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# LAVENDER RHINOCEROS

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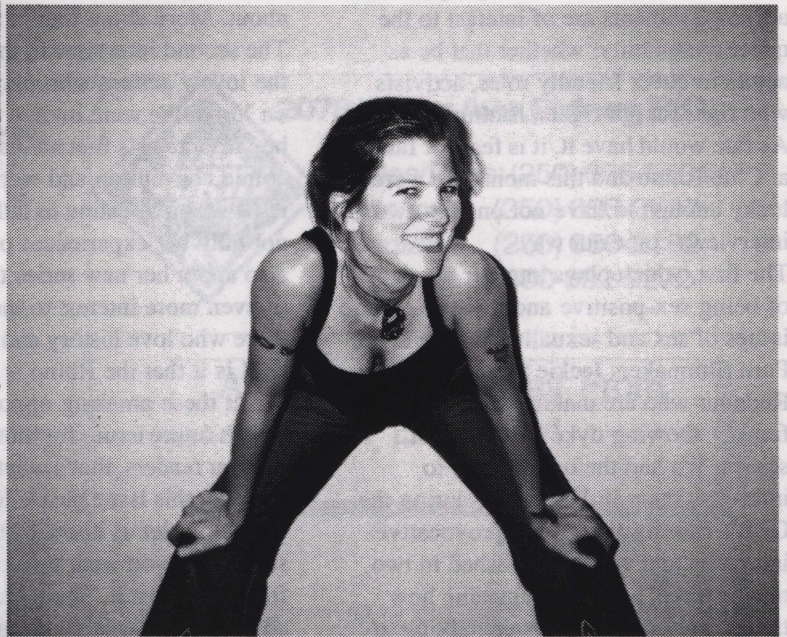


## Out on Screen...

**Talking with Dyke Porn Auteurs  
Shar Rednour and Jackie Strano**

## It's All about the Love...

**Q & A with Xena's Aphrodite,  
Alexandra Tydings.**



## — What's Inside —

**Out on the Table  
Mosaic's Marching Kazoos  
Irma and Geena with Pride**

**New Name, New Outlook  
Vancouver Pride Pics  
What a Words Worth**

# UP FRONT



This issue is getting into your hands late. I am sorry for that. It was a tough issue to get out but it is also one of which I am proud. Add to that coming to the decision on a new name and vision (see related story page 3) and the new fundraising efforts and it was a wild month. We hope you will enjoy it and that it makes you think and feel satisfied when you are done reading it.

We have a new feature starting in this issue, a monthly Q&A with people whose accomplishments are of interest to the queer community: whether that be as actors in queer friendly roles, activists who fight for our rights, filmmakers etc. As fate would have it, it is feast or famine at Club Rhino and this month we were lucky enough to have not one but two interviews come our way.

The first, which plays into our new goal of being sex-positive and giving voice to issues of sex and sexuality, is with Dyke Porn filmmakers Jackie Strano and Shar Rednour who are making waves by frankly showing dyke sexuality on screen. We had the opportunity to interview them in Vancouver during the GLBT film festival. It is a provocative interview and will be published in two, maybe three, parts. It is amazing how things work out. As we were talking to them we realized that a short piece would never be enough. I believe that people cross our paths at the precise moment that we need them to in order to learn from them or to have them touch our lives. These two women have a vast amount of knowledge and opinions

about the queer community. It was eye opening, liberating and we feel honoured now to call them friends. They also have a lot to teach us about sex and sexuality as well as stereotyping people in the sex industry. Not all women in the industry are drug addicts, debased or whatever else you may think. We could all benefit from an open dialogue on sexual issues. It would do this community a world of good to stop dealing with sex as if it is something we don't have and can't talk about. More about that in the next issue. The second interview in this issue is with the lovely actress who played Aphrodite on Xena. We were invited to interview her at Victoria's first annual sci-fi and comic convention and were happy to do it. It was interesting to talk to Alex about not only her experiences on Xena but also about her new series that should be of even more interest to those of you out there who love history and sci-fi. How cool is it that the Rhino is in a position to get these amazing opportunities? Watch future issues for more Q&As. So dear readers, that's what's new here. If you like this issue please let us know. If you don't, let us know that too. If there is something you want to see, please feel free to suggest it. There are changes coming but this is your magazine. And again, sorry for the lateness of the issue. I hope it won't happen again but don't hold your breath.

April

Lavender Rhinoceros was  
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All submissions may be edited for space and clarity. Copy is considered to be the property of Lavender Rhinoceros. Letters and submissions must be accompanied by a telephone number and/or address. Only under extraordinary circumstances, discussed with you, will we print letters or articles which are unsigned.

While the Lavender Rhinoceros is a queer publication it should not be assumed that all advertisers, contributors, letter writers are queer. All may be assumed to be allies.

**Deadline for articles & advertising is the 1st of the month prior to the month of publication.**

Our mandate is to provide a forum that celebrates all aspects of queer lives, to promote a healthy, visible community by giving voice to and honoring diverse and common interests and to promote healthy dialogue on such issues as sex/sexuality, class, culture, diversity, gender and community as a whole.

