

QUEST

MAGAZINE Vol. 22, #3, March 2015



MATT CAMPBELL
Poses for Bo Wesley, our
featured photographer this issue.

Photography by Bo Wesley www.bowesley.com

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INTERVIEW WITH ARTIST, BO WESLEY



BO
PHOTO

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Bo Photo



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'IT TOOK ME A LONG TIME TO REALIZE THAT I'M
TALENTED AND THIS IS WHAT I SHOULD BE DOING,'

explains Bo Wesley - one of Milwaukee's latest up and coming gay artists. Wesley is the owner of *BO PHOTO* which is located in the historic third-ward district of downtown Milwaukee. He is not only recognized by his alluring photography but by how the transcendancy of his work is shown by his styling, designing, and creative marketing. He offers all varieties of photography including fashion, portrait, and event based images.

In Wesley's recent collection *Milwaukee Modified*, he showcases high-fashion portraits of local LGBTQ models. The intended purpose of this series is to strengthen the fashion community, gain relationships with new customers, and provide trendy services to LGBT Businesses. A former student at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design and grand opening of his third ward location. Bo is redefining Milwaukee's fashion & nightlife scene and choosing to start with the gay community.

TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF?

BO WESLEY- I started my own business because I knew if I didn't start now its something I would have always regretted. It took my awhile to find out what I wanted to be professionally and I always felt limited by the cliché title of photographer. It's when I decided to call myself an artistic director that my business truly evolved. My talents become much more broad and I began to fully understand my potential. I had taste, style, and originality that extended into more then just a shutter click. I think that's what I learned most from all this; that I have talent and I shouldn't be bashful to share it with others.

How do you come up with these ideas/concepts?

BO WESLEY - I'm the type of artist that always considers my subject first before creating anything. Once I find out a little about my subjects personality, lifestyle, or physical flair I design something around that. By doing this, I not only get a more relaxed model but an authentic photograph. You have to remember, playing with someone's identity can be very delicate. You can completely reshape what someone thinks of them and that's what makes photography powerful.

What are the challenges that you find in the business?

BO WESLEY - FASHION AND LOCATION. I focus on pushing my images as far as they can. You only have what is in front of you, and sometimes it's not the dream scenario you would have hoped for. When I created this particular series I was looking to find fashions that pushed my images towards high-end. Creating them just seemed like the next thing to do. Working with difficult materials like leather, vinyl, sheepskin, and lace I managed to create some things I can be proud of. They weren't exactly functional but they photographed beautifully.

What projects are you focusing on in the future?

BO WESLEY - I want to provide local LGBT businesses with the opportunity to take their business to the next level. If its using my skills for an event to boost customer turn out or setting up a meeting to photograph what you've already accomplished in a new light, I can do that. I want people to hire me because of my style and think of me not only as a photographer but a designer, stylist, and business promoter. I want to be the person you think of when you ask yourself, "What should I do for this?"





On Second Thought... Our Black LGBT History

By Paul Masterson

February was Black History Month. But, what of our Black LGBT History? For most of Wisconsin's LGBT population, black, white, Asian, Native American or Latino, there is little awareness of our story in general, much less of one specific demographic. We have an LGBT history website and an archive at the UW-Milwaukee Library. Yet, despite the History Project's display at PrideFest and the easily accessible information on line, our collective memory of times past is fading. As far as I could find, there were no events to celebrate LGBT History Month back in October and none for Black LGBT History this past February. But, if one were to take the time to visit <http://www.mkelgbthist.org/> one would find a very compelling story. Among over 180 personalities listed there, from bartenders to politicians, two, Donna Burkett and Manonia Evans, stand out.

Burkett and Evans, a black lesbian couple, applied for a marriage license at the Milwaukee County Clerk's Office in 1971! Of course, it was refused. Citing the U.S. Constitution's guarantees of equal protection and due process, they sued. The case was thrown out when their lawyer failed to provide paperwork required for the case to go forward. Had he, perhaps our struggle for marriage equality would have moved forward at the time. Meanwhile, it has taken over four decades but today marriage equality in all 50 states appears to be in the offing. In October of last year, with little fanfare, Burkett received an award for courage from the LGBT Community Center. One could easily argue she is a major Milwaukee pioneer of LGBT rights.

Among African-American LGBT allies is Milwaukee civil rights and social justice advocate Lloyd Barbee. During his 13 year tenure as a rep-

resentative in the State Assembly he introduced legislation in support of LGBT equality.

Throughout the last fifty years, African-Americans have been involved in our LGBT struggle. For the most part, like Burkett and Evans, although their impact has affected our greater community, they remain largely unrecognized and unknown. Meanwhile, in their fight for basic rights and acceptance, black activists and leaders continue making history. Their issues may simply seem too complex for us and, living in America's most segregated city, most of us are probably oblivious to them.

There's an ultimate irony in our LGBT political successes. We have certain rights today that we could not of dreamt of before. For many, this means settling into a certain unencumbered normalcy. It also means old alliances seem less important. But aside from becoming complacent to the point of laughing off our failure to vote in important elections, we have also found a comfort with prejudices that receded under the duress of homophobia. We once bonded with everyone represented by the LGBT acronym. We bonded with them regardless of gender or ethnicity because we shared a common struggle. Now, in our headlong rush for acceptance by mainstream Americans and equality with them, we may assimilate to the point of becoming them. In other words, we will abandon our legacy of a common cause for equality, be blissful in our ignorance, and let the rest fend for themselves.

I hope our leadership remains vigilant and recognizes the need for education within our community. I hope, blinded by a victory here or there, they don't lose sight of our past. Perhaps, one day we'll celebrate LGBT History Month and Black LGBT History Month as if it means something...because it does.

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GREEN BAY THEATER DIRECTOR SEEKS CHANGE IN SOCIAL CLIMATE

by Thomas Alessandro

Theater is a unique work of art in that it has the power to change the lives of many. Theater is the gateway to which humans step upon a common ground in sharing experiences and can come together as one, with or without words, in peace, harmony and understanding. Theater transcends time and place to help us achieve otherworldly states of existence.

