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QUEST

Volume 17 Issue 20 November 25 - December 8, 2010



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MEDICARE FINALIZES NEW RULES TO REQUIRE EQUAL VISITATION RIGHTS FOR ALL HOSPITAL PATIENTS

NEW REQUIREMENTS EMPOWER PATIENTS TO DESIGNATE THEIR OWN VISITORS, INCLUDING A SAME-SEX DOMESTIC PARTNER

Washington DC - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued new rules Wednesday, November 17 2010 for Medicare- and Medicaid-participating hospitals that protect patients' right to choose their own visitors during a hospital stay, including a visitor who is a same-sex domestic partner.

"Basic human rights—such as your ability to choose your own support system in a time of need—must not be checked at the door of America's hospitals," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "Today's rules help give 'full and equal' rights to all of us to choose whom we want by our bedside when we are sick, and override any objection by a hospital or staffer who may disagree with us for any non-clinical reason."

The new rules follow from an April 15, 2010 Presidential Memorandum, in which President Obama tasked HHS with developing standards for Medicare- and Medicaid-participating hospitals (including critical access hospitals) that would require them to respect the right of all patients to choose who may visit them when they are an inpatient of a hospital. The President's memorandum instructed HHS to develop rules that would prohibit hospitals from denying visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. It also directed that the rules take into account the need for a hospital to restrict visitation in medically appropriate circumstances.

The rules require hospitals to have written policies and procedures detailing patients' visitation rights, as well as the circumstances under which the hospitals may restrict patient access to visitors based on reasonable clinical needs.

A key provision of the rules specifies that all visitors chosen by the patient

(or his or her representative) must be able to enjoy "full and equal" visitation privileges consistent with the wishes of the patient (or his or her representative).

The rules update the Conditions of Participation (CoPs), which are the health and safety standards all Medicare- and Medicaid-participating hospitals and critical access hospitals must meet, and are applicable to all patients of those hospitals regardless of payer source.

Among other things, the rules impose new requirements on hospitals to explain to all patients their right to choose who may visit them during their inpatient stay, regardless of whether the visitor is a family member, a spouse, a domestic partner (including a same-sex domestic partner), or other type of visitor, as well as their right to withdraw such consent to visitation at any time.

"These rules put non-clinical decisions about who can visit a patient out of the hands of those who deliver care and into the hands of those who receive it," said CMS Administrator Donald Berwick, MD, MPP. "While we still have miles to go in making care more patient-centered, these rules make it easier for hospitals to deliver on some of the fundamental tenets of patient-centered care—care that recognizes and respects the patient as an individual with unique needs, who treated with dignity and granted the power of informed choice."

CMS finalized the rules based on thousands of comments from patient advocates, the hospital community, and other stakeholders. The rules will be effective 60 days after publication. More information about the rules is available on CMS' website at:

http://www.cms.gov/CFCsAndCoPs/06_Hospitals.asp and

http://www.cms.gov/CFCsAndCoPs/03_CAHs.asp.

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WORLD BANK PLANS TO DROP MATCHING FUNDS FOR PFOX

New York - Truth Wins Out is praising the World Bank's plan to eliminate matching funds for the "ex-gay" hate group Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays (PFOX), and called it a "positive step in the right direction." The bank took this extraordinary step after learning more about PFOX's reprehensible record and strong objections from staff who were upset PFOX had been included on the World Bank's list of approved charities.

"We are grateful that the World Bank ensured that taxpayers will not be subsidizing PFOX's anti-gay campaign," said Truth Wins Out's Executive Director Wayne Besen. "We pledge to continue educating the World Bank on this vital issue. The more they learn about PFOX's history of hate and harm, the less likely they will consider PFOX a legitimate charity."

Two weeks ago, Metro Weekly's Chris Geidner discovered that a small number of anti-gay staff-members at the World Bank had recommended PFOX as a charity for this year's Community Connections Campaign. World Bank matching funds were to be given to the chosen charities. Depending on the level of employee participation, the bank's matching funds are either 50 percent or 100 percent of the employee donations.

Truth Wins Out and Change.org launched an online petition to drop PFOX from the list of charities. Members of the World Bank staff also made a persuasive case against using taxpayer funds to assist PFOX. The World Bank decided to take another look at PFOX and elected to change their guidelines. According to the new rules: Bank-matching funds will be provided to those organizations that have, through prior participation, established a track record of support with staff. Organizations that have come on the list this year will not be offered matching funds in this year's campaign, though the Bank will match any contribution that has been made to this latter group prior to today, November 15, 2010. We will review the new organizations after one year, to see if they have the staff and community support to warrant a match in the FY12 campaign.

Truth Wins Out preferred that PFOX be completely dropped from the list this year, but is satisfied with this interim measure that starves the hate group of taxpayer funds. In 2011, TWO will disseminate key information to World Bank staff and management to ensure they are aware of PFOX's dubious record.

"It is a shame that other first time charitable organizations will have to suffer because of PFOX's unseemly presence," said TWO's Wayne Besen. "Sadly, the PFOX baby is so toxic that the bathwater had to be flushed to avoid contaminating the entire program's reputation."

In August, two key members of PFOX spoke at the "Truth Academy". The conference was hosted by Americans For Truth About Homosexuality's founder Peter LaBarbera, whose website was listed as an official "hate site" by the Southern Poverty Law Center. At the Truth Academy, PFOX Board President Greg Quinlan raised eyebrows with an offensive speech. Quinlan explained how he allegedly went from gay-to-straight, and found support from an Assemblies of God Church that accepted him because he allegedly was not effeminate.

"I wasn't your flaming faggot, you know," Quinlan told the chuckling crowd. "I can say that because I've been there and done that. You know, the one's whose wrists are so limp that when the wind blows they slap themselves in the face. I wasn't one of them."

At the same conference, Arthur Abba Goldberg, the convicted Wall Street thief who runs PFOX's speakers bureau, demonstrated PFOX's unscientific use of stereotypes.

"By the way, did you notice that a lot of gays who remain in the gay lifestyle also do a lot of body building," said Abba Goldberg. "They will be in the gym a lot trying to build up their pecs...Because they have these body image issues and don't feel they are masculine enough."

"PFOX is a dangerous organization that traffics in ugly slurs and crass stereotypes," said TWO's Wayne Besen. "Given PFOX's level of vitriol, it would seem reckless and irresponsible to give this group charitable status in the future."

PFOX's former board President is Richard Cohen, who still serves as the "therapy" guru of the organization. Cohen runs the International Healing Foundation and sent his protégé, Caleb Lee Brundidge, to Uganda. The result of his visit was the introduction of the deadly and draconian Anti-Homosexuality Bill. Cohen was permanently expelled from the American Counseling Association on March 23, 2002 for multiple ethics violations.

PFOX is an anti-gay political organization founded in 1998 by Anthony Falzarano with the help of an \$80,000 Family Research Council grant. Falzarano once called University of Wyoming hate crime victim Matthew Shepard a "predator to heterosexual men." He also said on CBS News that, "AIDS comes directly from Satan. He uses homosexuals as pawns and then he kills them."

"PFOX likes to claim that they 'love' LGBT people," said TWO's Wayne Besen. "But their syrupy rhetoric does not match their record, nor reality. From the moment this organization was founded, it showed open hostility and extreme animus towards LGBT people."

There are also lingering questions as to whether PFOX should have been listed as a charity, given that to be included in the World Bank's Community Outreach Program, an organization is required to have, "a substantial local presence in the Greater Washington metropolitan area." PFOX fails to fulfill the criteria. The organization is based in Reedville, VA - placing PFOX 127 miles - and a two hour and forty minute drive - southeast of the nation's capitol. PFOX also does not list any legitimate chapters in DC or Virginia. The only "contact" e-mail listed in DC or VA is that of the national organization based in Reedville.

Truth Wins Out is a non-profit organization that defends the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community against anti-gay misinformation, counters the so-called "ex-gay" industry and educates America about the lives of LGBT people.

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POSITIVE VOICE HOSTS ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Green Bay - Positive Voice, a Green Bay based social and networking group will host their 18th annual holiday party on Saturday, December 4 from 5:00pm - 11:00pm at Hotel Sierra in Green Bay. The hotel is located at 333 Main Street Green Bay, WI

Once again they will include their popular white elephant gift exchange! guests are asked to please bring one wrapped gift for the gift exchange.

There will be a cash bar starting at 5:00 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm. Food choices are: Chicken Versuvia, Tender Sliced Roast Sirloin or Teriyaki Apricot Vegetable Kabobs. Prices are \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Money and food choices MUST be paid by November 27th!!

There will be a silent auction along with goodies baked by PV Board Members!

Mail your food choice and money to Positive Voice P.O.Box 1381 Green Bay WI 54305-1381 to arrive by November 27.

W4W EXPLORES DATING DO'S & DON'TS

Madison - Women4Women tackles the subject of Dating Do's and Don'ts and Answers the Questions of Who, What, Where, When, How and Why? How does butch/femme identification factor

into dating? Who asks who out? When is it a date, or not? How many people can you date at once? When is the right time to become intimate? When does dating evolve into a relationship? When and how do you introduce someone to your family, friends or coworkers? These are just some of the questions we'll try to address.

Join W4W on Saturday, November 27th at OutReach from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. OutReach is officially closed that day, but you will be able to stretch out and meet in the main room.

For more information about OutReach's Women4Women group, call Outreach at 255-8582 and leave a message or email: Donna at d41965@yahoo.com

2011 JOLLY HOLLY FOLLY SUNDAY JAN 9

Milwaukee - ARCW will host their annual festive fundraiser later than usual this year. Scheduled for Sunday, January 9, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in the Milwaukee Center Rotunda.

A festive evening is planned with tantalizing food from Milwaukee's finest restaurants, capped off with a private performance by the Milwaukee Repertory Theater of the comic romp, The 39 Steps. Formal invitations are expected to be mailed soon, so contact ARCW for more information.

NEW MEN'S COMING OUT GROUP FORMING

Madison - A 17-week men's coming-out support group is forming late this fall sponsored by OutReach, Madison & south-central Wisconsin's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community center. The group will meet on a weeknight TBD at 7pm. The purpose of the group is to offer support to men who are dealing with the realization that they are not heterosexual and how that affects their everyday lives and to support those people previously or currently in same sex relationships.

The men's coming out support group will identify and discuss the stages of coming out and explore topics such as how to deal with one's own feelings about coming out, family members, physical and sexual safety, legal rights and discrimination, among others. Two trained volunteers will facilitate each meeting. Men who are interested in attending the meetings should leave a message for Roger with contact information at (608) 575-1500 or e-mail at rogerbadger@msn.com by Wednesday, December 22nd.



Employment Opportunity HIV Prevention Research

The Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin announces openings for two positions in a new National Institutes of Health-funded research project that will develop, implement, and evaluate the effectiveness of community HIV prevention programs for African American men who have sex with men (MSM). The project's objective is to determine if friend-to-friend HIV prevention approaches that work through natural social networks of African American MSM in the community can reduce sexual risk behavior, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV infection. Both Research Associate positions require extensive experience, knowledge, and understanding of Milwaukee's African American MSM community including settings, ways, and places where African American MSM at high risk for HIV can be reached. For both positions, relevant community experience and involvement with organizations that serve African American MSM are more essential than prior formal research experience. Positions will require frequent field work on evenings, nights, weekends, and during nontraditional hours.

