



THE TOTALLY BIASED POLITICALLY INCORRECT PARTY PAPER

Hieronymous
Continues to Burn

Queer Movie
Summer Preview

Grll World
Dykes & Dogs

Inside Mona★Foot

The Star Search Continues...

NYC'S #1 GAY GUIDE

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HX MAGAZINE

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THE TOTALLY BIASED POLITICALLY INCORRECT PARTY PAPER

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e-mail to editor@hx.com, or write to
19 W 21st St, Ste 504, NYC 10010
at least two weeks before you want
the listing to appear. Please indicate
if your event is wheelchair accessible.

Mona Exposed

Watch out girls! Mona
opens her big mouth and
tells it like it is.

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So many parties, so little
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help you plan your pride.

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Drama Queen Gregory
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who's gonna win.

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On the Cover

Mona Foot photographed by
Aaron Cobbett. Hair by Johnny
Cat. Make Up by Robie for
Patricia Field. Dress by David
Dalrymple for Patricia Field.

© 1996



SATURDAY JUNE 1

Eva Peron

Hamlet of Bank Street Theatre, 155 Bank St (Washington St), 989-2013, 8pm, \$15.

It's Evita like you've never seen her before in French playwright Copi's twisted biographical satire as performed by the **Hammer Heads Theatre Company**. His "fiercely ambitious, drug-riddled, bitchy and bitterly comic" Eva should take your mind off Madonna for the time being. Tonight and tomorrow only.

Interfaith AIDS Memorial Service

St George's Episcopal Church, Main St & 38th Ave, Flushing, (718) 205-6605, 7pm.

Episcopalian, Muslim, Unitarian Universalist, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Baptist and Wiccan clergy join together in leading this service in remembrance of those lost to AIDS. Panels from the **AIDS Quilt** will be on display, and congregants will be invited to inscribe the names of loved ones who have died from AIDS on a memorial wall.



Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You

The Duplex, 61 Christopher St (7th Ave), 255-5438, 8pm, \$12 w/ 2 drink minimum.

Seems like every week some wacked-out new play about a nun is opening. This week is no exception, although *Sister Mary...* isn't exactly new. This revival of **Christopher Durang's** black comedy, labeled "blasphemous" and "anti-Catholic" by religious

protesters, is about a tyrannical nun and four former students who return to enact revenge upon the twisted sister. Now through July 6th.

Stop The Hate

Sheridan Square, 807-6761, 7pm.

Okay, so you know that June is Gay Pride Month, but did you know that it's also the month with the most anti-gay and lesbian violence? How messed up is that? What are you gonna do about it? Here's a suggestion: Join the **Anti-Violence Project** in their second annual **Stop The Hate Rally and March**, and let the bigots know you're not featuring hatred this month (or any other, for that matter).

The Tracey Berg Show

Rose's Turn, 55 Grove St, 366-5438,

10pm, \$10 w/ 2 drink minimum.

Tracey Berg, a member of the High Heeled Women comedy group, does her own thing in her latest one-woman, many characters show. Dancing, singing, jokes, plate-spinning and Joan Rivers as Blanche Dubois every Saturday through June 29th.

Underwear Action

Roxy, 515 W 18th St (10th Ave), 645-5156, 11pm, \$20.

Move over 2xist, there's a new men's "innerwear" company in town! Catch a prelaunch fashion show for **C2-3** underwear complete with free giveaways at 2am. Los Angeles **DJ David Marine** spins, and the proud perverts of **Pork** take over the **Cigar Bar**. Open bar until midnight.

Vinyl

6 Hubert St (Hudson St), 343-1379,

11pm, \$15 before midnight/\$20 after.

Serious after-hours dancing and positive energy in the spirit of the Garage with legendary DJs **Louie Vega** and **Tony Humphries** turning it for a crowd that lives for the music. Mostly straight (but not narrow) early on, but the crowd gets gayer and gayer as the sun comes up. Fierce!

SOME OF THE BEST ACTING IS OFF-BROADWAY WITH...

Cowboys LaCage & More



"This is funny. I've never seen anything like this before!" If you like country music, or any kind of music, ...come see this show"

—REBA McINTIRE

"Ted Brightwell nails it as the 1995 Barbara Streisand"... "The highlight of the evening is Electra doing Lucille Ball's classic Vita-Meta-Vega-Min." "Dane Chase gives us a Dolly Parton that's even Prettier than the real one, without the benefit of surgery"

—NEW YORK DAILY NEWS



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**Lesbian &
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SUNDAY JUNE 2



50th Annual Tony Awards

Channel 2, 9pm.

The normally snore-bore **Tony Awards** got a much-needed dose of scandal this year when Julie Andrews refused to accept her Best Actress in a Musical nomination. Too bad this broadcast of the awards ceremony, hosted by **Nathan Lane** and featuring a Golden Anniversary Tony retrospective, is unlikely to be as exciting. A must for theater queens only (you know who you are).

Queens Lesbian And Gay Pride Parade And Festival

89th St & 37th Ave, Jackson Heights, (718) 460-4064, 12:30pm.