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**Contact information:**

**Submissions:**

bleedingrose@telus.net

**Letters to Editor:**

bleedingrose\_april@telus.net

**Q/A Columns:**

bleedingrose\_questions@telus.net

## New Year, New Name, New Vision

By April Grant

When we first took over this magazine we knew the general direction we wanted to go but there was no real plan of how to get there or what changes needed to take place in order to make the dream a reality. We had no clear vision so we decided to listen to our readers, the community and our own hearts. It is a daunting task to take something that has been such a staple of the community for so long and try to put your own mark on it as well keep it relevant for the whole of the queer community. However we are committed to this community, not only on Vancouver Island, but all across Canada.

One of the first and most consistent things, though not the only one, that were suggested was a name change though reasons among those for whom this was an issue ran the gamut. We took that to heart and started a process of looking for a name that spoke to the ideal of what Barb started and yet still reflected our own unique view of queer community. That name, and a clear, concise vision to go with it has finally been found. The new name is OutViews Canada and will be launched in January 2002. Our mandate is to provide a forum that celebrates all aspects of queer lives, to promote a healthy, visible community by giving voice to and honoring diverse and common interests and to promote healthy dialogue on such issues as sex/sexuality, class, culture, diversity, gender and community. We will, by example, encourage the queer community to be informed, be involved and to make a difference.

What we need now is your help, as this magazine cannot survive without its readers. Are you a graphic artist? Can you draw on paper or on the computer? Think about what being queer means to you, what being out means, what it means to be part of an inclusive community. Think about the new name then put your thoughts and heart into a logo and submit it to us. All submissions will be considered. While

there will be no financial compensation, if your logo is chosen you will get a permanent credit as the creator in the magazine and a free subscription.

Submissions can be dropped off at the Bleeding Rose, mailed to:

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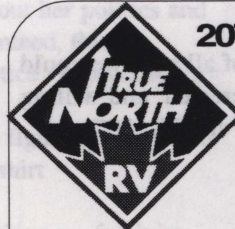
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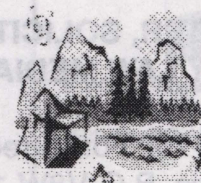
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## Letters to the Editor

My partner and I are somewhat disengaged from the scene these days but I am fully aware of the politics which go on at gay pride events and within the community as I worked at a women's club for years and constantly dealt with the politics of who supposedly represented the "queer" community. Good for you for speaking out for what you feel is right and publishing your own and others viewpoints. Of course, at Pride in Toronto, San Francisco, LA or New York the issue of topless women is now more less a non-issue; large cities have large pride days and no one cares if women are topless. It is a passe issue. But, Victoria IS different. Victoria is a small city with huge homophobic problems. The question for me then becomes what is the point in going topless? Here or elsewhere, being a topless woman is nothing to do with being queer, just as a man pantless has nothing to do with being queer. Celebrate our lives not just our bodies. Thanks.

Andrea Rainer

\*\*\*

### GAY/BI MALES OF ALL AGES

#### **SOCIAL/RECREATIONAL/SPORTS GROUP - INTERESTED?**

If there is sufficient interest from males of all ages we could start organizing for the fall. If you're interested, and willing to help organize the group, contact John at 995-1397 or email canajun10@hotmail.com.

\*\*\*

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to top or not to top, that is the question

i only have a few comments on the annual hubbub on toplessness and pridelessness

Some people think that:

- \* complaining about complaining is still complaining
- \* breasts are the same as genitals
- \* socks are not the same as breasts
- \* conservative is not a gender or sexual identity
- \* one might expect to get a rize when you show off your mammary glands
- \* one might expect to get razzed by those closest to you
- \* then again one might expect to get a rize out of a razz
- \* participating in the Pride board does not guarantee equality or understanding or support or tolerance
- \* it's unlawful (as in not sanctioned by law) to be homosexual
- \* illegality has not stopped most of you/us from doing what we do
- \* being queer is about sex
- \* breast are sexual - amen
- \* grown men in women's clothing is "against family values"
- \* if you wear a tuxedo, you should wear a tuxedo when you write articles, or any old time
- \* any old parade will do for those topless gals
- \* women's issues are not gender issues are not queer issues
- \* status can be used for evil and not good
- \* evil is a relative term

and then there are people who are concerned with other things

signed by

have-gone-topless-and-might-do-it-again, might-be-topless-right-now,  
mother-who-is-terrified-of-family-friendly-anything,  
past-Pride-board-member-and-might-do-it-again,  
recovering-feminist-monica-kendel



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**OUT ON THE TABLE: Dating Tips for the Naive and the Jaded**

*By : Monica Kendel*

**IN SEARCH OF CLEAVAGE: How to get a date with a topless gal**

Does anyone remember the action of '95? That would be the topless action of '95 where several gals, on Pride stage, revealed all... writing TOP THIS with electrical tape on bare chests? We've been there and took off the T-shirt to prove it! Who'd a thunk that skin would be so controversial? We all know, this is not about skin... it's about who's the top.

In response to the excitement about toplessness and Pride, I set out to honour the few sterling topless women who grace us with their presence. Sort of a Miss Manners for dating topless Goddesses. So here are some tips (so to speak) on what you need to know before you ever consider dating a topless woman.

- \* Electrical tape has many uses we haven't even dreamed of.
- \* Be warned, toplessness can occur any time, any place.
- \* Bare breasts on women are often seen at sordid events where topless men wear very little over their family jewels.
- \* Topless women have been known to belong to families (yes with

children, young impressionable children)... although many were raised by wolves.

