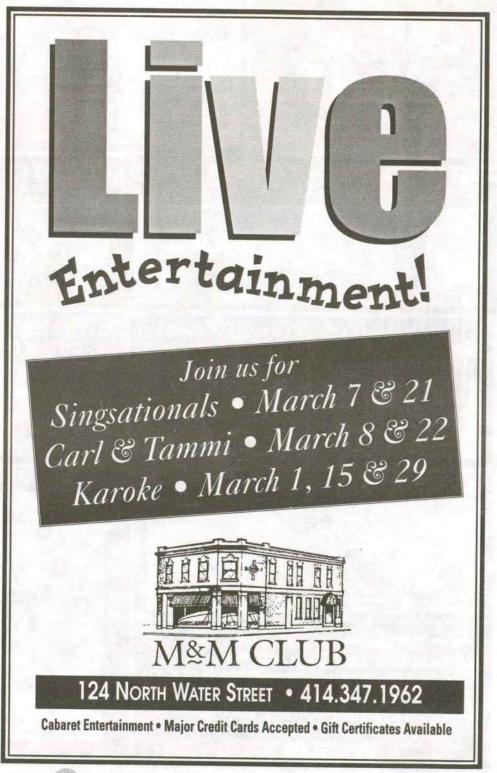
Finally, there are holes in the text. One is the ending, which simply says of Lear's fate: "He dies." Some say that Lear died of a broken heart, but Walters considers this unlikely. He was reminded of another Shakespeare line, "Men have died, worms have eaten them, but not for love."

Ambiguities aside, Walters is enthusiastic

about the Professional Theater Training Program. He came to UWM last fall from Yale University. He admired the strength of the program, commitment to faculty, and the international work such as he had done with his own company and on private projects. "The King Lear production has involved a time crunch," he said. "It's a

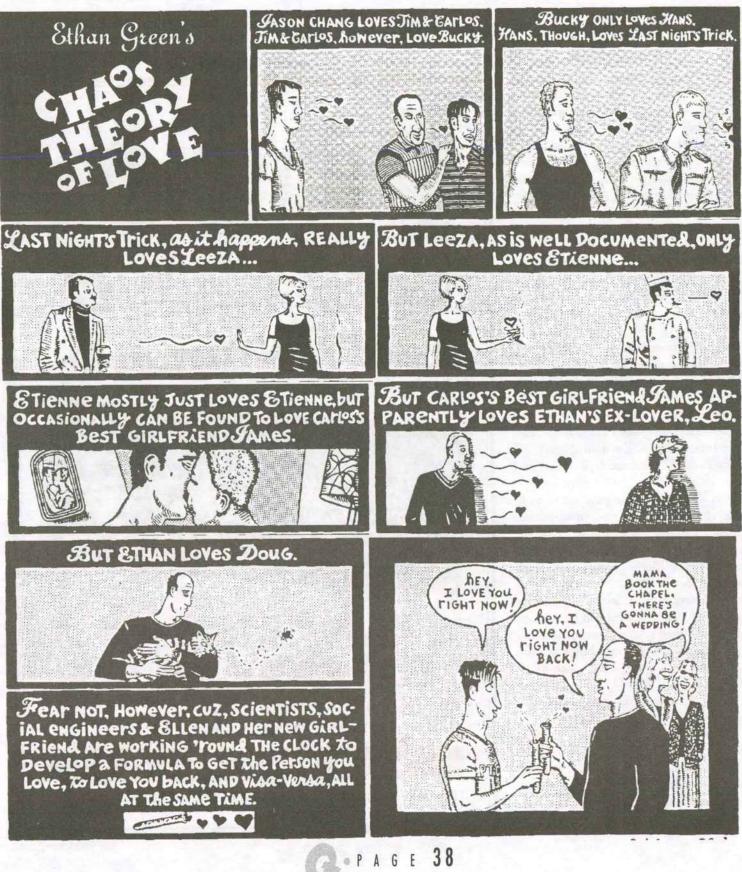
five-month project in five weeks."

