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THE FABULOUS POP TARTS

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SHE KNOWS WHO SHE IS • SPRING 93

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ON THE COVER Martha Wash photographed by Dan DuVerney. Makeup: Marcus Geeter.

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"Another weakness of American art magazines is a related subsevience to special interest groups, notably feminsts, militant blacks and homosexuals. *New Art Examiner*, for instance, one of the more radical of the magazines I examined, seems to make a point of giving space to extremists."

—Paul Johnson, *Modern Painters*, Volume 2, no. 2 (Summer 1989), pp. 127-128





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We are not of the school of thought that asks why do gays and lesbians want to be in the military anyway. Why do black people want to sit at the front of the bus? Yes war is stupid, but military service offers benefits that are denied to those who are honest about who they love. Homophobia around this issue is so fierce that people are being bashed and killed for being homosexual as easily as folks were lynched for being black. At long last, we have a president with the balls to realize the great injustice of banning fags and dykes from the military. What can you do to show your support? Express vourself. 1-800-258-2222 is the number to call in support of lifting the ban. Ask the Western Union operator for #9355. Three letters are forwarded in your name to your congressional representative and state senators supporting an end to the ban on gays and lesbians in the armed services. It's well worth the \$8.75 that will be billed to your phone. HOTLNE #9355 is the work of John Guggenmos, owner of D.C.'s Tracks nightclub. "It's critical (that) legislators know how we feel, especially when the congressional hearings on the ban start in March," Guggenmos says. And president Clinton needs the public's support. State representatives and Senators need to be deluged with letters against the ban. Currently, Congressional offices receive twice as much mail in support of the ban than they do demanding its lifting.

Research: Ed Bailey, Washington, D.C.

AT EASE!: The above graphic is by local photographer and writer, Genephyr Novak, someone with a unique idea about queer all her own. The image is available as a poster and on a white cotton T shirt (about \$18.00) from Chicago's People Like Us Books (312) 248-6363, Women and Children First Bookstore (312) 769-9299, and * Hardwear (312) 296-0801. Proceeds benefit the **Chicago March on Washington.**

HINGSPRING

ith the 1991 release of Jenny Livingston's Paris is Burning, art houses around the world were all abuzz over the phenomenon of the drag queen, intrigued by the serious female impersonators as well as the amateurs and hangers on. However, Paris is Burning wasn't the first of such documentaries chronicling sissy ball culture.

The 1968 documentary The Queen re-opened March 19, 1993 at New York's Film Forum. It + depicts the preparations and judging of a transvestite pageant, and with categories like Bathing Suits, Evening Gowns and "the Transition" (or the tuck), it's obvious that the famed Love Ball wasn't the first downtown NYC drag pageant, either. Directed by Frank Simon, the film studies the Miss All-America Camp Beauty Pageant held at New York's Town Hall in February of 1967. Originally intended as a benefit for Muscular Dystrophy, Lady * Bird Johnson, Bobby Kennedy and

actor George Raft were all slated to chair the committee for the pageant but cancelled at the last minute. Too outré for even the sex-revolutionary sixties, it was widely rumored that the pageant would be raided by the FBI or CIA. (Rather iron-* ic considering recent revelations concerning then FBI Director, J. Edgar "Mary" Andy Warhol and Edie Hoover!). Sedgewick did serve as judges, the film's producer Lewis Allen remembering Edie at the time living at the Chelsea ... "on her last leg." Harlowe, Miss Philadelphia, wins the title of Queen of Queens. She enjoys fifteen modest minutes of fame as * a bit player opposite Orson Welles and as + * a model, posing with Rudi Gernreich's muse, Peggy Moffat, Writer Rona Jaffe, who later did a piece on the pageant for Playboy, and George Plimpton judged the categories, too. The Queen is a behindthe-scenes look at dragsters and the sixties' cult of the celebrity without being *

*

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smaltzy or judgmental. It is entertaining as well as enlightening about the counterculture of Downtown New York in the late sixties and the gritty and glamorous world of trannies.

The film's 1968 release got press as diverse as Variety, Judith Crist for New York magazine, Chauncey Howell for WWD, Cue magazine's William Wolf and Kathleen Carroll for The Daily News. Writring for the New York Times, Renata Adler said, "...these gentlemen in bras, diaphanous gowns, lipstick, hairfalls and huffs ... one grows fond of all of them." Screened for the first time since its premiere twenty five years ago, The Queen will run at Chicago's Facets Multimedia, 1517 W. Fullerton, Friday, April 9 through Thursday, April 22. Phone (312) 281-4114 for info.

ABOVE The Peace and Love Ball: Misses Manhattan and Fire Island of 1967 tuck, strut, and fight for the title in The Queen.