Kick off **Pride Month** with New York's other gay parade in the very gay community of Jackson Heights, Queens. After the parade, carry on with outer-borough boys and Queens queens at the **Multi-Cultural Festival** (37th

Rd btwn 77th and 74rd sts) featuring performances by **France Joli** and **Loleatta Holloway**. To get to the parade starting point, take the 7 train to 90th Street; to the Festival, take the E, F or 7 trains to Roosevelt Ave.

Sex Talk: The Next Generation Of Queer Writers Talk About Sex

Palladium, 126 E 14th St, 642-2924, 8-11pm, \$50/\$30 student.

Lesbian Brother **Mo Angelos** hosts this evening of discussion about sex and writing featuring a panel of hot queer writers including **Scott Heim**, **John Keene**, **Heather Lewis**, **Dale Peck** and **Jacqueline Woodson**. Proceeds benefit the **Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies**; open bar until 9pm. Stick around afterward for dancing at **Bump!** with **DJ James Anderson**.

MONDAY JUNE 3

Milk

Champs, 17 W 19th St, 629-1911, 10pm, free.

CONTINUED

SUNDAY

JUNE 2ND

DRAG
ATTACK

FINALS

Drag Performers compete for a chance to go to Atlanta in August to represent **New York** in the **Miss Hotlanta Contest**. Winner receives round trip airfare, hotel accommodations and **\$500 cash!**

SPLASH

50 west 17th street off 6th avenue

homo musts

Thanks (or no thanks) to WKTU, long-forgotten freestyle acts from the '80s are making a comeback of sorts, and **Milk** is happy to host them. Last month it was Judy Torres, now **Fascination**. She'll perform her guide classic "Why You Wanna Go?" and more, including a new single. Who's next? Corina? Sa-Fire? Giggles?

The Boys In The Band

WPA Theatre, 519 W 23rd St, 206-0523, 8pm, \$35.

You think your friends are bitter and bitchy? Honey, they're lightweights compared to the lonely, self-loathing queens in this hysterical, if somewhat offensive, revival of **Matt Crowley's** groundbreaking 1968 play about eight gay friends who gather to celebrate a birthday.

TUESDAY JUNE 4

Come Out, Come Out Wherever You Are

A Different Light, 151 W 19th St (7th Ave), 989-4850, 7pm, free.

You go jet-setting around to every damn circuit party under the sun and live for Gay Pride Weekend, but you're still not out to your co-workers?! Or your sister? Or your old high school buddy? How tired is that? Honey, you need help. Take notes as **Michelangelo Signorile**, the queen of outing, reads from his handy little guide to doing the deed, *Outing Yourself: How to Come Out to Your Family, Your Friends, and Your Coworkers*.



Experience The Flo: Unmask The Bitch

The Duplex, 61 Christopher St, 255-5438,

8pm, \$10 w/ 2 drink minimum.

Look out! **Flotilla DeBarge**, the Empress of Large, has been extended for another month (although she's moved from Wednesdays to Tuesdays). Her show

features live singing, characterizations and, as she likes to emphasize, absolutely no lip-synching. It's thee-tah, darling! Reservations suggested; every Tuesday through June 25th.



Meet Me'Shell

N.V., 289 Spring St (Hudson St),

604-4588, 10pm, \$10 donation.

The latest **LifeBeat** afterparty features **Me'Shell** "If That's Your Boyfriend, He Wasn't Last Night" **Ndegocello** fresh from her show at the Mercury Lounge. You'll get to hear her new album, *Peace Beyond Passion*, featuring her new single, "Leviticus: Faggot," and (for the first 100 in the door) take home a free Me'Shell CD sampler.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 5

Candidates Forum

The Center, 208 W 13th St, (718) 575-1730, 7-10pm, free.

Who says politics can't be fun? The **Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats** are dedicated to bringing you serious politics in a social setting at this **Candidates Forum** featuring Manhattan's incumbents and challengers running for Congress, state offices and judgeships. Question the candidates while chowing down on free food and chatting with a group of politically aware people.

In The Life

Channel 31, 9pm.

The Gay Pride episode of this gay and lesbian news and culture TV magazine spotlights gay directors, producers and their films, including an

CONTINUED

The T Party Group invites you to

SEX ON THE BEACH 2

Monday
June 3rd

special performance by

Fascination

singing

WHY YOU WANNA GO?

DON'T U THINK IT'S TIME

REMEMBER

+ her new single

remixer/producer

DJ T-Pro

turning you out on the dancefloor

Beatriz reading you with tarot

August your host

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on
SUNDAYS

BARRACUDA
on
THURSDAYS

Mona Fouts
Star Search
(She's coming for you!)

**DJ Gant
Johnson**

**339 East 10th
420-0670**

DJ Tennessee

**275 West 22nd
645-8613**

homo musts

interview with director **John Schlesinger** by **Charles Busch** and a look at *It's Elementary*, a new documentary about elementary and middle schools that have found success discussing gay issues and homophobia in the classroom. Repeats June 25th on Channel 13.