- \* You must have a serious appreciation for breasts, large, small, medium, in pairs, in singles, with or without piercings, with or without hair... you get my meaning.
- \* If you aren't turned on by the idea of toplessness, it's not for you... bow out of the running for a date with the Goddess, because it's much too big for you honey!
- \* If you are turned on by toplessness, you are a sick pervert who is merely objectifying women's body parts - confused?
- \* Remember that the Goddess deserves to be revered, hope you got that one.
- \* Can you handle ego... yours that is.
- \* Understand the power that a topless woman wields - this is not for the squeamish. Toplessness is so dangerous, that even police have been called in to restore order.
- \* Be ready to debate the virtues of political action - with tact and diplomacy. Need I say, submission will go a long way.
- \* You have to be firmly planted in your selfhood in order to know that a topless action is about her politics and not about you (guaranteed, this will take a lot of practice - especially for you Aries out there!).
- \* Search your soul to figure out why you don't take that dang shirt off!
- \* Figure out if her actions are feminist, sexual, just plain naughty, exhibitionist, because it's too darned hot or other.
- \* Don't assume that every bare breast is a political action.

- \* Don't assume that every bare breast isn't a political action.
- \* Just don't assume a thing to be safe!
- \* Although a cigar is sometimes simply a cigar, a breast is rarely simply a breast!

Now that you know the basics, I hope you are appropriately in awe, perhaps terrified! Then there are some of you who are terribly, terribly turned on! Whatever your position, brace yourself for the prospect before you. Dating a topless woman can be a wild ride. Alas, the challenge will be in finding one! They are rare creatures you know. I for one would love to date a topless deity, and am up for the challenge (maybe that will get our first letter to OUT ON THE TABLE). If I ever get a letter to OUT ON THE TABLE, then I can answer one! So get writing!

p.s. Sorry to all those diligent GOT YOUR NUMBER note recipients! Your pink slips are now at the Bleeding Rose. They were safely packed away in my recent move... but they have surfaced and are in April's hot little hands... So come on down and get the phone number of your future spouse! And before we lose all credibility (fine thread as it were), April is working on that more permanent dating number thing - so stay tuned - really!



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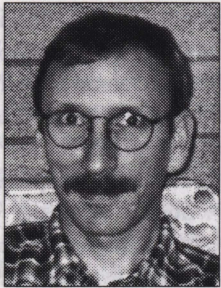
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## The Gay and Lesbian TV Guide



**Michael  
Yoder**

I'm one of those "TV generation" people. Thirty-nine, male, grew up on the Flintstones, the Partridge Family, Scooby Doo, and Gilligan's Island. I know my TV shows and have been jaded by the boob tube. Now it's that time of year when the networks trot out the new shows and woo us all into a winter's worth of couch potato-hood. So I started to think about gay characters I've noticed over the years.

Admittedly, I don't watch "Will and Grace" (except every once in a while); and I only watched part of one episode of "Normal" – the short-lived series with John Goodman. And I watched "Ellen" until she wasn't funny anymore. I'm not likely to watch Ellen in her new series because she already lost me in the last one. (Alright, I'll try it out a couple of times and at least give her a shot)

Gay and lesbian characters have certainly made their mark on the television landscape (except on Star Trek where apparently they've solved that whole gay thing). We never used to be on TV except through Paul Lynd on Hollywood Squares or the questionable sexuality of Charles Nelson Riley. Then there was Martin Mull and Sandra Bernhardt on *Roseanne* which was a huge leap

forward (although the famous *kiss* was upsettingly anti-climactic). So, on the one hand we've come a long way in being an open and visible presence in TV land, the most consumable North American product.

On the other hand, I think that simply being gay doesn't make a character funny or worth watching. Camp has always been funny (to some). In the case of Will and Grace, Will is offset by Jack (the male ingénue vs. the campy fag). But I think the caustic secretary Karen is much funnier and has better lines. The show hasn't grabbed my attention though, I got tired of the 'gay' thing.

Ellen battled to be openly lesbian on her series and for a brief and shining moment she was queen. But after that everything was 'lesbian' this and 'gay' that and it wasn't funny. Earlier shows had better scripts and story lines that didn't rely on Ellen's sexuality and weren't trying to make a point. Which was good, because it's TV comedy and there isn't supposed to be a point.

The zany antics in sitcom life are what make it funny, not the sexual orientation of a character. Gay men and lesbians aren't funny because they're gay or lesbian. If that were true we'd be laughing all the time (ha). What's funny is the situation in which the characters are placed and their reaction to it (and the laugh track if they have one). Being constantly reminded that a character is gay or lesbian – with no context to a joke – for me is excruciatingly dull.

Perhaps I'm missing all the humor in Will and Grace, and perhaps I'm just not up on the hip-ness of Ellen and I need to get with the times, but I don't think I'll be glued to any show out of duty to my political label and I won't be convinced that a gay or lesbian life is any funnier than a straight one when it comes to tv.

I don't think it will matter much to people like *Ellen* – well... she's rich and famous and doesn't know who I am.