One local theater director and owner of Vintage Theater based in Appleton, shares this vision and is using his talents to highlight the inherent power that theater brings when it comes to sculpting public attitudes toward particular—often hot-button—social topics.

Michael J. Laskowski of Manitowac, Wisconsin, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a degree in Theater Arts. Theater has been his passion since he was young, and he's spent many years of his childhood and adult life working community theater with the ultimate dream of owning his own theater company; that dream finally became a reality in early 2013 with the opening of Vintage Theater.

Laskowski is currently directing rehearsals for his upcoming show in March entitled *ART* by Yasmina Reza that asks: "How much would you pay for art? What makes art good? Who is able to judge what is good art and what is bad?" All these questions are answered in this moving but thought-provoking play of three friends who are nearly torn apart by one white painting with white lines.

What makes *ART* so delightfully special is that it is entirely staffed by, directed by and performed by actors on a volunteer basis. Even more exciting for Laskowski, and for the Green Bay community, is that *ART* will be held at The Art Garage in Green Bay at 1400 Cedar Street, which was entirely donated to Laskowski and his team through the sheer generosity and kindness of The Art Garage. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$10 for students/seniors. Please call 920-448-6800 or visit The Art Garage's website for more information.

One of Laskowski's hopes is to produce the play *Sylvia* by A.R. Gurney, which tells the story of a couple who find a stray dog in the streets bearing the name Sylvia. To the husband Greg, she becomes the source of all joy and bliss in his life, but to his wife she is an overbearing rival. This play shows that the relationship between an animal and its master is the purest kind, because it is always about unconditional love. Laskowski hopes to partner with local Green Bay- and Appleton-area humane societies on this project, which he hopes will call attention to area animals who need our assistance and love.

Laskowski also aspires to direct a performance of *The Laramie Project*, which tells the story of Matthew Shepard, who was brutally and savagely killed in

Michael J. Laskowski



1998 due in part to his homosexuality. Finding the actors, the space, selling the tickets and all the behind-the-scenes work is the easy part—it's what Laskowski hopes to fulfill with this show that makes it

difficult. While Wisconsin is definitely alive with diversity and rich in spirit, we, like any other state in the nation, have our share of citizens who simply do not believe that homosexuality is *not* a choice and that homosexuals *do* deserve the same basic liberties and freedoms as everyone else. This is where theater steps in to (hopefully) save the day: By showcasing the life of one man who was tragically murdered, this production has the potential to change the attitudes and beliefs of equally a large majority of the population.

It's true that theater certainly cannot solve world hunger or bring about world peace; however, it does offer an opportunity for audience members to reflect on their own experiences and process new ones through a different set of eyes. In Wisconsin's tight-knit community, theater is one of many tools in our toolbox that we can use to foster equality, tolerance and a better understanding for who we are and why each living creature is entitled to be loved and respected without question or debate.



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The Way He Looks
The Circle
Lilting
Salvation Army

Those loyal **Quest** readers, who missed last year's fabulous Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival, take comfort in the knowledge that come the end of March, you'll be able to organize your own mini-festival boasting four of the extraordinary features screened at last fall festival.

Released in February, **Lilting** from Cambodian director Hong Khaou is already available on DVD. **The Way He Looks**, a sweet coming-of-age film from Brazilian director Daniel Ribeiro is due out mid-March whilst **The Circle** (Der Kreis) and **Salvation Army** (L'armée du Salut) are both due out by month's end.

Having heard wonderful reports on **The Way he Looks** from all and sundry, Glenn was delighted to have the opportunity to offer it to the group of gentlemen of a certain age who form Glenn's monthly cinematic circle.

Set in a São Paulo ceaselessly bathed in radiant sunlight; **The Way He Looks** offers a winning, dare Glenn say sunny, coming-of-age story. In the sun-drenched opening scene, Leonardo (Ghilherme Lobo) is happy to laze away the afternoon poolside with only his BFF Giovana (Tess Amorim) for company. Despite the idyllic setting Giovana is bored, "The best dramas and great romances never happen during our vacation."

Glenn would have thought it impossible that Leo could be so blind as to how much Giovana wishes she were more than simply Leo's BFF, that perhaps this holiday Leo might just become her "great romance," except for the fact that Leo is indeed blind.

Giovana's unrequited love notwithstanding, life for Leo and Gi ambles along in much the same fashion as always once back in school until, that is the arrival of Gabriel (Fabio Audi). Quickly the new boy becomes fast friends with Leo and Gi, even joining Gi in walking Leo home. When Leo and Gabriel start to spend more time together, Giovana becomes jealous, her place in Leo's life threatened by a sweet lad with a lovely smile and an impressive mop of

NEW ON DVD By Glenn Bishop

curly hair Leo can't even see.

Daniel Ribeiro's screenplay offers a few narrative flourishes establishing the growing relationship between Leo and Gabriel. There's a marvelous moment as Gabriel convinces Leo to change his ringtone from Bach to Belle and Sebastian. Later, leaving Karina's party, Gabriel impulsively kisses the astonished Leo.

And, well, the rest is pretty much a foregone conclusion.

Sure, there's a subplot where Leo rebels against his parents' smothering. The class clown also doubles as a teasing bully but for the most part, Daniel Ribeiro's screenplay offers the budding romance nothing but smooth sailing.

Winning Audience Awards at film festivals around the globe, **The Way He Looks** is a warm and winning feature film debut from Brazilian director Daniel Ribeiro.

If there's a quibble, it is that Glenn wishes there had been some genuine spark generated between Leo and Gabriel; a shower room scene spotlighting Gabriel's slender, naked backside felt shamefully gratuitous, lost as the splendid sight is on Leo. Still, Ghilherme Lobo is never less than convincing as a blind teen and Tess Amorim invests Giovana with real warmth and depth.