Research Associates will perform activities related to the identification of community settings in Milwaukee for reaching African American MSM and for carrying out community outreach to recruit, interview, and conduct HIV prevention activities with social networks of Black gay or bisexual men. The Research Associates will also be responsible for outreach-based recruitment of friendship groups of African American MSM in community settings, for interviewing participants, and for seeking to engage friends of already recruited men to also enroll in the research. Strong interpersonal communication skills and comfort in community settings where the target population meet are important position requirements. Relevant community experience may substitute for some educational requirements.

Both positions offer competitive salaries and excellent fringe benefits. In addition to a resume or completed job application, we welcome applicants to provide an accompanying letter that describes any additional formal or informal community experience, volunteer work, or involvement with community organizations that serve the targeted population if those experiences are relevant to these positions.

The Medical College is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer.

If interested in applying for the role, please visit www.mcw.jobs and search for position number **326.31322**.

Quest Cover Feature – 10 Questions for a Gender Bender by Mark Mariucci

Drag, cross dressing, female illusion, gender bender, call it what you like, and like it we do.

The art of female illusion has been used as comic relief in countless movies and television shows. Think back to “Some Like it Hot,” or television’s “Saturday Night Live” and “In Living Color.” “*Hated It!*” - snap!

In the gay community cross dressing has been with us for what seems an eternity. Windy City Times publisher and author describes in her groundbreaking book “Out and Proud in Chicago” early drag balls held in public venues where homosexuals came to socialize and watch elaborate shows featuring men dressed as women performing on stage with live bands. No one knows exactly when this all began, but there are accounts of saloons and dance halls in the working class entertainment and vice district at the turn of the 20th century. By the 1920’s lesbians, gay men, artists and heterosexuals who came to gawk frequented establishments on the north side known as Towertown. Haltsed street already featured female impersonator shows and contests at the time. In 1930 *Variety* reported there were at least 35 “pansy parlors” in Chicago’s near north side. The Drag Balls reached their largest popularity in the 1930’s and 40’s. Two well established balls were held at the Coliseum, one on New Year’s and the other on Halloween. Countless others happened in other parts of the city.

As a young gay man in 1976, my first exposure to a drag show is all it took to get me hooked. In those days outside of Milwaukee, a drag show was an “event” filled with showtunes and really bad drag or at least a lack of good costuming. Milwaukee, longtime a hot spot for female impersonator shows, developed “The Pageant” to celebrate the best of the best with a yearly competition held at the fashionable Marc Plaza ballroom. People from all over Wisconsin came to dine and watch the show and cheer on their favorite contestant. In the late 1980’s Jimmy King

would align with Jerry Bird to bring Bird’s original national drag competition to Wisconsin beginning more than 20 years of the Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA Pageant. (disclosure: Quest magazine and publisher Mark Mariucci has long owned this pag-



ent. Today it is co-owned by Quest with Dan and Kylie of Drag Depot.)

While most in the LGBT community may think of drag in terms of the weekly shows at venues such as Montage above La Cage, the art of illusion in the past two decades has really come of age. Actors including Charles Bush and RuPaul are featured on mainstream cable in movies and cable shows including currently, “RuPaul’s Drag Race.”

Cross-dressing as an art form takes at least three different forms today. There is the traditional queen lip syncing songs and either imitating the look of a famous singer or molding several influences into her own persona. This is what I refer to as classic drag.

Another form is when someone creates a char-

acter and maintains that character on stage all the time. Lady Bunny and Sherry Vine are two famous examples. Jackie Beat, RuPaul and Charles Bush are personas who have taken the next logical step to act in movies. In this regard,

you have a man impersonating a woman as his alter ego that then is an actor playing the part of another character. I know it gets weird. Outbound humor columnist Dear Ruthie is Milwaukee’s finest example. Ruthie has been featured in several Milwaukee stage productions and is always a crowd favorite at the local clubs doing charity events.

There is a third form of impersonator that is not as well known. The star of this issue’s Quest cover, Seth, is an example of female illusion as living art. Seth is a performance artist from Green Bay who mainly takes on female attire for the camera or special events with themes, like an 80’s high school photography shoot, or a silent film festival screening complete with paparazzi. Not worried about always looking pretty, he even appeared as a female ghoul at a local haunted house over Halloween. Seth is a chameleon who pushes the boundaries of what we consider female illusion. You won’t find him on stage lip syncing or even singing live, but you can frequently find

him posing for a photographer eager to create an unusual portrait; often a harsh political statement but at the same time a visual treat. On these pages we present a few photos shot exclusively for Quest by Shanna Koltz. You can find many more of Seth in various forms by checking out the Stun Photography Group on facebook.

I asked Seth to come up with 10 questions he could ask himself which Quest then sent to five of our most famous Queens currently in Milwaukee. Dear Ruthie and Karen Valentine (KV) are writers for Outbound Magazine and first to respond. We also asked three Miss Wisconsin USofA titleholders who can be seen regularly on stage at Montage these same 10 questions. Jackie Roberts just gave up her title. Bryanna Banx\$ is the current Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA.

Kylie West is a former titleholder who now runs the pageant system. You have six people with different views of life in and out of drag who open up about what makes them so special.

1. What are some of the issues you face within society?

Well of course.. the constant stares and under the breath comments.. those don't even bother me anymore.. actually I kind of thrive on it.. it's like a constant experiment and social study when I go out into public.. oh and PS, even when I have no makeup on and go out in scrubs.. people still get confused... and we all know, when the human race gets confused or scared.. they judge!

2. When did the fascination with the "other side" begin? How did it begin?

Well I never had the, trying your mother's shoes on, or anything cute like that.. But I was raised by my mother and her two lesbian best friends.. so to me, men were just tools.. I always loved woman.. the way they dress, the way they walk, and being raised gender neutral.. I grew up with no fashion boundaries..

3. How do you think others perceive you?

Ha! Who knows, some view me as I wild child I presume.. getting beat up for a hobby (wraslin) isn't exactly a sane thing to do.. Honestly.. either love me or hate me.. your still thinking about me.. xoxo

4. Would you consider yourself.. a third gender? Or someone with two souls?

I'm a ginger... I have no soul..

5. Do you feel you were born in the wrong body?

No.. actually quite the contrary.. I feel I was born to inspire.. put on this planet.. and in this body.. to reach out to people.. help them get on their path.. To entertain.. to perform.. When I see someone smile, or dance, or cry, when I'm on that stage.. I know I'm doing something right.. this is my body.. and I have grown to love it.

6. Would you consider cross dressing an art form?



Of course! Any form of expression is an art form in itself! Fashion is a beautiful art.. styling is almost like painting a picture.. I usually get free reign and creative direction with my photoshoots.. and to me.. it's like drawing a picture.

7. Do you identify yourself with your biological gender?

Yes... I have a penis and take pride in him.. ha!

8. As a child, what toys did you play with the most? Girls toys or boys toys?

Like I mentioned before.. my mother raised me gender neutreul.. (thank goodness!) so I played with both boys and girls toys.. I would even drive my de-ranged barbies around in my tonka trucks! But when I was little, I LOVED bugs and snakes and bats! Gross boy stuff like that..

9. If there was one thing you could explain to the world.. to help them understand who you are.. What would it be?

Yikes.. I could get all preachy.. but I'll spare you all.. One thing.. as cliché as it is.. never judge a book by it's cover.. cliché's are cliché' for a reason.. I don't expect people to understand me.. I do hope that they accept me.. for the basketcase that I am..

10. Favorite designer?

Alexander McQueen... RIP Lovebug.. you rocked my world..

To all my beautiful people out there.. thank you for all the support and love.. hopefully.. you all can watch me soar..

Seth's photographer for this Quest shoot is Shanna Koltz from Green Bay who specializes in photographing artistic images. If you would like to schedule your own unique and personal photo shoot with Koltz Photography, call her at (920)619-3850 or email skoltz@new.rr.com or just find her on facebook under Koltz Photography. Seth's makeup was done by Alex Kriescher and styling was done by Twig.

Dear Ruthie

Always ready with some fresh advise for the lovelorne, Ruthie also spends time in her kitchen at the trailer park to give us yummy recipes which you can find each issue of Outbound Magazine. When not working for the paper, Ruthie is busy keeping the audiences happy on stage around Milwaukee. Seth asked Ruthie the same 10 questions.

1. What are some of the issues you face within society?

I find society is loosening up a bit and pulling the sticks outta their keesters, but then again, I'm an entertainer and don't deal with the day-to-day issues that a transgender person does. Where drag queens are concerned, I think that society is accepting us as a fun genre of entertainment. For instance, I hosted an event at the Harley Davidson Museum a few months ago. I arrived by myself, completely ready to walk on-stage and begin the event. I couldn't find parking, and had to park quite a distance from the event. Alone, I walked through the parking lot, through a very well-attended motorcycle event, through the museum lobby and up to the hall where my event was being held. Even though I was alone and surrounded by dozens upon dozens of Harley enthusiasts of every age, race and gender, I never once felt intimidated or threatened. A few people smiled and waved and a few asked to take their photo with me. (God forbid anyone slip me their phone numbers!) The atmosphere was very friendly. I don't know that I would have felt that way had this happened a few years ago.

2. When did the fascination with the "other side" begin?

I'm a ham. Period. I always loved bawdy dames such as Bette Midler and Joan Rivers, as well as funny girls like Gilda Radner and Carol Burnette. (And if you're too young to know who these people are, you should go screw yourself!) I emulated them, and wanted to be them. Okay, so I'm not Bette Midler. I look more like the love child of Joy Behar and Gilbert Godfrey, but what the hell?! I make people smile.

3. How do you think others perceive you?

As a red-headed goddess, of course. What else?

4. Would you consider yourself.. a third gender?

Or someone with two souls? Two souls?! Oh dear, God, no! The last thing I need is another soul hanging around that I have to attend to. If I did have a second soul, I'd like to see how much



Dear Ruthie

I could get for it on Ebay. I'm just me...a big-boned broad who likes to entertain.

5. Do you feel you were born in the wrong body?

I truly do. I know in my soul (maybe my second soul) that I was meant to have Beyonce's body...but I got Julia Child's instead. I'm not sure what went wrong, but I expect some answers when I cross through the Pearly Gates.

6. Would you consider cross dressing an art form?

With my looks, it's more like abstract art. Seriously though, any entertainer is practicing a form of art. Just take a look at the contestants in a drag pageant...that's art! You can't deny it. Nearly every time I perform in a play, I have people waiting in the lobby to meet me, as they weren't sure of my gender while I was on stage. I think that's saying something.

7. Do you identify yourself with your biological gender?

What was the question again? Sorry, but I'm too distracted by the yeast infection on my prostate.

8. As a child, what toys did you play with the most?

Girls toys or boys toys? As a child, my only toys consisted of a can of creamed corn, a box of toothpicks and an Odor Eater. Girl toys or boy toys? You tell me.

9. If there was one thing you could explain to the world.. to help them understand who you are.. What would it be?

I would try to explain that everyone needs to send me money asap. My friendship is very much for sale, and I need a new toaster. Actually, I wish the world could follow the golden rule, and due unto others as you'd have them due unto you. (I also take checks.)

10. Favorite designer?

What the hell? Where did this question come from? You ask me all of these intense questions about social expectations and my soul, then you wanna know what designers I slap on my back?! Well...I guess, I'd have to tip my hat to the folks at Sears Robuck. If I could afford it, however, all of my gowns and whatnot would be designed by the one and only Bob Mackie.

Karen Valentine

Michael Johnston aka Karen Valentine has been a society columnist for nearly every LGBT newspaper in Milwaukee. He currently writes for Outbound and does special interviews of celebrities for both Quest and Outbound. On stage he is known as Karen Valentine and has been entertaining Milwaukee club goers for many years. KV's answers are next.