Green On Thursdays is a documentary shot and produced in Chicago that focuses on Chicago's lesbian and gay anti-violence movement. The title is a reference to a practice of the 1800's, when gay men wore green ties to work on Thursdays in order to identify each other. Red Branch Productions collaborators Diedre Heaslip and Dean Bushala interview activists and hate crime victims (Trent Adkins, Steve Lafreniere, and Scout Weschler among them) drawing an urgent portrait of a community under siege and fighting back. The world premiere was at the Music Box the-



ater this past winter. Its theatrical premiere is at Chicago's Facets Multimedia beginning April 23. A special screening with what promises to be a fiery panel discussion with the filmmakers, subjects of the film, and representatives from Chicago's police department and mayor's office is

scheduled Sunday, April 25. Info: (312) 281-4114.



hets a white gay writer like

DRESS CODES

is the latest installation of the ongoing Currents series presented by Boston, Massachutses' Institute of Contemporary Art. Dress Codes features recent work by a diverse range of international artists who question the way gender, sexuality, identity, and power are defined through appearance. The curators have assembled a diverse range of artists from Chile, Canada, Belgium, and Japan, as well as from across the USA. Among the participants are artist and writer Lyle Ashton Harris, lesbian archivist Nina Levitt, and of course, the definitive post-modern drag icon RuPaul. An exhibition video program, various workshops (including one on becoming a "drag king" for women only) a reading room, and theater and film presentations are all part of the show. Dress Codes coincides with the annual ICA benefit, and this year's benefit "Suit Yourself" will be similarly dedicated to issues of crossdressing. The benefit is scheduled for May 15, 1993 at Boston's World Trade Center, and the show runs March 10 through May 30, 1993. Contact (617) 266-5152 for more information.

Postmodernism didn't start with as much of a bang as with a Pop. What we now take for granted as the blurred line between art and Madison Avenue was revolutionary when it first became evident to a group of artists working in that time: Roy Lichtenstein, Claus Oldenberg, and Andy Warhol among them. These works are the focus of Hand Painted Pop: American Art in Transition 1955-62. Sponsored by Philip Morris (celebrating 35 years of supporting the arts and lung cancer), the show opened at The Museum of **Contemporary Art, Los Angeles** last winter. It comes to Chicago's Museum of **Contemporary Art April 3** through June 20, and then moves to the Whitney in New York July 16 through October 3.

manues II

The finalists of the fifth annual Lambda Literary Awards were announced March 1, 1993. This year finds many of the nominated books coming from "mainstream" publishers: Penguin USA leads the list with eight nominated titles, followed closely by St. Martin's Press with seven. Many of the categories had finalists selected from a much longer list of nominees. The five finalists in each of the fifteen categories are only representative of the boom in gay and lesbian publishing. Among the nominees are Assotto Saint's new anthology of writ-

ings by gay men Here to

Dare (Galiens), Dennis Cooper's collection of edgy queer writing Discontents (Amethyst), Randall Keenan's novel Let The Dead Bury The Dead (Harcourt Brace), and Essex Hemphill's collection of poetry and prose, Ceremonies (Plume). Nominated posthumously are poet Audre Lorde and artist and writer David Wojnarowicz. The winners will be announced as part of the American Booksellers Association Convention, at a banquet held May 28, 1993.

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GAUDALISE MUST REALIZE if one of us is oppressed, we all are oppressed." This lofty statement is from the platform of the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation scheduled for Sunday, April 25. If it sounds a bit schoolmarmish, it may be because some of the people that this statement is targeted at don't quite believe it. Divisions within the Lesbian or Gay equal rights in the tradition of the first great march on Washington where Dr. King took a moment to dream. Dreams may still be the only place to realize intangibles like equality and justice, but the march does offer a time and a place to bring those other bedroom activities out for good. And there could be a million queers there to help you do it.

We've been here twice before. In 1979 and in 1987 there were two sim-



GET USED TO IT: Dyke activists Valerie Selinski and Scout Weschler flank Joan Jett Blakk as she encourages support for the 1993 March on Washington at Chicago's 1992 Pride rally

0 2

or bi community rest on who you are, or even who or what you do. There is no one community that holds everyone. The transgendered folks for example are not sitting this one out. But they are still waiting for the fourth such march to get their name into the official title. Among the organizers of the march there is no question that this demonstration is about

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ilar marches, both overwhelmingly white and dominated by male issues. In '93 things are different. 50% of the representatives from the regions that administer the march at the grass roots levels are women and people of color. Tanya King, a representative from Northern California, found this already led to a feeling of empowerment in the planning stages. The

question is will this translate into more people of color and women on the street? Whatever the crowd in D.C. looks like, it will see the same 50 % rule on race and gender parity governing both the morning and main stages. King is hopeful that this will ultimately mean change, noting that the last march helped spread ACT UPs throughout the country creating a national in-your-face kind of activism. Can the new face of the 1993 march generate a new body of queer activists that begins to resemble the actual variety of queer America?

It was this inclusiveness that led to a wide ranging platform of demands which scares some people. Fifty-three unofficial planks were leaked and caused a lot of pain because they seem to relegate white gay boys to a less prominent place than they are generally used to. The ultra-conservative gay organization The Log Cabin Club was so upset that they refused to come. But early signs of a right wing gay boycott of the march appear to have lost their momentum, due in part to the fact that seven official planks have replaced the scary unofficial 53. Also, a million queers in one town is bound to be too big a party to pass up, and you know how closet queens who made good money groveling to the Reagan/Bush nightmare can always be counted on for social occasions. Don't laugh if they show up on time though; remember we're being tolerant that weekend.

Scout Weschler, a National Cochair based in D.C., acknowledged that some felt "that were not focused because we're not single focused." How can we be? There are already a number of events scheduled that are sure to separate the boy scouts from

THE QUEER MARCH ON WASHINGTON

the leathermen. A park beautification is planned by the Forgotten Scouts for Friday the 23rd. They include bi's and lesbians in their invitation but it seems likely they will be stressing boy camaraderie. The following day a Queer Scout cookie sellathon seems less gender specific. Everyone likes cookies. Imagine warming the heart of your favorite leather top with some freshly baked queer treats Saturday night at the S/M leather Fetish party and conference. (Hint: Scout Weschler despite her name is more likely to be there than at the park). Accommodating everyone isn't easy but its a job the organizers had to attempt.