Tall, skinny, and intense, with a backpack over his shoulder, he seems to thrive on a day and night schedule, looking not much older than his students. "I'm older than I look, and younger than I feel," he said with a grin.



PAGE 37

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green by Eric Orner



Q • Books

review by Ed Grover

RADCLYFFE HALL: A WOMAN CALLED JOHN by Sally Cline

This biography about the woman who wrote *The Well of Lonliness*, the lesbian novel that "shocked the world and was taken to trial and banned for obsenity despite protests from leading literary and political figures," is a fabulous read not only for it's picture of lesbianism in the early part of this century, but for the "understanding of early sexual freedom and women's rights."

Christened Margurite Radclyff-Hall, she was a shy, insecure Victorian child with golden curls. She later dropped her first name, and used a man's name: John. She removed the hyphen from her last name and added an "e" to Radclyff. "She became, when men alone wore trousers, a flamboyant character who smoked small green cigars, cross-dressed in Chinese silk smoking jackets. …" The famous trial for obsenity turned *The Well of Lonliness* into a nortorious bestseller and brought John Radclyffe Hall literary fame.

After her father died, her mother married Alberto Visetti. Marguritte is said to have suffered sexual abuse from her stepfather at about age 10.

Throughout Hall's novels the idea of "abusive male hands and coarse lips..." is repeated. She refers to women victims as "powerless to help themselves." She was also noted for her attrocious spelling, and uses that, too, in other stories. Hall's early writing is filled with the imagery of chains and bonds.

Her mother disliked her intensely, and when she became famous for *The Well*, totally rejected her daughter as a last act in a lifetime of rejection and abuse.

John had her first affairs in her 20s and, when she was 21, she received her inheritance from her father's estate and immediately moved out of her mother's home. Though she was a passionate believer in sexual loyalty, John's blazing acts of infidelity lead to her "infamous tormented and triangular relationships with singer Mabel (Ladye) Batten, the married sculptor Una Troubridge (Collete's original English translator), and



Radclyffe Hall

a young White Russian nurse Evgenia Soulline."

Her first significant partner Mabel (Layde) Batten, was significantly older. They moved in together as lovers, with a young John playing the male role. John converted Roman Catholism and they lived together until Layde's death. During this time there had been flirtations from Una Trowbridge, Layde's young cousin. Una had thought that Layde was beautiful — which she was — but Una stole John away from the memory of "those beautiful lips" and lived with John for 28 years.

In between all of these relaionships are John's indiscretions with other women. Her last meaningful relationship was with Souline, who appeared on the scene after the Russian Revolution. She worked for the BBC and came into John and Una's life. John thought she was an innocent. In 1934, after their first days together, Soulina (as John called her) wanted independence more than anything. It was this assertion of independence that created thier final break.

The Well is not Radcyffe Hall's only claim to fame. Hall was first, a serious poet and novelist. She produced four highly successful novels, wrote one volume of short stories, and the remarkable "Book of Letters," a collection of letters to Souline that Souline had saved from Una's supposed ritual burning of all of John's unfinished works, including the letters John had received from Souline.

In 1943, after a prolonged illness, John died of colon cancer. She "died conspicuously and with courage, as she had lived." Una wrote a biography after John's death, but her story tells "less than the truth" regarding the early molestation and abuse. She took great pains to promote the ideology of *the born lesbian*.

Una inherited everything — including the literary copyrights to all of John's published works — and a great deal of money. In her will, John had requested that she look after Souiline. She didn't; she tried to erase her existence from everything about John. Souline died in 1958 of the same disease that claimed John. Una died in Rome in 1963 and was buried there. She never achieved her wish to be burried — in blue silk pyjamas — next to John and Layde in Highgate Cemetery.