1. What are some of the issues you face within society?

No real issues, in my world. I dress strictly for performing. It's too much work just getting "dolled up". Sometimes people have difficulty in using gender terms: he, she, him, her. That's why K.V. works as a nice androgynous monicker.

2. When did the fascination with the "other side" begin?

Even as a small child I was always drawn to glamour! Clothes, jewelry, furs - it just happened to be of the female persuasion. The first time I dressed was for a "Rona Birthday Show" at the original M&M Club, February, 1988. A fund raiser for the Cream City Chorus.

3. How do you think others perceive you?

I'm having fun - I'm entertaining (or at least trying to) I'm non threatening. I win them over with my wit!

4. Would you consider yourself.. a third gender?

I like to think of myself as a performance artist. Be it Drag, hosting a show or a fundraiser, in or out of costume, bartending, singing in a chorus, a business presentation - - all branches off the same tree - me.

Karen Valentine (KV)



5. Do you feel you were born in the wrong body?

No, I was born in the correct body, it's the passage of time and it's effects that bother me.

6. Would you consider cross dressing an art form?

For me it is. I have never permanently altered my face or my body for my art form. The transformation, is the true art form. Having an extraordinary make up artist like Goldie Adams, a talented wig stylist in the form of Joe Kender, fashions by Delago - never having to wear off the rack! I'm like a car in the Indianapolis 500, pull it all together and I'm ready for the race! Just don't bump into the furniture!

7. Do you identify yourself with your biological gender?

Yes, I am a man - who enjoys bringing the character of "Karen K.V. Valentine" alive!

8. As a child, what toys did you play with the most?

As a child, I coveted the neighbor girls Barbies. But having four brothers - dolls were taboo in my household. Years later when home from college for Christmas, I went upstairs to my old bedroom and there on my bed was a Marilyn Monroe Barbie Doll!!!! My mother bought it for me. I call that acceptance. And it launched my collection of celebrity dolls.

9. If there was one thing you could explain to the world.. to help them understand who you are.. What would it be?

Relax, and enjoy the show! Let me entertain you...

10. Favorite designer?

Balenciaga, Norman Norell, Mollie Parnis, Pauline Trigere, etc...

The final three celebrities we asked our 10 questions are professional female impersonators; working the weekly shows on Montage's stage (upstairs above LaCage) and heavily invested in the Miss Wisconsin USofA Pageant system.

Kylie West

Scott aka Kylie West clogged her way into the hearts of Wisconsin years ago and has continued to wow the audience weekly as a show director at LaCage. Kylie's pageant involvement didn't stop the year she gave up her title. She travels to Dallas for nationals most years and started Drag Depot with her partner, Dan to offer the queens exceptional value in wardrobe accessories. Dan and Kylie have Run Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA since its move to Milwaukee several years ago and today are co-owners with Quest/Mark Mariucci in the pageant. They also own and run several other Wisconsin-USofA pageants.

1. What are some of the issues you face within society?

As a general rule, Kyllie only comes out for shows and pageants. I'm sure that there are those that "don't get it" or aren't "into it" and that's fine, we all have a place in society. Since I've been performing for so many years now, I guess that performers do look up to me as well as my closet and jewelry box. It's all good though!

2. When did the fascination with the "other side" begin? How did it begin?

It all started when I saw my first show at 219 in the early 1990's. Ginger Spice was on stage and I was in AWE, just like everyone else in the club. I decided I wanted to be on that stage, performing along side her. Unfortunately, she had passed before I got the chance to perform with her, but I did get to meet her many times and eventually work at the club. I've been at La Cage for the last 2 years and you can catch the TransFormations show every Friday at 11pm (shameless plug).

3. How do you think others perceive you?

I hope that others see me as an entertainer. I realize that I'm old enough to be the typical audience member's parent, but I still go out there and do my thing. There may be a generation gap and the type of music I perform to might not be what they listen to on a daily basis, but I look at it as exposing them to something new.

4. Would you consider yourself.. a third gender? Or someone with two souls?

No.

5. Do you feel you were born in the wrong body?

Not at all. I'm very comfortable with who I am and the body I was born in. Kyllie comes out to perform and that's about it. Some would say that it's theater and what I wear on the stage is just a costume for the role I'm playing.

6. Would you consider cross dressing an art form?

Absolutely, it takes A LOT of work too! From makeup, hair, creating costumes, even walking in 4 inch heels is all part of what the audience sees on stage. If you don't have at least some creativity you can't make it as a performer.

7. Do you identify yourself with your biological gender?

Yes, I will always be "male" whether you see Kyllie or not.

8. As a child, what toys did you play with the most? Girls toys or boys toys?

Since I don't have any sisters, I didn't really have that option. When I got a little older, I was more interested in music, dance, and mom's sewing machine.

9. If there was one thing you could explain to the world.. to help them understand who you are..

I am my own special creation, just like you. We may not have to get along or like each other, but we do have to respect each other.

10. Favorite designer?

With so many to choose from, I'd have to say Bob Mackie. He may be the queen of the Home Shopping Network these days for every day wear, but his work and creativity for costumes and gowns is absolutely amazing.



Jackie Roberts

Jackie Roberts just gave up her crown as Miss Gay Wisconsin-USofA this past October. A fixture for years on the stage at LaCage and now at Montage, she is adored by many. This unassuming entertainer is a true pro in every sense.

1. What are some of the issues you face within society?

I think it is a lot different for someone who lives as a woman compared to someone who strictly is an entertainer. I think that people come to shows for different reasons- some admire, some make fun of, some think we are just freaks! Given that though I think that we (and I mean entertainers) are giving them what they ask for- entertainment. No matter what the reasoning behind it.

2. When did the fascination with the "other side" begin? How did it begin?

I had been very androgynous as a child into my teen years. There were always several people asking whether or not I was a boy or girl, this may have come from looks and the way I carried myself. I knew I was not like others but I didn't know how. I always knew I was gay but there seemed to be something more. I was actually dating a girl who has seen an article about Holly and Co. at LaCage. I raced home to find the paper and read the article over and over- INTRIGUE!! Then at my high school I hung around with the upper classman and some of them had actually had fake IDs and got to see the show... that was it- it had to be a sign. Things progressed from there, I left home at an early age, lived with people in the Milwaukee Ballet (who had also gotten in to see the show). Well I had to see this! So I started getting in drag to avoid getting carded and get into the bar. *(Not sure this is something you*

want to share with readers-LOL.) Before long I was at every show- then talking to the girls and hanging out with them- doing the spotlight for the shows and eventually entering one of the talent contests and getting my chance.....the rest is history.



3. How do you think others perceive you?

I think a lot of people perceive a lot of us as what they see on stage. I can only speak for myself but 'Jackie' is an extension of my personality. I don't put on make-up and become this different person. I think we are all actors and we portray songs, characters, venues, pageants as such. I know personally a lot of people think I'm a bitch- and that also comes from many years of being the 'Door Bitch' at the club, but during my reign as Miss Gay Wisconsin I could not be that- I had to be approachable and accessible to many different people.

4. Would you consider yourself.. a third gen-

der? Or someone with two souls?

I consider myself to be me- if that can be defined.....maybe an enigma.....

5. Do you feel you were born in the wrong body?

When I was younger I thought perhaps I was, but I think that is all with coming into yourself. I know several performers who went for the breasts, etc.. and then later when they came into themselves as people realized it was not for them. I can tell you that no matter which way you choose to be that it is a constant life experience.

6. Would you consider cross dressing an art form?

Yes! It takes a lot of work to perform- and even more work to get ready to perform. That is physically and mentally.

7. Do you identify yourself with your biological gender?

I am a man- I was born a man and always will be.

8. As a child, what toys did you play with the most? Girls toys or boys toys?

I didn't really play with toys that I can remember. I was very into music at an early age. Loved to sing!

9. If there was one thing you could explain to the world.. to help them understand who you are.. What would it be?

You be you and I'll be me- no questions. As long as I am not harming anyone- let me do what I wanna do.

10. Favorite designer?

I have a lot of favorite designers- Versace, Dolce and Gabbana, Gwen Stefani for L.A.M.B. too many to name.

Bryanna Banx\$

Bryanna Banx\$ is the current holder of the title Miss Gay Wisconsin-USofA, probably the most respected pageant title in Wisconsin. With the title comes a lot of work during the year's reign. Bryanna is an ambassador as much as the honored guest performer at every prelim pageant in Wisconsin for the system. (and there are many!) Bryanna will travel to Dallas this spring to compete against other titleholders from across the US and will represent Wisconsin's LGBT community in that respect. Pageantry is serious business and a lot of hard work, but Ms Banx\$ is up to the task.

1. What are some of the issues you face within society?

I am 28 year old gay white male who grew up in rural central Wisconsin so I have faced Homophobia all my life with my family members and

other people in this society who are not accepting of the lifestyle. I have been doing the art of female impersonation for about 8 years now and being a gay man who dresses up as a woman for fun also adds more ridicule. I deal with issues from people from the GLBT community who don't get it or understand it but also with people outside of the community.

2. When did the fascination with the "other side" begin? How did it begin?

I remember growing up and always playing in my sisters clothing and playing dress up. I didn't start taking it seriously until I was 20 and did it to get into the gay bars since they wouldn't know if my ID was real or fake. I then got asked to do a "charity" show to raise money for the Aids Network of Wisconsin (ARCW) and got a lot of positive feedback and from then on out

I continued to be a female impersonator and perform and compete in pageants.

3. How do you think others perceive you?

Well, I think if you ask others about Jasen, they would say he is down to earth, fun to be around, outgoing, caring, sarcastic, shy at first but warms up quickly, moody among other things. If you ask about my alter ego, Bryanna Banx\$, they would say I am the life of the party, bitchy at times, social butterfly, an attention getter, beautiful, and hopefully more good things.

4. Would you consider yourself.. a third gender? Or someone with two souls?

I consider myself someone with two personalities and dressing up in drag lets the other more "FIESTY" personality let loose as opposed to Jasen who is more reserved and laid back.

5. Do you feel you were born in the wrong body?

I have never thought I should have been born a woman. I am very happy with the man that I am today as well as the entertainer I have grown to be.

6. Would you consider cross dressing an art form?



Cross dressing is an art form, anyone who considers themselves Transsexual or a Drag Queen cross dresses and both of which to me is an art form.

7. Do you identify yourself with your biological gender?

Yes I am very proud of the man I have become.

8. As a child, what toys did you play with the most? Girls toys or boys toys?

It was a variety of things ranging from matchbox cars to barbie dolls. I did it all, anything that caught my attention and entertained me.

9. If there was one thing you could explain to the world.. to help them understand who you are..

I am a Gemini...very dry-witty-sarcastic sense of humor and moody. Please be able to deal with it and roll with the punches lol

10. Favorite designer?

I don't have a specific designer or brand but anything that is current, trendy, and fitted is something that gets my attention and will be worn by me whether it's male or female attire.

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Friday, November 26

LaCage (Milwaukee) NO PANTS PARTY with hot male dancers. 10 pm

Saturday November 27

Club 5 Madison) Chez Bouche, an erotic dance comedy. 9pm chezbouche.com

Club Impulse (Beloit) RuPaul's Drag Race Contestant ONGINA Act9 AIDS Ride Benefit

Fluid (Milwaukee) Glowvember Party w/ DJ Kelly (Glow blacklight party)

ICON (Kenosha) Ronnie Nyles Performs live.

Sunday, November 28

Shelter (Green Bay) annual Packer game CHILI-COOKOFF. Bring in your best chili for the game for a chance to win! Judging after the game.