Sevent: 1. We demand the passage of a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Civil

continued from page 20

Rights bill and an end to discrimination by state and federal governments including the military; repeal of all sodomy laws and other laws that criminalize private sexual expression between consenting adults. 2. We demand massive increases in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care; universal access to health care including alternative therapies: and an end to sexism in medical research and healthcare. 3. We demand legislation to prevent discrimination against Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgendered people in the areas of family diversity, custody, adoption and foster care and that the definition of family includes the full diversity of all family structures. 4. We demand full and equal inclusion of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgendered people in the educational system, and inclusion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender studies in multicultural curricula. 5. We demand the right to reproductive freedom and choice, to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist discrimination. 6. We demand an end to racial and ethnic discrimination in all forms. 7. We demand an end to discrimination and violent oppression based on actual or perceived sexual orientation/identification, race religion, identity, sex, and gender expression, disability, age, class, AIDS/HIV infection.

The breadth of all seven of these demands acknowledge what any decent queer knows; we are everywhere. The march platform is a practical solution. Queers can't be separated from their other community affiliations, their identities can't be fractured to emphasize only one element of their lives. White gay men have brought their concerns based in their realities to this movement. Its only fair that everyone else get equal time. And in D.C. quite a number of people will try.



BiNet USA, Old Lesbians Organizing for Change, the People of Color Lobby, Gay and Lesbian Elected Officials, the Gay and Lesbian Parent Association International, the Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf, AA & Al-Anon, Asian Pacifica Lesbians, the Gay and Lesbian Pilot's Association, Lesbian and Gay Union Members and the National Minority AIDS Council are all holding large national gatherings that weekend in D.C. But that's not all. Aside from still more meetings like the Transgender National Meeting on Saturday or the series of National Bear Gatherings there are the dances. Major women's dances will be held throughout the weekend and the two night Drag Show Extravaganza will surely hold plenty of interest for boys in frocks. On Sunday a big old Disco Dance and a few Divas Simply Singing (rumored to include Whitney, Dionne, and Patti) offer still more excuses to avoid that meeting or demo you ought to attend.

But seriously, the demos are the actual reason to go, and they happen during the day when you should be awake (or at the very least recovering.) On Thursday at 10 A.M. an AIDS Cure Now action will be held at the Health and Human Services building. The main event, THE MARCH, will assemble Sunday morning on Pennsylvania Avenue before noon and probably continue long after that. Avenues. Monday has two additional actions as well. The lifting of the military ban will be the rationale for an early morning officially sanctioned event at the ever-inviting Pentagon. That day at noon another demo at the Capitol building will be held on healthcare issues, specifically AIDS and breast cancer. Its unofficial though, because as Chicago representative Darrel Gordon says, some nervous queers are just a bit tense on the loss of focus, an issue that will probably seem a bit absurd under a disco ball just a few short hours before this action takes place.

NE MILLION QUEERS is the hoped for attendance a figure that its assumed even Time and Newsweek will find impossible to ignore the way they did a half million in 1987. If nothing else no one will be able to ignore the increased visibility of women and people of color in leadership positions. Will slick Willie come? Will Hillary and Tipper, Al and Chelsea venture out on the front lawn to see just how queer this country is? No matter what happens or no matter how we see ourselves as different. I suspect the leaders of this country still consider us all one big perversion. With that in mind, find as many willing partners as you can and drag them down to the IRS on Saturday for the Wedding. Don't worry about commitment. As far as most of the rest of America is concerned, if it lasts a lifetime or just an afternoon you are still just queers. The difference is this time your union, whether deep and meaningful or just down and dirty, won't be out of place.

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Take any notions you may have of the word "busy" and throw them out the window because the Fabulous Pop Tarts and their production/management company World Of Wonder have redefined the term! Randy "Pop" **Barbato and Fenton "Tart" Bailey are** the Pop Tarts, and together they've created an entertainment dream producing albums, television shows, and managing the career of the Supermodel hisself, RuPaul. Trippin' out between Britain, Los Angeles and New York as they do, sometimes it's hard to pin down either one of these charming young men, but a couple of faxes and phone calls vielded lots of fun facts about plenty of their latest projects, including the forthcoming release of their newest album. **Gagging On The Lovely Extravaganza** on Atlanta's Funtone USA label.

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Fenton: The thing about *Gagging On The Lovely Extravaganza* is that we always, you know, having been previously signed to London Records, and having sort of experienced being part of the Polygram Group, it was really nice to leave all that behind. After the whole experience we were a bit iffy about the Pop Tarts. It was rather a traumatic episode, and so it was kind of nice to, to get it back to the level that we were comfortable with, pursuing it in the way that we felt was the right way to do it, you know, going with Funtone, talking to small magazines and stuff, and doing that sort of thing rather than doing this massive corporate thing, which didn't really suit the Pop Tarts because it's so quirky, it's so unto itself, it's...

Rosser: You wouldn't really want to say "inside joke"...

Fenton: I suppose it is sort of inside jokey isn't it?

Rosser: One of the things I love about it so much is that I laugh every time I listen to it, and I hear something new all the time!