We are fortunate that during this period these people all kept journals, daybooks and diaries. Much about daily living, politics, women's liberation, theater, homes and clothing are here for us to read about — and it's all fascinating, This look at the life and times of one of the most famous lesbian writers of the last--or anycentury, is a great read for everyone. (Overlook Press, ISBN: 0-87951-831-6, \$27.50)



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WISCONSIN

TONIGHT OR FOREVER I'm a handsome, 27 year old, Gay, White male, 56, with Brown hair and Blue eyes, interested in a relationship, or just a couple nights of hm. (Ashland) =7164

VIDEO VENGEANCE This good looking, White mole, 39, 5'11, 180lbs, with Brown hair, Blue eyes, and a mustache, is totally into videos and having good sex, at least once a week. Let's have a blast. (Baraboo) =8229

SOCIAL SCENE I'm searching for friendship and fun times with other men in the area. I'm a Gay, White male, in my 50's, 5'8, 165lbs, who enjoys talking, socializing, movies, dinners, and more. (Columbia County) #12674

AWESOME SERVICE I love to service hard, slender, well hung, Black and White males, 20 to 35, who are cut, horny, and delicious: Ym a youthyl, clean, White male, in my 40's, 5'10, 175lbs, with dark hair and Green eyes. Let me relieve the pressure. (Duluth) #7220

GOT TO GET YOU INTO MY LIFE Good looking, slim, 27 year old, Goy, White male, with dark hair, seeks a very masculine, well built, Goy, White male, 30 to 40, who's interested in a special relationship. (Eau Claire) =12236

WINTER SPORTSMAN Very well built, good looking, maxculine, White male, 28, 5'8, 170lbs, with Brown hair and eyes, seeks buddies for good times. I like working out, the outdoors, 4-wheeling, jetsking, snowmobiling, hiking, and many sports. (Ironwood) =9488

HEAVY METAL MEN Bi, White male, 40, and a Bi, White male, 22, seek other Bi and Gay males, under 26, for fun times. We like heavy metal music and concerts, not bars. We're social drinkers but we prefer to do it of my home. (Kenosha) #11979

COVERED WITH HAIR This very hairy, well built, Bi, White male, 48, 180lbs, seeks other hat, Bi and Gay guys, White or Black, for fun. I like the outdoors, the beach, videos, magazines, massage, underwear, and lats more. (Madison) #13243

MUSCLED IN MADISON Muscular, very solid, professional, White male, 30, 5*10, 180(bs, seeks similar friends, 21 to 35, who are also muscular and big. I preter guys around 200(bs who lift weights and work out, Hairy badies are a plus. You should like to go out and have fun without smoking, drinking, drugs, and sleeping around. (Madison) ***12638**

GOOD OL' COLLEGE TRY This good looking, horry, college student, 23, seeks someone into a little bit of kink. I'm submissive and will try anything. (Madison) =10844

YOU WEAR THE PANTS This hot, Bi, White mole, seeks men to dominate me. One at a time or groups. Ym especially interested in Transvestites and Transsexudis. (Madison) #7890

FEEL MY WARMTH This well endowed stud likes to be on the bottom. I'm looking for a hat guy, 25 to 30, to share good times with. (Madison) **\$7613**

FEELING FRISKY? This 32 year old, butch boy, 6'2, 175lbs, and easy on the eyes, seeks a trisky top, 21 to 35, for obvious reasons. (Madison) #7180 EXPLORING, EXPANDING This good looking, White male, 30, mashy dominant, seeks bottoms, for hot times. I'm also interested in an older man to serve and obey. (Madison) =6953

PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION I'm new to this area and want to meet guys to hang out with. I'm an attractive, White male, 26, with Bloah hair and Blue eyes. I like men around my age with Brown hair. We can work out together, listen to music, go out dancing, and enjoy each other's company at home. (Marshfield) **#10849**

PRO STYLE OR FANTASY I'm looking for guys between 20 and 40 years old, that are smooth, muscular, White, and good looking, into pro style wrestling. I'm 5°, White, 180bs, very discrete, good looking, with a good body and want to get together for hot wrestling. (Milwaukee) ≈13476