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# Musaic News

## Musaic Marching Kazoo Band goes to Vancouver Pride

Our bus driver George wasn't sure about us, I don't think he had ever met any gays and lesbians before, especially en masse. He certainly can feel comfortable now, having spent a day with forty plus of us, including two women from Germany who found us through the Bleeding Rose. The rain held off until we started marching, then it was wet T-shirt competition time. Marching in a gay pride parade can be very emotional especially for an old dyke like myself, remembering when these parades just were not allowed. There were over 200,000 on the route yelling and clapping. We were well received, our little band, squeezed between two "boom box" floats. We struggled to be heard, but our "Drum Major" - Melaney, directed us well. We marched proudly and played loudly on our kazoos, tambourine and drum. People called out our names (we had taken a cheering section with us) and it was exciting. George found a dry parking space for us, and we were happy to change out of our wet clothes. Some of us splashed around the festival afterwards, but we were running out of dry clothes. We all had a great day and were happy to head home singing much of the way, as is typical of Musaic. Thanks to all that supported us. We are already planning for next year. Special thanks to Pat Ford for her fund raising efforts with her rainbow bracelets.

*Robin (Drill Sergeant)*



## WE'RE RECRUITING!!!!

Do you like to sing? Do you want to make fabulous friends? Musaic, our local Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Allies choir is looking for new members of the vocal kind. Divas! This is your time to shine!! If you identify musically as a Bass, you'll get absolutely Divine treatment at this time!! Baritones, too. And of course, wherever you may lie on the musical scale, we're thrilled at the idea of YOU, yes you, gleefully swelling our ranks. You don't need to audition, or be able to read music. You don't even have to be Queer. All you have to do is show up at this season's 1st rehearsal for an introduction into what it is that we do in Musaic. Or, if you're feeling a little shy, call 598-2881 for more info. Musaic meets every Wednesday for rehearsals from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Church of Truth, 111 Superior St. (corner of Lawrence St.) in James Bay. Come check us out!!



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## The Gay **Alexandra Tydings... The Goddess of Love**

Alexandra Tydings is moving on. After 5 years of playing Aphrodite on both *Hercules: The Legendary Journey* and *Xena: Warrior Princess*, she is moving on to a new series that she co-created with Babylon 5's Claudia Christian and that she hopes to see in Production this fall. We caught up with the beautiful and charming actress at the First annual Victoria Comic Book and Sci-Fi Convention and got the skinny on subtext, her new series and a music video called *Taboo*.

**LR:** Tell us about Hourglass.

**AT:** It is about these two women who grew up together, are very close and always wanted to travel to the future except there is a mistake and they end up in the past traveling through history trying to get back home. It will explore history and have these two beautiful, intelligent female characters.

**LR:** Have you pitched it yet?

**AT:** Yes, a couple of times. We have a couple different producers who would like to do it. We are dealing with contracts and lawyers and all that stuff. It's very exciting! Steven Sears, who was executive Producer of *Xena* and now of *Sheena*, has said he wants to do it. Has agreed to if we want him. So, we are in the middle of all that and I am really excited.

**LR:** It's a great premise for a show and sounds very interesting, almost like *Quantum Leap* meets *Xena*.

**AT:** Thank-you.

**LR:** Will there be any Lesbian subtext in the show?

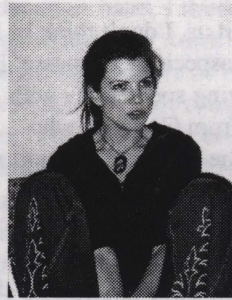
**AT:** Have you been to the web site? [www.hourglass1.com](http://www.hourglass1.com)

**LR:** Yes...I've seen it.

**AT:** We have subtext in the web site, baby! I just wrote the pilot episode and I put subtext in. I've also been told that chances are very, very high that no matter how good my pilot was, it will end up getting re-written by whomever we get to produce it. It ultimately has a lot to do with who ends up running the show. I know Sears isn't afraid of that so if we go with him and we (Claudia & Alex) have anything to do with it...

**LR:** and given your and Claudia's background, the characters you have played...

**AT:** Yeah. We would like to start where *Xena* left off and go from there. Also a good chunk of the pilot that I wrote has us on board ship with Anne Bonney and Mary Read, who were probably lovers. Claudia and I really want to make the show, not a feminist revision of history but a revisitation of



history. We want to visit important moments where women were in power.

**LR:** So, the lesbian fan base for *Xena* never bothered you?

**AT:** Why would it bother me? I think it's wonderful.

**LR:** I think it kept the show going.

**AT:** You are probably right.

**LR:** Obviously, the same fan base is behind *Hourglass* already.

**AT:** (Laughs) Yea, baby! Wait till you see *Taboo*.

**LR:** I wanted to ask you about *Taboo*, we just ordered the uncensored version.

**AT:** It was crazy how it happened. I was having lunch with Claire [Stansfield, who plays Alti on *Xena* & directed *Taboo*] and she showed me a printout of stills from the shoot with Claudia [Christian, formerly of *Babylon 5*] and Katya who is a fan from Finland who is in the video. The stills were beautiful. Claire really knows how to light women and it was so gorgeous. I said, "I'm jealous, I want to be in it."

**LR:** Be careful what you wish for.

**AT:** Oh yeah! There I was a week later.

**LR:** What is *Taboo* about?

**AT:** It's a music video. The song [sung by Claudia Christian] is about sexual taboos and desires. Claire has a great sense of style and there is another 'fan' in it, a woman whose name is Sebastian, from England. She's gorgeous. She has no hair and you can't really tell what race she is or what gender she is. I had all my scenes with her.

