

On The Purple Circuit

With Bill Kaiser

Volume 8, Number 2

THE HIGHWAYS ISSUE

WELCOME TO ON THE PURPLE CIRCUIT!

The Purple Circuit exists to promote and celebrate GLQBT Theatre and Performance throughout the World! I know it is a tall order but I am proud to say that you, the creators, and the audience have never let me down! I am filled with pride when I receive information about the achievements and opportunities that are covered in the pages of OTPC and I know you are too!

Before I continue: publicists, theatres and all others: please change your address for **The Purple Circuit** now to **921 N. Naomi St., Burbank, CA 91505**. The Office phone is 818-953-5096 and The Theatre Listings Hotline is 818-953-5072. Thank you for your cooperation during our moving period.

This Issue is dedicated to HIGHWAYS Performance Space that just celebrated its Tenth Anniversary bringing the best in diverse Performance to Santa Monica/Los Angeles and all of Southern California! We all owe a great deal to the vision of AD Tim Miller, the creative staff, the talented performers, and the loyal audiences. Tim and Co have weathered ten years of government censorship and harassment to present extraordinary work. I know that if I hear about a great performer eventually they will be seen on the stage of Highways. Their birthday bash was a who's who of performers like Michael Kearns, Tim Miller, Barnes, John Fleck, Rachel Rosenthal Company, Syd Rushing, and so many, many more. I urge everyone to support Highways as Audience and also as financial Members. Make checks payable to Highways, 1651 18th Santa Monica CA 90404, 310-315-1459.

I would like to thank Dr. Fritz Klein and The California Institute for Contemporary Arts, and our paid subscribers for financing this Issue. Thanks to our columnists: Tom W. Kelly, Gerald Semas, and Howard Casner. We can use volunteer correspondents from other parts of the country and more Lesbian input too. In this issue John Clum addresses the issue of the void left when Dialogus Play Service closed. This is an issue of great importance for playwrights namely getting their plays out to the public The Purple Circuit welcomes your insights, suggestions and comments on this situation.

Thanks to John Clum, Publicists and Theatres, Tom Jacobson, Dennis Doph, Max Turner, Linda Eisenstein, Greg Trupiano, David King, Steven Patterson, Holly Hughes, Tim Miller and John C. Miller. Special thanks to Sally Barron and Associate Editor Jim Russell without whose help OTPC would not get out!

Another Purple Circuit project is The Directory of Venues. It was delayed and is being compiled. If you wish a copy send a SASE for 99¢ and a donation payable to Bill Kaiser. Also consider subscribing or renewing to OTPC. This enterprise is not self-sufficient and we need your help. If you didn't get a reminder, but are unsure if you need to renew do it today.

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Besides The Purple Circuit, I work for peace, a goal that I am proud of but surprised that 30 years after the Moratorium in Washington it is still necessary to justify why any killing is wrong. I also have been working as the director of The Performing Arts Collection of ONE/GLA. I am happy to announce that renovations have been in full swing at 909 West Adams and are nearing completion. The PAC

Space is a good-sized room on the second floor and I will be thrilled to show it to you. I am calling on special people to help finish the job. I need some more funds for special flooring, lighting and other exhibit needs for the room. Special donors please contact me at 818-953-5096 or Purplecir@aol.com, or send me a check payable to ONE Institute and I'll see that you are credited.

Other items of note: Bravo to Holly Hughes and others for supporting Samantha Geller, the 17-year-old Lesbian playwright in Charlotte whose play "Life Versus The Paperback Romance" was censored. There was a big event called "Not Just A Stage: Youth Against Censorship" June 14, 1999 at the Public Theater in New York. Featured was a reading of Samantha's play, starring Mary Louise Parker and Lisa Kron, Appearances by Terrence McNally, Tony Kushner, and others. You can send checks to National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC) with a special notation "Youth against Censorship Fund." Send to NYAC, 1711 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 206, Washington, D.C. 20009.

I am also happy to hear that OUT Productions (Les Productions OUT) in Montreal is starting a network like The Purple Circuit called The Pink Network (Le Reseau Rose) for Canadian Theatres, Production Companies and Artists. For further info contact David Allan King, OUT Productions, 2069 rue Saint-Hubert, bur.3, Montreal QC H2L 3Z6, 514-590-0589, in@out.ca. www.out.ca. Bonne chance, David!

Congratulations to the proud parents and performing couple, Tom Keegan and Davidson Lloyd on the arrival of their daughter Connor Alexis Keegan-Lloyd!

Lastly, it is with sadness that I note that Charles Pierce has died. His portrayals of the great divas brought great joy and entertainment to audiences. He will be greatly missed.

Happy GLQBT Pride to you all and continue creating works of art for our culture.

Bill Kaiser, editor

ON THE BOARDS

Note: Descriptions are based on press releases or personal knowledge. An * indicates a current or future show, information subject to change, shows may be extended so check them out and remember to see a Gay or Lesbian show tonight.

***Angels in America: The Millennium Approaches** by Tony Kushner, Diversionary Theatre, San Diego, Apr.-June 1999, 619-220-0097.

Attitudes And The Dance by C. Stephen Foster, a sexyyy steamy outrageous hilarious reflection on the changing lives of Gay men from the '70s to the '90s, Hudson Avenue Theatre, Hollywood, Feb.-Apr. 1999.

***Beyond Therapy** by Christopher Durang, SNAP Productions, Omaha, June 4-20, 1999, 342-9053.

***The Boys Of Mariel** by Barry Ball and Bill Yule, six Gay men exiled from Cuba to Miami, Hudson Gallery Theatre, Hollywood, opened June 11, 1999, 310-289-2999.

Burning Desires by Joan Schenkar, the story of Joan of Arc (sort of), Gascon Center Theatre, Culver City, CA, Feb.-Mar. 1999.

Butt Pirates Of The Caribbean, Josies Cabaret, San Francisco, April 1999.

Cabaret by Kander and Ebb; Wilshire Theatre, Beverly Hills, Feb.-May 1999.

***Can't Get Enough** with Gay Goodenough, sexuality and spirituality, reflections of our lives, Third Stage, Burbank, ongoing, 323-664-9150.

Charlotte And Emily by Michael Heimos, one act of "A Night In The Dells" where a mother and daughter return to a childhood resort, Bitter Truth Theatre, North Hollywood CA, Apr.-May 1999.

Come A Little Closer with Bonnie Henderson, "Gay as the day is long ... 15 years sober ... dreams do come true," Los Angeles Theatre Center, May 1999.

***Christmas with the Crawfords** by Buildins and Sargent, Lambda Players and Leigh Fortier, Long Beach, CA, opens Nov. 26, 1999, 562-432-5382.

Dirk with John Fleck, a mud slinging spectacle in naughty 3-D, Luna Park, West Hollywood, Jan.-March 1999.

***Duboce Triangle** by Garret Jon Groenveld, Dean Backus, and Doug Holsclaw, episodic stories of the gay de Winters family and their neighbors in San Francisco, Josies, June, 1999, 415-861-7933.

***The Dyke and the Porn Star** by Bayla Travis, Authors on Tour and The Ivy Theatre, Highways, Santa Monica, opens August 18, 1999, starring Gayle Feldman and Jane Hamilton. 310-315-1459.

Everything Must Go! with David Mills, a quirky blend of smart-assed social commentary, rage and catchy pop tunes, Howie Baggadonutz at Theatre! Theatre! Portland, OR, April 1999.

***The Fag and the Porn Star** by Bayla Travis, what happens when fantasy and reality meet? Authors on Tour, 6@ Penn Studio, San Diego, opened June 10, 1999, 619-688-9210,

Fag-Hag: The Love Stories by Anne Farquhar, a staged reading of this award-winning play, Luna Park, Feb. 1999.

***Fanny and Walt** by Jewel Seehaus, a new play about Walt Whitman and his friendship with Fanny Fern, Venue 9, San Francisco, opened June 4, 1999, 415-289-2000.

***Fat!** with Big Queen Productions, a multi gender drag queen feminist musical love story about food, Celebration Theatre, Hollywood, opened May 14, 1999, 323-666-1647.

Fed Up; A Cannibal's Own Story by Ricardo A. Bracho, a burlesque, a love story and an exorcism in two acts, Theatre Rhinoceros, San Francisco, May-June, 1999.

The Final Episode by Linda Simpson, a gala salute to the gay '90s, P.S.122, NYC, April 1999.