SERVITUDE SLUT This handsome, very submissive, White male, 42, seeks a dominant master, preferably White, to use me. Overweight or chubby guys turn me on. I'm into foot worship, humiliation, and oral servitude. I'm very eager to serve. (Mitwaukee) **#13468**

FEELS GOOD ALL UNDER This attractive, Gay, Black male, 28, 5°11, 163bs, with curty, Black hair, Ight, Brown eyes, a medium build and a goatee, seeks another masculine, Gay, Black males, over 30, for fun times and badily pleasure. (Milwaukee) #13663

WAITING ON MY KNEES This masculine, but very submissive, White male, in my mid forties, seeks a dominant master into foot worship, humilation, verbal abuse, and being orally serviced. I'm very obedient but need a master to train me. Chubby guys are a big plus. (Milwaukee) =13175

SMALL BUT EFFECTIVE Submissive, petite, 30 year old, Single, White male, 5ft, 105lbs, likes dining out, music, and trying new things. I hope to meet a dominant guy with a taste for adventure. (Milwaukee) =13043

PAPA INTO SIZE This macho, papa bear, seeks Married, Bi, or Gay guys, 20 to 50, who are versatile and experienced. Your inches are more important than your pounds or years. Get with me. (Milwaukee) #12006

I DO ALL THE WORK This talented, White male, 55, 5'10, 165lbs, wants to orally please you, with no reciprocation. I prefer guys who don't sleep around very much. Call and let me know how you like it. (Milwaukee) =12740

SOMETHING'S GROWING This Gay couple wants to meet, and get together, with other couples and singles for friendship, fun, and more. We like gordening, walks, cooking, football games, and quiet times in front of the fire. The 6'2, 170lbs, and a former marathon runner. He's 5'10, 165lbs, with a hairy chest. Let's talk. (Milwalkee) =12243

START OF SOMETHING GOOD I'm a good looking. 18 year old, White male, 6'4, with Brown hair and eyes. I'd like a relationship with someone, 21 to 27, who will love me. I'm a unique, caring, humorous guy, with lots of good qualities. I have good self esteem and feel that I'm a pretty nice acth. I hope you'll agree. (Milwaukee) =11895

HAIRY, BLOND SOUP Sexy, hairy, Bland bottom, 38, 190lbs, in southwestern Wisconsin, seeks other hot guys for fun times. =6299 TIED UP TRYST My partner and I are into group scenes and light bondage. We're both goad looking and fit. I'm 33, 5'6, 145lbs, with dark hair and Brown eyes. He's 6'6, 200lbs, with Reddish Brown hair and Brown eyes. (Milwaukee) =2788

FATHER, MAY 17 Seeking a father/son relationship. As your father, I'm nurturing, gentle, generous, respectful, affectionate, and open minded. As son, you're respectful, obedient, drug and alcohol free, full of love and patience, well mannered, clean shaven, smooth, thin, and 140 to 150lbs. You're able to think and act like a good boy. (Milwaukee) **#11321**

OIL IT UP This well built, White male, 5'9, 167lbs, with a nice chest and arms, and great legs and but, seeks muscled, gym studs, who like to ail up, pase, and show off their badies. I'll worship every inch. (Milwaukee) =10632

MAN OF COLOR ONLY Very masculine, 20 year old, Bi, Black male, seeks other Hispanic, Asian, and African American males for hun, dating, and a possible relationship. (Milwaukee) #7738

LET THE MUSIC PLAY Attractive, White, band musician, 25, 5%, 135lbs, seeks a guy for friendship or more. I'm in pretty good shape because I'm or runner and I work out. I'm young looking and an attracted to similar guys, 18 to 30, who are smooth and fh. If you like to go out to dinner, see movies, or kick back and talk, we'll get along just fine. (Mitwaukee) **27979**

