

The Court Circular

"A healthy sex life. Best thing in the world for a woman's voice."

Leontyne Price
Prima Donna Absoluta

CNY

COURT BEAUTIES SWEEP TITLES IN MISS FIRE ISLAND PAGEANT



◁ MISS FIRE ISLAND
H.R.H. Imperial Crown
Princess Royale Gianna



△ MRS FIRE ISLAND
H.I.M. Empress IX
Philomena

BEST PROFESSIONAL ▷
H.H. Victoria Weston



The Court Circular

The Official Newsletter
of the Imperial Court of New York



New York, NY 10003

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To raise funds for Gay & Lesbian Community and social service organizations; to provide a safe, social environment for people with the same interest as those of the corporation; to create and promote positive Community awareness of the ideals of the Imperial Court System.

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Reigning Empress & Executive Board

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The Executive Board of the Imperial Court of New York meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. The General Membership meets on the first Wednesday of each month at The Center, 208 West 13th St. at 8:00pm.

THE RESULTS ARE IN!

The ICNY Election results are in. Our newly elected Monarchs are the Imperial Crown Princess Royale Gianna and the Imperial Crown Prince Royale Tom. The new Board of Directors will consist of Charles Ching, President; Fred Frick, Vice President; Bill LaMonica, Treasurer; Victor Grossetti, Secretary; Philip Stoebr, Dom Tolipani, and Garret Malter, Board Members; and Robert Sorrell, Minister of Protocol. Congratulations to you all. And a thank you to the members of the past Board for a job well done. *AK*

SAN DIEGO SILVER JUBILEE CORONATION

by Countess Tedi DeBare

Festivities began on Thursday evening with a Weenie Roast hosted by Empress Mimi of Buffalo, who grilled her infamous Buffalo weenies. The event was held in the garden of #1 Fifth Avenue, a bar in the Hillcrest section of the city. It was a great

where at Mike's Place, our own Empress X Ran-Dee was "crowned" Empress I of Ensenada (with the help of mucho pesos). On the return trip, MaMa announced that no one needed to "dress" for the out-of-town show at the Brass Rail bar. Many performers did not. But as we all know, New York has class. Ran-Dee and Steven looked divine and did a wonderful rendition of "Sue Me". Coco appeared to be having a great time !!!!!

On Saturday evening, sixteen members of the Imperial Court of New York attended "The Silver Jubilee Coronation Ball" Held in the packed Grand Ballroom of the historic U.S. Grant Hotel in downtown San Diego. Our current and past monarchs were invited by Their Most Imperial Majesties, Emperor XXIV Tone Puente and Empress XXIV Maya to do a Royal Command Performance. And they certainly did (even if there was a glitch in the sound system).

The presentation of the New York

Court to the monarchs was most impressive (even without a runway). Emperor and Empress in full coronation regalia and all Court members in white, gold and black. All members present walked; even our two new members: Princess "Lydia" Austin and La Grande Princess Royale "Lianna". The newly elected monarchs Empress XXV Roxy Bleau and Emperor XXV Noel (ask Billie Ann



place to meet and greet old and new friends, and everyone had a good time.

Following this feast, we all headed to the Mustang Spa for the Mr. Nude San Diego contest. A couple of hundred fully dressed (not drag) gay men at a bath house is something else to see. As were the contestants. Friday began for some of us with a little wig shopping (great buys), followed by the annual trip to Tijuana



about him) were crowned by MaMa in her usual style. She looked as regal as ever.

On Sunday morning we all attended

The Victory & Awards Brunch held at Tidbits. It was a delicious Mexican buffet (I went out and bought three dozen bagels, cream cheese and butter). At the brunch the Imperial Court of New York was honored with an award for the "Most Regal Court Walk". The trophy was a limited edition porcelain "Cinderella's Coach" from the Franklin Mint, which we shall cherish. Steven and Ran-Dee were also honored as Best Out-of-State Emperor and Empress. Our own Princess Royale Panzi was named first and only (so far) granddaughter to Jose I, The Widow Norton. We all chatted some and said our goodbye's. Sunday evening's scheduled event was the "Mr. & Miss Gay California Pageant" which was attended by a group from New York. A few of us spent a quiet evening in the hotel's dining room having a wonderful dinner and relaxing.