Lick It!

Limelight, 47 W 20th St (6th Ave), 807-7850, 11pm, \$15. The lunatics are running the asylum as promoter **Marc Berkley** takes a hosting hiatus and lets his door staff, **Fernando** and **Daryl**, run the show. They'll host a new downstairs lounge with an emphasis on glamorous cocktails and laid-back lounge music. Upstairs, **DJ Billy Carroll** still spins the hits.

THURSDAY JUNE 6

Diana Ross Live

Forest Hills Tennis Stadium, 1 Tennis Pl,
Forest Hills, 307-7171, 8pm, \$20-\$100.

At press time, tickets were still available for **Miss Ross'** two Forest Hills shows, but you'd better snatch some seats soon. Expect all the hits, lots of costume changes and possibly another dramatic helicopter entrance. Tonight and tomorrow night only.



New York Lesbian And Gay Film Festival

Joseph Papp Public Theater, 425 Lafayette St,
254-7228, 8pm, \$25.

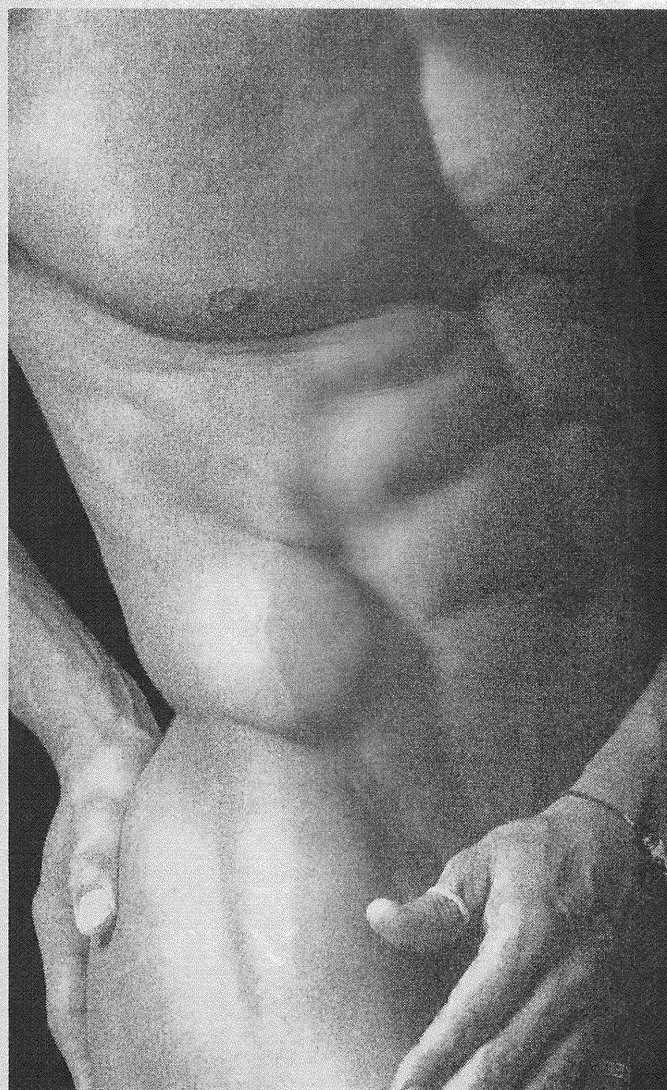
The **Eighth Annual Lesbian And Gay Film Festival** kicks off with the premiere of **Nigel Finch's** *Stonewall*, the story of the events leading up to the legendary riots as fictionalized from **Marin Duberman's** book

Stonewall. The Festival runs through June 16th; call for schedule, ticket and membership information.

Noche Latina

Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave, 255-8787, 9pm, free.

CONTINUED



John Blair
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virgins & other myths

Starring Colin Martin

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Open Bar 11-12

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James Anderson

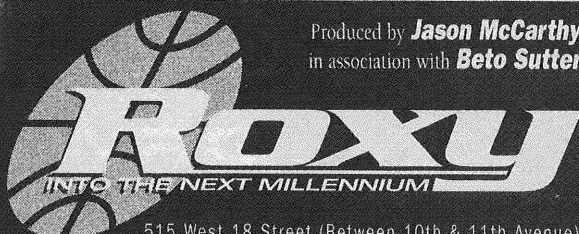
and DJ **Andy Anderson** in the New **Martini Lounge**

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photo: Sean Kahlil design: Jonny Mee



Listen Up Boys & Girls...

Pride Party Preview

It's hard to believe we're talking about Gay Pride already. Wasn't it just yesterday we were stumbling out of the Palladium on New Year's Day? Or was it Memorial Day? The past five months may have passed you by, but we thought we'd preview some of this year's Pride festivities a little early so you can start making plans for the biggest gay holiday of the year.

Despite what you may think, Pride isn't just about dancing 'til dawn. New York City offers plenty of cultural events, too, such as **The Center's** annual Garden Party on Monday, June 24th. Your \$50 ticket gets you an evening of outdoor entertainment from an extensive roster of gay luminaries. For more info, call 620-7310 x358.