In all, **The Way He Looks** is just the first of a terrific quartet of 2014 Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival features soon to be available on DVD.

The Circle

Perhaps drawing upon Thom Fitzgerald's excellent **Beefcake** for inspiration, director Stefan Haupt adopts a similar docu-drama approach in crafting his excellent **The Circle** (Der Kreis).

In **Beefcake**, Fitzgerald focused on Bob Mizner and his groundbreaking **Physique Pictorial**, first published in 1951. At heart of **The Circle** is another such groundbreaking gay publication, **Der Kreis**, founded in 1942 by actor Karl Meier. **Der Kreis** contained news, short stories, poems, and suitable photographs. Meier and his colleagues at **Der Kreis** also organized weekly meetings as well as their internationally infamous, Circle Balls.

At one such Circle Ball sometime during the late 1950s a young literature teacher named Ernst Osterag met and fell truly, madly, deeply in love with drag artiste Robi Rapp. The Circle Ball, with its fetching nautical theme and scantily-clad, well-oiled young men decoratively grouped in the background, surely inspired by Mizner and his AMG Studios.

Anchored by Osterag and Rapp's love story, **The Circle** explores the perhaps surprising, clandestine gay underground in Switzerland, a

safe haven for gay men until a series of brutal murders within the gay community occurred.

Thanks in part to the engaging performances of Matthias Hungerbuehler (Ernst) and Sven Schelker (Robi), director Stefan Haupt might well have just jettisoned the present day talking heads interviews in favor of fashioning the material as simply a period drama. But as that would have meant moviegoers not meeting the real life Ernst and Robi, surely the most adorable septuagenarian couple you'd ever want to meet, Glenn feels Haupt has clearly made the right decision.

Lilting

Surely the most surprising film Glenn screened from last year's Festival is **Lilting**, a gentle drama starring Ben Whishaw, one of Britain's young acting phenoms. Loyal **Quest** readers might recall the Whishaw from the recent cinematic adaptation of **Brideshead Revisited**.

Lilting opens with Junn (Cheng Pei Pei) receiving a visit from her handsome son Kai (Andrew Leung). Junn is residing in a transitional care facility; her room is pleasant but austere. Their conversation feels familiar, punctuated with recriminations from Junn, guilt from Kai. Kai's roommate Richard (Whishaw) is at the center of her resentment; she blames him for Kai not having room for her in his flat and indeed, no time for her in his life. When an attendant comes into her room to change a light bulb, Kai has mysteriously vanished. Ghost? Perhaps merely a spectre of memory?

That the relationship between Richard and Kai was rather more than one of being friends and roommates will be obvious to most moviegoers even if Junn never knew (or simply refused to accept it). Too caught up in her grief, Junn is unable to see that Richard is also grieving the loss of Kai.

Wanting to make some connection with Kai's only family, Richard visits. Unable to speak Mandarin, she speaking no English, there's little hope for them to communicate, although she signals her resentment in plain terms. Still, Richard is determined to break through.

If a rather slight story from Cambodian director Hong Khaou, **Lilting** bravely, thoughtfully explores notions of grief, of solitude and aloneness but most of all of love and loss. The performances are excellent throughout, particularly from Whishaw, who invests Richard with extraordinary grace and vulnerability in his grief. Cheng's Junn, unable to make a connection with the young man who also loved her son, is a woman even more alone, whose sense of not belonging has made her wary of all those around her.

continues...

Salvation Army

Abdellah Taïa's groundbreaking autobiographical novel, **Salvation Army** is one which Glenn has actually read, surely due to its evocative cover and scant 143 pages. In it, Taïa provides wry, warm insight into his story of growing up Gay in what is presumably a fairly ordinary Moroccan household. This Abdellah is an inquisitive youth; he's a veritable clean slate upon which he's eager to fill with all of his experiences, recorded as much for the reader as for himself. Much of the first half of the novel concerns his infatuation with his older brother Abdelkébit.

Acting here as both director and screenwriter, Taïa has, for the most part, kept the novel's basic fragmentary narrative arc. The opening segment again focusing on Abdellah's home life, one rendered with marked austerity. There is much more emphasis on Abdellah's sexual awakening, although encounters are kept discretely off-screen. Gone, however, is the engaging youth from the novel. Young Said Mrini's Abdellah countenance remains ever inscrutable. His large dark eyes appear to take in everything around him but reveal little.

Little has changed as Taïa's narrative catches up with Abdellah ten years later. Karim Ait M'hand has taken over as the adult Abdellah. Mrini's inscrutability is gone, replaced by an angry sullenness. This sullenness is especially evident when Abdellah takes a fluka ride in the company of his Swiss friend Jean. The boatman makes it clear that he's sussed out their relationship. Abdellah, for his part is clearly uncomfortable, readily agreeing to triple the boatman's usual charge. His sullenness continues as Abdellah reaches Switzerland, a month early. After an angry encounter with Jean, Abdellah is left penniless, homeless; arriving at a Salvation Army, a chance encounter with another Moroccan offers both Abdellah and moviegoers a brief respite of rare tenderness.