Finding Space with Nancy Agabian and others, site specific performance, Los Angeles downtown, May 1999.

Fit to be Tied by Nicky Silver, Reality Theatre, Columbus.

From Deadwood To Hollywood with Amy Hill, her uproarious adventures to get "here," The Village at Ed Gould Plaza, Hollywood, May, 1999.

***Flying Nectarines, and Zip Codes Pending** with Pam Raines, Ivy Theatre at Highways, Santa Monica, running July 16-25, 1999. 310-315-1459.

***Gertrude and Alice: A Likeness to Loving** with Lola Pashalinski and Linda Chapman, The Foundry Theatre at The Signature Theatre, NYC, opened May 27, 1999, 212-244-PLAY.

Gross Indecency by Moises Kaufman, Denver Center Theatre Company, Feb.-Mar. 1999.

The Harvey Milk Show: A Passion Play by Dan Pruitt, music by Patrick Hutchison, a concert version based on the life and legacy of Harvey Milk, New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, Feb.-Mar. 1999.

How I Learned to Drive by Paula Vogel, Mark Taper Forum, Los Angeles, Feb.-Mar. 1999.

***Independence** by Lee Blessing, Actors Circle Theatre, West Hollywood, opened June 4, 1999, 310-289-2999.

***Into The Woods** by Stephen Sondheim, the hit musical some have seen as a cautionary fable about AIDS, New Line Theatre, St. Louis, opened June 10, 1999, 314-534-1111.

***Jeffrey** by Paul Rudnick, Rose Theatre, Venice, CA, opened May, 1999, 310-3138178; & Lambda Players, Long Beach, opens Jan 7, 2000, 562-432-5382.

Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time, 16th Street Victoria Theatre, San Francisco, Feb.-Mar. 1999; opening in NYC and other locations to follow.

Jest A Second by James Sherman, Joel Goldman comes out to his family when his doctor girlfriend turns out to be a nice Jewish boy pediatrician, Long Beach Playhouse, March-April 1999.

***The Joey Stefano Story** by Michael Spillers, 6@ Penn Studio, San Diego, opens Sept 16, 1999, 619-688-9210, then on to Los Angeles.

***Key West** by Jack Heifner, a side-splitting and sexy romp probes the generation gap between older and younger Gay men, The New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, opened June 5, 1999, 415-861-8972.

***King Levine** by Richard Krevolin, a comedy based on King Lear where the bialy king's daughters are after his dough except the Lesbian one! Odyssey Theatre, now Tiffany Theatre, West Hollywood, opened Feb, 1999, 310-289-2999.

The Last Hairdresser by Doug Holsclaw, a comic deconstruction of the vicious queen, Zephyr Theatre, Los Angeles, Mar.-Apr. 1999.

***The Last Session** by Steve Schalchlin and Jim Brochu, the award winning musical hit, Tiffany Theatre through May, 1999, The Little Room Downstairs, Houston, opened May 7, 1999, 713-523-0791.

The Legend Returns with Helen Moulder, the acclaimed opera spoof from New Zealand, Josies Cabaret, San Francisco, May 1999.

***The Lisbon Traviata** by Terrence McNally, New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco through Apr, 1999, Long Beach Playhouse, opens Oct 15, 1999, 562-494-1616.

***Loot** by Joe Orton, LaJolla Playhouse, LaJolla, CA, opened June 8, 1999, 619-550-1010.

***Lysistrata** by Aristophanes, a reconstruct by the radical faerie troupe, The Eggplant Faerie Players, Darkhorse Theater, Nashville, opens in August 1999.

Marla's Devotion by Linda Eisenstein; Wesleyan College, Macon GA, April 1999.

***Motel Sicks; A Dragapella Summer Vacation** with The Kinsey Sicks, The New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, opens June 18, 1999, 415- 861-8972.

Mother/Son by Jeffrey Solomon, a Jewish mother and her Gay son struggle with the coming out process in an hilarious and poignant relationship, played in NYC and universities nationwide and in March, 1999 at GLSEN Conference at Tufts University.

***Naked Boys Singing** conceived by Robert Schrock, a musical revue featuring the works of 11 including Mark Savage, Robert Schrock, and Bruce Vilanch, Celebration Theatre, Los Angeles, ongoing 310-289-2999, soon in Ft. Lauderdale, and NYC.

The Nanjing Race by Reggie Cheong-Leen, a Gay Japanese-American in China for the first time, New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, March-May 1999.

Narcissus And Echo by Jeff Goode and Larrance Fingerhut, an update of the old Greek love tale where Narcissus is duped into thinking he is a Lesbian, Wings, NYC, Mar, 1999.

***Norman Is That You?** by Bobrick and Clark, Lambda Players, Long Beach, CA, opens April 14, 2000, 562-432-5382.

***Of Me I Sing, Baby** with Tom Orr, the self-indulgent, One-man show, Re-Bar, Seattle, opens June 18, 1999, 206-323-0388.

Oscar Wilde: Sacrifice with Douglas Fowley Jr, en francais, OUT Productions and MAI, Montreal, May 1999.

Pageant by Bill Russell and Frank Kelly, Out On Main Upstairs, Columbus, Apr.-May 1999.

Pantophobia, the fear and dread of everything, Powerhouse and The Fourth Floor, Santa Monica, CA, Jan.-Feb. 1999.

***Parallel Lives** by Mo Gaffney and Kathy Najimy, Celebrating Women Festival at New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, opens June 19, 1999, 415-861-8972.

***Parental Discretion** by Gary Goldstein, Brian and Dan's relationship complicates when they want to have a kid, Coast Playhouse, West Hollywood, opened Apr. 15, 1999, 323-660-8587.

Passing by Sheri Bailey, in 1927 it's quite fashionable to be a Negro or is it? Towne Street Theatre, LA, March-April 1999.

Pieces Of The Quilt by Erin Cressida Wilson, Rhodessa Jones, Herber Siguenza (Culture Clash), Noel Benozza, and Allier Zelaya, Somar Cultural Center, San Francisco by the Asian American Theater Company, April 1999.

***Post Mortem** by Ken Ludwig, a thriller, Lambda Players, Long Beach, opens Oct. 8, 1999, 562-432-5382.

***Preaching to the Perverted**, a world premiere with Holly Hughes, New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, previews Sept. 8-9 and opens Sept. 10, 1999, 415-861-8972.

The Presentment by D. Paul Thomas, conflict in the church, Pasadena Playhouse, March-April 1999.

***PRIDE** by Myles Weber, world premiere of a great new play see www.kaliyuga.com for more info, Kaliyuga Arts at EXIT Stage Left, San Francisco, opened June 7, 1999, reserve online at pride@kaliyuga.com

Project Desire; The Mountains and the Plains with Jeff McMahon and Brian Webb, a collaborative recasting of heaven with new angels! P.S. 122, New York, May 1999.

Queer Teenage Heaven by Barnes, Highways, Santa Monica, Mar 1999.

Randy's House by John Clum, Theatre in the Square, Indianapolis, April 1999.

The Rape of Djuna Barnes by Dee Jae Cox, Paris; The '30s, Rewriting the wrongs, The Ivy Theatre Company, Los Angeles, Feb.-March 1999.

Rent by Jonathan Larson, Shubert Theatre, Los Angeles, Jan.-Mar., ongoing, NYC and elsewhere on the planet.

***Rice Room: Scenes from a Bar** with Noel Alumit, based on his work in the Gay Asian community, Highways, Santa Monica, Apr, 1999. & 6@Penn Studio, San Diego, opens Aug. 19, 1999, 619-688-9210.

Riga by William Hoffman, the world premiere of "just your normal Gay interracial Holocaust play," Venture West Theatre Company, Los Angeles, January-March 1999.

Rocky Horror Show by Richard O'Brien, before the cult movie there was the musical, Tiffany Theatre, West Hollywood and elsewhere, January-May 1999.

Room 69 by Bruce Ward, a short play spoofing the Ex-Gay ministries complete with Tinky Winky, First Boston Theatre Marathon, Boston University, April 1999.

The Ruffian On The Stair by Joe Orton, his first wonderful play foreshadowing what was to come, The Starosta Theatre Company, Los Angeles, Apr-May, 1999.

A Rustle Of Wings by Linda Eisenstein, a smoky Lesbian bar, a mysterious noir angel, Vanguard Theatre, Fullerton, Ca, April-May 1999.