~*~

MORNING PARTY

by Princess Lita Austin

The Gay Men's Health Crisis held its annual "Morning Party" in spite of the rumors that they were not going to support it. It was a gloriously hot day and of course, so was the parade of scantily clad men. The theme this year was something akin to "Under the Big Top" and they decorated the beach with circus posters, colorful tents, bunches of balloons, and even more hot gorgeous men! A true carnival atmosphere prevailed.

I will say that the thirty minute "trek" from the Pines ferry to the location of the party was quite an experience. I say this because I did not do drag, (Thank God), but for those who did...my wig is off to you girls. Perspire, glisten, glow, moisten...call it what you will but these girls were "sweatin' like whores in church," and managed to stay glamorous even while they were doling out the water!

Prince Tom DeConza was the Imperial liaison and Official Host for this event and took very good care of his "Guys and Dolls." Watch for the "Party Talk" interview with Emperor Steven, Empress Ran-Dee and La Grande Princess Royale Gianna on the Gay Cable Network.

All in all it was an event that I would urge other members to participate in; when the boys pharmaceuticals kick in, they certainly "depend on the kindness of strangers."

"Get 'em while they're hot," I always say. ~*~

"LIPS" OPEN WIDE:

by Zondra Foxx/condensed by Kitty Fouché

The new drag theme restaurant, Lips (2 Bank Street), opened in a gala preview bash on 8 August at 8 PM. What a night! Cabs and limos disgorging Celebes! Flouncing entrances galore! Fabulous femmes of various sexes! Hot boys! (And, boy, was it hot inside, wooooooooo!)

The perfect midsummer event to banish urban ennui and bring out the scenemakers. The press was omnipresent: "pose, pose, strut, strut, interview, interview." This queen had almost no time to consume the



succulent snacks and imbibe the circulating Stoli cocktails.

Drag memorabilia are everywhere here, with more to come. If you have anything you wish to donate or lend, bring it in:



excess is the essence of drag. On two walls there are probably 100-plus 8" x 10" pics of loyal divas and it seemed that most were present at the party. Vitines display exotic shoes and accessories. A marvelous mannequin of Ms. Understood looms above the stairs to the lower level. On that floor a small stage acts as a showplace for the

Imperial Court (of New York) with photos of the College of Monarchs, a magnificent crown and other imperial regalia. Pictures and objects are everywhere and video monitors run tapes of drag interest.

Everybody, almost, was there! The ICNY was well represented. Empress Ran-Dee and Emperor Steven, both in royal finery, headed the list, with Empresses emeriti

Coco LaChine, Champagne, and Sybil Bruncheon busily perambulating. Margery Dunne and Brenda Starr, the Stoli girls, were overworked,

but kept their cool. Further Court luminaries dressed to thrill were Anne-Tique, Tammi Racine, Chiclet, and authoress Zondra Foxx herself. Courtiers in male style included Tom Hansen, Johnny Cella, Tom deConza and others whose names have slipped my drink-addled brain.

The warmth of 8,000,000 closely packed bodies, specially upstairs, caused the crowd to spill out onto the sidewalk for the cool, fresh air, but everyone was well behaved, as people in evening gowns tend to be. Passing tourists and locals alike could not help stopping and chatting, marveling at the exotic sight. After midnight things were winding down and we left in our pumpkin coach, sated, elated and saturated with the glamour of it all. ~*~

WHITE PARTY '96

by Princess Lita Austin

It was like watching a scene from "An Officer and A Gentleman!" exclaimed one excited onlooker as the Emperor and Empress led the procession to the Ice Palace.