Really, what would the week be without **Heritage of Pride**, the official organizers of Gay and Lesbian Pride? The main event—the **Gay and Lesbian Pride March**—will be pretty much the same, kicking off at noon on Sunday, June 30th. The march will run down Fifth Avenue and through the West Village, as always. **Pride Fest '96** will move from the waterfront back to its previous home on

the streets of the West Village—Washington between Christopher and Spring streets. Construction at the piers will force the celebrated **Dance on the Waterfront** to move slightly south to Canal Street. Tickets cost \$20; get them early by calling 80-PRIDE. All events will be held Sunday, June 30th. (No location has been announced for the annual **Pride Rally**, which is slated for June 23th. We'll keep you posted on that one.)

Other dancing options include **Intrepid III** on Saturday, June 29th. Tickets cost \$50-\$60 with music by the legendary **Frankie Knuckles**. Call Circuit Tix at (800) GAY-3433. Also on June 29th: **451F Productions** in association with **GMHC** presents **Colossus** at **Roseland** with **Boy George** at the turntables. Can you believe it? Tickets cost \$40/\$50; call 727-0368 for information. We're thankful that **The Center's Lesbian Pride Dance** will move from the **BMCC** campus to the more accessible **Irving Plaza** (17 Irving Place). Tickets cost \$15/\$20 after June 14th; charge 'em at 620-7310 x343. On Sunday, **Octagon** will open for **Climax** featuring the music of **Susan Morabito**.

The **Chelsea Piers** complex will be open Sunday, June 30 for **Dance on Manhattan II**, a gala event presented by **Jason McCarthy** and **Marc Berkley** to benefit **Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS**. Restaurants will be open late to accommodate the party-goers, who'll no doubt spend most of the evening (6pm-1am) dancing outdoors to DJs **Carlos Pertuz** and **Warren Gluck**. You'll also get free admission to **Bump!** at **Palladium**. Tickets are \$45 until June 15, \$55 after and \$65 day of, available from **Circuit Tix** (800) GAY-3433 and **Raymond Dragon**.

Last but not least, the whole world will probably be lined up outside **Bump!** on Gay Pride night, with super-DJ **Junior Vasquez** spinning a 14-hour dance marathon inside. The party features a live performance of "If Madonna Calls" and a show by house diva **Joi Cardwell**. Of course, all of the regularly scheduled clubs and bars will be pumping all week and into Monday morning. **Twilo**, **Roxy**, **Tunnel**, plus every dance floor and hole-in-the-wall from the Hudson River to Alphabet City. Look for our extensive Pride listings in June. Darling, you'll simply be lost without them.



A Very Simple Equation

By Austin Downey Photograph by Aaron Cobbett

We never tire of the drama that unfolds each week at Mona Foot's Star Search. This is the show that pits drag queen against drag queen in a bitter battle of beauty and brains. It all started at Crowbar at the dawn of the decade, at a time when our favorite drag celebrities were struggling just to pay for panty hose. After a two-year hiatus, Miss Foot returned to the scene last fall and successfully resumed her show at both Barracuda and its original home, Crowbar—and things haven't changed a bit. The contestants show up so full of hope in their homemade dresses (and wigs, from the looks of some of them). They lip-synch their little hearts out, fumble through trick questions and, worst of all, endure a thorough reading by the surly hostess. In the end, though, all that matters is the reading on the applause meter—and who has the most friends in the audience. We love the triumph and the tragedy that can only be witnessed at Star Search. The glory and the heartache. The corny jokes. The hecklers. This week we'd like to introduce you to the lady behind the glamour. The real Mona Foot. This is her story, and you'd better pay attention.

How did it all get started? Five years ago you were a fixture on the East Village scene, a star at Boy Bar, a Wigstock staple. Why Star Search?

Well, Crowbar approached me when they first opened, and they wanted me to do a night—a low budget night. So I was doing the East Village circuit, you know, I didn't have my own night. A friend of mine and I said, "Let's have a contest," and I came up with the name Star Search. We thought a contest would be perfect because only one person would have to get paid, and of course I get paid! And they don't have to pay that one person very much, either. Fifty dollars is not a lot, but if you want to get noticed you have to swallow your pride a little bit.

So that was back in 1991?

Oh, I guess it was. I was only 17 then.

Why does Star Search appeal to so many people?

Well, I don't know, but I think people are mostly there for me! I know that I do make a complete fool of myself up there. I mean, a lot of those amateurs are just that—amateurs. And a lot of them are really great. But I think the appeal of it is watching me read everyone and destroy them and make them feel like shit, and raise them up all at the same time! I'm always accused of saying "Oh, you're great, but..." That's just one of my little tricks.

How do you find the talent?

They find me, honey! Thank God for them because I'm just too much of an airhead to be bothered. I do my show, they want to do it, they give me their number, and I lose it. I can't tell you, there's so many queens' numbers I've lost. I know they're out there thinking I hate them, and I do. Just kidding. I don't hate them, I just forget things.