***Safe Sex and Widows and Children First** by Harvey Fierstein, Lambda Players, Long Beach, opens Aug. 6, 1999, 562-432-5382.

***Salam, Shalom** by Saleem, a tale of passion between a Palestinian and an Israeli, The Bitter Truth Theatre, North Hollywood, CA, ongoing, 818-755-7900.

***Scent Of Rain** by Mark Dunn, a whimsical love story set in rural America where a father and two older brothers find a husband for their "special" little brother, Bailiwick Pride Series, Chicago, opens July 30, 1999, 773-883-1090.

Shut Up and Love Me! with Karen Finley, the truth about her psychosexual relationships with US political figures, opened the Celebrating Women Festival at New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, May 1999.

***Senator Swish** by Alan Sawyer, the pulp sequel to "Hot Pants Homo", Josies, San Francisco, ongoing, 415-861-7933.

Single Black Female by Lisa B. Thompson, rapid-fire vignettes about the trials and tribulations of finding the right man or woman in the urban '90s, Theatre Rhinoceros, San Francisco, Mar.-April 1999.

The Sisters 3 by Michele Palermo, the hilarious comedy about the '70's family we wanted to be, Coast Playhouse, West Hollywood, Jan-Mar, 1999.

Sophomore Slump with Rob Nash, who plays all the parts in this HS epic, Top Hat Playhouse, Palm Springs, CA, May 1999.

***Steel Kiss** by Robin Fulford, the true story of the 1985 murder of a Gay teacher in Toronto and the aftermath, The New Conservatory Theatre Center, San Francisco, opens Sept 18, 1999 after previews, 415-861-8972.

***Straight** with David Schmader, adventures in conversion therapy, Re-Bar, Seattle, Apr.-May 1999, & Dixon Place, NYC, late July 1999.

Streamers by David Rabe, don't ask, don't tell, Hudson Backstage, Hollywood, January-April 1999.

***The Sum of Us** by David Stephen, Lambda Players, Long Beach, opens May 20, 2000, 562-432-5382.

Sweet Parody with Tom Orr, the hit solo show, making fun of solo shows, Josie's, San Francisco, March-April 1999.

Swimming Under Water by G. Bruce Smith, one of the one-acts of mayhem, Playwrights 6 at Celebration Theatre, Los Angeles, May

1999.

***Tallulah** by Nan Schmid, St. Genesius Theatre, West Hollywood, January-April 1999.

Texas Trinity by Paul Bonin-Rodriguez, the three plays in which small town sissy boy comes of age, the plays are "Talk of the Town," "The Bible Belt and Other Accessories," and "Love in the Time of College," JumpStart, San Antonio, March 1999.

Three the Hard Way by Linda Eisenstein, Studio Theatre, Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky, April 1999.

***Too Old for the Chorus** by Marie Cain, Shelly Markham and Mark Winkler, a new musical revue about getting older in a youth obsessed society, Celebration Theatre, Hollywood, opened March 20, 1999, 310-289-2999.

Triptych by Richard Willett, a fascinating new play about an Ivy League Posture Study and who should be allowed to reproduce, New Directions, NYC, February-March 1999.

Two Fools by Terry Baum, Wings, NYC, February 1999.

2.5 Minute Ride with Lisa Kron, a trip to Auschwitz juxtaposes with her family's annual visit to an Ohio amusement park, Public Theater, NYC, March-April 1999.

Versions of Lust and Disgust by Mike Donner, a look at the fine line humans cross between love and sex, 6@Penn Studio, San Diego, April-May 1999.

We are One with Syd Rushing, Syd is stomping where many Black men fear to tread, Highways, Santa Monica, March 1999.

WeHo, somewhere between Melrose Place and Beverly Hills 90210 is a neighborhood Aaron Spelling overlooked, Celebration Theatre, Los Angeles, March-April 1999.

When I Was a Girl I Used to Scream and Shout by Sharman MacDonald, set in Scotland a time travel back when a girl was just learning about sex, Odyssey Theatre, Los Angeles, Feb.-Mar. 1999.

***When Pigs Fly** by Howard Crabtree, Tiffany Theatre, West Hollywood, opens June 28, 1999, 310-289-2999.

***With Friends Like These** by Paul VanderRoest, a Gay comedy in 2 acts, Hudson Avenue Theater, Hollywood, opened June 3, 1999, 310-289-2999.

***The Wizard of Oz** with Mickey Rooney as the Wizard, Jo Ann Worley as the Wicked Witch and Jessica Grove as Dorothy, Pantages Theatre, Los Angeles, June 16-July 4, 1999, 213-365-6311.

Women behind Bars by Tom Eyan, Diversionary Theatre, San Diego, February-March 1999.

***Wonderland** by Chay Yew, an Asian-American family's struggle to capture the American dream goes awry, La Jolla Playhouse, opens Sept 14, 1999, 619-550-1010.

THEATRE BITS

by Bill Kaiser

Ann Arbor: Walk & Squawk Performance Project presented "Who It Is," a Musical Journey in Search Of American Identity with Andy Kirshner in May in Ann Arbor and moved to Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, June 3-13, 1999.

Arizona: Essential Theatre presented Playback Theatre with "Risky Business" in April and "Do Ask, Do Tell: Gay And Lesbian Stories" in May 1999 at the Scottsdale Center for The Arts, Essential Theatre is at 1937 East Magdalena Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282.

Cedar Rapids: Legion Arts presented a activist-singer tribute to Phil Ochs (we need his "I Ain't Marchin' Anymore" more than ever these days-editor) with Pat Humphries in May, 1999.

Chicago: May 17, 1999 saw a benefit for Bailiwick's Pride Series called "A Diva, a Diver and a Dissident" with Alexandra Billings, Greg Louganis and Larry Kramer. Alexandra and Greg are starring in Larry Kramer's "Just Say No!" at the Bailiwick.

Denver: John C. Miller writes that the Denver Center Theater Company sold out its five week production of "Gross Indecency: The Three Trials Of Oscar Wilde" and has scheduled a five week run Sept 15-Oct 23 to accommodate disappointed audiences. [Note from

the editor: How great some people will get to see the show on Oscar's birthday Oct 16!]

Theater Group of Theater on Broadway has just completed a six-week run of "Execution of Justice" directed by Chip Walton with an excellent review in the Denver Post. Nicholas Sugar will direct the production of "The Dying Gaul" by Craig Lucas. They will also open their late night show "Cellblock Sirens Of 1953" running April-June the women's prison musical written by Christopher Willard and Andrew Shoffner.

Durham: Manbites Dog Theater celebrated Phase One of a successful completion of their building campaign with a benefit "Puttin' on the Dog" May 7, 1999.

Fort Lauderdale: The Public Theatre did a cool fundraising review called "Please Don't Squeeze The Melons," which runs through June 27, 1999 at the Museum of Art auditorium. 954-568-2243.

Long Beach, Ca: The Lambda Players are back in action! A benefit performance of "Jest A Second" will be followed by a Season of shows. They have general meetings at the Center. Kudos to Al Campbell, Vada Foster, David Schlick and the gang! For info call 562-621-6725.

Los Angeles: Sorry to report that Robert Schrock has resigned to shepherd the hit "Naked Boys Singing" in productions around the US and abroad. Bob had many, many achievements at Celebration. Best Wishes to him and to Celebration Theatre for continuing to do world premieres and better and better quality productions.

Congratulations also to Michael Kearns, David Galligan, Naomi Caryl, Betty Garrett, and all the performers and others that always make the STAGE benefit each year so memorable. This 15th Annual version was a tribute to Richard Adler, Jerry Bock, and Cy Coleman's work. It was Gala!

Michael Kohl organized a tribute performance salute of Marshall Bauer's work with Hal Linden, Brenda Moore, and many others performing his songs in late February 1999 in Beverly Hills. Michael promises this to be the first of many such events.

Barnsdall Municipal Art Gallery and Rebel without applause Productions presented "Fatmouth" June 4, 1999 the work of three extraordinary performers: Tre Temperilli's "Tongue-Hi-Fi"; Jamie Burris' "Barking Lung," and "Blowing the Syntax" with the ever-fabulous Danielle (Sacred Naked Nature Girl) Brazell.

Charles Durning was honored at a benefit hosted by Lucie Arnaz at the Annual Tony Awards Party that supported Aid for AIDS and the Actor's Fund. Honorary Chair was Katherine Hepburn.