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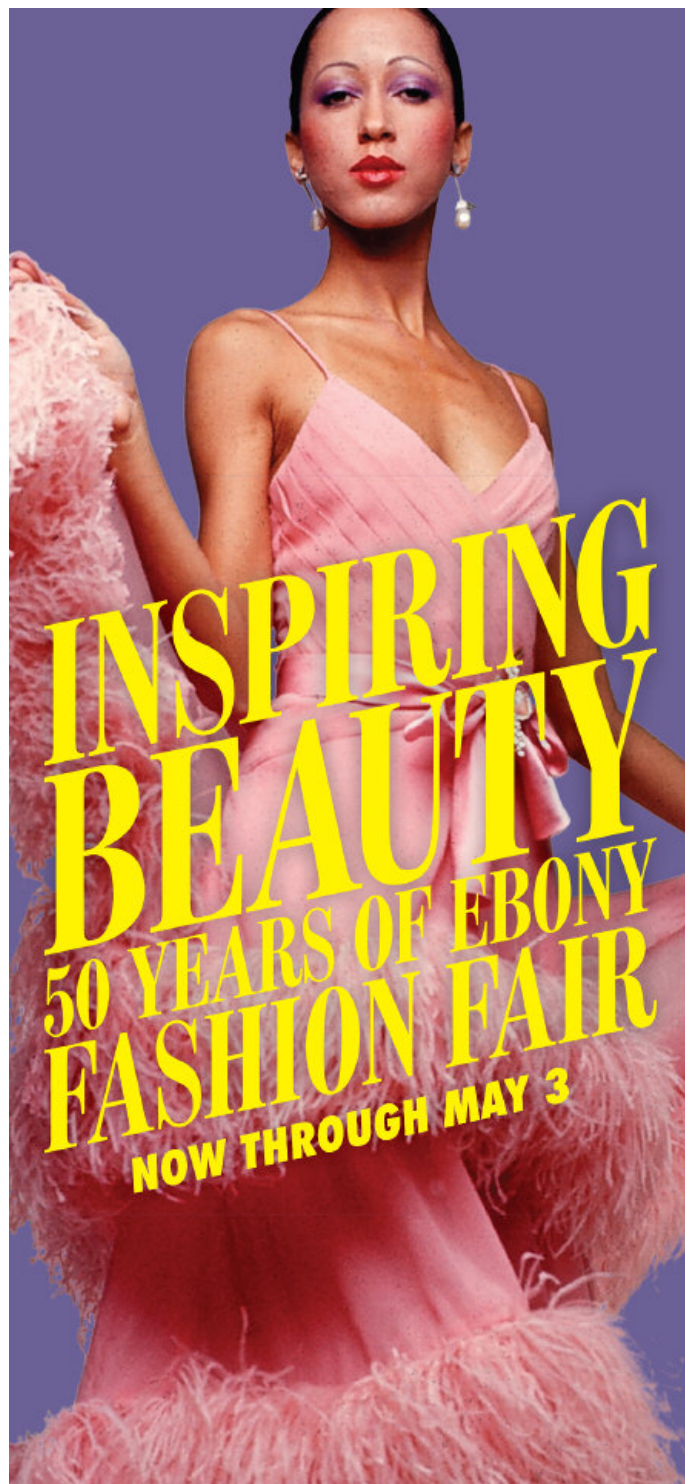
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Valentino, Evening Ensemble, fall/winter 1974-75.
Courtesy of Johnson Publishing Company.


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Tim Talsky: a Memorium

by Paul Masterson

The Milwaukee LGBT community suffered a devastating loss with the untimely passing of Tim Talsky on February 18. A local business man well known for his coffee shops and soup restaurants throughout the city, Talsky will be remembered by many for his dedication as a community volunteer. He was deeply involved in Milwaukee's greatest asset, PrideFest. He served for nearly a decade and half in various capacities. For many years he was the festival's food and beverage director. Because of the rigors of that position, it is now filled by two people. Later he became a member of its board of director and, in recent years, he served as its treasurer. In 2014 he received the PrideFest Medal for those many years of exemplary dedication and service.

The no-nonsense owner of Bella Caffè and the Soup Market, Tim had a gruff and tough business style. He was a man who knew what he wanted. He pursued his business goals with a strategic method of slowly building, gradually developing his chain of local eateries. On social media he noted his favorite quote was "Just do it." I am sure he said it dozens of times encouraging his employees, fellow volunteers, and anyone he thought needed his support when they felt they

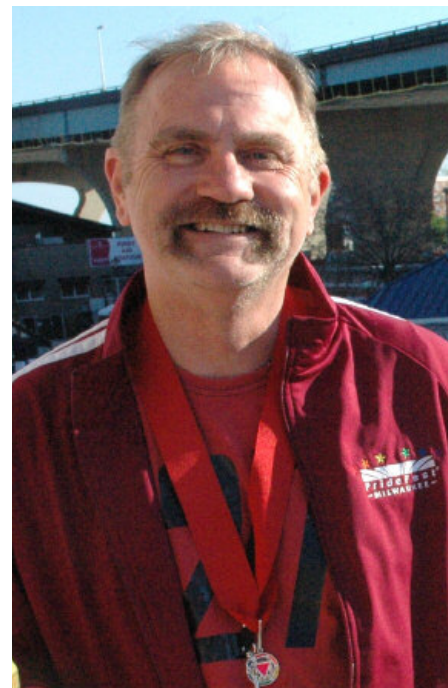
might falter.

His character, however, possessed more than a business owner's drive and acumen. He was a selfless, compassionate man with a great sense of giving to community. His rugged rough-hewn exterior belied his natural kindness. Beyond his volunteerism, his generosity was extreme. He gave monthly to Cream City Foundation. Even in death, his engagement with the community came through with the request that friends not send flowers but rather donate to the LGBT Community Center in his name. Of course, his love of PrideFest was legendary. Despite the obligations of running multiple area business, he gave PrideFest all his available time and effort, professional expertise, energy, and spirit. Besides the demanding responsibility of being PrideFest's treasurer, he performed duties during the festival, assisting in the cash room spending countless hours in preparation and also in the course of the three day event.

Tim was only 57 when he passed away of an apparent heart attack. He died at his desk at home while working at his computer. He had already suffered a heart attack a month earlier. The day after the attack, I spoke with him while he was still in the hospital. He had undergone surgery and was impatiently waiting to get back to work. Given the circumstances he sounded incredibly upbeat, chipper and feisty – his typical demeanor when chatting with friends. He voiced

concern about his employees and assured me we were stuck with him for another 10 years.