Fenton: Well, hell, it's been four years in the making! I mean, some people write novels or build buildings in less time than four years, so there should be a lot in it! Randy: My current rediscovery is "My Kitty Is A Martian", and you know we've had our cat for like 10 years, and we've always been teasing her, and we have been promising her we were going to make her a star, and we always though she had the potential, so we're happy to make her a part of the album. She wrote that song, incidentally. And you know, between you and me, she's been eating, she's let herself go somewhat, and she's a little jealous of RuPaul, 'cause Kitty was here waiting to be a superstar, and then along came RuPaul. You know, MTV's "The Grind" will come on, and everybody will gather around, and Kitty, she'll

Rosser: It's so great that you haven't even got the album out yet, and there it is written up in *Billboard* already!

Fenton: Well, the release date is still March 23rd because Dick (Richards, Funtone USA President) thought that would be a good day to release it on...

Randy: This record certainly was the most fun that we've had making, more than any other Pop Tart record. I mean, there's so many people on this record! It really excites me, because with each person there's like a host of other people who are in some way involved. Really, there are so many stars on that record. My favorite bits are everybody else's contributions. There are still parts that I listen to that just crack me up!



leave the room. Fenton: We've got to get on with it and make a video for the first single, which will probably be the "Theme From Voyeurvision" the live telefantasy show that we wrote the theme song for. Jimmy Harry did the mix, and he wasn't mentioned in the *Billboard* piece, and in a

way it's unfair because Jimmy Harry has really been the main producer on the album. I mean, he's done something to almost every single one of the tracks. So, if you can mention him...

Randy: Bill Coleman worked on "Voyeurvision" too. And Kecki, you know Kecki? He's doing a technomix, in fact I think he's doing that tonight! We're hoping that the video



will tie in a lot of the starts from public access across America, we want to include them in the video. Fenton and I will make sort of sparse appearances in the video. We have put out a call for two new Pop Tarts, but you know it's a demanding toll. People have been sending us their SAT scores, and their 8X10 glossies, and their used underwear... and based on that, hopefully we'll be able to make a decision.

Fenton: You know, I've always liked New Kids On The Block and the Monkees and bands like that, and I'm thinking, well, you know, it's hard to produce TV shows, and manage Ru and then kind of go out and do the clubs at night. I think there's younger, cuter people who could do it better, and who would look good in underwear!

Rosser: Getting back to Jimmy Harry, he's involved in something else with you?

Fenton: He co-wrote "Supermodel" and has produced a lot of the RuPaul stuff. He's got his own act too, called Whorgasm, which is just unbelievably frightening. It's kind of techno-grunge, Alice Cooper of the '90's. And we're looking after him, getting his solo career launched.

Randy: Whorgasm is like the antithesis of RuPaul. No one would ever make a connection between the two of them, yet they have so much in common. Whorgasm makes grunge look like bubblegum pop.

Rosser: Now, Jimmy Harry is the same one who did some of the great songs in "Shaggy Dog Animation" that played here in Atlanta with RuPaul in it a few years ago, right?

Fenton: Yes, he is.

Rosser: That show was really great. Well, it was so cool to see your article in *Billboard*, and then to flip the page and see RuPaul on the Dance Trax chart!

Fenton: Well, you know people in the music business have said, "Oh, you know drag queens are great, great novelty and all that..." But it's inevitable, and it's about time that it has happened.

Rosser: Well, RuPaul is perfect for it, he's so captivating.

Fenton: The very first time I saw RuPaul was at the New Music Seminar, and he was wearing those American football shoulder pads, a jock strap, and he was touting his Wee Wee Pole record. Well, the moment changed my life. He has always been the star he is today, it was just getting the rest of the world to recognize that.

Randy: Someone like RuPaul is kinda beyond, he's like he's someone who for the past 10 years has sacrificed his being for something much higher, and I know this sounds like, overly cosmic, but knowing Ru as I do—he's obviously become one of my best friends—well, his life has always been about sacrificing his being for a larger thing. It's beyond ego. I mean, he gets off on it, but it's totally beyond that. He's like this mega-celebrity superstar, he's product. Pure product.

Rosser: It must be a lot of fun to work with him.

Fenton: Yes it is, it is. He is so dedicated and hard working, he's just ready for it, you know. RuPaul is kind of the representative—there's so much downtown talent that similarly, until now, has gone unrecognized. You know, Deee-Lite did it too, there's only so much Coca-Cola people can drink, there's only so much CNN that people can take, and people are going to want different flavors and different things. It's only a matter of time before the dam breaks and DeAundra Peek is number one on the dance charts too!

Rosser: Speaking of TV, you are working, eh? Fenton: Three things that we're doing at the moment, one is a Valentine's Day special called "Love In The USA", which is like a special episode of "Made In The USA" and "Manhattan Cable", local cable, Public Access clips. It's kind of like the video equivalent of Madonna's *Sex* book. We did a story on the big porn convention in Las Vegas, a story on foot worshippers, and we're doing a story on lovers at sixty, sex over sixty to be precise. Married couples, over sixty, having sex.

Rosser: Oh my gosh.

Fenton: And they do it a lot!

Rosser: Ha ha ha ha. Lets hope that's a prediction for our futures!