The 22nd Annual Robby Awards given by critic Rob Stevens was held May 22, 1999 at the Blossom Room at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel where the first Oscars were awarded. By all accounts it was again the best entertainment event of the season. The dynamic actor/ comedian Wendy Worthington made TV appearances on Buffy, and also as Margaret Camaro on Ally McBeal! If you like her tell them to bring the character back!

New York: The 1999 Edwin Booth Award was presented to Dixon Place by the Doctoral Theatre Students Association at CUNY in April, 1999. Kudos to Ellie Covan, and all the people at this great space which celebrated its 13th Anniversary with another Big Broadcast on WBAI with Sally Greenhouse, Stanya Kahn, Jesse Lenat, Kate Moira Ryan and Drew Pisarra, and Jennifer Allen. The Broadcast in June featured excerpts of new work by Holly Hughes and Michael Klein.

Dixon Place also has a space on Broadway called Locus Media where Homtext, Michael Klein's literary series meets as well as the new play reading series that is curated by Andrew J. Mellen and Micah Schraft. Recently "Straight No Chaser" by Winter Miller was read. In June at Dixon Place, the unique Gay CP comic Greg Walloch will perform "Three Uneasy Steps."

Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church staged a benefit "Food For Thought" to support neighborhood food distribution programs.

Among the performers appearing at the March 1999 event were Jennifer Allen and Drew Pisarra.

Ovett MS: Wanda and Brenda Henson's Camp Sister Spirit celebrated its 5th Anniversary last fall. It is a feminist, education, cultural retreat center that supports the community. We need to continue to support this magical space. Send funds to CSS, PO Box 12, Ovett, MS 39464, 601-344-1411, sisterspir@aol.com; members.aol.com/SisterSpir

Palm Springs: Rob Nash performed "Sophomore Slump" (the sequel to "Freshmen Year Sucks") at the Top Hat Playhouse in May 1999. Rob plays all the characters in the show fabulously.

San Diego: an Equinox ritual performance of Walt Whitman's "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" with David S. Cohen returned for the 8th year as a mourning and remembrance of those who are lost to AIDS. This year's performance was dedicated to artist and historian Bruce Kamerling.

San Francisco: The New Conservatory Theatre Center has received a \$75,000 grant from the James Irvine Foundation to support their Pride Season and Celebrating Women Festival. Bravo to Ed Decker and all at NCTC.

Tennessee: Lots happening with MaxZine, Spree and our Faerie pals at IDA, the Queer arts community. They welcome visitors (and need funds too). The Eggplant Faerie Players are readying a cutting edge version of Aristophanes "Lysistrata", and there are weekends planned for cycling, health and beauty, and activists and ARTLAND, the annual Artists gathering will be Sept 18-28, 1999. Checks payable to IDA, Box 874, Smithville, TN 37166, 615-597-4409, ldaland@hotmail.com.

AFTER DIALOGUS, WHAT?

by John Clim

John Dunn's DIALOGUS Play Service and Publishing provided a crucial service to gay playwrights. Just at the point at which DIALOGUS provided our scripts with ISBN numbers, thus making publishing easier, John found continuation of his organization impossible. It was a service, not an income producing business. We're all grateful to John for his work over the years.

DIALOGUS attempted to get our plays into gay bookstores, which is crucial. Theaters are more likely to produce scripts that circulate through publication. At the same time, publishers are skittish about anthologies of gay plays or single volumes of plays that haven't had big New York productions. My agent and I have been trying for years to shop a second volume of STAGING GAY LIVES with a strong list of plays, but publishers look at the bottom line. The plays in the first volume have been getting produced around the country, though Harper Collins didn't keep the volume in print for long. So we need to get our plays into gay bookstores and out to theaters. A lot of us don't have the time or resources to shop our plays. We need help with that. Of course, we also need help with duplication of scripts for theaters (not so important in the age of Xerox) and handling rights, contracts, etc.

New Arts Theater in Bristol, Tennessee is interested in picking up where DIALOGUS left off. But it isn't clear yet whether they have the time or resources to get our scripts into stores and out to theaters -- to shop our plays -- or whether they plan to operate more as a play service. E-mail them at newartstheatreco@hotmail.com for more information. I'm going to try them out. With Purple Circuit, we playwrights know what theaters are interested in producing our plays.

We playwrights should keep in touch about this through email and Purple Circuit.

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CHICAGO SCENE

by Howard Casner

Bailiwick's firmament is filling fast with stars as a load of luminaries alight on this year's Pride series. The true pride of this group of lions, however, is the world premier of Larry Kramer's newly revised comedy "Just Say No," headlined by Olympian Greg Louganis and local celeb Alexandra Billings. This play about you know who, will bookend the festivities with non no-sayer Ryan Idol, who is making his legitimate stage debut in another world premiere comedy, Marc Dunn's "Scent of Rain." Playing piggy in the middle will be two solo jobs: NEA bad boy Tim Miller with his performance art piece "Shirts and Skins," and Byron Stewart's "Conversations With a Diva;" Martin and Biello's musical "Breathe;" Clark Carlton's "Self Help or the Tower of Psychobabble," a satire on Hollywood and therapy (why do the words ducks and barrels come to mind); "Homme Fatale: The Joe Stefano Story" by Australian Barry Lowe (well, I guess you can't say he's putting another shrimp on the Barbie here); a performance by Real Read, American's only African-American Lesbigan Trans Performance Troupe (trying saying that three times real fast); and Kate Moira Ryan's "Damage & Desire," a tale of two lesbian sisters and their lit magazine.

Gerber Hart Library has found a new home, which means TheatreQ has as well. For a few years, TheatreQ has been engaged mainly in producing a series of readings by and about gays and lesbians, a series that finally found temporary shelter at G/H's previous location. However, the synergy between the two outfits has been so successful that TheatreQ will be performing at the ribbon cutting ceremony for G/H's new home and, like an unemployed brother-in-law, will probably not be leaving any time soon. Congrats and good luck.

Queer theater About Face is blessed with having twelve -- nominations that is. The Jeff citations (the local theater awards for non-equities) have announced their nominees and About Face shot -- to the front that is -- with seven noms for "Dream Boy" and five for "At Home at the End of the World." After four short years, this company specializing in G&L subject matter is topping all other theaters of all persuasions -- in success and quality of productions that is.

In addition, About Face has begun an interactive performance project for LBGQT youth. They are being backed by the city of Chicago as well as local social organizations. Presently, About Face is in the process of recruiting (no comments from the far right please) nearly thirty young people for its Youth Theatre Project. The goal, so far more than met, is for the youth to meet regularly and come up with script ideas and stories and work with various theater professionals.

Also lighting the lights: Caryl Churchill gender bends on "Cloud 9" at About Face; "Joan Crawford Goes to Hell" (which says it all), by Sweetback Productions; the far right discovers that gays are more than a drag in Fierstein/Herman's "La Cage aux Falles" at Drury Lane; Charles Ludlam camps Charles Laughton in "Bluebeard" at the Defiant Theater; the Great Beast Theater follows a lesbian dick-uh, PI-and her relations in Clair Chaffee's "Why We have a Body;" Jason finds out his "father's a homo" and his "mother's not thrilled at all" to the music and lyrics of William Finn in "Falsettos" at the Athenaeum Theater.

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A CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE

Entertainment News

by Gerald Semas

▪ The Off-Broadway show Bitch! Dyke! Fag hag! Whore! sounded like a law firm of **Linda Trip, k.d. Lang, Ariana Huffington,** and **Pamela Lee.** The show's star, **Penny Arcade's** latest work, Bad Reputation opening at NY's P.S. 122 in March. The work examines

so-called "bad girls" of society and features a scantily clad chorus of gyrating Gay boys.

▪ Evanston, Illinois' Next Theatre staged **Kira Obolensky's** new play The Adventures of Herculina in March. The piece is based on a true story of story of a 19th century French hermaphrodite.

▪ Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theatre premiered **Will Stutts' Oscar Wilde's Lover** in late March.

▪ Female illusionist, **Jim Bailey** stepped into the lead of May West at the Club El Fey in April at NY's Penguin Repertory. The show takes place in a New York nightclub the night before West left for Hollywood to star her film career.

▪ Comic/actress **Lea DeLaria** stepped into **Paul Rudnick's The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told** in March. DeLaria became Jane in this campy, hysterical look at biblical stories at NY's Minetta Lane Theatre.

▪ A life-size statue of **Noel Coward** was unveiled on March 1st at New York's Gershwin Theatre. In a bit of unintentional irony, the son of a different British Queen, **Prince Edward** had the honor of unsheathing the moment.