Tim will be sorely missed. On behalf of QUEST Magazine I would like to express our sincerest condolences to his partner 37 years, Jim Berger, to his sisters Mary, Paula and Diane, and to his brother Jeff. These few words can neither do you justice nor express our gratitude for all you have done for us: Rest in Peace, Tim.



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BOUND MAGAZINE

Volume 14 #3 March 2015

Jeff Voight & Ray Wyatt Get Married



UWM Annual Drag Show 2015 Photos by Mike Hiller

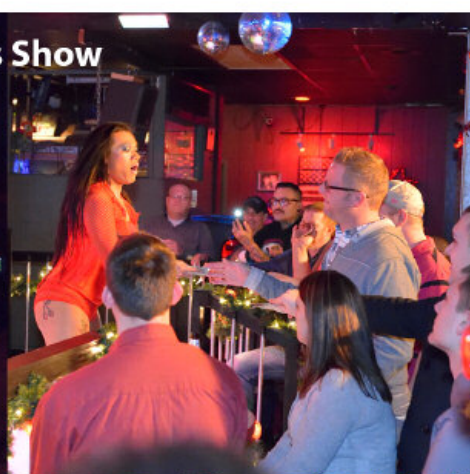




More UWM Drag Show
Photos by Mike Hiller



Napalese Valentine's Show
Photos by Za





Cordially Yours

by Michael Johnston

As the March winds begin to blow – I hope this column warms you as spring becomes a reality here in old Brew Town. In like a lamb, out like a lamb – is it too much to ask for?

Cabin fever getting the best of You? Why not take part in Five Nights of Bottles & Bites at Downtown Milwaukee Restaurants – Monday, March 2 – Friday, March 6 4 – 7 pm. Lift your spirits during five exclusive nights of sampling and sipping your palate and pocketbook, with specialty priced small plates, appetizers and mixers at over 25 downtown hot spots. Included: Bacchus, Blu, Carson's, Club Charlies, Coquette Café, Harbor House, The Knick, Mason Street Grill, Milwaukee Chop House, Swig, Tulip, and Water Buffalo to name but a few. Cheers!

I can't express in word how phenomenal I found the Inspiring Beauty: 50 Years of Ebony Fashion Flair at the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM). The Exhibit runs through Sunday, May 3, please put it on your schedule, truly a visual orgasm! I had a marvelous time at The President's Circle unveiling, thanks so much Joe Pabst for the invitation. Besides Joe, Linda Johnson Rice, daughter of

Ebony founder Eunice Johnson (whose vision is being saluted) as well as her daughter, Alexa, Tim Murphy, Margaret Henningsen, Dr. Peter Holbrook (the new Executive Director of The Cream City Foundation), Renee Kimberger from Potawatomi (a co-sponsor), Marty Hintz & Pam Percy, Mount Mary's Barbara Armstrong (a co-sponsor), MAM VIPs: Dan Keegan, Ken Krei and Kristen Settle, Alderman Nic Kovak and his Fiancée (perhaps getting visuals for their summer wedding) among others enjoying this tres chic event.

Sunday, March 1 MAM will have a special screening of "Mahogany" the 1975 slick flick starring the Supreme Miss Diana (The Boss) Ross. Carl Bogner of UWM/LGBT Film Festival will be providing this camp celluloid masterpiece. I'm sure Dame David Hower, Miss Ross' Supreme fan will be front row center!

Afterwards drop by Club Charlies in The Historic Third Ward -- Brian Reinkober and I will be doing our camp "masterpiece" Sunday Fun Day Show Tunes 3 - 7 pm. Last month's Valentine Edition of Sunday Fun Day Show Tunes was a blast with Kruz's Ginger celebrating his Birthday along with

Jerry & Serge, Chef Tiffany with her Mom Cindy and Paul Martin, the flawless Meg Kasch and her sister Cathy & her husband, the captivating Karen Drummond, Bill Johnston, Barton Smith, Scotty, Allen & Jeffrey, Maple Veneer and Don Johnson, Joe and many more merry makers who are learning the songs faster than Brian and me!

Sunday, March 8 MAM offers a panel discussion "What Color is Nude" – The Racial Future of Fashion 7 pm public invited.

Thursday, March 12 "From Closet to Catwalk" A Queer History of Fashion with Jonathan D. Katz, PhD 6:15 pm lecture at MAM.

Saturday, March 14 4 PM Artist Talk with Trevor Paglen MAM

"Beauty in Bloom" usurps "Art in Bloom" this year due to this outstanding High Fashion Display. Starting Thursday, March 26 – Sunday, March 29 the exquisite fashions will be the muse for Wisconsin's fine florist to recreate in flora the fashion masterpieces. Should be an eye opener...

So the place to be this season is the Milwaukee Art Museum! For all the details visit mam.org inspire beauty.

The Florentine Opera Company will be in fine voice as they mount "Elmer Gantry" in Uihlein Hall of The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts Friday, March 13 and Sunday, March 15. This is Robert Aldridge and Herschel Gerfein's two-time Grammy winner returning for two nights only! www.FlorentineOpera.org In celebration of "Elmer

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Gantry" and The Florentine, two weeks before each production a complimentary Opera Party is held to promote the Opera, the Show and the great contribution The Florentine is to our Art Scene. Sunday, March 1 the Party will be taking place at Ginger 235 South Second Street 7 pm. The Studio Artists will sing live for your listening pleasure, a Q&A will take part with a key figure from the show, a delicious buffet will be provided to graze on and a cash bar to toast in "Elmer Gantry". This is an excellent opportunity to investigate the world of Grand Opera to hear what you are missing – who knows you may become a fan, a subscriber and fall for a classical music genre that has entertained for centuries.

The Cream City Foundation (CCF) "Welcome Reception" for New President and CEO Peter J. Holbrook, PhD is slated for Wednesday, March 11 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm, Program at 6:30 pm Potawatomi Hotel, Serenity Room, 3rd Floor 1611 West Canal Street RSVP 414-225-0244 or <http://creamcityfoundationwelcomereception.eventbrite.com> This Event is open to the Public so please plan on being there. An Art Auction will take place with all original works being on the docket by well-known Milwaukee artist.