Wednesday, December 1

HARMONY CAFE (Green Bay & Appleton) Free - World AIDS Day public awareness event. Reception 6pm. Entertainment, speakers, snacks and beverages 7pm

Thursday, December 2

Milwaukee LGBT film/Video Festival (UW Union Milwaukee) Tilda Swinton in "Orlando" The celebrated reissue of Sally Potter's 1992 Academy Award Nominated film based on Virginia Woolf's novel *Orlando: A Biography with Quentin Crisp as Queen Elizabeth* \$5 7pm

Saturday, December 4

Madison Gay Video Club "Is It Just Me?" (TLA Rel., dir. J.C. Calciano, 2010) "Orgies" (Bel Ami, dir. George Dury, 1999-2007) 8:00 PM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, 608-244-8690 (evenings)

Positive Voice (Green Bay) Holiday Party at Hotel Sierra, Green Bay. \$30 for members, \$35 non-members, must be paid by Nov 27.

Shelter (Green Bay) Tis' the Season Male GO-GO Dancers. Let's see if you have been naughty or nice! 10:30pm

Sunday, December 5

Midtowne Spa (Milwaukee) Castaways MC host St. Nick's Stocking Stuffers "Jingle Balls" Adult Movies - DVD's VHS Adult Goods Vendors Welcome. 4-8 pm

Monday, December 6

Outwords Books (Milwaukee) Outwords Men's Book Club will meet on to discuss the book "Silver Lake" by acclaimed novelist Peter Gadol. Everyone is welcome! 7pm

Thursday, December 9

Shelter (Green Bay) Free HIV testing 7-9pm. Testing provided by ARCW.

Friday, December 10

Satge Q (Bartell Theatre Madison) Chez Bouche, an erotic dance comedy. Repeats 11th

Women's Voices Milwaukee A Holiday of Harmony Concert 7:30pm Repeats Sat. 11th Reserve tickets \$12 in advance by calling 414-483-2430 \$15 at the door (cash or check only) Marian Center for Non-Profits 3195 S. Superior St. Milw.

Saturday, December 11

Shelter (Green Bay) Holiday BINGO 3pm. Play for your chance to win great gifts and more!

Sunday, December 12

KRUZ (Milwaukee) Castaway's M.C. Beer/Soda Bust - "HARD CANDY X-MAS" - KRUZ Sunday Dec. 12, 2010 3:00 - 7:00 P.M. SANTA - GIFTS/PRIZES

Tuesday, December 14

Outwords Books (Milwaukee) The Lesbian Reading @ Outwords Books will meet 7 pm. During this festive evening, the group will discuss Stella Duffy's *Parallel Lies*. Come and join in!

Saturday, December 18

Madison Gay Video Club "BearCity" (TLA Rel., dir. Douglas Langway, 2010) "Summer Heat" (Falcon Studios, various dir, 2010) 8:00 PM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, 608-244-8690 (evenings)

Shelter (Green Bay) Christmas Party/Holiday Show. FREE FOOD & Snacks 9pm. Show 10:30pm NO COVER!! Holiday presents given away at the door & Special Guest entertainment for the show!!

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Life & Estate Planning and Parentage Issues

Presented by Attorney Emily Dudak Taylor

Emily is an attorney with The Law Center for Children & Families in Madison, Wisconsin. She practices in the areas of adoption, advanced reproductive technology ("ART"), international divorce and dissolution, guardianship, immigration, life and estate planning, and probate. She works primarily with LGBT families, guiding them through ART planning, guardianships, adoptions, domestic partnership registrations, contracts, and life, estate, and tax planning. Emily is a member of the National LGBT Bar Association and the LGBT Family Law Institute, and writes and speaks frequently throughout Wisconsin about LGBT issues.

Income Tax Considerations

Presented by Kim Ruef and Kerry Stevens

Kerry Stevens is a CPA with Wegner LLP, CPAs & Consultants. She has also attained the designation of Certified Financial Planner (CFP). She specializes in income tax preparation and advisory services for individuals, estates and trusts. As part of her tax practice Kerry works with gay and lesbian couples with children to prepare income tax returns to maximize tax benefits to their families. Kerry also provides litigation support in di-

voice regarding income tax matters.

Kim is a CPA and Partner with Wegner LLP, CPAs & Consultants. She specializes in providing accounting, tax, and management advisory services for small businesses, partnerships, corporations, and tax exempt organizations. Kim is currently the treasurer for the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, has served in numerous capaci-

ties (including treasurer and president) on the board of the National Association of Women Business Owners, as treasurer of a Business Network International chapter as well as several other boards. She is the partner in charge of the Wegner Payroll Group, and is the head of Wegner CPA's Restaurant Niche.



October 30 - December 3

Shrine

Photography
by
Paul Masterson



Phantoms and Shadows

Photography
by
Jeff Main

Hide/Seek Difference in Desire in American Portraiture - Gay Art goes to Washington

By Paul Masterson

We should count our blessings. In this heartland burg of ours, Milwaukeeans have something very rare – we have our own center dedicated to LGBT art, music and theatre.

The Milwaukee Art Museum has featured several gay artists in major exhibitions like Andy Warhol, Francis Bacon as well as Gilbert and George. It displays the works of numerous LGBT artists including Marsden Hartley, Robert Maplethorpe and Jasper Johns among many others. It also holds a renowned collection of paintings by Georgia O'Keeffe. Their works hang quietly. Unless a docent points out the artist is gay, there's rarely any direct indication of their sexual orientation. .

Meanwhile, in our nation's capital, in the venerable halls of The Smithsonian Museum National Portrait Gallery, a groundbreaking exhibition has recently opened: *Hide/Seek – Difference and Desire in American Portraiture*. According to its catalogue, it's "the first modern museum exhibit on sexual difference in the making of American portraiture." Despite the ambiguously closeted name, the exhibit explores the modern American experience through primarily LGBT art.

According to its exhibition statement, the impact of pre- and post-Stonewall sensitivities, the AIDS epidemic and the advent of postmodernist attention to identities, "the exhibit depicts how portraiture repeatedly negotiated seismic shifts in American culture and society." Co-curators of this exhibition are David C. Ward, National Portrait Gallery historian, and Jonathan Katz, director of the doctoral program in visual studies, State University of New York at Buffalo.

QUEST interviewed David Ward about this unique

and timely exhibit.

QUEST: How did the exhibit come about?

David Ward: A Walt Whitman exhibition and symposium discussed the relationship of the poet and his partner, Peter Doyle. For the first time, it recognized their intimacy and its importance in the context of artistic output. A conversation about LGBT show evolved out of that. The Museum's *Struggle for Justice* exhibit deals with the idea of rights. We have the images of Dr. King but we wanted to show other cultural influences within the discussion. The latest expression of the struggle for rights in American history is the LGBT movement. Up to this point, the Museum had not been responsive to the influence of LGBT artists.

QUEST: Was there any resistance to the concept when you proposed the project to the Smithsonian?

D.W.: The Smithsonian has a reputation for being "establishment" but response was positive. The sticking point was funding. Putting together the proposal package to present to the Smithsonian entailed raising funds to pay for the exhibit. No one opposed idea of show.

QUEST: Is this a federally funded project?

D.W.: In fact, its funding is entirely private.

QUEST: Tell us about the exhibit. What artists are represented?

The installation begins with late 19th century works by Thomas Eakins and John Singer Sargent. It moves through the 20th century with Romaine Brooks, George Bellows, Marsden Hartley and Georgia O'Keeffe, the lovers Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg, Agnes Martin, Keith Haring, Glenn Ligon, Nan Goldin, Felix Gonzales-



CAMOUFLAGE SELF-PORTRAIT
by Andy Warhol

Torres, David Wojnarowicz, Catherine Opie and Andy Warhol among others. They represent the very essence of late 19th century through 20th century American art.

QUEST: The names you've mentioned are all familiar. How is this new?

D.W.: It's an unexpected look at American art. It's not weird or outsider. I suspect some will think it's old hat. It looks familiar because these are the artists we know. But, their cultural contribution has never been explained in the context of their sexual orientation. There's a divided consciousness of marginalized communities like the African- and Native Americans. Sexual difference responds to evolving attitudes in the same way.

QUEST: Looking at Marsden Hartley or even Rauschenberg, one doesn't necessarily see gay art – at least not thematically.

D.W.: It's mainstream American art, not outsider. This is a masterpiece show. Its spine is made up of the best of American art. We wanted to put on



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an exhibition not create controversy and be shut down. We didn't want to be shaped by provocative imagery. But cutting out the LGBT or sexual part denies the basis for the art. The subtlety is in the coding and ambiguity. There could be a general political backlash from extreme factions that might not like the fact that Hartley, for example, was gay. But he was.

QUEST: Still, there's overt sexuality and certainly implied sexual undertones in many of the works. How has the public responded to the show?

D.W.: Thus far the public response from the public has been positive. Some may be uncomfortable with the premise – after all the culture wars are not dead. The main criticism has come from the gay left. They're offended by the show's subtitle being "de-gay-ed." It's not provocative enough. But it's not about that. It's about sexual ambivalence as much as it is about LGBT artists. Georgia O'Keeffe and Thomas Eakins can't be identified as gay but their element of influence as

gay or lesbian sexuality is manifested in their art.

QUEST: You mentioned the culture wars. Has there been a political response?

D.W.: Unless you deny citizenship to LGBT people, like it or not, they are part of American cultural pluralism. The complicating factor is being a Federal museum. There's criticism no matter what we do. If we put on a car exhibit, someone would criticize us for being a tool of the oil industry. What I fear is someone will see this as a way to campaign. So far, that hasn't happened.



GOAT'S HORN WITH RED
by Georgia O'Keeffe

QUEST: Despite the recent political developments, LGBT awareness and tolerance is slowly becoming an established reality. Did you calculate *now* as being the right time to do this show?

D.W.: There's never a time that is the right time. The tipping point in terms of tolerance is there but LGBT life has always been part of our history and of American artistic expression. I wanted to be the

first as an art biographer to address this in the broader sense. These artists were gay. The discussion of their sexuality has been specifically avoided. Scholars present heterosexual relationships, like Thomas Jefferson's for example, in greatest detail. Yet there's an element of immaturity when dealing with the reality of homosexuality. We're retreating into a sense of guilt when we don't recognize where these artists derive their inspiration.

QUEST: Will the show travel?

D.W.: The exhibition runs through February 12, 2011 at the National Portrait Gallery. It won't travel. It consists of 105 pieces including videos. It's one of our biggest exhibitions. Logistically, it wasn't possible to construct *Hide/Seek* with the intent to tour. Perhaps it will serve to inspire exhibits elsewhere.



PAINTING NO. 47, BERLIN
by Marsden Hartley

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BRIDGING THE GAP (FROM REALISM TO ABSTRACTION) PAINTINGS BY RON KOSEK

New art exhibit opens December 10 at Milwaukee Gay Arts Center

Milwaukee - The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center announces its next art exhibition featuring the work of Racine artist, Ron Kosek Born and raised in Chicago, Kosek studied art at DePaul University and received an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills Michigan. He then held various teaching positions in Chicago, Michigan and Ottawa, Canada. His visual mentors include modernists Mondrian, Kandinsky and

Diebenkorn. Kosek explores composition and color to create his works. Using depth, overlapping, transparency, plus the push/pull of warm and cool colors, he allows his viewer new vistas and worlds and brings them to rest in a new place.

Ottawa art critic Adrian Gollner describes Kosek's series of paintings as "contemplations on

the still life."