**LR:** Sounds like you have interesting scenes.

**AT:** Yea. In the first one I was in a red corset with a blind fold with Sebastian sort of in the background. The next one Claire had me in bright red little boys' underwear and a bright red bra. Then she had me walk around Claudia's house and get my feet all dirty. The shot had me on my hands and knees and you see my dirty feet and little boys'



underwear and Sebastian's combat boots in the corner of the frame.

**LR:** Wow

**AT:** Yeah, it's pretty sexy! Then we started drinking (laughs) and I asked to hear the music for the video. So, we put on the music, started drinking and Claire told me the camera wasn't on when it was ... and things went from there.

**LR:** All that's in the video?

**AT:** Oh yeah, more in the uncensored version.

**LR:** When did you get a sense of how big Xena was?

**AT:** I had friends who were on the internet hinting at stuff, telling me I had alters and such, but it was my first convention that just blew me away. It was a small one, Rebel Con in Boston. Then I did GenCon and there were 30,000 people and it really did mess with my head. I never get recognized. I don't look anything like Aphrodite in real life especially then I had really short hair. I was shocked.

**LR:** What is your favorite episode of Xena and why?

**AT:** My favorite episode is *The God you Know*. Because there was such a range for my character. And it was wild to work with Alexis Arquette! One of my most challenging episodes. It was intense. Alexis is amazing both on and off screen. For example, there was this little room where we had to wait to go on and we were all there, me, Rene, Alexis and 4 half dressed slave guys. Alexis was holding court with the guys and I was in the corner trying to cry for a scene. It was crazy.

**LR:** Whose idea was it for Aphrodite to kiss Gabrielle?

**AT:** I don't know. One of the writers, I guess. (grinning) It was fun! It was a hard scene to shoot though. You can't tell from the way they shot it but I was crying and that's a lot in one scene. To be crying and laughing and telling a girl that you are so in love with a guy and then trying to make out with that same girl 2 seconds later.

**LR:** Besides Xena, what have you done that you are the most proud of?

**AT:** Umm... *Sunchaser*, which is a movie I did a few years ago with Woody Harrelson that Michael Cimino, directed. It went to the Cannes Film Festival, did really well in France. It did horrible in America. Nobody ever saw it, which is why you haven't heard of it. I liked my work in that movie and I liked working with Cimino as a director. It was the real deal. Also, it was a really different experience from doing fast turnaround television. That's satisfying. A lot more than doing a scene twice and moving on.

**LR:** What are you doing now, other than *Hourglass*?

**AT:** Hourglass is taking up most of my time. I just did an episode of Sheena that will be on this fall. Claudia and I did a sci-fi audio book called *Anne Manx and the Ring of the*

*Minotaur*.

**LR:** You mentioned onstage earlier shooting a pilot in Vancouver. What was that?

**AT:** I did! It didn't get picked up. It was for UPN and was not picked up. It was a lot of fun. I got to learn to use a butterfly knife for that and I am pretty good at it now. I love weapons! It is so weird, I went to Quaker School for 14 years and yet I love fighting and weapons.

**LR:** What was your favorite TV show growing up?

**AT:** (Without hesitation) *Charlie's Angels*. I got to visit the set when I was 7 years old and I sat in Cheryl Ladd's chair. It was so cool! So COOL!

**LR:** What does the future hold for you?

**AT:** I want Hourglass to go into production this fall, shoot in Montreal or Europe so I can learn another language, be wildly successful, run for 5 years and become a springboard to all the other things I want to do. Acting, directing, writing, producing... To be able to work and create with my posse of talented friends. We push and challenge each other to do ground breaking stuff. I love working with women; I like working with men too. I like them all. I'm a slut.

**LR:** What one thing do you want fans to remember about you as Aphrodite?

**AT:** Laughter and that it was all about the love.



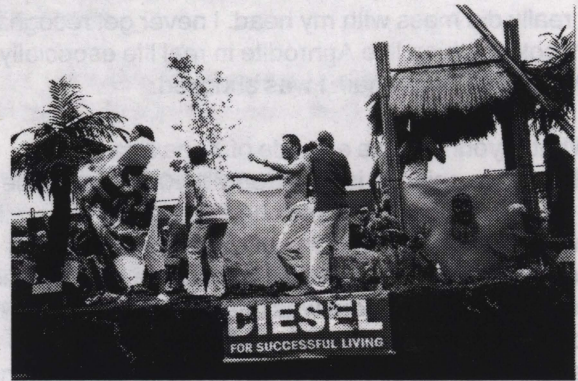
## The Queen's Rant



What is so bad about a bank wanting to support our community, a TV station wanting to join in our celebration, a restaurant generously donating food, a beer company sponsoring a portion of an event or an air line sponsoring another portion? Vancouver Pride did it, and it was fabulous. In spite of the rain thousands of people flocked to see a gorgeous array of lovely men and stunning women express themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, Intersexed, kinky etc. No one seemed to mind that off in the far corner was a beer garden, and off to the side a bank was saying "Hey your gay, fabulous, how 'bout a mutual fund?" Besides, most of the people representing these companies are gay themselves asking their organizations to help out. I think it is absolutely wonderful that they participate and a step in the right direction. I actually heard a straight on looker say "Oh my gawd! Gay people drink draft beer and bank just like I do, they can't be all that bad!" Well no I didn't, but somebody could have. What's the harm in showing the world that yea some us fly, yes some of us bank, and yes some of us drink and even eat? We just do it with a little more flare. Sometimes when we show our similarities it can be easier to express our differences. If one person calls me a corporate pig I'll bitch slap you from now until Sunday.