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" sweeps into town to brighten our St. Patrick's day – Tuesday, March 17 – Sunday, March 22 and so brings the season of spring. As part of BMO Harris Bank Broadway at The Marcus Center season -- come and see the love story that set the standards for opposites attracting! A perfect family show, an extraordinary vehicle to introduce theatre to children. 414-273-7206 MarcusCenter.org

The Marcus Center has an exciting new season coming up for 2015 -2016, two shows rumor has it that are coming our way – the fresh, new, exciting "Kinky Boots" and a classic, warhorse guaranteed to set your toes a tapping "42nd Street". We are so fortunate!

You're all invited on Thursday, March 19 to Diverse & Resilient's 3rd Annual 2014 LGBT Leadership Awards Reviving the Dream Celebration including the presentation of the 2014 Bayard Rustin Leadership Award. The event is being held at Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin 500 North Harbor Drive 5:30 pm Reception, 6:30 pm Dinner and Program, Keynote Speaker Mandy Carter. Mayor Tom Barrett will present Leonard Sobczak the Bayard Rustin Leadership Award. Other Awardees we acknowledge, congratulate and thank are: Joshua-Paul Miles Youth Leadership Award, Austin Kiebler Young Adult Leadership Award, Chris Ahmuty of the ACLU of Wisconsin, Adult Leadership Award, Melissa Bolow-Temple Acceptance Journeys Award, Proud Theatre LGBT Sustainability Award, Kathy Flores LGBT Staff Award, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin Community Partner Award. Please consider attending and supporting the good works that Diverse & Resilient provide Our world.

FMI please call 414-390-0444/www.diverseandresilient.org 2439 North Holton Street.

My friend and local designer extraordinaire, Stephanie will be throwing the Fashion Show of the season on Friday, March 27 The Wherehouse 818 South Water Street 8:30 pm. "Silversark Presents: Byzantium (The Fallen Empire)" with DJ UV and Nathan Reid – spoken word, Silent Auction to benefit Autism, Solution Pieces. Stephanie's fashions recently on display at The Milwaukee Domes are not the typical off the rack – Victoriana with a kick. Styles and looks Lady GaGa and Madonna would sport proudly. Maybe the fashions aren't for you to wear, but the art and talent will impress the eye.

Saturday, March 28th is "Tall Keith's One Heartland (formerly Camp Heartland) Fund Raiser" The Community really rallies for this one. The money raised is to send children affected/effectuated by HIV/AIDS to summer camp. Once again it is being held at The Wherehouse 818 South Water Street (where National Avenue and Water Street meet, kiddy corner from Kruz) from 4 – 8 pm. A Revue is scheduled for 6:00 pm Starring Dear Ruthie, Goldie Adams, Maple Veneer, Corky Morgan, Laura Monagle and Karen Valentine. There will be drink specials, a buffet to enjoy, a great reunion of lots of luscious local-ites you may have not seen since last year, the show and all, for the price of a gift to One Heartland. And the Public is invited and encouraged to attend!

How was last month for You? The month of love – Valentine's Day... forgive my typing errors, paper cuts from all the valentines, gift boxes – jewelry and chocolates and flowers too!

Allen & Jeffrey are now a "Couple – in a relationship" – congratz! They met at Sunday Fun Day Show Tunes at Club Charlies. May their love continue to bloom as the spring flowers this March. Who knew "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" would enrich their lives as well as it has Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's pockets! L 'Amor, L 'Amor...

Saturday, March 12 will bring the wedding of Scott Coleman & Jeff Gadberry. All of Palm Spring Society will turn out for their natty nuptials. Long may they love and heat up the desert of the Springs!

Another form of love being expressed this month a lifetime achievement observation to Dale Gutzman for his dedication to the performing arts, The City of Milwaukee Arts Board has named Dale "Artist of the Year – 2015". Dale has devoted his life over 50 years to the stage, and varies arts groups including: Off The Wall Theatre, The Sky-light, The Milwaukee Players, students at University School and we the audience. We are so lucky to have this man and his passion in our midst...

Congratulations to Karen Gotzler on her new position as Executive Director of Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. Not too many details are known as we go to press, but Karen's reputation and resume speaks for itself and we're

March, 2015 Bucket List

Monday, March 2 – Friday, March 6
Downtown Milwaukee Restaurants
Five Nights of Bottles & Bites 4 – 7 pm

Sunday, March 8th Day Light Saving Time begins
Spring forward, we lose a valuable weekend hour

Sunday, March 8th
Milwaukee Art Museum
700 North Art Museum Drive
"What Color is Nude" – The Racial Future of Fashion 7 pm Public Welcomed

Thursday, March 12
Milwaukee Art Museum
700 North Art Museum Drive
"From Closet to Catwalk" A Queer History of Fashion with Jonathan D. Katz, PhD 6:15 pm

Friday, March 13 and Sunday, March 15
Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
929 North Water Street Uihlein Hall
The Florentine Opera Company "Elmer Gantry" 7:30 pm and 2:00 pm

Saturday, March 14
Milwaukee Art Museum
700 North Art Museum Drive
Artist Talk with Trevor Paglen 4:00 pm

Tuesday, March 17 St. Patrick's Day-
Memories of The Ball Game and their party dances through our heads! Watch out for Jeffrey Kennedy ALA Karen Walker "The Green Tornado"

Tuesday, March 17 – Sunday, March 22
Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
929 North Water Street Uihlein Hall
"Disney's Beauty and the Beast" 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 19
Discovery World, Pier Wisconsin
500 North Harbor Drive
Diverse & Resilient 3rd Annual LGBT Leadership Awards 5:30 pm

Friday, March 20
Spring will hopefully have sprung!