Randy: We met lots of interesting people, including Russ Myers, and we did a story on the chapels out there and met a woman who owns 5 of them, they call her the "Chapel Queen of Vegas"—we're pushing a lot of buttons with it. And, we finished up a program called "Video World", and then there's the "L.A. Stories" project. All these things are on the party platforms that "everybody's a star", and the idea of access, you know, "you too can make your own program".

Fenton: What we did for "L.A. Stories" was find ten people who were involved in the riots, we've got a cop, a schoolteacher, gangleader, helicopter pilot, newspaper reporter, a Korean whose store was burned down, and a gynecological surgeon. All these different people and we've given them camcorders, and they've had these camcorders since September, and they've been making video diaries of their lives. What we're beginning to see, we're actually seeing into people's lives and we're seeing that people aren't cardboard cutouts, and that they are real people and that their lives are very complex, and it's sort of busting all the stereotypes. It's airing on the anniversary of the L.A. riots, on the BBC.

Rosser: So let me see, that's on the BBC

Fenton: "Love In The USA" is going to be on Channel 4, in England, and "Video World" on Channel 4 too. We haven't got any TV shows in America yet.

Randy: You know, we're pretty much perceived as the purveyors of trash. World of Wonder, importing all of America's trash and kitsch. Of course, we don't agree with that. And I think that these other two programs will help us to legitimize us more...but of course both of them will have *lots* of trash.

Rosser: The kinds of things that people really want to see!

Randy: Exactly!

Rosser: Well, are you doing the music for these new shows as well?

Fenton: Yeah, we write the music for them too. In fact, some of the songs on the LP come from some of the TV shows.

Rosser: Like "Ring My Bell".

Fenton: It's one of my faves too, it's sort of, dunno, there's something about it.

Rosser: It has that sort of sixties hook with that tambourine sound in it, that shooka shooka sound jangling in there.

Fenton: Well, I don't even get to listen to it, we don't have a CD player! (*It had broken, they hadn't replaced it yet...*)

Rosser: Fenton, I'd like to ask you briefly about the book that you've written, which I have a press release about. It's called ...

Fenton: Fallen From Grace. Actually, the book was written years ago, it came out in England a year ago. In fact, it was the first book on Michael Milken, came out before James Stewart's Den of Thieves, which was a big seller, but it's only just been published here in the States. Alan Dershowitz, the lawyer, wrote an introduction for it. It was when we first started managing RuPaul when I was writing it, when I was finishing it up. You know, after a time you can go long periods where there isn't much going on, and suddenly, everything happens all at once! And so for a time it was a bit touch and go-I thought I was going to lose my mind! Writing books is not recommended, it's too much hard work! Well, certainly writing factual books like that. Rosser: All that research!

Fenton: Well, it may seem a bit obscure of a subject, or a bit off the track of the sort of things that we do, but it's actually what Milken was all about, it's sort of very much relevant to what we are trying to do, not that we are Michael Milken, we just don't have that great an interest in money, but, he was very much into getting other people's projects off the ground and stuff. He's kind of like the Andy Warhol of Wall Street.

Rosser: Any plans for vacation, travelling,

We have a call out for two new Pop Tarts...

Younger, cutter people...who would look good in underwear.

FUN?

Fenton: Fun? Well, it's all fun actually. It's hard to think about going on holiday, because in a way it is all a holiday. I've got to go to England next week, but not for very long. We'll have to make a movie with RuPaul. Rosser: I was just talking about that with some people the other day!

Fenton: We are planning this year to make a feature film for theatre release on Wigstock. Because Paris Is Burning did so well, and there's so many people who'd like to go to Wigstock from all over America, but who can't get to New York on Labor Day. So you better ...

Rosser: My bags are packed! My makeup's all put up and everything!

Fenton: You've got your medication ... THING









It Ain't Easy Bein' Cheesey!

Never let it be said that we don't like the folks who brought us Gag Magazine and the soon to debut Babble. We admire and appreciate their many efforts at pioneering alternative press here in Chicago and hosting some of the better parties. However, we must pull our weird sisters' coattails over the way some folks have let their "coolness" go to their heads. This was in full effect at the farewell to Gag party when a certain person assigned security duty had to front off certain others in a juvenile display of authority. It's truly late when the alternative underground mirrors the same kind of tired shit that's found in the mainstream clubs. While T. J. Mozzarella and friends sat chattering and kiki-ing in the stairwell, this reporter was rudely told to beat it, (obviously not fab enough to VIP with the big cheese). Mind you, everybody had been occasionally sitting there throughout the course of the evening. Should we have known not to be there? Couldn't we have been informed a little less dramatic and condescending manner, maybe? This drama was especially bothersome after the host had promised said reporter he was on the guest list, only to have to pay the five bucks upon entering, anyway. The Boys on Belmont ought to transcend Kaboom and Saturday night at Shelter, as far as these kinds of hassles go. If people who are on the guest list get such treatment, what happens to the paying Joes? Being made to feel the outsider is nothing new in playing the clique game. We just thought these kids were truly over the "We're so fabulous" mess. It's late.