Some of your contestants aren't really amateurs, though. Isn't there a criteria for entering the show?

If we had real, real amateurs it would be a real, real boring show. So they just can't be out there on every pass, in every magazine, all over the place. Somebody who wants that, but who is not that.

Can you name some Star Search success stories?

Oh, there are many. Girlina is the biggest success. I don't want to say I created her or anything. I know I didn't, but I know she got a lot of recognition there. She was the biggest winner, 13 weeks in a row, to the point where I quit and gave the bitch the whole night.

Over it! Then there was Dolores. She's hilarious. Varla Jean Merman was a big loser at Star Search, but in turn she got a lot of bookings for that, she told me. I'm not saying I made her, either, because I know I didn't, because she's incredible. Candis Cayne was another loser, she lost once or twice. I'm giving you all of it! LaRitza DuMont is not my discovery either, but I think she is the next big thing. She is so hot. She's still winning right now at Barracuda...but this is her last week.

Which leads us to the question on everybody's mind: Is it fixed?

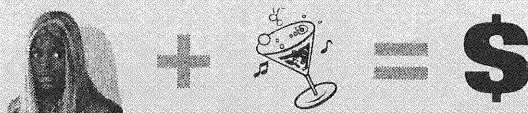
The contest is not fixed! The audience decides. I sometimes wish I could make that decision, but like I always say, you gotta give the people what they want. Even if they are from Chelsea.

What's the difference between the East Village and Chelsea?

Umm, mmm. The Chelsea queen...uh, is probably a little bit more forgiving than the East Village queen. Sometimes the worst queen will go over really well in Chelsea. But it depends! Diva, for instance, couldn't win, couldn't even get an applause in Chelsea, and she was the reigning champion at Crowbar. There was this queen named Rachel who was a big winner at Crowbar, and she came over to Barracuda, and those queens didn't even see her. They saw right through her. I love her, but they just didn't get it. I think perhaps the East Village queens are bit more charitable with their affection and applause. But those Chelsea queens sure know how to tip. They better keep it up.

Has your fame affected your private life?

I don't think so. Mona doesn't really have sex at all. I hide all week in a closet, on a hanger and in a box.



How would you respond to those hecklers who say you're just a loud drunk onstage?

I would say I am! But I'm still getting paid. Mona + Drunk = Paid. Print that, honey! No, I'm just kidding. That show is completely unrehearsed, and I'm sure it looks it. But I am not a drunk.

Mona, do you have any last words—or plugs—before we wrap it up?

I'll say this for myself, but I don't want to sound like I'm tooting my own horn. I'm proud of reaching a certain level of success, then dying down, because I was over it. I stopped doing it because I wanted to do other things with my life. But now I'm back with the same show on two different nights. And people are paying to see it! Well, they're not paying at Barracuda, but...well, they're paying attention, honey! Oh, and I want to say that DJ Tennessee was with me from the very beginning at Crowbar, and I love him. Then Gant Johnson came along for Barracuda, and he's also really great. I've loved working with him at Salon. I can't believe I'm plugging his club in my interview, but I still need a booking there, sweetheart. Anyway, I love working with both of them, and I hope we're together for a long, long time—until I replace them.

Star Search Hall Of Fame

Famous Winners



Girlina
"Our biggest success story."



Dolores
"She was pretty hot for a long time."



LaRitza DuMont
"The next big thing."

Famous Losers



Varla Jean Merman
"A big loser. But she got a lot of bookings."

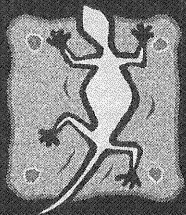


Candis Cayne
"She lost once or twice."



Hedda Lettuce
"I think she probably lost. But that means nothing. Look, she won the HX Award!"

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VERIFIED

Arielle Dombasle in
Celestial Clockwork
Directed by Fina Torres



Queer Summer

My job is getting easier and that's a bad thing. Last year, my special **Queer Summer Movie Preview** was so full, it had to run in two issues. This year, I found myself desperately digging and stretching for more stuff, tempted to include films with minor queer content

(like Pat Morita as an extremely fey waiter in **Spy Hard**) just to make it look like the '96 queer summer at the movies is going to be bigger than it really is. But there's some good news. Last year, we may have had quantity, but this year we have quality. There may be fewer offerings, but none are as bad as **Lie Down With Dogs** (ouch!). Read on, but remember: release dates are always subject to change.

Director Alexandre Rockwell (as in Jennifer Beal's hubby) directs Rosie Perez, Harvey Keitel and Steve Buscemi in **Somebody to Love**, a story about the shabby fringes of hopes and dreams in an East L.A. dance hall. Buscemi, who starred in 1986's **Parting Glances** as a gay rock star with AIDS, plays queer again a decade later, this time in drag as a copper-wigged taxi dancer for hire.