"The works on paper read like a calendar, a seemingly daily ritual of reflection and investigation. Individually, some pieces are hard fought battles in which the formal elements have come to a temporary truce. Others appear to have been resolved more quickly and occur to the viewer

firstly as landscapes or cityscapes," Gollner wrote.

Bridging the Gap (realism to abstraction) opens Friday, December 10 with an artist's reception from 6-9pm. Refreshments will be served. The show runs through Saturday, January 22. It will be open for the Historic Third Ward's Gallery Night and Day, January 21 & 22.



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Currently showing at the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center (see the B/W ad this issue):

Shrine: Photography by Paul Masterson -

Phantoms and Shadows: Photography by Jeff Main

Paul Masterson's prints from Ektachrome slides present candid male images from Anchorage, to Tel Aviv, and from Istanbul to Milwaukee. Jeff Main combines traditional darkroom processed photos with clay sculpture to disturb and amuse, capturing reactions to the ubiquitous art fair fare of pretty sunsets and flowers.

Shown here: Surfer drinking milk – Tamarama Bay, Sydney, Australia c.1978

Beach Scene – Tamarama Bay, Sydney, Australia c. 1978

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With nearly 400 people hot to see RuPaul drag Race Season 1 Winner **Be Be Zahara Benet** perform on the Montage stage (above LaCage) you have to believe a gay crowd loves their Queens! Be Be didn't say much over the mic, but when referring to the welcome from the crowd, she notes "You guys are amazing and are on fire here!" Speaking in general she says "Wisconsin is so, so nice. Such a pleasure to be here..." Speaking of LaCage and the show lounge she remarked "...make sure you always come here and celebrate and support all of the girls here. It takes a lot to do what we do on the stage. It shouldn't take an entertainer from out of town to come here and have this place packed. This place has to be packed every time there is a show." *Photos provided by La Cage*



Below: Mike Fitzpatrick shared these photos with Quest from the just held "An Evening With Rainbow Over Wisconsin. This is the non-profit groups annual fundraiser including dinner and an auction. Money raised benefits the LGBT community throughout northeastern Wisconsin.



ARE YOU SAVED?

The Boulevard gets religion... A Review by Paul Masterson

Continuing the Boulevard's 25th anniversary season, gay playwright Evan Smith's *Savannah Disputation* opened November 24 at the Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre in Bay View. This time around, artistic director Mark Bucher tackles the thorny theme of religion.

A pair of over 60-something sisters, Margaret (Joan End) and Mary (Sally Marks) lives together in their Savannah home in the Catholic part of town. The doorbell rings. "Are you saved?" It's fundamentalist Christian, Melissa (Jamieson Hawkins). Mary answers the first time and casts the would-be missionary evangelist from her porch. But Melissa is determined. She returns – she's literally on a mission, after all. This time Margaret opens the door and allows the charming young woman in. Her Southern hospitality, coupled with concern about that call, she listens to Melissa's pitch and accepts a selection of pamphlets.

What follows is a comedy of faith, hope and love. Faith is tested, hope is eternal and love, of course, wins out in the end.

Evan's explores our human need for companionship and the lengths we go to find it. He accomplishes that study through a duel of religious titans in the comfort of a Savannah living room. Ultimately, despite all the chapters, lines and verses, Smith's comedy does more to address loneliness than settle a theological argument.

Director Mark Bucher performs his last directorial duty with *Savannah Disputation*. He has, once again, cast a production with a fine sense of finding just the right set of personalities. Speaking with the cast, it turns out that Jamieson Hawkins, who plays Melissa, the missionary is a Christian. Joan End confesses to be a Roman Catholic like



her role, Margaret. Sally Marks who appears as Mary is "just mean" and Pat Perkins as the priest, Father Patrick Murphy, is that thoughtful, quiet Irishman with a smoldering conviction inside ready to burst into flame – and it does.

On stage the quartet has a remarkable rapport. The interesting aspect of *Savannah Disputation* is that three of characters are mature characters played by mature actors. That brings a particular comfort to the production. They've been there before – the emotions, the conflicts and the joys are part of their personal experience. It shows.

Joan End, whose character Margaret prefers

not to heed a message left by her doctor's office, carries herself with elegance. The burden of the call's import is weighing on her, but she defers to the situation unfolding in the living room with such dignity and grace that only comes from a sincere acceptance of life. Sally Marks as Mary the mean articulates that feisty little old lady whose moral conviction is often misplaced and misdirected. Her emphatic insistent self-righteousness almost wins out until she's proven wrong. Then she insists on her excommunication with the same vehemence. She's deliciously cantankerous.

Perkins priest is also convincing. He's a Boulevard newcomer and new to the stage in general. His performance is well balanced and honest. His loneliness has been rationalized through the acceptance of the congregation as his missing family. He delivers a reconciled man with depth.

Last but not least, Jamieson Hawkins portrays Melissa, that sweet but annoying brand of door-to-door religious zealot. She's got an inner-bitch, though, so you'd better read her pamphlets and convert or you'll go to hell.

Andrea Toussaint's set design is a welcome addition to a Boulevard production. Usually, things are pretty bare. This time the stage has all the trappings of a well-appointed Catholic home – statues, crucifixes and holy pictures on every wall and in all the nooks and crannies. Older furniture and faded wallpaper compliment the theme of lonely older lives. There's a lot of activity at the door, however. For lack of a actual door, the openings and closings – and there are a lot with all the comings and goings – are pantomimed. It's a lapse. Yes, it's ultimately a black box show – but the real thing would have been appreciated.

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The DATING DIET by Anthony Paull

No More Mr. Nice Guy

All right, if you're going to tell me you're going to top me in the first five minutes of our first conversation, at least be a man about it, and take off your wig and earrings. I mean, seriously? Is this my pay-off for entertaining a chat at the bar? Well, if so, I'm not impressed. But then again, I suppose that it's my fault, because I'm making myself more 'accessible'. Why? Well, because my friends say I'm a dick-tease, and I need to lower my standards. So fine! Tonight, I'm talking to everything with *or* without a pulse. And slowly, I'm getting used to the fact that not every frog is a prince, particularly when it comes to a beer kiss. But meeting the parent of a stranger I have no intention of kissing? Well, this might be too much. But then again, I can't be too *picky*. You see, this drag queen with a Bette Davis wig, he wants to control me; he wants to *lurve* me. But first, he wants me to meet his mother.

"Mom, Anthony Paull, Anthony Paull, mom," he says, making the introductions.

Smoking alone on a bar stool, she waves a proud hello, urging her son to buy me a beer. "For God's sake, have some manners!" she tells him.

"Can it, mother! I can take it from here," he groans. Then turning to me, he takes a long drag off his cigarette before fluffing his wig. "So. Anthony. Before this relationship goes any further, I need you to know something. I don't need some damn, stupid man." Hence, this is when the surrounding gay hipsters, in skinny jeans and lumberjack plaids, clear out. "I got a job. I got a car. I got a house. Why the HELL do I need you?"

"You don't. I'm just a poor writer who lives with his dad," I say, turning to follow the hipsters. But no, that's not enough to deter him. You see, he

wants me to know that he just raised 10,000 for some gay benefit, and I guess, I'm supposed to give a shit, but I don't, because he just freaking spilled wine on the sneakers I spent my entire paycheck on. Therefore, I turn away, dancing off to an electro-pop number playing on the jukebox.

"Don't walk away when I'm talking to you. We got something!" he calls – his blue sequined dress, reflecting off the disco ball.

"Dude, I'm straight," I attempt to explain.

"Mhm. Straight to the next dick," he remarks.

"Fine, I'm shy. Look, I don't even know you..."

"Oh, but you know my mom!" he snaps. "You don't know me...but you know my whole family!" Shaking his booty, there's wine flying here and there, and saving the day, his mom joins the conversation, telling him to calm down or he might scare me off. But it's too late. That happened the minute we made eye-contact. You see, his Bette Davis-wig, it merely got in the way when I was peeking around for someone who wasn't wearing a mini-dress. But again, maybe I'm being too picky. Yet, dear God, how can I not be? Once you've been loved right, it's so hard to be loved wrong. Can I come down from this cloud?

"Yeah, you got to let your guard down a little, man," my friend Max tells me, as I haul ass to the jukebox, pretending to be preoccupied with finding a song. I'm thinking: this is why I don't date. I have this code. Like hey, if you like me, come up and say 'hello'. I really dig that. Call me a traditionalist, but I don't like some guy talking about sticking his penis in my ass when I don't even know his name. As a matter of fact, that idea hurts,



especially the thought of him lifting his dress to top me. But I'm not giving up! No! There has to be a nice guy *somewhere* in the midst. After all, I'm here, and I'm nice. So I must go on I think, as Max introduces me to a few co-workers – one of which who approaches me with a drunken leer.

"Aw, you're pretty," he says, tipping his fedora hat. Then he tells me it again and again, and I kind of like it, except he's already leaning in to kiss me, and his breath stinks like corn chips and bacon. So I push him away, saying 'no' – an act which he takes as an insult, resulting in a conversation with Max, where he inquires if I'm a whore.

"Whoa! Are you kidding me?" I respond, when Max relays the message.

"It's no big deal. The guy's drunk. He just doesn't understand why you won't kiss him," Max says.

"Wait a minute. So I'm supposed to kiss and screw everyone who approaches me? Otherwise, I'm a whore? That doesn't even make sense!" Overhearing the conversation, the drag queen's mother attempts to save the day, yet again.

"SEE? My son would NEVER call you a whore," she attests.

"No. He would just *talk* to me like I'm one."

And all the gay hipsters go 'oooh' in the crowd. But I'm not joining them. Rather, I'm fleeing the bar, before driving home, thinking how much this hurts. More than being a bottom for any big-top penis – this kills, being single and realizing this is my path, that this is what I have to face in the face of dating. It's pimply, the pursuit of a mate, and I'm picky, because my heart is itching for a love it once had. So tell me, where do I go if I'm a prude, and I want a 'hello'? I haven't found such a place, so I say it to myself, staring into the rear-view mirror. "Hello, hello." For tonight, it seems *me* being nice to *me* is my only reminder of what I want and who I am.



MGAC hosted playwrights Ray Proctor and Olivia Dawson for a dramatic reading of their new play, *Verbal Acumen*. The play offered a rare glimpse into the complexities of being black in a world that is not and of being black and gay without being a stereotype. A lively audience talk back discussed the impact and perspectives of this unique take on a rarely portrayed slice of African-American life.

VERBAL ACUMEN Photography by Kate Sherry

GAY, GLITZ AND GLISSANDI: LIBERACE LIVES AGAIN AT THE STACKNER CABARET

Theatre review by Paul Masterson



Liberace joins Clarence Darrow, Kate Hepburn, Marian Anderson, Leontyne Price and Laurel and Hardy in the ranks of dead celebrities returned to life on various Milwaukee stages recently.

Brent Hazelton's *Liberace!* opened Sunday, November 21, at the Stackner Cabaret, with Jack Forbes Wilson starring as Mr. Showmanship. Hazelton, artistic associate at The Rep, wrote the show to present the man, his music and his secretive private life.

Liberace! fits Milwaukee. After all, Wladziu "Walter" Valentino Liberace was born in West Allis.

"When I learned of Liberace's Milwaukee roots, I knew I wanted to find a way to celebrate this extraordinary, one-of-a-kind entertainer," said Mark Clements, the Rep's Artistic Director. "We're thrilled to have Brent Hazelton write this world premiere play for us. Liberace was a brilliant musician and showman, as is Jack Forbes Wilson, who is going to make a dynamite Liberace."