The opening of HiFi Bangalore's Boom Boom Room saw a big turnout of artists, writers, music mavens, and glamour bugs. Winding down: David Saucedo, Mayday Delish and HiFi Bangalore.Painter/performance artist, Lester Brodsky.aka, Leslie 2000. DJs Freddie Bain and Eart Pleasure. Debbie Gould, Shelley Schneider-Bellows and Pamela Hewett, Brian, Designer Chris Luker and his roomie Michael Hyacinth, aka, London Broil. The RuPaul Charles School of Pearly Whites: 1D Records' director of World Operations , André Halmon, left, and Ever Productions' Patty Ryan, right.





arlande. 101. ja siden janda Arlande. 101. ja siden janden od FOXY'S: Finally, Blue and Tom Hemingway are bequest of the family disco was entrusted to her beloved niece, fashion plate Foxy. Find Aaron Enigma, Rodette, Steve Lafreniere, Steve and Craig, Brian Funk, Roberto Earl Pleasure, Ralphi Rosario, Miles Maeda, Andy Substance Spencer Kincy, Dj Wess Kidd, Malone, Phil. Jack, the Louises Joe Right, Lemuel, Terrence Smith, Marcus Sherard and Aisha Calloway, Chris, Terry Martin, Giggles et al. The two rooms videos upfront. The dancefloor in back attracts a mixed and funky crowd of new and old music fans. Freddie Bain's deep- mixes on Saturdays usually satisfies the crush of faithful dancers. Foxy's stage has seen London Broil and Queerdonna. The Lady Bunny performs April 8 Foxy's 800 West

G.L.E.E. CLUB: New Sunday Night fag/dyke parties at Crobar is pulling all the people (plus) who frethe folks who do KaBoom! Kaboom!'s Sunday night fag parties flopped because it was the most disconnected from the real gay community (anti gay and homophobic security, for instance) This time out, . the management is much moll fag-friendly A lot of former Cairo staffers. Ace fag party promoter Byron Dorsey oversees the goings on Music is by DJs Ralphi Rosario (formerly of Quench) and TomE with musical director Terri Bristol The currently enibioiled Mr. Windy City, David Wilshire and humpy Pasta Joey man the door For all the stateof-the-artness of the sound system, (it's heavy duty) the music is sometimes too blaring The bathrooms are the only place in the club Where you can talk without losing your voice. Unless you're dancing, a there's really not much else to do but stand around and watch the dancers and other spectators

CHEEKS: Even though this club boasts a stellar lineup of deep DJs, pesky little things (like a bad sound system and a booth that's several obstructive feet from the dance floor) make Cheeks an impossible challenge. You can hear Braxton Holmes, Micky. Oliver, Mike Winston, Bernard Badie, all surely on the cutting edge of house now. Staff members Patrick, Cesar, Tommy, Corky and David and DJ Pumpkin are dears. The mirrors in back and the never ending parade of self-adoring dolls are a must-see, the place is notorious for its glamour wars. On a good night, Misses René, Tanya, and Cynthia work your nerves with the sickest 'ol cocktail ensembles. *Cheeks 2730 N. Clark. 312. 348-3400*.

STOP 'n DRINK: This downtown hole-in-the-wall

quickly replaced the legendary and infamous Rialto Tap. The trade and the tunes are just as rough and tough at Stop. 'n Drink as the parties once were at the old Ritz on North State or. 'ToTos' Packed with African homeboys/girls, *Stop and Drink* is *the* place to go for all the New Yorkers and europeans who come to Chicago and want to see and hear. "a Warehouse party." Also lovingly known as Stop 'n Stink, Stop. 'n Think, and the Stop. 'n Stab. *Stop 'n Drink 742 N. Clark 312 944-8233*.

HI FI BANGALORE'S BOOM BOOM ROOM: Only

recently opened at Red Dog and it's already the and writer Jack (HiFi) Walls hosts The two big rooms lone dancefloor and bar, the other lounge and bar) draw the city's most mixed crowd bi's, neighborhood mix of punks, bohos, and " queers Tres black and Latin. The deep underground is courtesy of Freddie Bain® and Orlando G. They do an excellent mix of the crowd (These kids aren't just jumping up and down) Opening night, the current Miss Continental, MiMi Marks, performed as Miss Pussy Dujour, giving face, hair and body as Deee-lite's Pussycat Meow bumped through the air Also Local drag legend Aqua Neta Cajmere and Dajae Byrd Bardot Spot Gina, Rodette, Clarence, MC Heather, the Steves, the Michaels the Roberts, Tom and Blue, the Avant Gardes, the Enigmas, Louis, Sergio, Connie V., Spencer, Andy Substance, Foxy, Jim and Hector, the Georges, etc. Red Dog 1958 W North Avenue 312 278-5138

BERLIN: A longtime wable alternative for straight kids bored with overly homogenized pop music and stuffy, narrow minded folks, also the choice of fags and dykes tired of the same 'ol same 'ol on Halsted St. Home of the Boys on Belmont, Tuesdays and Thursdays are official fag nights at Berlin. With an exceptionally good sound system, the selection of music is the better mix of rock, pop, disco, house, and techno. And good videos. The wait staff are super, and doorman **Stuart** has got to be the best anywhere. Frequent decor makeovers keep even the most jaded window dressers guessing what'll be next. Orientahia? Moulon Bouge? TV, Land? Weimer cabaret? *Berlin 954 W*

BISTRO TOO: The Children continue to flock to the mega popular Thursday Dollar Night at ' the Bistros' **TomE** swings with an emphasis on hip-hop and house that sends the young Black and Latino queer mix c-r-a-z-yl Drag Dolls, voguers, and homeboys are regular fixtures At times, the dance floor literally heaves *Bistro Too 5015 N Clark 312 728-0050*

Some of everybody at The Boom Boom Room (from top): Mimi Marks as Pussy Dujour.Publisher's Ki-ki: Robert Ford and Élan magazine publisher, Jim Larralde. Painter Aisha Calloway. Neyda Martinez.Female preachin': MC Heather. Rodette. TGOC publisher and Fake producer, Steve Lafreniere and Babble mag's Malone. Voguer Plus: Fashion designer and CUT magazine publisher, Aaron Enigma, demonstrates "the gag!" Near right, Miss Gina. Photos T Adkins.