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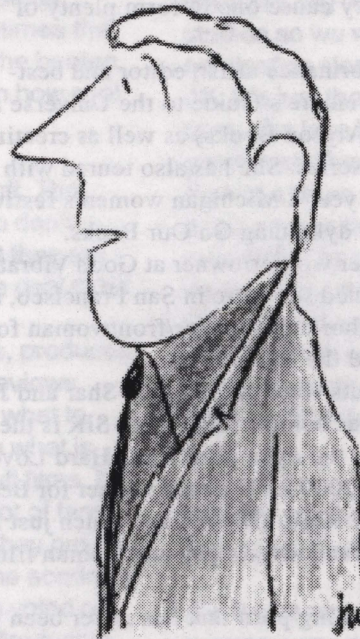
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**Did You Enjoy Pride? Want to Be Involved Next Year?  
Pride AGM**

Victoria Pride Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Friday, September 14th, at The Bleeding Rose. Meeting starts at 6pm. We will be electing 4 new official board members as there are 8 standing members of the current board. Also recruiting committee members and volunteers for the 2001/2002 Pride Season. The Victoria Pride Society is a year round organization and we need warm bodies as well as fresh, helpful ideas. Come and help plan a year of great fundraisers and a fabulous 2002 Pride Festival.



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John Lolo

**"I'm from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. We've learned that you didn't march in last year's Gay Pride Parade. I'm afraid we're going to have to ask you to return your gay decoder ring."**



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## Out in Vancouver with Dyke Porn Auteurs Shar Rednour and Jackie Strano

By April Grant and Sally Calich

### *au-teur n.*

A filmmaker, usually a director, who exercises creative control over his or her works and has a strong personal style.

Diva. Porn Star. Reverend. Rock Star. Femmepres. Pornographer. Shar Rednour and Jackie Strano would make anyone curious and they cause one to form plenty of preconceptions.

Shar Rednour is a performance artist, editor and best-selling author of *The Femme's Guide to the Universe* and *Starf\*cker* (both from Alyson Books) as well as creating the erotic *Virgin Territory* series. She has also toured with sister Spit, performed at this year's Michigan women's festival and cut her teeth at the dyke mag *On Our Backs*.

Jackie Strano is a former worker/owner at Good Vibrations, the famous woman-owned sex store in San Francisco, as well as a published author and founder/frontwoman for the all-dyke hard rock band the Hail Marys.

If these accomplishments were not enough, Shar and Jackie are also the powerhouses behind SIR Video. SIR is the company that produced the dyke porn films *Hard Love/How to Fuck in High Heels* (2000 AVN award winner for Best All-Girl Feature) and *Sugar High, Glitter City*, which just had its Canadian Premiere at Vancouver's gay and lesbian film festival *Out on Screen*.

Shar and Jackie are creating porn that has never been seen before. Porn with butch women, role-playing and erotic power exchange. Porn that celebrates lesbian sex and yet may offend some lesbians. It's real sex with real women. It's honest, groundbreaking, radical and hot.

It was with these things in mind that we approached this interview in Vancouver only to have our preconceptions smashed by two incredible women who touched our lives and just may change the way you look at sex. Here now is the first in our multi-part interview.



The cast of *Hard Love/How to F\*ck in High Heels*

LR: Tell us about the Hail Marys.

JS: I started the Hail Marys back in 93. I am the lyricist, lead singer, rhythm guitarist and one of the main songwriters. It used to be mixed, which was cool because we got to play a lot of Gay Pride festivals, but as of 1996 it has been an all dyke rock band. We have toured nationally and internationally if you count our gig at Whistler back in 94 (laughs) are on the soundtrack of *Bound* and indie festival flicks like *My Femme Divine* and *Hard Love*, etc. We have toured regionally, opened for Cyndi Lauper, X, The Delphines, and soon The Butchies besides playing with

other awesome bands. We have played the big clubs here like The Filmore, Slim's and The Paradise Lounge. We have self released 3 CD's, the most recent is a seven song self titled EP. Immediate goals are securing management, distribution, and getting to play in Europe. We are also looking for a new lead guitarist. Former guitarist, Debbie Torrey has left on good terms after 4 years to pursue her college studies and to not have to tour. I also do solo shows of my own songs and stripped down versions of Hail Marys songs I have written. We have upcoming gigs and tour plans and want to promote our newest CD, want to do more soundtracks too. Veronica Savage is the bass player since 1996; Cat Barber has been our drummer since 1998.

JS: I love it. I mean, it doesn't pay the rent but I'll tell you something; I get e-mails from people all over and I answer them myself. I remember when I was younger and I loved a band, I didn't get to talk to them. It's cool. I have a high school girl in Florida who has just come out to her parents, her big dream is to drive cross-country when she graduates from high school, come to California and see the Hail Marys play. It is great to have that instant link. I hate to have the middleman in anything. We are do it ourselves type business people. Of course we'd love to make more money at it. It has kind of been a side project that has sucked a lot of money but it is my passion and my heart.