HANDY HUNK This very attractive, certified massage therapist, is interested in giving hot oil, full body massages, to accomodating, professional, clean, discreet, masculine, intelligent guys. I'm a very mature, 24 year old, Black male, 5'P, 190lbs, with short, curly, Black hair, Brown eyes, and medium Brown skin. Feel my hands. (Milwaukee) =7031

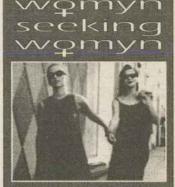
LAKESIDE MASTER This good looking, 42 year ald master, 185lbs, wants to meet a slave into bondage and discipline. If you long to serve a master, i'm the man to call. (Milwaukee) **=7044**

ANY HAIR THERE? Youthful, handsome, White male, 39, 6ft, with Brown hair, Blue eyes, and a husky build, seeks guys for good times. I'm masculine and have regular guy interests, like watching football and more. I'd like to meet men between 21 and 45. I'm especially attracted to hairy guys with facial hair. (Peshigo) **#7675**

CHECKERED FLAG I'm a 27 year old, Bi, White male, into sports, watching Nascar races, working out, and running. I'd like to meet some friends, 18 to 30, with similar interests. (Wausau) #7264

MARRIED MASSEUR I'm a Bi, Married, White male, in central Wisconsin, into the beach, videos, massage, and the outdoors. I'm seeking similar guys who want to hang out and have good times. #12809

NATURAL WONDER Nice looking, stable, Gay, White male, 57, with Brown hair, Green eyes, and a trimmed beard and mustache, seeks a romantic guy, 21 to 50, who knows what he wants out of lite. I enjay fishing, camping, nature walks, star gazing, movies, travel, quiet evenings in front of the fire, and more. **#12562**



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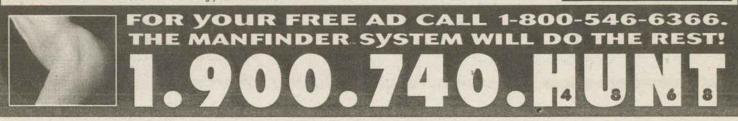
BEACH PATSY I'm looking for a special female, preferably Brunette, for friendship and fun. I'm a 36 year old, White female, 57, 130lbs, into the beach and hanging out with friends. (Eau Claire) **#7436**

GOTTA START SOMEWHERE This attractive, butch, Black female, 5'6, with Brown hair, seeks a feminine womyn, 24 to 35, for friendship or more. (Milwaukee) #11961

NOT ABOUT GAMES I'm looking for someone to love, who'll love me back. I'm on the ball and have a lot going for myself. I'm not about games, I'm very family oriented. I really need to have someone in my life. (Milwaukee) #9960

NEVER ENOUGH FRIENDS This active, Gay, White female, 23, seeks other Gay, White females, 21 to 45, for friendship. I enjay sports, going to movies, and just relaxing at home. Let's get to know each other. (Milwaukee) #7181

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My name is Kurt Kettler! I'm 31 yrs. old currently living in Germany. I'm looking to meet and write to men in America: Kurt Kettler, Lindenstr. 52, 27711 Osterholz-Sch. Germany.

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GWM ISO HIV+ Masc GBM: GWM, 33, 170 lbs, 5'11" good-looking, masculine, healthy HIV+ physician from Indianapolis, Indiana, br/br, moustache, loves professional sports. ISO gbm, masculine 25-50, top, also HIV+ healthy, wanting LTR, and who'd consider relocating, if things worked out. (317) 387-1315, Joe.

College Student from Brazil: I'm twenty-four years old with light-brown eyes. Into traveling, reading, writing, dancing, being in contact with people around the world. I would like to correspond with men ages twenty up to thirty-five who want to become a friend. Please, letters in English,



• P A G E 41

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. PAGE 42





Q • Movies

Review by Dale Reynolds

Live Flesh!

f you have not allowed yourself the pleasure of knowing the work of gay Spanish film director Pedro Almodóvar, then you must see his latest creation, the incandescent, funny, serious, sexy, and glowing, *Live Flesh*.