▪ A March 9th reading of **Blair Fell's** comedy, Naked Will was held in hope of finding the show a slot for an off-Broadway fall debut. The work is based on a short story called The Portrait of W.H by **Oscar Wilde** and explores the relationship between Shakespeare and a boy-player in his acting troupe. It was Wilde's approach that the Bard wrote some of his greatest female roles for such a boy.

▪ The U.K.'s Old Gobe Theatre takes a cue from **Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake** with all-male productions of Julius Caesar and Antony and Cleopatra. The former opens May 20 followed by a mixed gender version of The Comedy of Errors June 3 and Antony and Cleopatra opening July 30th. The Globe's Male Artistic Director, **Mark Rylance** will portray the Egyptian queen.

▪ NY's off-Broadway, Promenade Theatre opened **Peter Ackerman's** new comedy, Things You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight in late April. One of the play's stories focuses on a Gay therapist and a Jewish man in his 60s.

▪ To those who heard about nude scenes in the Broadway play Night Must Fall starring **Matthew Broderick**, I'm sorry to disappoint you. The buns on display are not those of the adorable Mr. Broderick but of assistant stage manager **David Dartley**.

▪ Showtime is making a film version of **Emily Mann's** dramatic play Execution of Justice and centers on the trial of Dan White for the murders of San Francisco Supervisor **Harvey Milk** and **Mayor George Moscone**. The cast features **Tyne Daly** and her brother **Tim Daly** (The Object of my Affection).

▪ Sacramento's Lambda Players offered an evening of one-acts April 30 - May 22. The three short plays celebrate Gay youth with a new look at **Thornton Wilder's** work called Our Town, Too, two young Lesbians review their life in Dancing on Checkers Grave and a high school student's amusing coming out experience in Removing the Glove.

▪ Turning gay men straight is the subject of **Bill Doyle's** play Kalen's Cut which was presented by NY's Stacked Deck Theatre Company in April. But this time, the claim comes from a surgeon rather than the religious right. The dark comedy details a doctor's claims of success in turning men straight from gay until his clinic is bombed and he is held at gunpoint.

▪ Gay producers **Craig Zadan** and **Neil Meron**, so pleased their bosses at Walt Disney Television with their Emmy nominated Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella, that the company has asked them to work their magic on a TV version of the musical Annie. Kathy Bates stars in the production with features a few new songs from original Annie composer.

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WAY OFF BROADWAY BY THE BAY

by Tom W. Kelly

The Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle bestowed several top awards to gay and lesbian shows including New Conservatory Theatre's production of "Beautiful Thing" (Entire Production, Director, Ensemble and Principal Performance), John Fisher's "Combat" (Original Script) and Artful Circle's "Eve" (Costume Design). Also, Barry Humphries received the award for Principal Performance for Dame Edna in The Royal Tour.

Speaking of awards, the Will Glickman Playwright Award went (again) to John Fisher for "Combat!", an epic drama (and sometimes comedy) about the persecution of gays and lesbians in the military during WWII. Fisher previously won for "Medea, the Musical."

The cast of "Hecuba", produced by American Conservatory Theatre, raised almost \$7,000 for the Mary Mason Memorial Lemonade Fund (for critically ill theater workers) administered by the Theatre Bay Area. Speaking of A.C.T., this semester they are offering a new class: "Tennessee Williams Scene Study."

SF director and choreographer Mike Ward journeyed south to San Diego's Old Globe Theatre to be the director's assistant for Edward Albee's new "Albee's Women" and the overhauled "Albee's Men."

Tony "Angels in America" Kushner appeared locally as part of Chabot College's 1999 Speaker Series.

Due to popular demand, "Ten Naked Men" at Rhino and New Conservatory's "Lisbon Traviata" received lengthy extensions.

New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave., 415-861-8972.

Running from May 14 to September 25, NCT will present their "Celebrating Women Festival" which will include: "Shut Up and Love Me!" written and performed by Karen Finley; "Parallel Lives" by Mo Gaffney and Kathy Nijimy; "Waking Up!" written and performed by Betty McAfee; and "Preaching to the PreVerted" written and performed by Holly Hughes.

To help support CWF as well as their Pride Season, NCT received a two-year \$75,000 grant from The James Irvine Foundation.

NCT's 1999-2000 season titled "Sex, Guts, Glory -- the Millennium Pride Season" will include "Steel Kiss" by Canadian playwright Robin Fulford (Sept. 8 to Oct. 30); *Dream Boy* by Eric Rosen (Nov. 10 to Jan. 1); "Who's Afraid of Edward Albee?" by LA playwright Michael Kearns (Dec. 1 to Jan. 22); "Love! Valour! Compassion!" by Terrence McNally (Jan. 12 to March 4); "Message to Michael" by Tom Pinckney (March 15 to May 6); and "Torch Song Trilogy" by Harvey Fierstein (May 24 to July 15). Several musicals are upcoming, including the return of "The Harvey Milk Show," "Side by Side" by Sondheim, and "Boy Meets Boy."

The world premiere of "Key West" by Jack Heifner (June 5 to July 17), directed by Ed Decker, "probes the generation gap between older and younger gay men to find there isn't as much distance as we thought."

"Motel Sicks: A Dragapella Summer Vacation" features The Kinsey Sicks in the "latest fashion faux-pas entertainment. (Jun. 18-July 10)

"The Nanjing Race" by Reggie Cheong-Leen and directed by Arturo Catricala. "Hidden agendas and passion clash in this play about sexual preference, social reality, race, and blind emotion."

On June 14, "Love In Ruins" by Tom W. Kelly received a staged reading. This two-act faux classic combines a quirky lyricism with comedy and adds a touch of truth about the vagaries of love. As part of Zeus' pursuit of Ganymede, various mythological characters are ripped through time and space and converge at the soon-to-be-defunct Hotel Pompeii.

NCT presented "The Harvey Milk Show: A Passion Play" (book and lyrics by Dan Pruitt and music by Patrick Hutchison, directed by Dennis M. Lickteig), a tribute to a gay icon/hero and an historical reminder of some hard-won political and social advances. Though a very uneven production, there is much to applaud in this ambitious musical. Proceeds will benefit NCT's Pride Season, Celebrating Women Festival, and HIV Education Programs.

Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 415-861-5079.

Rhino premiered "Fed Up: A Cannibal's Own Story" by Ricardo A. Bracho. "A burlesque, a love story and an exorcism in two acts. Four gay men of color take a magical trip from San Francisco down the coast and encounter a surreal gang of cannibals who look much like themselves." (May 6-June 6)

"SBF: Single Black Female" by Lisa B. Thompson (directed by Colman Domingo) is a series of "Two-person, rapid fire comic vignettes which show the trials and tribulations of finding the right man, or woman, in an urban 90's environment."

In the Studio: First Scene produced "A Thin Place in the Universe" a new play written and directed by Jeff Schwamberger which "follows a young man into the uncharted vastness of his heart -- a confounding universe with a mind of its own, an impish wit, and just one rule: that "whatever happens, happens to awaken you."

Playwright John Fisher will premiere a new work during Rhino's 1999-2000 season titled "Barebacking: a Sex Panic! Comedy." He states "it will definitely be a little harder to take than the other things I've done. I don't feel a need at this forum to keep the gloves on." All double entendres (intentional?) aside, it will certainly be provocative theatre!

Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St., 415-554-0402, director@jonsimsctr.org, www.jonsimsctr.org

Running from April to June, the following programs will alternate performances: artist Miguel Garcia and Compania in "Viva La Vida"; an evening of choreography, theatre and music titled "Violent Dwarf"; "Faggoty Ann & Andy at the Wishing Well"; and choreographer Jose Navarrete in "Valentino."

American Conservatory Theatre, 415 Geary St., 415-749-2228.

It's official! ACT will present the American premiere of Tom Stoppard's "The Invention of Love" (Jan. 6-Feb. 6, 2000) about "the English classicist and poet A. E. Housman, who lived his entire adult life in unrequited love for his Oxford classmate and school track star, Moses Jackson." Also of interest, ACT will stage Christopher Marlowe's "Edward II" (May 4-June 4, 2000) which "dramatizes the defeat and murder of a homosexual king by his power-hungry court."

A Traveling Jewish Theatre, 2800 Mariposa, 415-399-1809.