Clement's gushing enthusiasm is what Liberace was all about. As a teen, Liberace played with the both the Milwaukee and Chicago Symphonies. His inadvertent "launch" came at age 20 in La Crosse during a blizzard. As an encore after a traditional classical concert, an audience member requested he play "Three Little Fishies." His rendition made national news.

From there, his keyboard talent, buttressed by a folksy audience appeal and a keen business sense, catapulted him into international stardom. Among his heaps of awards and accolades are Emmys, half a dozen gold records and a listing in the 1978 Guinness Book of Records as the world's highest paid musician. His TV and concert persona attracted a middle-aged, middle Ameri-

can audience of which an estimated 80% were women. Perhaps the other 20% were gay men. He epitomized everything they wanted to be – covered in furs, bedecked with jewels and extravagantly coiffed.

Liberace's Milwaukee connection remained throughout his career. He played the Pabst Theatre over dozen times, as well as Summerfest and the Marcus Center Uihlein Hall. He sold out the Riverside Theatre only months before his death.

Of course, Liberace's taste was rooted in Milwaukee as well – he loved Usinger's sausage.

Michael Jackson and Elvis, among many others, followed Liberace's sequined-studded path. Elton John, by his own admission, is a living disciple of the Liberace mantra: dazzle and they will follow. If there's one thing Liberace mastered, it was showmanship with all its hype, glitz and glamour. Showmanship, after all, is a lot of smoke and mirrors – in Liberace's case, lots and lots of mirrors, covering pianos, cars, and above all himself. Those mirrors reflected what was outside and hid what lay within.

Hazelton's script explores both the outside and inside of Liberace's evolution from small-town talent to incredibly rich, famous and flamboyantly foppish entertainer. He doesn't shy away from Liberace's gay persona.

Along with Mr. Showmanship's on-stage extravagance and musical legacy from Chopin to Chopsticks, Hazelton reveals insights into the man's personal life. Liberace was gay, of course. Tabloid headlines, lawsuits notwithstanding, he kept his love life a not so well-kept secret. His career on the wane, a brush with death on a snowy night in Pittsburgh renews Liberace. He now creates the over-the-top caricature of what he was always suspected to be – a big ol' queen. In rhinestone hot pants and more beads than a Cher nightmare, he's a born-again Vegas hit earning \$300,000 a week.

Jack Forbes Wilson is both star and music director for the show. Wilson, a well-known local performer, has appeared in many shows at The Rep's Stackner Cabaret. He was involved with this production from the beginning.

Wilson takes on the role with sovereignty. His piano playing is up to the task, recreating the signature Liberace performance style. He obviously relishes being Liberace. He delivers story, the man and a very sympathetic Mr. Showmanship.

Liberace! focuses on the truth in a very compelling and honest way...through Liberace's down home soul. Considering the predominantly older opening night audience, many of whom are no doubt contemporaries of the era, they got the message and gave the performance a standing ovation.

Rick Graham's design — replete with Liberace's trademark chandelier and candelabra — and Alex Tecoma's costumes transform the Stackner into a gilded Las Vegas fantasy.

For those who remember Liberace, *Liberace!* is a fun-filled evening of nostalgia. For those who don't, *Liberace!* captures an eye-opening moment of surreal excess in America's entertainment history. For all, Hazelton's play pulls back the gold lame' curtain to expose the real gay man behind the star.

Liberace! runs through Jan. 16. Tickets are \$45 or \$35, depending on day and time of the performance (\$40/\$35 for students and seniors). To order, visit the Milwaukee Repertory Theater box office, call 414- or visit [The Rep's website](http://TheRep.org).





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LGBT CINEMA AVAILABLE ON DVD by Glenn Bishop "Is It Just Me?" & "Orlando"

Just how did Glenn end up writing reviews of both *Is it Just Me?*, a cute new romantic comedy as well as Sally Potter's acclaimed 1992 adaptation of Virginia Woolf's classic gender-bending novel, *Orlando*?

How indeed? The two films really couldn't be more dissimilar. Or are they?

Ever since the recent Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival, Glenn has been on something of a quest, relentlessly watching any and every gay DVD screener that has come his way in search of an entertaining gay romantic comedy. Despite its ridiculously lurid DVD box cover, first-time writer/director J.C. Calciano's *Is it Just Me?* looked promising, very promising, indeed.

Meet Blaine (Nicholas Downs), a cute (in a nebbish sort of way), lonely, soft-spoken columnist at the unfortunately titled local gay rag, *USA Togay*. Looking for love in all the wrong places – and who isn't – Blaine has just about given up hope that there's anyone left who is interested in something more than just a quick hook-up. Nor does he find that his sizzling hot stripper roommate Cameron (Adam Huss) is particularly sympathetic; in answer to Blaine's whining about his single state, Cameron's response is simple: Blaine needs to lower his standards.

Then Blaine meets (online, naturally) a drop-dead adorable Texan named Xander (David Loren). A gentle, soft-spoken musician, Xander just happens to love Blaine's column (newspaper that is) and the two proceed to cuddle as best they can in the great vastness of cyberspace. Blaine is quickly convinced he's met the man of his dreams. Sadly, reality checks in; Blaine just as quickly realizes that he's been signed in online on to his roommate Cameron's profile the whole

time. --Oops.

Here J.C. Calciano's screenplay veers off

ally Blaine challenges Cameron, betting his gorgeous roommate that his brains will win Xnader's heart, not Cameron's brawn.

Okay, this really doesn't make much narrative sense and Glenn would have to classify this absurd competition as a no-win situation. For Blaine.

After a warm response from Glenn's faithful, long-suffering informal focus group, Glenn was certain that the powers that be at *Quest* would be as delighted with a review of *Is it Just Me?* as Glenn was himself. And indeed, under normal circumstances, Glenn would have surely been correct. Yet with the second, 'first Thursday of most months' Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival screening looming just ahead, those very same powers that be highlighted that Glenn's responsibility in reviewing *Orlando* took precedence.

A compromise was sought and the result is this curious yet oddly appropriate double-feature review.

A brief glance at the synopsis of first the bubbly romantic gay comedy and later on that of Woolf's exploration of sexual politics across a few hundred years of British history reveals, truthfully, little similarity. Yet isn't *Orlando* just as much a love story as is *Is it Just Me?*?

We first meet Orlando (Tilda Swinton) in the year 1600 just as the callow young courtier is becoming a favorite of Queen Elizabeth I (the bizarrely effective Quentin Crisp). So enamored is she in fact, she grants Orlando a fabulous country estate – fully furnished, mind – with just one condition: "Do not fade, do not

wither, do not grow old." And nor does Orlando.

At a winter carnival during the Great Frost of 1603 following Elizabeth's death, Orlando frightens not only the horses but all of society when he falls in love with a Russian diplomat's daughter, Sasha (Charlotte Valandrey). Yet Or-



is it just me?



down the road most predictable. Poor Blaine continues to whine to Cameron, now about his romantic misadventure but the slutty roommate still has no patience. Initially Cameron is adamant that Blaine needs sort out his own mess. Blaine wheedles and cajoles. Eventu-



Orlando soon finds that adoring Sasha isn't enough; the lovely lass soon sails away leaving our hero with a broken heart.

Time passes; yet there's nary a quibble that Orlando hasn't aged even a day.

Over the course of centuries, Orlando lives a charmed life, skirting many social conventions even as they change from generation to generation. As an ambassador in the Middle East, Orlando meets The Khan (Lothaire Bluteau) and a relationship develops between them, a relationship bursting with the fusion of eroticism Shakespeare favored in many of his cross-dressing comedies. Then after experiencing the horrors of battle, Orlando is magically transformed: "Same person. No difference at all. Just a different sex," observes Lady Orlando.



Buy it, rent it, or just forget about it . . .

Any true aficionado of LGBT cinema, as Glenn himself, already possesses a copy of Potter's extraordinary film. Yet even Glenn admits to having tucked the DVD away. Unwatched for far too long, **Orlando** proves in turn, a revelation and something of a cinematic curio. Sumptuously filmed on budget, **Orlando** is visually stunning but often a difficult film, one which challenges moviegoers' expectations at every turn. Only occasionally does Swinton shed her characteristic icy detachment. When rejected by Sasha, for example, Swinton reveals Orlando's genuine frustration and sense of loss. No such emotion is revealed upon discovering that a magical transformation has changed the ageless youth into a female; Swinton's detachment remaining firmly in place. Glenn wasn't certain if Swinton's enigmatic performance ultimately a burden or a blessing. Alternately, casting the indefatigable octogenarian Queen Crisp as Queen Elizabeth I is a stroke of genius, immediately turning all notions of gender assumptions topsy-turvy, particularly in scenes with Crisp playing opposite Swinton's Orlando. Likewise, what a joy to see (and hear) Jimmy Somerville playing, Glenn can only surmise, Orlando's guardian castrato. As much as **Orlando** is a love story on a variety of levels, the film (presumably the book as well) engages the mind first and only later the heart.

After the dubious charms of such sex comedies as **Another Gay Sequel** and **A Four Letter Word**, Glenn found the warmth and overall gentle humor of **Is it Just Me?** refreshing and decidedly welcome. Nicholas Downs' Blaine is a genuinely likable guy although perhaps a little too cute to be entirely believable as a lovelorn schmuck. Still Glenn found it impossible not to get totally caught in his romantic quest. While J.C. Calciano's screenplay all too often boards on the predictable, **Is it Just Me?** nevertheless boasts splendid performances, especially from its appealing supporting cast. Michelle Laurent's BFF is a nice mix of concern and exasperation. Eschewing the stock role of "old queen," a character who always seem to lurking somewhere in gay comedies, Bruce Gray's Ernie offers a nice counterpoint; his wistful remembrance of the boy who got away adding resonance to the central story of Blaine and Xander. Even Adam Huss's sexually generous roommate Cameron is blessedly free of the usual "slutty" character smarminess. **Is it Just Me?** might not be the great gay love story but it is nonetheless great fun.

Just the facts...

Orlando will be screened at 7:00pm on Thursday December 2 at the Union Theatre on the UWMilwaukee campus. **Orlando** is in English and has a running time of 94 minutes. **Orlando** is available on DVD with a SRP of \$19.99. LGBT moviegoers will remember Lothaire Bluteau from **Bent**. Actress Tilda Swinton was something of a muse to gay filmmaker Derek Jarman, playing in several of the openly gay director's most popular films including **Edward II**, **Caravaggio** and **The Last of England**.

Orlando offers a wealth of DVD extras including an interview with director Sally Potter, three featurettes including **Orlando Goes to Russia**, and director commentary tracks.

Is it Just Me? is in English and has a running time of 93 minutes.

Is it Just Me? is available on DVD with a SRP of \$19.99.

Nicholas Downs played 'overdosing circuit boy' in the popular 2001 film, **Circuit**. Bruce Gray played wealthy millionaire George playing gay millionaire George Schickel on **Queer as Folk**.

Is it Just Me? also offers a wealth of DVD extras including deleted scenes, a featurette: **Dating Advice**, director commentary tracks, cast auditions plus English subtitles for the hearing-impaired.

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(An effervescently gay advice columnist) Disclaimer: Although the author of this column holds a doctorate in clinical psychology, the tongue-in-cheek advice given is for entertainment only and is not a substitute for therapy. Barbie responds to all emails...whether you deserve it or not. Send questions to askunclebarbie@aol.com

REDEFINING THE WORD, TASTELESS

Dear Barbie,

I am having a hard time controlling my girlfriend. She is far too independent. She wears ugly clothes that make her look like a skank. When I tell her what she should do, she actually argues with me. Why is she such a bitch? Worst of all, she doesn't get along with my Mom. My Mom is a saint! She adopted me and molded me into the man I am today. Why can't my sleazy girlfriend be more like my Mom? -

Signed, Robert K.