**LR:** Shar, tell us a little about Sister Spit.

**SR:** Sister Spit began in 1994 through the efforts of Sini Anderson and Michelle Tea to bring together talented women and dykes. I started performing with Sister Spit 4 years ago. I am part of about 15 writers that are considered part of the Sister Spit family. Most of us are in the Bay area but not all, like Kathe Izzo is in Province Town and some are in New York. It is fun but it is hard for me to only read for 10 minutes. Most of the women are poets but there are a few of us who are prose.

**LR:** And the Wasted Motel tour?

**SR:** The Wasted Motel Tour was a tour of baby poets and delinquent Divas. It consisted of Michelle Tea, Kassy Kayiatos, Sash Sunday, Jackie and me.

**LR:** How did it come about?

**SR:** I had the Femme's Guide out and I wanted to tour it but we didn't have the money and if you just read at bookstores you don't get paid. I was used to doing shows with Sister Spit. It wasn't so much that we wanted to make money but we wanted to make sure we didn't go into the hole for touring. Michelle [Tea] had a new book out, Valencia, and Jackie doesn't read enough in public. Kassy is a youth poet/slam champ. She was the baby; she turned 21 on the tour. Sash Sunday rounded out the tour but she deserted in after the New York show and went to Prague. I think the best part is to inspire other women.

**JS:** I was bummed about that because she and I did drag during the tour as well. We were the Cajun Carpetmuncher Brothers, pronounced Karpaymonshay. We did really good drag and we actually perform; we don't lip synch. We looked downright frightful. Dykes always thought we were in the wrong bar. We would be all strapped and dressed and go to the

club and dykes would be like, "I don't think so!" Then we would have to tell them that we were part of the night's act. Our whole schtick was that these songs were stolen from us while we were in rehab and we have come back to claim our hits; then we do Eagle's numbers and stuff like that.

**LR:** Was response to the tour good?

**SR:** It was great. It was fabulous.

**JS:** We had a blast. Sometimes the places that were a little off the beaten path really surprised us with how cool they were.

**LR:** Now, on to the good stuff. The AVN awards. For those who don't know, can you explain what they are and why it was such a huge deal to be nominated and win?

**JS:** AVN, Adult Video News, produces an issue every month that reviews adult movies, tells retailers what to stock and gives updates on what is going on in the world of adult films. It is industry rag really but a lot of fans read it as well. Every year they put on an awards show, just like the academy awards, and the awards are voted on by people in the industry. (Producers, actors, directors etc.)

**LR:** It must be hard to get nominated.

**JS:** There are huge amounts of money put behind campaigns for these films. It is very intense competition.

**SR:** There are technical awards as well as awards for best girl/girl scene, best group scene...

**JS:** So, we don't have the money to lobby or take out full page ads but we sent it [the film] to them because we are in the business and we wanted them to see what we are doing. They loved it. They gave us a full page, Editor's Choice review; then we got nominated for Best All-Girl Scene and Best All-Girl Feature and came home with one award.

**SR:** It's funny. We won for best all-girl feature but to be nominated for best all-girl scene is almost a bigger deal.

First of all, it used to be a specialty to

have a girl/girl scene in a movie but now there is a girl/girl scene in almost every movie. We're talking about 10,000 scenes and WE get nominated. In addition to that it was Jackie and CC Belle's scene in Hard Love so you have a scene with a butch woman.

**JS:** It was a big deal.

**SR:** there is a lot of cheesy, bad porn out there but there is some good stuff. Some stuff shot on film with great directors, big budgets and editing studios so we were pleased by that nomination alone.

**JS:** We just thought we were gonna go party. We love Vegas and wanted to gamble and have fun. We brought our friends with us and were in a room with a huge tub in the middle. So here's this crowd of dykes going into this thing. I mean we're all tattooed and pierced with colored hair and the butches were wearing their suits. But we walked in and were totally accepted. They were just like, "The freaks are here! Woo hoo!"

**SR:** We are the fringe of the fringe in that group it was very interesting.

**JS:** It was nice for this alternative, tiny women owned company who is really on the outside of the industry to be given the nod by the mainstream was nice.

**SR:** I think that the thing that was important about the award as well was that our little movie and the fact that the sex in it was so authentic and so earnest and really sexy speaks volumes. That's what they really look for. There are really good people at AVN who are serious and it's not just about who bought the biggest ad. Whether it is gay, straight or lesbian they look for people enjoying sex.

**LR:** Did any of the big distributors approach you after that?

**JS:** Yeah, we've gotten contacted by

*(continued on page 14...)*

(Continued from page 13...)

some of the big boys but they think we are going to sell them a buch for \$5 or whatever. We can't survive like that. We are a two person company and we don't want to bite off more than we can chew.

**SR:** The film has been successful. Considering the company is just me and Jackie and there are lots of women who don't know about the film yet and can't go to their local store and get it.

**JS:** We live off our company and everything we make goes back into production of more movies. But we are doing ok. We went into the profit margin...