Sara Felder, "SF's best-loved juggling Jewish lesbian theatre artist," is back with "Shtick! A Queer Play on Jewish Vaudeville" in a work-in-progress run. The play "introduces two women living at opposite ends of the 20th century, who share a history and an identity."

Magic Theatre, Building D, Fort Mason, 415-441-8822.

As part of their Festival of Irish Women Playwrights, "Ladies and Gentleman" by Emma Donoghue revealed "the true story of a popular American vaudevillian, Annie Hindle, who performed in drag on the East Coast circuit in the early days of the century. Playwright Donoghue is the first woman to write frankly and positively about the lesbian culture in the Irish Republic."

Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia St., 415-626-3311.

The Fifth Floor and Intersection presented "Pierre" (written and adapted by Ed Gaible from the writings of Foucault) "an exploration of power, transgression and punishment... which examines the complex relationship between Pierre Riviere and Foucault who are united in two hospital rooms, a century and a half apart."

Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy St., 415-437-2349.

Grindstone Theatre produced "Traitor to the Cause," a two-act drama by Terri Katsch. While a closeted protagonist grieves for his dead sister, he must also interact with a flamboyantly gay street person, a hyper-tense heterosexual brother, a strong-minded lesbian and a mute ghost. The play seems to suggest that death facilitates transformation if and when people can accept it.

"RENT", the big and splashy rock musical with book, music and lyrics by Jonathan Larson, keeps packing in the audiences -- no small feat in SF's huge Orpheum Theatre. This modern reworking of "La Boheme" includes characters of all sexual persuasions. Plays until August 1.

ALSO IN SF:

A staged reading of "In Too Deep" by local playwright Margery Kreitman was hosted by Venue 9 as part of Footloose Presents "From the Page to the Stage" play reading series. A modern day romantic farce of mistaken sexual identities where the cast of characters (3 women, 1 man) commingles in every possible permutation.

The Asian American Theater Company and the Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center presented "Pieces of the Quilt," original short plays on the AIDS epidemic (from the Alma Delfina Group) at the SOMAR Cultural Center. Several new pieces were added "specifically written for the Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center performance festival." Also at SOMAR, Purple Moon Dance Project produced "Conceptions: An Intimate and Poetic Affirmation of Lesbian Parenthood" through June 1999.

"David Sedaris, Direct from Paris" appeared at the Cowell Theatre as part of the Solo Mio/Climate Theatre. Terrence McNally's "Frankie and Johnnie in the Claire de Lune" was reprised by the Genesis Theatre, directed by Kimberly Richards, at City Cabaret. Creatus Ensemble Inc. staged Tennessee Williams' "Suddenly Last Summer" at the Shelton Theatre. Kander and Ebb's "Cabaret" played at San Francisco State University.

Kung Pao Kosher Comedy presented the 2nd annual Feygelah Schmeygelah: An Evening of Queer Jewish Humor at SF's Herbst's Theatre. Partial proceeds benefited The Holocaust Center of Northern California's "Lesbians & The Holocaust" project. Featured talent included the Kinsey Sicks, NY's Michele Balan, Lynne Jassem and Lisa Geduldig.

ALSO IN THE BAY AREA:

At Petaluma's Phoenix Theatre, Berkeley's original and critically acclaimed group, Indecent Exposure, lip-synced and re-created "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" onstage as it played onscreen. Dynamic and talented Ted Curtis Mahshi reprised the role of Dr. Frank N' Furter. The audience was encouraged to attend attired for "The Empire Strikes Back."

AROUND THE COUNTRY:

And in Philadelphia, the Walnut Street Theatre presented the world premiere of "Oscar Wilde's Lover", written and directed by Will Stutts. "This new play recounts the tragic relationship between Wilde and young Lord Alfred Douglas. His obsession with Douglas ensured Wilde's public demise and, ironically, his immortality."

If you're anywhere near Ashland on Monday, August 23, check out the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's twelfth annual Daedalus Project: a full day of festivities dedicated to raising money for local HIV/AIDS-related charities, and culminating in a spectacular evening show (\$25/ticket). A moving event for a great cause! Info/box office: 541-482-4331.

ART

An Open House was held for Phil Esposito's From the Heart Acting Studios and Joseph Litzinger's Upstart Art studio/gallery. Guests learned about the classes at From the Heart and saw Joseph's fabulous art that brings you to your knees! In Los Angeles, 323-860-0887.

Also in Los Angeles, March-May 1999 was an exhibit "Art. Rage. Us." The Art and Outrage of Breast Cancer featuring the work of artists and writers whom have faced breast cancer.

And an exhibit by Bill Rangel: Portals, Pains, and Interviews that included performance by Danielle Brazell and others.

DANCE

Matthew Bourne's latest CINDERELLA has just finished a successful run at the Ahmason Theatre in Los Angeles.

Highways had a spring dance Festival called SWEAT! It opened with Stephanie Gilliland's Tongue in a full-length piece called Full Frontal Enigma. The Festival also featured the Donlavy Dance Company in How Sammy Got His Groove.

Purple Moon Dance Project under AD Jill Togawa always has a full plate of activities. Their latest work "Conceptions" celebrates Lesbian mothers and families and premiered at Somarts in San Francisco June 3-13, 1999. Contact Purple Moon at 415-552-1105, okamahina@aol.com

The Bridge Dance Company under AD Phyllis Douglas performed their new millenium-themed piece with original music by composer Brian Gross. Gross also performed at the vent in April at the Lucy Florence Coffeehouse and Cabaret in Hollywood with Greg Jeffers in an artwork called "Defenseless Animals."

FESTIVALS / SEASONS

Gowanus Arts Exchange presented the 7th Biannual Brooklyn Women's Music and Performance Festival in April, 1999 with film, performance (Felice Shays in "Jew Hungry?") music and chorus and a workshop with Lois Weaver. 718-832-0018.

The Bailiwick Repertory Theatre in Chicago presents their Annual Pride Series of nine plays this season. The shows include Larry Kramer's "Just Say No," Tim Miller in "Shirts And Skins", Dr. Shirlene Holmes' "Conversations With A Diva," a new musical "Breathe," the African American troupe A Real Read, "Damage And Desire" by Kate Moira Ryan, Ryan Idol in "Scent Of Rain" and Clark Carlton's hilarious "Self-Help." 773-883-1090.

Scotland's Glasgow! 1999 will take place October 22-31, 1999. The program of events will include visual arts, literature, performance, music, film and media and the Interpride Conference and besides being Europe's largest GL arts Festival promotes self-confidence among Gays and Lesbians and reducing discrimination. Bravo to AD Lindsay and the Glasgow! Organization. 18 Albion St., 2nd floor, Glasgow G1 1LH; 0141 400-0301, fax 0141 400-1783.

A.S.K. Theater Projects hosts Common Ground Festival 5 at UCLA in Los Angeles June 23-27, 1999. All events are free and include the Fabulous Monsters with SPEED HEDDA, Karen Finley, House of

Dames, and much more. Call 310-478-9ASK for info and reservations.

Hallwalls in Buffalo presents Artists & Models 1999: Cantina at the EDGE of the Galaxy. Info: 716-835-7362, fax 716-835-7364.

LLEGO California presented 9th Performing Arts Show Of Latino/a GLBT Artists directed by Hank Tavera June 12-13, 1999 at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts in San Francisco. Among the artists were Syliva Alarcon, Bertha Amador, Ricardo Avila, Mario Callitzin, Gustavo Cravioto, Nelson D'Alerta & Madame Jo, Daniel Flores, Jesse Garcia, Jesus & Joseph Leonardi, Magaly Meza & Pris Munoz and Monica Navarro. 415-554-8436.

SNAP! in Omaha unfolds its 7th season in July, 1999 with SNAP!Fest II with the Midwest premiere of Steve Schaalchlin's "The Last Session", and new plays by Omaha's Doug Marr and St. Louis writer Jerrold Rabushka. The rest of the season will include Bill Russell's "Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens"; Jonathan Tolin's "Twilight Of The Golds", Terrence McNally's "A Perfect Ganesh" and SNAP!pix, a mini-film festival. 402-342-9053.

The Public Theatre of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida presents its Lesbian/Gay Play Festival opening Oct 8-24, 1999 with "Lydia's Plumber" by Vince Rhomberg, a riotous new comedy; "Tongue In Chic" by Michael Lattshaw, Nov. 5-Dec. 5, 1999, the wedding of two Gay men in "Tongue, PA" turns into an hilarious riot: Also on the Mainstage "Earnest In Love" by Anne Crosswell and Lee Pockriss, a musical comedy based on Oscar Wilde's "The Importance Of Being Earnest," Feb. 11-March 12, 2000.