Hello Mama's Boy,

Congratulations, Bob, you have just single handedly redefined the word, "tasteless." With each word you write, you become more abrasive. Laced with your vulgar vernacular, your sociopathic charm is eclipsed only by your transparent facade. (Are these your best qualities?) You probably got those traits from your dear Mother. I bet she has a quaint, little, deviant guise too. Like mother, like son. (Nice gene pool.) Based on the way that you try to manipulate your girlfriend by putting her down, I can see you also have adopted your Mother's guilt tactics, shame techniques, and manipulative style--all

masked by a pleasant persona, no doubt. (Hmmm, I wonder if your Mother's jaws unhinge when she eats her pray.) You really need to be an adult and cut the apron strings with your Mother. Perhaps it would help if you did some jumping-jacks. Maybe that will cause your other testicle to finally descend.

I get the sense your manly charms are starting to fade. If you want to improve your relationship with your girlfriend, I suggest that you ease up on your lively lingo and colorful colloquial when you speak to her. I mean, come on, guy. Stop treating her like a hot pustule of filth, and start treating her like a lady. You act like you are God's gift to womyn. (If you really are a gift from God, then God must shop at the dollar store.) Honesty, your love life is so disheartening, I'm surprise country music singers haven't written a song about it yet.

But despite your winning personality, you seemed to have landed a girlfriend. (And so, the nightmare begins.) Well, I hope you had a good time on your last date celebrating your testicular triumph. Consider yourself fortunate to have gotten your naughty bits wet at all. (I still can't understand why she is dumb enough to stay with you. Is she a blond in a soror-



You mean Barbie has a doctorate, and this is the best he can do???

ity by any chance?) Just don't leave your date flailing in your emotional wake. (I can practically smell the testosterone in the air.) So next time, before you try to swamp her boat with your hormonal hurricane, slow down and talk things out. Do this at the very beginning of the date; don't wait until you get naked and your little soldier starts to salute her. Lastly, I'm sure I speak for all of humanity when I say, please do us all a huge favor and don't reproduce! Use a condom. For God's sake--let the family curse die with you!

Rude Attitude, Barbie

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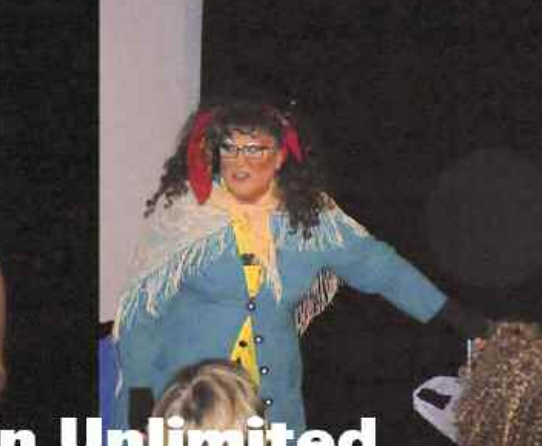
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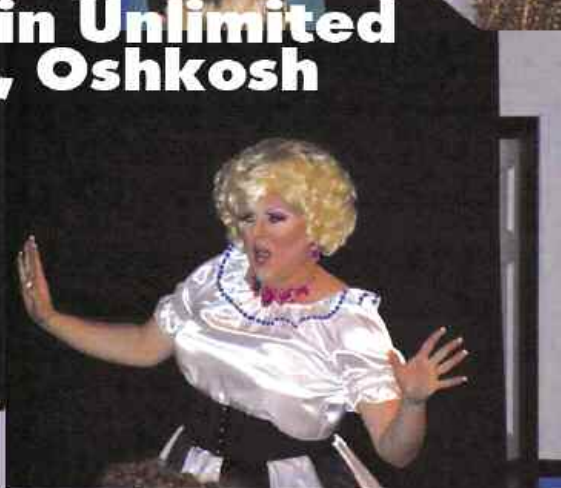
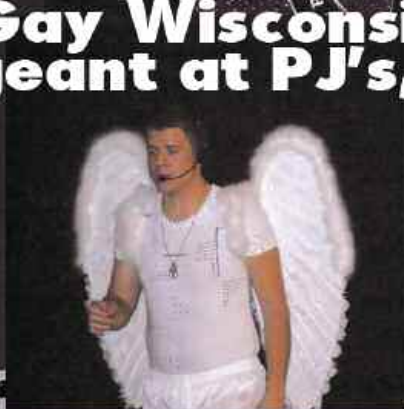
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Quest is published bi-monthly, second & fourth Thursday. Distributed free throughout Wisconsin in area bars & businesses that cater to the LGBT community. Quest © 2010 All rights are reserved. Publication of the name or photograph of any person or business in this magazine does not reflect upon one's sexual orientation. All copy, text, photographs & illustrations in advertisements are published with the understanding the advertisers have secured the proper consent for use, and Quest may lawfully publish & cause such publication to be made & save blameless Quest from any & all liability, loss and expense of any nature arising from publication.



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Sell or Buy - Lifestyle clothing, leather, rubber, boots etc. (M or F) X dressing, silicone breasts, corsets, custom made nails andy length, wigs. Specializing in photography, discretion is assured. Must sell private collection of tapes, books, magazines. Open to all-for more information call Lyle (414)788-4908 7am-10pm

Classifieds for housing and rummage sales etc are still FREE. Business classifieds are \$10 each paid in advance. Please send your ad with the check to: PO Box 1961 Green Bay, WI 54305

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West Allis, WI 53214
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Open Noon-3am, Sun

Super Video II
5049 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Cudahy, WI 53110
414-744-5963
Open 8am-3am

Superb Video
6005 120th Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53142
262-857-9922
Open 24hrs

Selective Video
2709 W. Beltline Hwy.
Madison, WI 53713
608-271-3381
Open 24hrs.

Selective Video II
3220 Commercial Ave.
Madison, WI 53714
608-249-9361
Open 24hrs.

City News & Video
1606 Pearl Street
Waukesha, WI 53186
262-513-8481
Open 24hrs.

Supreme Lingerie & Gifts
1911 S. Washburn Street
Oshkosh, WI 54904
920-235-2012
Open 24hrs.

Special Souvenirs
9284 Skyline Drive
Allenton, WI 53002
920-488-2704
Open 8am-4am Fri & Sat
Open 8am-Midnight Sun-Thurs

Sheridan News & Video
12212 S. Sheridan Road
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53140
262-694-6769
Open 9am-Midnight

Success Video
1819 Douglas Ave.
Racine, WI 53402
262-638-2435
Open 9am-Midnight

Super Video III
N6441 5th Ave.
Plainfield, WI 54966
715-335-8277
Open 8am-Midnight

Select Video
16475 W. Russell Road
Zion, IL 60099
847-395-6142
Open Noon-Mid., Mon-Sat

MUST BE 18 TO ENTER. VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE OR STATE-ISSUED ID REQUIRED.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

LGBT Service and Advocacy Organizations

Center Advocates

252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (414) 271-2656
www.centeradvocates.org

Charles D Productions

252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (414) 263-9999
charlesdprodinc1@sbcglobal.net
www.charlesdprodinc.com

Connexus 1240B E. Brady
St. Milwaukee, WI 53202

Cream City Foundation

759 N. Milwaukee, Suite 212
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 225-0244
director@creamcityfoundation.org

Diverse And Resilient

2439 N. Holton St. Milw.
WI 53212 (414) 390-0444
director@diverseandresilient.org
www.diverseandresilient.org

Fair Wisconsin 122 State
St., Suite 309 Madison, WI
53703 (608) 441-0143
www.fairwisconsin.org

FORGE PO Box 1272 Milw,
WI 53201 (414) 559-2123
info@forge-forward.org
www.forge-forward.org

G/L Community Trust Fund
PO Box 1686, Milw., WI
53201 (414) 643-1652
glcentermil@aol.com
glcommunitytrustfund.com

Galan Club 252 E Highland
Ave. Milwaukee, 53202
(414) 276-6936
mail@galanoclub.org
www.galanoclub.org

**Gay / Bi Fathers Support
Group** c/o Outreach, 600
Williamson Madison 53703
Serving Dane, Rock, Jefferson Counties
For location & dates
e-mail doolguy@charter.net

Gay Narcotics Anonymous
Meets Fridays @ 7 p.m.
252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (414) 276-6936

Gay Youth Milwaukee
PO Box 090441 Milwaukee,
WI 53209 (414) 265-8500

Gemini Gender Group
PO Box 44211 Milwaukee,
WI 53214 (414) 297-9328

**Human Rights League Political Action
Committee (HRL-PAC)** 252 E
Highland Ave. Milw, 53202
(414) 455-5292 www.hrl-
pac.org hrlpac@yahoo.com

Lesbian Alliance

252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (414) 272-9442
lamm@milwpc.com

LGBT Center of SE WI
1456 Junction Ave., Racine,
WI 53403 (262) 664-4100
info@lgbtsewisc.org

**LGBT Resource Center
for the 7 Rivers Region**
303 Pearl Street, PO Box 3313
La Crosse, WI 54602-3313
608-784-0452
www.7riverslgbt.org

Log Cabin Republicans
PO Box 199, Milw., WI 53201
(414) 755-1954
membership@icrwi.com

Milw LGBT Community Center
252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (414) 271-2656
www.mkelgibt.org

Pathfinders

1614 E. Kane Pl. Milwaukee,
WI 53202 (414) 271-1560
info@tccmilw.org
www.tccmilw.org

PFLAG Milwaukee
315 W. Court St. Milwaukee,
WI 53212 (414) 288-9198
pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com

PFLAG Racine/Kenosha
PO Box 580058 Pleasant Prairie,
WI 53158 (262) 694-2729
pflagkenosha@aol.com

Positive Direction Milwaukee
(414) 461-5894

Positive Voice
PO Box 1381 Green Bay, WI
54305-1381 (920) 435-4404
info@pvinc.org
www.pvinc.org

Project Q
252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (414) 223-3220
kurt@projectq.org
www.projectq.org

Queer Program
PO Box 090441 Milwaukee,
WI 53209 (414) 265-8500
queerprgrm@aol.com

Queer Zine Archive Project
2935 N. Fratney St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
qzap@qzap.org
www.qzap.org

Rainbow Over Wisconsin
702 E. Wisconsin Ave.
Appleton, WI 54911
rainbowoverwisconsin.org

SAGE Milwaukee 1845 N.
Farwell - Ste. 220 Milwaukee,
WI 53202 (414) 224-0517
email@sagemilwaukee.org

Transgender Aging Network
6990 N. Rockledge Ave. Glendale,
WI 53209 (414) 540-6456
loreecd@aol.com

UWM LGBT Resource Center
UWM Union WG89 PO Box
413 Milwaukee, WI 53201
(414) 229-4116
jrmurray@uwm.edu
uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT

**Wisconsin Rainbow
Alliance of the Deaf**
Box 353, Hartland, WI 53029
www.wiscrad.org

**Art, Sports Entertainment
Cream City Chorus**
252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (414) 276-8787
www.creamcitychorus.org

Cream City Squares
(414) 445-8080
djdilges@execpc.com
www.iagsdc.org/creamcity

Front Runners (414)443-0379
ultrwolf.com/frontrunnersmke/
welcome.html

GAMMA - Milwaukee
PO Box 1900, Milw., WI
53201 (414) 530-1886
gamma@milwaukeeegamma.com
www.milwaukeeegamma.com