Hev Y'all!! Here's to lookin' forward to a brand new world full a love since the inauguration of

President Bill Clinton, signallin' that 1993 is definitely The Year Of Satisfaction. which is what everybody down here is callin' it.

I has got so much to tell y'all this time, you ain't gonna believe it! First off. Mr. Richardson, my producer, done told me that Miss Phoebe Legere had done gone in that real hi-style club called USA in New York recently an' she was wowed by seein' some a my very own videos right up there on them screens all over the club! Y'all watch out in Chicago for Miss Phoebe, on account a cause she's comin' there real soon for some kinda big ole' superstyle art exhibit featurin' female wrestlers. Confidential to y'all, them ball peen hammer locks is her specialty ...

Remember them days when your MeeMaw would surprise you with a fresh hot vienner pot pie right outta the microwave? Well, that was just about what it was like when I opened a package from my sweet friend Fluffy Boy. of HOMOture in San Francisco! He done sent me the 1993 Girlfriend calendar. an' y'all, I am the cover girl! I a course exploded, especially when I opened it to find **RuPaul, Joan Jett Blakk** Jerome Caja, Brie, Mr. Scott Free (a nice boy who did have a show on TV in Atlanta before moving to California), an' a mess a other stars. Like vienner pot pie, they is goin' fast y'all!

Recently my TV show cohosts Candy Suntop and Duffy Odum an' me went on top 40 radio station WKLS 96 Rock's Wake Up show with their hosts Christopher

INDRA Rude, Radical Bradford, and The Family Jools! We had so much fun cuttin' up

with them nutty FM airmeisters, an' I even got to sing my big hit "Losin' My Vienners". (based on the REM song) which accordin' to Atlanta based ETC. magazine's Jack Pelham, had DOT officials wonderin' about traffic accidents. I am still tryin' to figure out what that means

y'all, so if anybody knows please fill me in! Special

thanks goin' directly from me to Rep. Cynthia **McKinney** an' Rep. John Lewis for all a their

Arlas on Joan Rivers. work to unite this world. Both a them is workin' to take Georgia into the future beyond tomorrow's can a vienners!

Y'all, as a teen entertainer an' writer, it is important for me (an' all a us teens) to have big-time celebrity role models, so that's why I wanted to tell y'all about my friend Miss Angle Bowle's new book Backstage Passes! It's a tell all y'all, an' media Angie

Vienner Roll Ups

- Ingredients
- 2 cans Hy-Grade Vienners (Imitation Style) 1 loaf white wheat bread
- 1/3 tub Country Crock Churn Style (lite, if available)
- 1 cup Miracle Whip Lite
- 2 packs Hy-Grade Saltine Crackers (no-salt type)
- 1 slab Velveeta Lite, grated
- 2 cans Hy Grade Genuine Imitation Taco Paste
- 1 box toothpicks, party style

How To Make 'Em

Open your vienners, but don't eat em! Mash 'em up real good an' set aside. Spread Crock Churn Style on bread, cover that with a layer of Miracle Whip. Crunch up the saltines, just itty sized, not dusty-like, sprinkle on bread, fork on mashed vienners. Generously add grated Velveeta Lite, then roll up bread an' seal tight with toothpicks to serve!

'S DIXIE DIARY

an' media sources like Pam Perry an' J. David Goldman has said that Miss Angie an' cowriter Patrick Carr talk all about bein glitterin' glamourous sexual pharmeceuticals (whatever that means), all at the same time! Miss Angle signed my very own copy thinkin' a y'all too, sayin' "...all my love Miss Thing ... "-aint' she the greatest?

Keepin' up with Starbooty these days is tough (talk about workin') but

here's my official report so far: RuPaul has done been all over BET's "Video LP" show; on **Joan Rivers** with Lady Bunny, Holly Woodlawn.

Really up there! Mr. Joey John Epperson (aka Lypsinka), Miss Guy, Paris, an' Thing cover girl Joey Arias; he's all that on MTV's "The Grind" show (which is hosted by Eric, who my cameraman

Stevetteridge says is the cutest boy on TV next to Duffy Odum); featured in Southbeach magazine outta Miami; climbin' to the top a the Billboard Dance Trax Chart an' enterin' the Hot 100

Chart with a bullet-talk about gettin' it goin' on !! Just y'all wait till y'all hear my very own version of "Supermodel" from my latest TV series "DeAundra's Salon d'Odum's"! Starbooty himself said I could sing it!

Team Odum's Update: Competition is *fierce* a 'tween T.O.'s Captain Duffy Odum and Sonya LaTrail Stubbs of Team Del Vista Ray Mar. Last time, durin' the threelegged vienner toss, Sonya LaTrail missed Duffy an' flew into the security ditch out back, flinging them vienner cans all over Rango Fain's Snack Shed's parkin' lot. Luckily, Nurse MacWorld was there an got them splints on all them vienners so's they could finish playin', an' a course Team Odum's won. yeaaaaa!