Hank Tavera again assembled a diverse programming for the 9th AIDS Theater Festival in San Francisco Mar 23-26, 1999. Among the events were G's Dream by Youth Action Project Theater Group of Fresno: "Jesus And Friends" with LLEGO California's 6th Latino/a AIDS Theater Festival, "Stocks And Blonds" With Tom Swift; "Mary Go-Round" by Dear Diva; "The Assassination Of Federico Garcia Lorca" with Luis Oropeza; "We Will Survive" with Empress Alexis Miranda and Friends; "The Guilt And Innocence Of Citizen Zed" by Vid Enblom and performed by Voices HIV/AIDS Theater Workshop of The Fountain Theatre in LA; The Genre of AIDS Theater, a panel hosted by Hank Tavera; "Don't Go There" by Al Cunningham; "To End The Pandemic" by Mario Callitzin, and much more. Bravo Hank!

The Lambda Players of Long Beach are back on the boards with a 1999-2000 season which includes "Safe Sex" and "Widows & Children First", "Post Mortem", "Christmas With The Crawfords," "Jeffrey", "Norman Is That You?" and "The Sum Of Us". For info on the season, auditions, volunteering and more call Al Campbell at 562-432-5382.

Theatre Offensive in Boston presented "Plays At Work '99", their Annual Series of fresh, hot, Queer Performance in Progress from May 27-June 12, 1999. Shows included "Color Outside The Box" with True Colors OUT Youth Theater, "Personal Instrument with David Hanbury, "Slamjam!" featuring the True Colors Queer Youth Performance Slam Champs; "Falling & Flight" by David Vales Greenwood, takes place in Cuban-American Miami; "Immaculate Infection" with Noelia Ortiz Cortes & Abe Rybeck. 617-542-4214, fax 617-292-9898, offensiv@tiac.net

"Screen, Stage and Page", The 4th Annual Summer Play reading Festival will begin July 9, 1999 at The Village in Hollywood curated by Mary Casey of The Ivy Theatre, for a schedule 310-444-7794.

'Celebration of Differences' Pride Amsterdam is the week ending on Sat., August 7th, 1999. IHTA (international gay- and lesbian art center) is presenting it. After the gay and lesbian canal parade in the afternoon, IHTA presents a spectacular international open-air theatre boat show; with ballet, dance, music and stand-up comedy. The boat will be located on one of the famous canals; the Singel in the center of Amsterdam by the Odeontheater and the University-library.

The Program includes 'Klein Duet' with Dutch dancers Jean Louis Barning and Marc van Loon with their pas de deux, choreographed by Truus Bronkhorst & Marien Jongewaard.

"Gaily Forward" The U.S. comedian Karen Williams presents a stand-up comedy show with her view of the lesbian scene and culture in the U.S.A.

"Zimbabwe Meet" Ihawu Leziswe from Zimbabwe will perform their unique dance/music show with the themes: human rights, the freedom to express sexuality and a traditional dance Amabetsu, also well known 'Gumboot dance', which originated in the men's hostels in the gold mines of White Water Rands.

Also during Amsterdam-Pride '99 initiated by Gay Business Amsterdam, the IHTA Foundation presents other theatre performances: Program IHTA guest at: Het Veem Theater Van Diemenstraat 410 (Tram 3, Bus 35). Curtain all performances up: 21.00 hrs PM. Monday 2nd, Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th of August.

Ihawu Leziswe -- The dance/music show 'Woz ubone' ('Come and See'), their regular Zimbabwe program, Thursday 5th (woman only) and Friday 6th of August the comedian Karen Williams from U.S. -- "Human Beings: What a Concept." Tickets available/reservation from IHTA (31) 20-6763626, AUB Ticketshop, V V V and the Uitlijn (31)-0900-191 (75 cpm) For more information about background IHTA see our Web site: home.wxs.nl/~ihta

Contact us by email ihta@wxs.nl Other information: phone Paul Wolfswinkel (boardmember PR): (31) 35-6942383 or Hans van der Leeden (president): (31) 20-4711684.

LITERARY SCENE / WEB SITES

Bite Ltd. produced "A Century of Queer Poets" a new series of Video Documentaries for cable and video with live performances at The Village in Hollywood. The poets included Hart Crane, W. H. Auden, Elizabeth Bishop, Gertrude Stein, D. H. Lawrence, Rainer Maria Rilke, C. P. Cafavy, Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes, James Baldwin, Allen Ginsburg, Gregory Corso, Laurence Ferlinghetti, James Merrill and John Ashberry.

Ed Karvoski Jr has a new tome out called "All-Male: Quirky Quotes, Intimate Interviews, and Tantalizing Trivia from the Most Desired Men on Earth." This book, complete with photos, gives you everything you'd want to know about the porn stars he has interviewed over the years. A candid, humorous read available from Kensington Books.

Eric Bentley's big book, "Bentley on Brecht," was published by Applause Books during the 1998-9 Winter, and goes into a second printing Spring, 1999. It's reported that those who hate the text love the illustrations (which we add, are numerous, and fan-tas-tic!) A couple of Brecht's works BAAL and EDWARD II are widely known as his Gay plays. Eric Bentley is the translator-adapter of them and, EDWARD II will be produced this 1999-2000 season by the Jean Cocteau Rep. in New York City.

Massimo Consoli, writer, activist and founder of the Italian Gay Movement has penned a landmark work in Italy called "Ecce Homo, L'omosessualita nella Bibbia" which is shaking the foundations of organized religion. Publisher is Kaos Ed, in Milano. He is also the editor of Rome Gay News.

Scott Miller, AD of New Line Theatre in St. Louis writes to recommend *In Theater Magazine*, a national theatre magazine covering New York and regional theatre. For info: 888-475-5997, or www.intheater.com

"The Unauthorized Letters of Oscar Wilde" by C. Robert Holloway, winner of the Hemingway first novel grand prize is available from Xlibris Publishers at 888-795-4274, or your local gay bookstore.

Playwright Vada Foster has co-authored, with B. L. Miller, "The Western Chronicles," available in July 1999 from Amazon.com or 800-247-6553.

The Lammy Awards were held in April in LA. Among the winners were O SOLO HOMO edited by David Roman and Holly Hughes for Drama. Bill Condon of GODS AND MONSTERS intro-ed, and Michael Kearns accepted for the editors and said some beautiful things about this field of Queer solo performing. GET THIS BOOK!

The recent Advocate has Alexandra Billings and Greg Louganis on the cover. They are appearing in Bailiwick in Chicago's production of Larry Kramer's "Just Say No!" Article talks about Bailiwick too.

John Clum's book "Something for the Boys: Musical theater and gay culture" will be published by St. Martin's Press this fall. They will also be releasing an expanded revised edition of his "Acting Gay: Male homosexuality in modern drama."

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MUSIC

The opera "Patience And Sarah" based on the Isabel Miller classic, won several awards at the 3rd GLANA awards on April 12, 1999. Composer Paula M Kimper was a tie-winner for the duet "I want to Live" along with Lowel Liebermann who won for "The Picture of Dorian Gray." Singers Elaine Valby and Lori Philip also won for their performance of the above-mentioned duet. A CD is available on CRI label.

"Patience and Sarah" premiered last July at Lincoln Center Festival.

CAMP (California Association of Musical Personalities), started by composer Brian Gross, hosts monthly salons. All creative types invited as well as those who appreciate such work. Next meeting is June 20, 1999 at Brian Gross's home. For info: B12x12@aol.com

Tom Wilson Weinberg and Lisa Joy Bernstein appeared in "Lovely Couple" at Cabaret at Frangelica in Philadelphia in April. Tom's website: www.voicenet.com/~weinberg

May 8, 1999 saw the 9th annual "Divas Simply Singings" in Los Angeles to benefit Project Angel Food and the Safe Place for Pediatric AIDS. Among the Divas: Nancy Wilson, Sheryl Lee Ralph, Evelyn "Champagne" King and many more.

The Gay Men's Chorus celebrated its 20th Anniversary with two performances of its spring concert SEASONS OF OUR LIVES. They will be touring to Russia in the fall.