Thursday, March 26 – Sunday, March 29
Milwaukee Art Museum
700 North Art Museum Drive
"Beauty in Bloom" – Flowers and Fashions Daily

Friday, March 27
The Wherehouse 818 South Water Street
"Silversark Presents: Byzantium (The Fallen Empire)" Fashion Show and Party 8:30 pm

Saturday, March 28
The Wherehouse 818 South Water Street
"Tall Keith's Annual One Heartland (Camp Heartland) Fundraiser and Reunion" 4 - 8 pm

Wednesday, April 1 April Fool's Day,
no joke, beware ...

lucky to have her!

Dale Miller, one of Brew Town's favorite Bartenders can now be found slinging your drink of choice at the Hybrid Lounge. Another reason to visit Hybrid is the newly rejuvenated Show Lounge that homes the monthly Nova D'Vine Spectaculars and Comedy Nights. The Space is available for Private Parties and Receptions.

City Of Festivals Men's Chorus (COFMC) a 501 c (3) organization is conducting a long-term fundraiser to help them continue their mission of servicing the LGBT Community and beyond, offering harmony in music, to help inspire harmony in the community. The monies raised will assist in their updating internet presence, accounting services and insure that the entire Chorus can participate in the 2016 GALA International Musical Convention in Denver. To remember this fine asset to our world make a check out to COFMC and mail it to COFMC P.O. Box 1968 Milwaukee 53201-1968 and invest in keeping the music playing.

Sad news to share, the loss of Tim Talsky is still and will continue to be felt throughout our Community. Not only was Tim a successful business man with Bella Café in The Historic Third Ward, but his commitment to PrideFest and so many worthwhile causes and interest he will be missed, gone far too soon. Condolences to his life partner, Jim Berger.

Thanks so much for all the positive input I've received concerning the monthly "Bucket List" so thrilled to read your clipping and applying this to

your social calendars.

Along with promoting the extraordinary libraries we have at UWM, I have to remind you all that you can retrieve the materials and visit in the comfort of your homes via the Internet. Don Schwamb has made it a passion to research and record our history and makes it finger-tip friendly by keying in: mkeLGBTlist.org, WisconsinGayHistory.org, and MilwaukeeGayHistory.org Please take the time as we prepare for PrideFest to take Pride in all the great works of our Forbearers making our road a lot easier to walk.

Don works very diligently to record our past and share it today. Once again the History Exhibit will be at PrideFest and Volunteers are needed so if you can spare a couple of hours it would be greatly appreciated and what a great way to say Thank You!

Food time Bosleys on Brady 815 East Brady Street is the place to be to get that warm feeling and essence of Key West in the Midwest. Michele Bosley Green has so much to be proud of! Marshall the bartender, LaVon the host, our server Eric, a definite hottie! And Chef John formerly of the Italian place down the road - creating delicious concoctions that leave you drooling weeks after you supped there. Bosleys also throw one of the most dazzling cocktail hours on the lower east side - get there early it gets snug! Tasty beverages and half-priced appetizers!

Happy Spring - have a fling and remember it's the glamor, not the grammar as I remain Still Cordially yours.



Above:

KV at Club Charlies with Dr. Peter Holbrook - the New President & CEO of the Cream City Foundation and his partner, Artist Tom Hoffman.

Below: KV at Red Star Cocktail Club celebrating Chinese New Year with Lance Lanigan Bar Manager



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Quest Magazine

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Welcome to Ruthie's Bitchin' Kitchen

Can this month "march" on by so we can get our keesters to summer, please? Don't get me wrong. I love March, but I've had enough of this cold. It looks like I'll have to busy myself with drinking, and partying, and fun...and drinking...for just a bit longer in order to make the month fly by quicker.

On March 5, for instance, I'll be hosting Butch Bingo at Hamburger Mary's for my charity, Ruthie's Kennel Club. Come support four local animal-related charities. Ten bucks gets you 30 chances to win great prizes. The fun starts at 8:00 pm!

You can also catch me shakin' my groove thing on March 28. That's when my amigo Tall Keith is hosting his One Heart Party at The WhereHouse. Open to the public, this annual bash is getting larger and larger every year, raising mucho buckos for kids whose lives have been affected by HIV and AIDS. The party runs from 4:00 to 8:00 pm with a helluva show, starring Karen Valentine, Maple Veneer, me and other favorites!

If that's not enough to get you through March, self-medicate with some comfort food. Let's step into the Bitchin' Kitchen and consider everyone's favorite couple...soup and sandwich!

Ah...soup and sandwich. There hasn't been a more classic pairing since Sonny and Cher, and speaking from experience, I can tell you Sonny had a bit of an unpleasant aftertaste. You don't have to be a gourmet cook to whip up this decadent duo that's sure to satisfy and impress your honey. After all, we're talking about a soup and a sandwich here. What could be so hard?

It may be March, but there are still plenty of chilly days ahead. So, tell Jack Frost to go fuck himself and cook up this hearty soup and sandwich combo...or, make just one! I don't care. What I do care about, however, is that you eat good and shut up!

CHICKEN CORDON BLEU SOUP

My friend Gary of Milwaukee gave me some of this soup one afternoon, and I couldn't wait to share it with all of you! It's truly one of the best soups I've ever slurped. It's so rich, creamy and decadent you have to try it to believe it. The ingredient list is a bit long, but all of the items are things you might have on hand or can easily pick up at the Piggly Wiggly. This is "easy-impressive" at its best!

- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2-1/2 cups half and half
- 3 cups milk
- 1 tablespoon chicken bouillon granules or chicken base
- 1 (8 ounce) brick cream cheese, softened and cubed
- 2-1/2 cups cooked chicken
- 1/2 cooked and chopped bacon
- 1 cup cooked and cubed ham
- 2 cups grated Swiss cheese
- 1/2 cup bleu cheese

Melt butter in a large pot over medium-high heat. Stir in flour until well combined and cook for 1 minute. Stir in the half and half, milk and chicken bouillon granules or chicken base. Heat for 3 minutes. Stir in cream cheese. Continuously stir until cream cheese is melted and mixture comes to a gentle simmer.