The winner of nine international awards including Best German Film, **Kasper Hauser** details the true story of Europe's most infamous "wild child." Imprisoned in a dungeon by the King of Bavaria, Hauser was released at 16 barely able to walk or speak (like a gay **Nell**). His adventures, including his love affair with Lord Stanhope in 1825, inspired various theories on the nature of human development.

Miramax and Quentin Tarantino plan to re-release a 20-year-old camp classic about an avenging butch female street gang titled **Switchblade Sisters** (although the gang's name is actually "The Daggers"). Directed by Jack Hill, (of **Foxy Brown** and **Spider Baby** fame), this lowbrow flick sounds like "so bad, it's good" non-PC fun.

What happens when a straight playboy shares an apartment with a love-struck gay couple? Lots of nudity, indecision and mayhem in **Maybe... Maybe Not**. Billed as the most successful German comedy ever (what kind of standard is that?), this **Flirting With Disaster**-type farce should have **Birdcage** appeal.



Maybe... Maybe Not
Directed by Sonke Wortmann

T H E H X S U M M E R M O V I E P R E V I E W

Batman no more. Michael Keaton has two clones and one of them is gay in the comedy **Multiplicity**.

The gayest film of the Summer opens post-Pride and promises to add another chapter of folklore to the story of **Stonewall** (I know what you're thinking—why not two years ago?). Late director Nigel Finch's semfictionalized account of the bad-hair day that spurred a revolution spins a tale both heartfelt and hopeful. This low-budget affair has a stellar cast (these queens can really act!) including modern-day DQ goddesses Candis Cayne and Sherry Vine.

Celestial Clockwork is another **French Twist** when a budding Spanish opera diva marries a hefty Parisian fag, everything starts turning up roses. But no one warns her that happily-ever-after might include falling in love with a zany female tele-therapist.

And of queer interest, former Madonna gal-pal and dyke model Jenny Shimizu does some girl bonding in **Foxfire**, and the family so square everything they do is queer returns for a '90s trip to Hawaii in **A Very Brady Sequel**.

Of course, I'd pay any amount of money to be **Bound** to Gina Gershon ("Cristal" from **Showgirls**), but the lucky lady in this film is the not-so-squeaky clean Jennifer Tilly. Destined to be a good-time lesbian mobster-moll, shoot-'em-up road movie, I hear the actresses weren't at all shy shooting these hot love scenes. Can't wait!

Hal Hartley kills two birds with one movie, **Flirt**. Criticized for populating his films with only straight white characters, this flick contains a vignette about a gay couple having

stereotypes—the young man in the film sells burial plots. Like the other characters in the film, he's looking for love in all the wrong places.



Foxfire

Directed by Annette Haywood-Carter



Celestial Clockwork

Directed by Fina Torres



Stonewall

Directed by Nigel Finch



Blush

Directed by Li Shaohong



Viva L'amour

Directed by Tsai Ming-Liang

And of queer interest, David Bowie takes a turn playing Warhol in the bio pic **Basquiat**, and Lili Taylor (Valerie Solonas in **I Shot Andy Warhol**) plays it butch again in the new re-visionist classic **Girls Town**.

Catch more of Cathay Che in Time Out NY magazine and on Party Talk, at 9pm on Thursdays, Channel 35.

131 W 55th St, 581-1212.
Tues-Fri 7:30pm, Sat-Sun 3 & 7:30pm, until 6/30, \$30.
Three one-act plays set on the beach in August by Terrence McNally (*Master Class*), Joe Pintauro and Lanford Wilson.

Catfish, Guns and Corndogs

Grove Street Playhouse
39 Grove St., 969-0107.
Fri 11pm, \$15.
Southern-fried scandal abounds as white trash queens Velvet Hiney and Devonne Waddell vie for control of the trailer park.



Come In From The Rain

Center Stage
48 W 21st St
(6th Ave),
929-2228.
Wed-Fri 8pm, Sat
7 & 9:30pm, Sun
6:30 & 9pm,
until 6/30,
\$15-\$20.

A street hustler and a sexually-repressed bank clerk help each other confront their demons in this lusty gay love story.



Cowboys LaCage & More

Blue Angel
323 W 44th St.,
262-3333.
Tues-Thur 8pm,
Fri 8 & 10:30pm,
Sat 7 & 9:30pm,
midnight, Sun 3 &

7pm, \$25-\$30 w/ 2 drink minimum.
Female impersonation with a country slant. Dolly, Reba, Patsy and more sequins than Nashville.

Cowgirls

Minetta Lane Theater
18 Minetta La., 420-8000.
Tues-Fri 8pm, Sat 2:30 & 8pm,
Sun 3 & 7pm, \$29.50-\$45.
Country gals, classical prigs and homos on the range populate this musical of cultural collisions at a Kansas country music hall.

Dixon Place

258 Bowery (Houston St),
219-3088.
Performance space dedicated to introducing young talent in dance, music, literature, film and theater. Lots of queer performances. Call for details.