For starters, although there's no obvious homosexuality in the film, being Almodóvar, it can't help but expose his innate eye for homoeroticism. And that



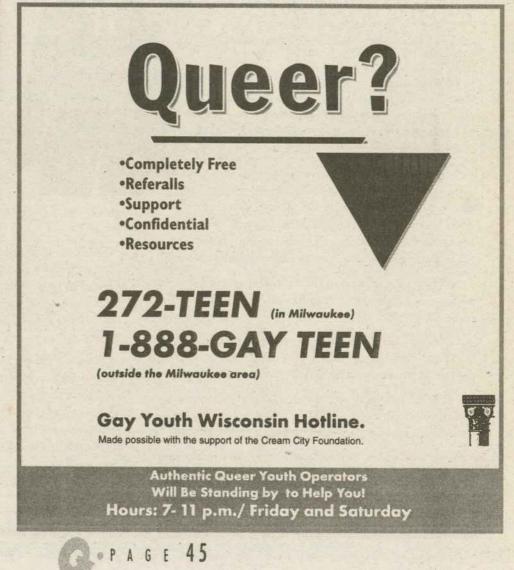
Liberto Rabal as Victor Plaza in "Live Flesh"



Liberto Rabal and Angela Molina as Clara.

spirit lies in the body and soul of a beautiful young actor, Liberto Rabal who might very well be the next Antonio Banderas (also discovered and nurtured by Almodóvar).

Rabal co-stars as the bastard son of a wronged woman, a prostitute, born in the empty streets of a Christmas night in which the fascist state has clamped down further on civil rights. At age 20, he finds trouble with cops and the judicial system over a woman and later, at age 26, earns redemption with his own son's birth, at another Christmas, during a resurgence of democratic ideals, reflected in the happy crowds which surround the car in which his pregnant wife is riding. Almodovar's use of nudity for both men and women is even-handed, while the emotional problems between husbands and wives and best male-friends is clear and vivid; the other actors, terrific all, are Javier Bardem, Francesca Neri, Angela Molina, and José Sancho. It's a throwback to the director's superlative work in *High Heels* and *Matador*, in which guilt (usually Catholic) is comically flailed, but with which real characters suffer. *Live Flesh* is his most intense and disquieting film to date, with a mature non-condemnation of the characters he's written. It's not as campy or over-the-top as was *Women on the Verge of* a Nervous Breakdown or his other masterpiece, Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down; instead, it has inevitability and purpose written into and over it. It's his best film to date, dramatic and comic, with a sadness underpinning it all.



Juicy Bits

by W.W. Wells III

101 Dating Tips and Tricks

ine... maybe there's not 101 tips in this column, but hey ... they're free! And guaranteed 100% effective in landing the man of your dreams! Well ... maybe not 100% actually, but at least 30%! Okay... 20% effective. Oh, just shut up and read!

Show him you're serious about a relationship by using the pronoun, "we" with-in minutes of your first meeting. Use it in every sentence.

ALWAYS wear cologne. Check the cologne ads in Vanity Fair, purchase the brand with the most overhyped, homoerotic advertising campaign and spritz, spritz, spritz. You can never wear enough cologne. Spray your cat. Spray your car. Spray your friends. Then dump half a bottle down your crotch before an evening out. Yummy!

Kiss your friends goodnight, slip the cute ones a little tongue. This shows others that you are a warm, affectionate person with (perhaps) a tendency towards sexual addiction.

Immediately after meeting — within seconds — touch him in some way, even if it's just to brush off imaginary lint or to firmly

grasp his manhood through his Levis. It tells him right away your physically aware and interested in him. It will also give you a pretty good idea of how much he's packing in his 501s.

Send him a drink (make it a double), perhaps with a little note, a nude Polaroid of yourself or the results of your most recent HIV test.

Unbutton the top five buttons of your shirt, but no more than that. This rule especially applies to blue jeans if your wearing button fly jeans with no undies (see the following tip).