Them boy's n' girls at 800 East is at it again y'all, this time it's the 3rd Annual Super Style Show featurin' some a Atlanta's finest semiundiscovered design talent! I's gonna be emceein' part a the show on Februrary 26th, presentin' stuff by Bill Hallman, Nasreen Rahman, Wyatt, an' Shannon Dockery.

An' for them that's been waitin' since last time, here's my special Vienner Sausage recipe.



Big, Blonde, and Beautiful: The Lovely Miss Carol



RUPAUL'S FAVES!

FAVE MOVIE "The Wizard of Oz." FAVE ACTOR Matthew Modine "honey he is fine!" FAVE DREAM COME TRUE to have own tv variety show that is a mixture of Wheel of Fortune, the Cher Show, Saturday Night Live, and the Home Shopping Club. FAVE COMIC LaWanda Page"Aunt Ester, honey."

FAVE CONING Cavrentia (1995) FAVE SINGER "Luthah!" Mr. Vandross. FAVE SINGER "Luthah!" Mr. Vandross. FAVE PERSON TO GIVE A MAKEOVER TO Whitney Houston "She has so much to work with and doesn't do anything with it." FAVE DIVAS Diana Ross and Cher.

FAVE CEREAL Captain Crunch with Crunchberries. FAVE PERSON TO BE A HAIRDRESSER FOR Diana Ross or Dolly Parton. WEST HOLLYWOOD— Me and my trusty sidekick **Joeseffee**

bopped around WeHo (short for West Hollywood: cause everyone in this city is ho-ish so we be ho's!). We bopped on over to Revolver and didn't see **Madonna** or **Sandra Bernhard** in their usual hangout, so I posed for a pix and went out to catch some of the nightlife. Soon, I saw Miss Chak, Chak, Chak, Chak, **Chaka Khan** boppin' around WeHo sportin' purple hair and on the arm of a white man! My goodness gracious! There goes the neighborhood! Otherwise it was a typical WeHo week.

Mr. **RuPaul Charles** visited us a few weeks back. He gave a real swell interview for *BLK* magazine to yours truly, then performed at Studio One to a cheering crowd of gleeful fairies who clutched their tampons and begged for autographs. I was a bit peeved that security jumped my ass and tried to stop me from snapping pix of the tall bitch goddess diva girl thang! But I snapped a few for y'all! **Chi-Chi LaRue** put her big ass into Studio One long enough to wave to RuPaul and then split after the midnight show.

Tuesday night we bopped on into the Rage for "The **Lovely Carol** Show" at 9:15 pm. It was fly! Carol was lovely, big, blonde and beautiful as usual, just a small town gal from French Lick, Indiana with a dream and a craving for pop tarts. Carol threw shade at a sister girl who tried to sing **En Vogue**'s "Hold On" but had the tape playing while she sang along. The audience booed and Carol brought down the house singing along to "I'll Always Love You" with Miss Whitney Houston. We were surprised when **Diva** popped in to model her new ensemble. Diva is one of WeHo's classic drag queens. That night, she was wearing her Liza Minnelli wig but said she was doing Michelle Lee for us, so her and Lovely Carol made the classic Michelle "I look like a deer caught in the headlights of a car" Lee expression and we giggled like the gleeful fairies we're repudiated to be. Carol served snacks to the audience, handed out free t-shirts, and was presented with a Valentine's gift of chocolate covered cherries, a nude men calendar, and a condom.

Big Hair Day at the Rage was wild. The **Del Rubio Triplets** were the judges and may the biggest hair win!

Stay tuned for more fun and excitement, 'cause in the future you'll be meeting real life celebrities of WeHo including The Goddess, The West Hollywood Cheerleaders, Suzy Q, DJ Johnny, the **Campers, Erin Crystal, the West** Hollywood Fag Hags, The Tyrant, Big Kenny, Evil Pete. That Dirty AI, porno stars Adrian and Antonio, the fabulous go-go dancers at Studio One, and a lot of really nice people! Also, I'll be checking out the club scene at Arena (Thursdays are black night!), Spike, Probe, Meat, and every black fag's dream, the all-black, big, bad, beautiful 'Catch One.'

George Elimer Farterson's death was not the heralded and headlined passing of a major celebrity, though he enjoyed fame and notoriety on a small scale. George was born on September 21, 1935 in Chicago. He moved away in the 1950's to escape the criticism of his relatives, and went on to perform in Florida and the Bahamas as a dancer and choreographer, where he worked with too many legends on the way up. Dionne Warwick, Nine Simone, and Aretha Franklin among them. He staged many drag reviews, and often did drag himself— long before drag was awarded the modicum of respectability that it enjoys today. George died after a long battle with AIDS-related and other illnesses on February 13, 1993. The coterie of black fags of another generation in attendance at his funeral (a Catholic one, no less) was an inspiration: a living argument against those who wish to decry homosexuals as having a lack of "family values". The wake afterwards was even better, with George's "longtime companion" and chief gown seamstress laques regally presiding over a soul-food buffet in his dress shop on 73rd street (a stone's throw from the infamous lettrey Pub). There was at least one drag queen in attendance, and one of the queenier male guests emerged from laques' boudoir at the end of the party with face beat! This gathering was an example of something seldom scene in the black community: a family that includes all of us **RF**

chanter å: verse:

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