Stir in chicken, bacon and ham. Add Swiss and bleu cheeses. Continue to stir until cheeses are melted and soup reaches desired consistency. Refrigerate leftovers.

Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Don't like bleu cheese? Leave it out. Soup too thick for you? Add more milk. (You may need to add milk with reheating the leftovers in the microwave, by the way.) You don't want the soup to burn on the bottom of your pot, so keep on stirring! This hearty soup is a great way to use leftover cooked chicken, ham and bacon. If you don't have any on hand, buy a rotisserie chicken or zap a few chicken boobies in the microwave until cooked through. Pick up a package of cubed ham from the lunchmeat area of the grocery store and use real-bacon salad toppings to make preparation a snap!

SPINACH & ARTICHOKE GRILLED CHEESE

Here's a fabulous take on an American staple. Rich, buttery and easy, these filling sandwiches are sure to be your new comfort-food favorite. If not, go screw yourself.

- 1/2 cup shredded Pecorino-Romano cheese
- 1/2 cup spinach-artichoke dip
- Butter, softened
- 4 slices crusty bread

Combine the cheese and dip in a large bowl. Mix until just combined, and set aside.

Butter the bread slices. Top two slices of bread with cheese mixture (over the butter). Top with remaining slices of bread, butter-side down. Butter tops of sandwiches.

Melt a tablespoon of butter in medium skillet over medium heat. Set one sandwich in skillet over the melted butter, unbuttered side down. Toast 2 to 3 minutes or until golden brown. Flip sandwich and toast other side 2 to 3 minutes or until golden brown. Repeat with other sandwich.

(Ruthie tested this recipe with Sendik's Pecorino-Romano cheese, Sendik's Spinach Artichoke Dip and Ecce Panis Roasted Garlic Italian Loaf.)

Ruthie's Culinary Clues

Can't find the Pecorino-Romano cheese? Use shredded Romano, a Romano blend or even an Italian cheese blend. The spinach-artichoke dip can't have too much liquid or be too creamy. Look for a dip that has a bit of texture to it. Any leftover cheese-dip mixture is great on crackers!

Can't get enough of the Bitchin' Kitchen? Check out the Web series, "Ruthie's Bitchin' Kitchen" at www.RuthiesBitchinKitchen.com and "like" the Facebook page of the same name. Send YOUR recipes to Ruthie and get a free T-shirt. Submit your best dish to DearMsRuthie @Yahoo.com today!

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Well, here we are again back in print and ready for spring! I hope all of you had a great time last month with St. Patty's Day. Well I guess I just more hope that you remember who you went home with and if you had to sneak out of their house in the morning! Either way I do have some news for you all first before I get to the piercing we are going to talk about this month, I want to talk a little bit about the Milwaukee Pride Parade, the people running it this year are really doing a bang up job but they are going to need your help to pull it off, so please go to their website and download the volunteer form to help out. I have also been informed that if you are a nonprofit organization you get in FREE to the parade so check out their site at www.prideparademke.org. With the parade looming closer and closer that also means Pridefest is coming! Save the dates June 7, 8, 9 & check out their website at www.pridefest.com. Also both of these great organizations are on facebook, so don't forget to like them there too! Well now that I have plugged everyone who gobbled up my ear over the weekend, let's get on with the topic of the month.

I was told many times that I talk about nipples

and P.A.'s too much, well you can't hold that against me, I love those piercings! So to make happy my complainants I will talk about something new with you all. This month we will talk all about the tongue and nostril piercings. First up is the tongue piercing.

The tongue piercing began to get popular in the UK during the punk movement of the 1970's. From its start it has picked up steam and become a large part of mainstream culture, spreading from the punks and moving in the suburbs of America. Today it is hard to find a person who doesn't have a tongue piercing. Besides being associated with rebellion it is also strongly associated with sex. (I bet you were all wondering how long it would take me to get to that part!) It has long been thought that having a tongue piercing will make you give better oral sex to your partner. Being a person who has three tongue piercings I can say that this is false. To be very honest with you all they just get in the way. So basically when it comes to this piercing it is really just for aesthetics, and for people who have oral fixations. (And if you have an oral fixation please email me PLEASE!) To take care of a tongue piercing it

is very simple, just use listerine or another comparable antiseptic mouth wash, every time you eat drink or smoke.

Next we will talk about the nostril piercing. This piercing is much older than the punk movement as tribes all over the world have been doing it for years! It has recently seen a resurrected life in today's modern culture due to popular celebrities adorning their own faces with a nostril piercing. Nostril piercings don't really serve a purpose with the exception of beauty. There are no meanings to a nostril piercing, one side does not mean you are gay, or anything like that. It is purely decorative. (Kind of boring huh? I think next month I will pick something to spice up the column, like talking about dick piercings or nipple piercings! j/k) To take care of this piercing all you have to do is use antibacterial soap twice daily at the end of your shower. And the most important thing to do is to leave it alone, don't play with it at all.

So now that I have appeased everyone let's get on with some reader mail, hmm let's see what we have today.

Brent,

I was wondering how many piercings I can get at a time. Is there like a limit or anything? — John

Well John there actually is a limit on the number of piercings you can get at a time. It isn't really a set number but it does vary slightly from person to person. The most amounts of piercings I will ever perform on one client are three piercings. After three piercings the body just can't handle it any more, and begins to shut down and go into shock. So I hope that answers your question, thanks for the mail.

Well, I think that about wraps up this column I hope you all had fun, and I hope you have more fun with warmer weather on the way. Don't forget about the Pride Parade and Pridefest. Check out their website at www.prideparademke.com & pridefest.com. And finally don't forget to keep those emails coming send your questions and gripes to avantgarde@voyager.net. Until next month have a great time in April and keep getting pierced, and don't stop until you jingle when you walk!

KRUZ



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