Let him know that your never wear underwear (you need to let your crotch "breath"). Convince him you're bare underneath by wearing a pair Calvins around your head.

Always act calm, even if you're not. Pretend nothing is wrong when your lover walks by, empties a drink in your crotch and leaves a smart pink palm print on your cheek. Nothing is more appealing than a person with who can stay relaxed even in the most uncomfortable social situations.

Let your hair grow, ignore those who say short hair is in vogue. Long is in.

Cut your hair short, ignore those who say long hair is in vogue. Short is in.

You can never be too sexy of a dancer. Get your butt out there and quake the dance floor. Achieve the most frenetic dancing by consuming pot after pot of coffee before going

out. ust make sure you know exactly where the bathroom is and how long you can hold it or purchase a box of "industrial strength" Depends Undergarments.

> Tell a very, very funny joke with-in his hearing. If he's halfway across the bar you'll have to speak real loud and you might come off sounding like a dork, so it had better be a pretty damn funny joke. Knock-knocks are good.

> > Though you know the person only casually, tell him you had a dream about him last night. Hint it was steamy and offer to show him the stained sheets to prove it.

> > Ask him if he's ever considered being a model, this is especially effective if the

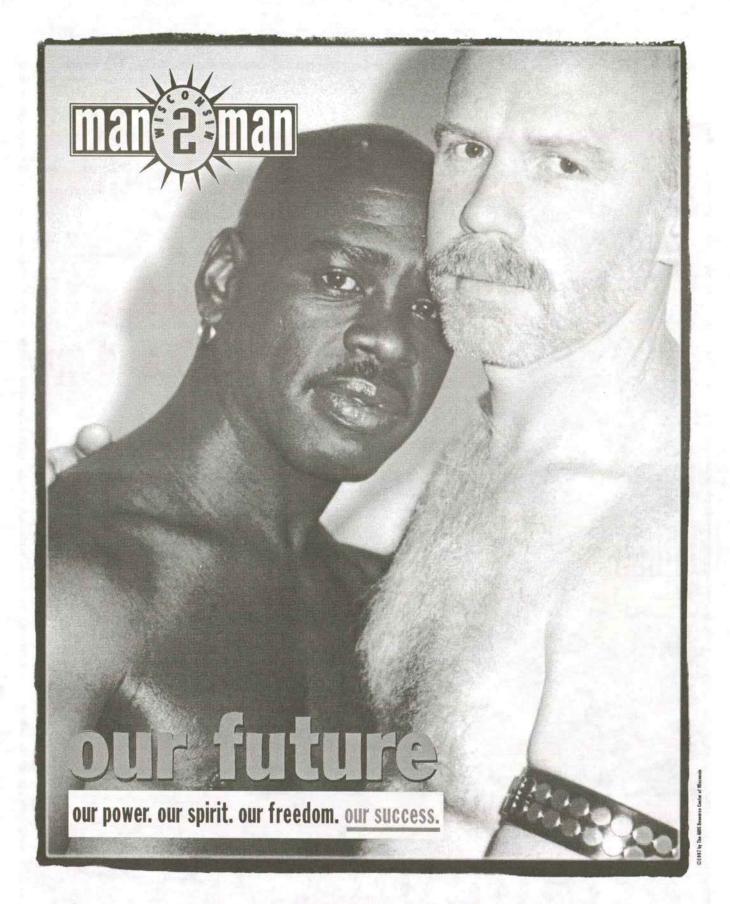
guy looks he's a carnival sideshow reject or a Jerry Springer panelist.

Whisper that you heard the most flattering comment about him and don't tell him what it is. Hint that it has something to do with his sexual prowess then refuse to reveal your source, but insist that you've been enlisted by your friends personally confirm the length and width of the rumor.

Brush up against somebody in a bar. If the person acts as though they didn't notice. Do it again, harder. Repeat until you get a reaction or have knocked the guy to the ground. In which case, pounce on top and begin foreplay immediately or just see how far you can cram your tongue down his throat.

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- P A G E 46



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