Holiday Invitational Tournament
PO Box 899, Milw., WI 53201
(414) 881-8071
director@hitmilwaukee.org
www.hitmilwaukee.org

Harmony Cafe Appleton
233 E. College Ave., Appleton
(920) 734-2233
Harmony Cafe Green Bay
1660 W Mason (920) 569-1593
www.harmonycfe.org

Men's Voices Milwaukee
c/o U.C.C. 2717 E. Hampshire
Milw. 53211 (414) 861-5526
www.mvmchorus.org

Miltown Kings
myspace.com/miltownkings

**Metro Milwaukee Tennis
Club** 3957 No. 81st St. Milw.,
WI 53222 (414) 616-3716
Moennell@msn.com
www.milwaukeeetennis.com

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center
703 So. 2nd St. Milw., WI
53204 (414) 383-3727
milwgac@yahoo.com
milwaukeeegayartscenter.org

Milw Gay Volleyball Assoc.
www.milwaukeeegayvolleyball.com
director@milwaukeeegayvolleyball.com

Milwaukee Pride Parade
PO Box 070177 Milw., WI
53207 (414) 607-3793
www.prideparademke.org
PrideFest (414) 272-3378
PO Box 511763, Milw.,
53203 www.pridefest.com

Saturday Softball League
2333 N. 56th St., Milw. 53210
(414) 350-7147
www.ssblmilwaukee.com

Shoreline Country Dancers
2809 E. Oklahoma Milw, 53207
info@shoreline-milw.org
www.shoreline-milw.org

Theatrical Tendencies
6650 W State St. #120
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
414-755-2700

Wisconsin Gay Hockey
(414) 202-5874
wiogayhockey@wi.rr.com
home.wi.rr.com/wigayhockey
Women's Voices Milwaukee
252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202 (630) 890-5984

LGBT Social Groups

Argonauts of Wisconsin
Box 22096, Green Bay, 54305
argonews@sbcglobal.net
www.argonautsl.org

Bear Club 4 Men
Box 13463, Green Bay, 54307
www.bc4m.com
bearclub4men@gmail.com

Black & White Men Together
PO Box 80395, Milw 53208
(414) 461-5359
bwmtmilwaukee@aol.com
www.bwmtmilwaukee.org

Brew City Bears
PO Box 1035, Milw., WI
53201 (414) 331-3744
bcb4menalan@sbcglobal.net
www.bcb4men.info

Brew City Soul Brothers
Brewcitybrothers@yahoo.com

The Brunch Club
jennieragland@wi.rr.com

Castaways
PO 1697 Milwaukee 53202

**Dodge Co. LGBT
Social Group of Wisconsin**
mellow14u@care2.com
care2.com/c2c/group/DCGLBTS-
GOW

Femme Mafia Milwaukee
myspace.com/femmefamfi-
amke

GAMMA - Milwaukee
PO Box 1900, Milw., WI
53201 (414) 530-1886
gamma@milwaukeeegamma.com
www.milwaukeeegamma.com

Great Lakes Harley Riders
PO Box 341611 Milw, 53234
bootedhog@aol.com

Men (MenEnjoyNudism)
Box 0631, Milwaukee 53207

N.E.W. Brotherhood
Box 12793, Green Bay,
54307
www.NEWBrotherhood.org

Rainbow Families c/o PFLAG
252 E Highland Ave. Milw,
53202
mkeraibowfamilies@hotmail.com

LGBT Welcoming Churches

Angels of Hope MCC
3607 Libal St., Green Bay,
WI (920) 983-7453
Appleton at UCC Chapel,
724 E. South River Dr.
aohmcc@netnet.net
www.angelsofhopemcc.org

Church of Atheism
206 Vine St., Eau Claire, WI
54703 (706) 593-2686
church_of_atheism@yahoo.com
freewebs.com/churchofatheism

**First Unitarian Society of
Milwaukee** 1342 N. Astor,
Milw. 53202 (414) 273-5257
office@uwmilwaukee.org
www.uwmilwaukee.org

Footstep Fellowship First
Presbyterian Church Cjapel
(715) 355-8641 PO Box 171,
Wausau, WI 54402
footstepfellowship@yahoo.com
geocities.com/footstepfellowship

Fox Valley UU Fellowship
2600 E Phillip Lane Appleton
WI 54915 (920) 731-0849
www.fvuuf.org

Lake Park Lutheran Church
2647 N. Stowell St. Milwaukee,
WI 53211 (414) 962-9190
office@lakeparklutheran.com
www.lakeparklutheran.com
**Love of God Cathedral
Universal Anglican Church**
9633 W Greenfield Ave
West Allis, WI 53214
www.L-O-G.org
RevJ@MilwaukeeMinistry.org

**Milwaukee Metropolitan
Community Church** PO Box
2421 1239 W. Mineral St.
Milw. WI 53204 (414)383-1100
info@queerchur h.org
pastor@milwcc.org
www.queerchurch.org

Plymouth Church 2717 E.
Hampshire Ave. Milwaukee,
53211 (414) 964-1513
plymouthchurch@choiceonemail.com
www.plymouth-church.org

**Preble Park Presbyterian
Church** 607 Ravenswood
Dr. Green Bay, WI 54302
(920) 468-7125

**SS Cyril & Methodius
United Independent
Catholic Church** Neenah,
WI 54956 (920) 836-2199
stcyrilandmethodius@centrytel.net

Underwood Baptist 1916 N.
Wauwatosa Ave. Wauwatosa,
WI 53213 (414) 258-4246
office@underwoodchurch.com
www.underwoodchurch.com

Union Congregational UCC
716 So. Madison St., Green
Bay 54303 (920) 437-9266
Fax (930) 437-3765
unionucc@gbonline.com

Unity Church of Kenosha,
Racine 9220 26th Ave.,
Kenosha, WI 53143 Rev.
Don (262) 914-8389
hellodjd@sbcglobal.net

Neighborhood Associations

Bay View GAYS
(414) 482-3796
bvgpresident@bvgays.com
www.bvgays.com

**Washington Heights
Rainbow Association**
(414) 258-8834
washhtsrainbow@aol.com
washingtonheightsrainbow.org

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association
tosarainbow@yahoo.com

Other Service Agencies with LGBT Programming

**Aids Resource Center of
Wisconsin**
820 Plankinton Ave. PO Box
510498 Milwaukee, WI
53202 (414) 273-1991
www.arcwv.org

Brady East STD (BESTD)
Clinic 12240 E. Brady St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 272-2144
bestd@execpc.com
www.bestd.org

**Children Service Society of
Wisconsin**
1212 S. 70th St. Milwaukee,
WI 53212 (414) 453-1400
jane.ottow@csswv.org
www.csswv.org

**The Counseling Center of
Milwaukee**
2038 N. Bartlett Ave. Milw,
WI 53202
(414) 271-2565
info@tccmilw.org
www.tccmilw.org

OutReach
600 Williamson St. (Ste. P1)
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 255-8582
www.lgbt Outreach.org

STD Specialties Inc.
32351 N. Holton St. Milwau-
kee, WI 53212
(414) 264-8800
www.STDSpecialties.org

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CORRECTLY?
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WISCONSIN LGBT BAR GUIDE

LACROSSE/MADISON (608)

Impulse 132 W. Grand Ave Beloit, (608)361-0000
My Place 3201 South Ave LaCrosse (608)788-9073
Players 300 4th St, La Crosse (608)784-4200
Chances R 417 Jay St, La Crosse (608)782-5105
Club 5 Bar/Restaurant 5 Applegate Ct Madison, (608)277-9700

Plan B 924 William Street, Madison
Shamrock 117 W Main Madison (608)255-5029
WOOF'S 114 King Street, Madison (608)204-6222 www.woofsmadison.com

Captain Dix (Rainbow Valley Resort)
4124 River Road WI Dells, WI (866) 553-1818

NORTHERN WISCONSIN (715)

Scooters 411 Galloway Eau Claire (715)835-9959

JT's Bar and Grill 1506 N. 3rd Superior (715)-394-2580

The Flame 1612 Tower Ave Superior, WI (715)395-0101

The Main 1217 Tower Ave Superior, WI (715)392-1756

OZ 320 Washington St, Wausau www.totheoz.com (715)842-3225

NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN (920)

Rascals Bar & Grill 702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton (920)954-9262

Ravens 215 E. College Ave Appleton (920)364-9599

Napalese 1351 Cedar Green Bay (920)432-9646

SASS 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay (920)437-7277

THE SHELTER 730 N. Quincy St. Green Bay 920-432-2662 • theshelterclub.com

XS Niteclub 1106 Main Street, Green Bay

Debs Spare Time 1303 Harrison St Oshkosh (920)235-6577

PJ's 1601 Oregon St. Oshkosh (920)385-0442

Blue Lite 1029 N 8th, Sheboygan (920)457-1636

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN (262)

Club ICON 6305 120th (Off I-94) Kenosha, (262)857-3240 www.club-icon.com

JoDee's 2139 Racine St Racine (262)634-9804

MILWAUKEE (414)

* Art Bar 722 Burleigh, (414)372-7880

1 Ballgame 196 S 2nd (414)273-7474

2 Boom (& The ROOM) 625 S. 2nd St (414)277-5040

3 Boot Camp 209 E National (414)643-6900

4 DIX 739 S 1st Street

5 ETC (Basement level of LaCage) 801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

6 Fluid 819 South 2nd (414)643-5843

7 Harbor Room 117 E Greenfield (414)672-7988

* Hybrid 707 E Brady St (414)810-1809

8 KRUIZ 354 E. National (414)272-KRUIZ

5 LaCage 801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

9 Midtowne Spa (*this is not a bar*) 315 S Water (414)278-8989

10 Mona's 1407 S. First St (414)643-0377

5 Montage (Upper level of LaCage) 801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

11 Nut Hut 1500 W Scott (414)647-2673

* PURR 3945 N. 35TH Milwaukee

12 This Is It 418 E Wells (414)278-9192

13 Triangle 135 E National (414)383-9412

14 TEMPT 324 E Mason (414)221-0228

* Two 718 E. Burleigh St.

16 Walker's Pint 818 S 2nd St (414)643-7468

18 Woody's 1579 S 2nd (414) 672-0806

* means not on Milwaukee map



Tony Ritschard
Realtor®

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414-241-5114 sharkatk30@hotmail.com

Dr. Dennis Ian Jackson PHD
Psychologist

(414)276-8669

11931 West Blue Mound Road, Wauwatosa

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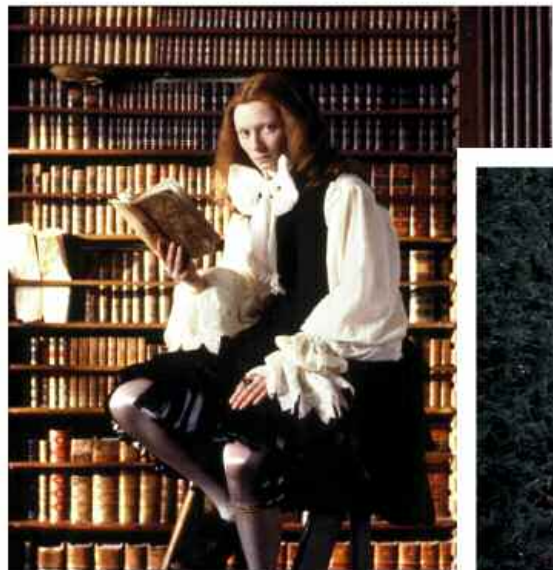
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GREEN BAY, WI

920-435-1111

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arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm

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