This years "White Party" on Fire Island was one of unparalleled glamour and glitz. Dripping in rhinestones, Mod-Acrylic fiber piled high atop our heads and outfits ranging from sleek and stylish to trampy (*that would be me!*) the Court made a stunning appearance! Not only did the girls (and I use this term loosely!) look spectacular, but the men turned it "out" also. Sashes were de'riquer and so was wearing every pin, Court or otherwise, you owned.

The evening began with cocktails at the Island Club in the Pines which was decorated tastefully with plenty of men in their "Calvins". After tanking up at the club it was time for the procession to begin. We all paired up, like on Noah's Ark, and the male escorts held their "glow rods" in their hands (not what you're thinking!!!) to light the way down to the ferry. Applause, applause...and Empress X



Ran-Dee christened the new boat for its journey to the Grove.

Once on board all sorts of dancing and mayhem resumed. Most of us drag queens headed down below for "beauty reasons". Miss New York City - Leeza Monet, however, braved the upper decks.

All I can say is..."wig in a blender"! As the boat docked we all got ready for the adoring fans we were about to greet.

Bella, looking wonderfully sexy, in a long flowing white chiffon creation and red vixen hair, greeted the Emperor and Empress and led the procession to the Ice Palace where she presented them with the key to Cherry Grove. Looking regal and elegant, Emperor Steven and

Empress Ran-Dee waved from their balcony and proclaimed "Let the party begin!"

Special thanks go to Jeffrey Wallach and crew, who turned the downtown Grove area into "Camelot" for the evening.

BRAS & (NEWS) BRIEFS

Anniversary Congratulations are extended to two Court couples: Empress X Ran-Dee & Imperial Crown Princess Royale Gianna who just celebrated 7 years and Princess Trompe L'oeil & Lord Faux Bois who just celebrated 15 years.

COMPUTER SERVICES - Internet: connections - software installation and configuration - training - web-site design. Custom-built computers - hardware upgrades & installation. Call Sony at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

FOR SALE: Renee of Paris Wig
Sabrina - Color # 33. Still in box. \$56.00
Contact Trompe L'oeil

THE COURT CIRCULAR ADVERTISING RATES

Half Page Horizontal: \$65.
(7 1/2 w / 4 7/8 h)

Half Page Square: \$60.
(5 w / 6 1/2 h)

Third Page Horizontal: \$30.
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Contact Kitty Fouché at 201-759-3845
for ad placement or additional
information.

Display ads must be camera ready or on Mac compatible disks.
Design services are available for an additional fee. Advance
payment required for all advertisements. Ad deadlines are the
15th of the month prior to publication.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 5

- *Atlantic City Outing* - contact Gary Cosgrove or Robert Van Glahn
- *Tour of Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum* - 12 Noon - 33rd Road & Broadway in Astoria - \$5. donation - contact Grant Anderson 718-278-8426

Saturday, October 12

- *Coronation* - Toronto, Canada - contact Empress X Ran-Dee & Emperor VI Steven

Monday, October 14

- *Bartender's Ball* - at the Copa - \$100 per person - contact Dom. Tolipani

Saturday, October 26

- *Halloween at the Center* - contact Bruce Monroe

NOVEMBER

Thursday, November 7

- *When Pigs Fly* - Theater Party - 8:00pm - \$35. - Fairbanks Theater - contact Tom DeConza

Thursday, November 14

- *ICNY New Jersey Invasion* - Benefit at Feathers 10 pm - contact Emperor Steven or Gary Cosgrove

Tuesday, November 19

- *A Royal Birthday Celebration for Emperor VI Steven* - 8pm "Chicago"

Theater Party, \$60.75. Payment no later than August 7 - contact Johnny Cella

1997

JANUARY

Friday, January 17

- *Holiday Party* - at 24 Fifth Avenue. Semi-formal, \$55/per person - contact Tom DeConza

MARCH

Saturday, March 22

- *Night of 1000 Gowns* - Coronation, New York, NY at the New York Hilton - contact Empress X Ran-Dee & Emperor VI Steven.