A special celebration ROLE MODELS IN THE COMMUNITY honored both LA County Assessor Kenneth P. Hahn, the highest ranking openly Gay elected official in the county and The Gay Men Men's Chorus of LA on their 20th anniversary on June 17, 1999. Proceeds to benefit the Chorus tour to Russia in the fall.

LA's Women's Chorus Vox Femina presented its latest concert CELEBRATING WOMEN featuring songs celebrating women's relationship in early June 1999.

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PLAYRIGHTS / PRODUCER'S FORUM

"Adam's Wedding" by James Rosenfield is a comedy about a nice Jewish boy whose mother is a very liberal Senator from New York who wants to marry his Buddhist stripper boyfriend in the most public way possible! Contact jrosenfi@Ksumail.Kennesaw.EDU (Rosenfield James)

FirstStage, the group dedicated to the development of new material for the stage and screen is moving to a larger space in the United Methodist Church complex in Hollywood. They continue their readings until July 1 at the Court Theatre. 323-850-6271.

David Williams' exciting new play "P. K. Orange" is a timely and powerful story of Jon, a Gay son and his conflicts with his fundamental Minster parents who pressure him into an "ex-Gay" ministry. When the counselor desires a secret affair, Jon challenges him to an out and loving relationship. Available for production by

contacting the playwright at 909-798-9278 or PO Box 2086, Redlands CA 92373-0661, pkorange@hotmail.com, www.geocities.com/Broadway/Balcony/9278.html

The International Centre for Women Playwrights congratulated its 1999 award-winning members. Though the year is only half over the list is impressive and unfortunately too long for us to print. Perhaps if you contact Linda Eisenstein (one of the winners For "A Rustle of Wings" she will give you the whole list as well as info on her many impressive works: herone@en.com

The TCG Dramatists Sourcebook is a great resource and is currently being updated for the 1999-2000 edition. Info: 212-697-5230, fax 212-983-4847.

Moises Kaufman ("Gross Indecency") according to the Denver Post is in the preliminary stages of "The Laramie Project," a work about Matthew Shepard.

In Feb. and Mar. 1999 at Celebration Theatre in Los Angeles were staged readings of three new plays by Tom Jacobson (author of "Cyberqueer" and "Tainted Blood"). The plays were "Ill Will", "Cool My Tongue," and "Stereopticon."

At The Open Fist in LA, was the West Coast premiere of "Widows", an updated collaboration with Ariel Dorfman and Tony Kushner in Apr.-May 1999.

Four plays by Michel Corbeil have diverse themes: "Above The Clouds" is an allegory for the AIDS crisis, "Partners" a Gay romantic comedy, deals with a young man who prefers his former lover, now a ghost, to his current one. "The Oldest Gay In America " is a play for two: Clovis who is Black, Bisexual and 110 something and Eric who is young, Gay and White and claiming to be his great, great grandson. "The Court Jester is Dead" is a Queer Fairy Tale. The latter two plays can be paired together under the umbrella title "Gay Family Values." For info CORBEIL@aol.com or write to 143 West 96 St., Apt. 7-D, NY, NY 10025.

John Clums latest "Dancing In The Mirror" was produced at the Duke Festival of New Works in April and well received and will be done by the PIECES OF THE QUILT in San Francisco. His "Randy's House" is being produced in Indianapolis. Contact: Jmclum@aol.com

Tony Kushner's adaptation of Brecht's "The Good Person Setzuan" is playing through June 19, 1999 at Wings in NY. 212-627-2961.

A Swedish Theatre Group is looking for material. Contact Hakan Lindgren at Varmlandsgatan 18a 41328 Gotesborg, Sweden; hli@algonet.se

New York Theatre Workshop does readings Mondays @ 3 Call 212-780-9037 for schedule.

There was a reading in May of Jake Jay Clark's latest play "Advancement" at Moving Arts in Los Angeles.

OUT 2000 call for Submissions: OUT Productions in Montreal seeks 4, 20-30 minute Canadian plays in French or English dedicated to the future of Canadian Gays and Lesbians. Contact OUT Productions for criteria. Deadline is July 2, 1999, 514-590-0589 (phone/fax) or in@out.ca; www.out.ca

Full Moon Theatre Company resurrects itself with a space of its own and the energy to produce new works, staged readings, The Lambda Theatre Festival in April 2000. They are seeking new plays by gay and lesbian playwrights. Send scripts to AD Suzanne Hudson-Smith, 3328 Thornwood Rd., Sarasota, FL 34231, fullmoonth@aol.com

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TOURING

Joe Salvatore is planning a tour of his new piece "Fag/Hag" and is looking for venues for The Fall. Contact his touring manager, Renee Jacobs, c/o Sleeveless Theatre Co, 618 Ardmore Ave., Pitman, NJ 08071; 609-589-3606, fax 609-589-6107; jacobs@rowan.edu

Greg Walloch, a hilariously self-mocking Queero on Crutches according to Village Voice's Michael Musto. Recent appearances are at the Ice Palace at Cherry Grove Beach Hotel and on June 23, 1999 at Dixon Place NYC in "Three Uneasy Pieces." He's at the Colony Theater in Miami in July 305-576-4350 and Oct 15-24 at Tampa's PAC, 813-222-1000.

The Eggplant Faerie Players (from Tennessee)'s 1999 tour included Detroit, Ann Arbor, Des Moines, Chattanooga and Louisville. Contact this radical theater at IDA, PO Box 874, Smithville, TN 37166; 615-597-4409, ldaland@hotmail.com

Jason Jacobs tours with "Poor Sport", a doubleheader with a single player and the theme I might not be an athlete but I'm going to win! Recently appeared at Highways in Santa Monica CA. Bookings and Inquiries 212-957-8925 or jandrewj@aol.com

Authors on Tour is touring Annie Sprinkle's "Herstory of Porn" to SRO in Seattle, Cleveland, Boston and will be performing in Atlanta's Seven Stages July 26-Aug. 8 and on to Dallas playing The Mac Aug. 8-22, 1999. They also represent Quentin Crisp who appeared at Buddies in Bad Times in Toronto and will be at Seven Stages in Atlanta, July 7-11, 1999, 619-688-9210, or fax 619-688-9211.

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OPPORTUNITIES

AD Gene Gabriel Moore of Not Merely Players is seeking actors with disabilities for their season. Contact Gene at 173 - 14 St., Atlanta, GA 30309; 888-535-7408.

Join the Ivy League, become a member of The Ivy Theatre, and support LA's Lesbian Theatre Company. Make checks payable to The ONE Institute /The Ivy Theatre, 1612 S. Stanley, LA, CA 90019. Call/fax: 323-939-1967 for membership categories.

The Heart Acting Studio in Hollywood offers acting classes from Philip Esposito. Call 323-860-0887.

Artwatch, a Louisville-based presenter of innovative performance and visual art, is initiating a GLBT Film Series. Films and videos will be screened the first weekend of each month. Films will be screened in 16mm film and VHS 3/4" tape video formats. Please submit samples or descriptions of the works to: Andy Perry, Artwatch, 2337 Frankfurt Ave, Louisville, KY 40206-2467.

Attention: Artists and Writers! VIVA Lesbian and Gay Latino Artists seeks original art-work and written word by fierce Gay or Lesbian Latino and Latina artists as part of an exhibition and reading for a benefit for VIVA! Submissions must be received by June 21, 1999. For info: 323-468-1097. The event will be ART/SLAM, on August 14, 1999 at The Village at Ed Gould Plaza in Los Angeles. Performers still wanted and needed!!!!

Conn Artist Performance Event, Inc., a non-profit theatre company, is sponsoring the first annual Provincetown Fringe Festival in Provincetown, Massachusetts. The Festival is from June 28 to Labor Day, 7 nights a week at 9 PM. Many slots are still available. Looking for performance art, comedy, music, puppetry, works in progress, poetry, readings, etc. Please call 508-487-2666 for information or e-mail to connartists@hotmail.com

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Friends, Colleagues, and Supporters of Bruce Mirken

have established a defense fund to help the reporter cover his legal expenses, which he says are now approaching \$50,000.

Information about the Bruce Mirken Legal Defense Fund is available on the Web at: www.void.org/~claudius/BruceMirken/
Donations may be sent to P.O. Box 14954, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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How to Reach Us The Purple Circuit

Attn: Bill Kaiser 921 N. Naomi St., Burbank, CA 91505
Office: 818-953-5096
Hotline: 818-953-5072
Purplecir@aol.com
www.buddybuddy.com/pc.html

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