Dressing Room Divas

The Duplex
61 Christopher St,
969-0107.
Sat 10pm, \$12 w/ 2 drink minimum.
Meryl Streep, Julie Andrews, Bette Midler, Joan Collins and Elizabeth Taylor find themselves trapped in a dressing room with two gay florists and a gun-toting stud.

CONTINUED



**Down home
drag takes
you back to
your roots.**



Cowboys LaCage and More



Imagine yourself in a keen Midwestern gay nightclub named something clever like "Reflections" or "Contacts." You've come early for the special—all-you-can-drink Schlitz on tap for \$2, no cover!—and slurp contently as you stare at men playing darts against the varnished, plywood walls. Tonight you've already seen five people you've slept with, and they all work here. As usual, Black Box's "Strike It Up" has filled the dance floor; in one corner, some brawny lads attempt to two-step. The DJ—a "Glamour Shots" employee during the day—talks over the music to cover the fact that he can't beat-mix to save his chubby, Chess King-attired ass. Oh, but then it's Yaz! You have to dance! Tightening your tan, weaved belt, you run the dance floor and boogie under the four impressively flashing red light-bulbs that comprise the lighting system. Despite the scratched record and the college freshman who tries to grind with you, you're having a gay old time.

And then the drag show! A fat man in a dress who's well-known in the Des Moines drag community hosts the show, which consists of several corn-fed men dressed as their favorite divas and moderately lip-synching to muted mono recordings.

Are you having a hard time picturing this? Hmm? Then you must see The Blue Angel's *Cowboys LaCage and More*, an ancient relic of a drag show that feels like a regional "Star Search" competition.

Dennis Russell, in various guises, hosts this quaint evening of obvious, non-offensive drag performance. The painted faces of *Cowboys LaCage* attempt to channel a deluge of divas, from Judy and Barbra to Reba and Aretha, in a revue rife with so much old-pop lip-synching you'll believe the evening was orchestrated by a continuous-playing K-Tel record.

As with any revue—or any string of drag queens—the quality varies greatly. Certainly the greatest resemblance is that of Michael Framme to

his chosen impersonation, Reba MacIntyre: sonic red hair, sunken cheeks and that vacant look of a displaced cowgirl. Dane Chase captures Dolly Parton's laminated glow with a rousing "Apple Jack/9 to 5" combo. And even host Russell triumphs in a mild Patsy Cline duplication by sheer fact that he's the only one that actually sings.

But mostly this is too much makeup and not near enough talent. You can feed this cross-dressing cabaret to straight people from Westchester, but plunk it into the Manhattan gay scene, and it's drag kindergarten. When you've seen the raw talent of Charles Busch, the natural beauty of Candis Cayne and even the flawless impersonations of Jimmy James, *Cowboys* evokes nothing but mild nostalgia.

Even the premise is shaky. They promise scads of country drag but then give us Judy, Whitney, Bette and Barbra. Wouldn't this be a heftier hoe-down with impersonations of cow goddesses such as Loretta, Crystal, Lorrie and Sylvia? And—need I dare add—k.d.?

If you want true feminine country, try the sharp-shootin' *Cowgirls*. If you want true feminine Blue Angel, try the lap dancers. But if you want a predictable evening of dime-store glamour and overpriced drinks, then *Cowboys LaCage and More* is your cosmetic potion.

—Cowboys LaCage and More, 8pm Tues-Thurs, 8 and 10:30pm Friday; 7, 9:30 and midnight Saturday; and 3 and 7pm Sunday, at The Blue Angel (323 W 44th St), \$25-30 with two drink minimum, call 262-3333 for reservations.

DRAMA
Queen
by gregory young



Experience the Flo 2: Unmask the Bitch

The Duplex
61 Christopher St, 255-5438.
Tues 8pm, until 6/25, \$10 w/ 2 drink minimum. Singing and characterization

courtesy of Flotilla DeBarge, the Empress of Large.

Forbidden Hollywood

Triad
158 W 72nd St, 799-4599.
Tues-Fri 8pm, Sat 7:30 & 10:30pm, Sun 3 & 7:30pm, \$35.

Modern blockbusters and beloved classics get roasted in this musical send up of the Silver Screen. Written and directed by Gerard Alessandrini, creator of *Forbidden Broadway*.

Grandma Sylvia's Funeral

Soho Playhouse
15 Vandam St, 691-1555.
Wed 3 & 7:30pm, Thurs 7:30pm, Fri 8pm, Sat 5 & 9pm, Sun 1 & 5pm, \$35-\$55.

An androgynous funeral director's son, a transsexual and a gay grandson are just a few of the dysfunctional loonies who show up at grandma's funeral in

this interactive comedy exploring the dark corners of the Jewish psyche.

Hecuba

Washington Square Park
Playground @ West 4th St & MacDougal St, 603-9987.
Thurs-Sun 8pm, until 7/21, free. Ancient Greek drama outdoors in Washington Square Park courtesy of the Rakka-Thamn!!! theater company.

Hollywood Hills

13th Street Repertory Company
50 W 13th St (5th Ave), 675-6677.
Thurs & Sat 9pm, \$12.50. When a movie star, a hustler and a transvestite end up in a Hollywood mansion late one evening in 1970, the revelations fly.

I, Who Have Nothing

Eighty Eight's
228 W 10th St (Bleeker St), 924-0088.
Thurs 10:30pm, until 6/27, \$12 w/ 2 drink minimum. Varla Jean Merman, the large and lovely "international chanteuse," goes multi-media with her latest show, integrating video with live performance.

Making Porn

Actor's Playhouse
100 7th Ave S, 239-6200.
Tues-Thurs 8pm, Fri & Sat 7 & 10pm,

Sun 7pm, \$25-\$30.

A look inside the lives of six people working in the gay porn industry.

Master Class

Golden Theatre
252 W 45th St, 239-6200.
Tues-Sat 8pm, Wed & Sat 2pm, \$32.50-\$50. Playwright Terrence McNally's (*Love! Valour! Compassion!*) latest adventure on Broadway explores opera diva Maria Callas, in her later years, as played by three-time Tony winner Zoe Caldwell.

Natural Causes

Theater 22
54 W 22nd St, 924-0077.
Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm, until 6/30, \$12. Mark Dempsey stars as six lesbian and gay characters coping with personal loss in this humor-filled one-man show.

Perilous Appetite

The Studio
145 W 46th St (6th Ave), 768-4016.
Wed-Sat 7pm, until 6/2, \$20. A young gay man entering the world of show business re-lives memorable moments from his life during an interview.

Psycho Beach Party

Sanford Meisner Theatre
164 11th Ave (22nd St), 206-1764.
Wed-Fri 8pm, Sat 7 & 10pm, Sun 3pm, until 6/9, \$15. Shady Diva Productions revives Charles Busch's psychologically-disturbed spoof on '60s teen exploitation films.

Rent

Nederlander Theatre
208 W 41st St, 307-4100.
Tues-Sat 8pm, Sat 2pm, Sun 2 & 7pm, \$30-\$67.50. Struggling young East Villagers, straight and gay, deal with the hope and heartache that comes with New York City living in this rock opera musical inspired by Puccini's *La Bohème*.

Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You

The Duplex
61 Christopher St, 255-5438.
Sat 8pm, until 7/6, \$12 w/ 2 drink minimum. Christopher Durang's controversial black comedy about a tyrannical nun and the former students out to challenge her beliefs.

So...It's Come To This

Dixon Place
258 Bowery (Houston St), 219-3088.
Wed 7:30pm, Fri-Sat 10:30pm, until 6/26, \$7. Hysterical homo Emmett Foster's latest one-man show details the two decades he spent as personal assistant to producer Joseph Papp at the New York Shakespeare Festival.

The Boys in the Band

WPA Theatre
519 W 23rd St, 206-0523.
Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 6 & 10pm, \$35. Revival of Matt Crowley's groundbreaking 1968 play about a group of gay friends gathered for a birthday party. Playful bitchiness gradually turns to vengeful attacks on each other in this testament to the lonely and self-loathing homosexual.

The Food Chain

Westside Theatre
407 W 43rd St, 307-4100.
Tues-Sat 8pm, Wed and Sat 2:30pm, Sun 3pm, \$40. Nicky Silver's (*Raised in Captivity*) latest is a comedy about "the immutable law of nature wherein fat people must suffer so that thin people can be happy."

The House on MacDougal Street

Wings Theatre
154 Christopher St, 627-2961.
Thurs-Fri 8pm, Sat 7 & 10pm, Sun 3:30pm, until 6/29, \$15. Wacky sex comedy about the intriguing goings-on at a gay whorehouse run by none other than the CIA.

The Real Friends

Chameleon Lounge
81 Ave A (5th St.), 614-0882.
Tues 9pm, until 6/4, \$5. An on-going comedy hybrid of "Friends" and "The Real World" that answers the burning question, "How can an unemployed chef and a coffee shop waitress afford such a fabulously furnished apartment?"

The Wilde Spirit

Theatre Off Park
224 Waverly Pl (Perry St), 279-4200.
Tues-Fri 8pm, Sat 7 & 10pm, Sun 3 & 7pm, until 6/30, \$38. The spirit of Oscar Wilde returns, exploring parallels between the social and political climate of his time and our own, in this one-man play with music. Kerry Ashton wrote the show and stars as the legendary wit.

Victor/Victoria

Marquis Theatre
1535 Broadway (46th St), 307-4100.
Tues-Fri 8pm, Wed 2pm, Sat 2 & 8pm, Sun 3pm, \$20-\$75. Julie Andrews stars as a cabaret singer who poses as a drag queen in this Broadway adaptation of the gender-bending film. Written and directed by Blake Edwards.

Virgins and Other Myths

Atlantic Theater
336 W 20th St (8th Ave), 239-6200.
Tues-Fri 8pm, Sat 6 & 10pm, Sun 7pm, \$35. Colin Martin's one-man play about his life, from closeted gay teen athlete to sexually addicted hustler. Directed by Bruce Blair.

PHOTO: CHARLES HOVLAND

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