**SR:** I predicted a year and it took 9 months. The thing is, I used to work for Fatale Video and I knew from those days, that the distributors want ridiculous prices so I warned Jackie when we went into this and steady but we can't git it away to distributors. This is a specialty product. I told one distributor that what he was asking was like asking for the hand blown glass earrings for the same price as the ones you get at Wal-Greens. I wear everything from trash to treasure but one is different from the other. These are not mass-produced and we only make one film a year.

**JS:** We really created our own niche market and there isn't anything else like it out there right now. We started as a production company and kind of fell into the distribution.

**SR:** We aren't intimidated by the distributors though so..

**LR:** Has it been hard to find talent?

**SR:** Thank god we live in the SF Bay area! There are a bevy of beautiful dykes who are exhibitionists.

**JS:** Willing talent.

**SR:** The more movies we do the more talent we find.

**JS:** Exactly. Now people are coming to us. We have a whole list of folks to interview for the next production.

**LR:** Do you always have the same crew?

**JS:** We've worked with the same folks for every production. We all do everything.

**LR:** It was interesting watching the credits of both films and seeing everyone's name pop up again and again doing other things for the film.

**JS:** Totally, we all wear a million hats

**Read Next Month's issue for the rest of this interview where we talk about sex, porn and the lesbian reaction.**

## In the next Rhino:

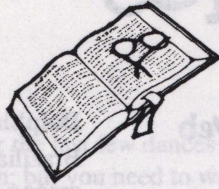
Part II of Dyke Porn Interview  
Q&A with Trans Activist Rupert Raj  
The Return of Queer Spirit  
Out on the Table  
and  
A new Sexual Health Column



**Linda Fraser** On sexual health in the nest Rhino



## What a Word's Worth



### Glass Houses

Ciearan Llachlan Leavitt

(Renaissance Alliance Publishing, Inc.,  
1999/2001)

### Tropical Storm

Melissa Good

(Justice House Publishing, 2000)

What a strange experience it was to read Melissa Good's *Tropical Storm* followed immediately by *Glass Houses* by Victoria author, Ciearan Llachlan Leavitt. Leavitt's novel was inspired by Good's and closely echoes *Tropical Storm* in both substance and form.

*Tropical Storm* is a novel about a tough-as-nails corporate raider, Dar Roberts, whose career involves taking over small IT companies. Whether acquired staff are absorbed or fired is of no consequence to Dar who cares only for the bottom line. Her takeover of Associated Synergenics doesn't go quite as smoothly as she is used to when she comes up against Associated manager, Kerry Stuart. Stuart is smart, attractive, loyal to her people, and so gosh-darn 'nice' she made my teeth hurt. Needless to say, some serious "opposites attract" dynamics follow, and the two women face a myriad of challenges as they become more and more passionately involved.

Leavitt's novel is about a workaholic filmmaker who winds up directing a film based on the novel *Tropical Storm*. The lead actress hired to play the ruthless Dar Roberts is a wonderfully flawed, homophobic woman hiding from a plethora of demons she keeps locked away in her own well-barricaded closet.

Leavitt's director, Jae Cavanaugh, follows the *Tropical Storm* plot quite faithfully as she attempts to create a wonderful movie that will further her career in Hollywood. It is most disconcerting to hear Jae discussing dialogue (as written in the novel, *Tropical Storm*) with her lead actress, Reed, who is (in

*Glass Houses*) busily reading *Tropical Storm* as filming is underway. This clever layering fiction over fiction creates the most peculiar illusion of truth and left me feeling as if I had stumbled in on some bizarre movie set in which I was both a participant and observer.

*Glass Houses* is the more complex and subtle of the two novels, though at times it feels like Leavitt is intentionally messing with readers' heads as she has director and actress analyze how best to bring Good's characters to life. The interpersonal dynamics between director, Jae, and actress, Reed, are more interesting than the goings on between Dar and Kerry in *Tropical Storm*. Reed and Jae are sometimes predictable and boring. I found the back-story and motivations of Leavitt's characters to be more plausible than Good's. In *Tropical Storm*, both Kerry and Dar seemed too pat, their turnarounds too tidy. Kerry's background didn't quite ring true (extremely dysfunctional families tend to produce dysfunctional kids and Kerry is, well, too darned nice). Towards the end of *Glass Houses* Leavitt writes some very convincing and powerful emotional material as we see the actress, Reed, struggling to come to terms with the inner conflicts caused by the discordance between years of homophobia/people-who-say-they-love-me-just-want-to-use-me conditioning and her powerful feelings for Jae. The main characters in *Glass Houses* grow and change in convincing ways and of the two sets of protagonists, I cared more about Leavitt's and found their story to be more believable, interesting, and compelling.

Both books use alternating points of view as the narrative flips back and forth

between the main characters. I'm not a fan of this technique. I'd rather get inside the head of one character with which I can form a strong emotional attachment instead of constantly jumping back and forth between leads. In both books (and particularly in *Tropical Storm*) it is sometimes hard to tell who is speaking, as the voices of the lead characters are, at times, too similar. I don't know whether Leavitt made the decision to use the same alternating point of view as Good because she liked it or because she was imitating Good's style. Either way, neither author managed to totally overcome the built-in shortcomings of this format.

Both novels had lots of enjoyable fifth business. Having lived in Florida for a time, it was fun to see references to local hangouts in *Tropical Storm* (some of which are revisited when the film crew in *Glass Houses* travels to Florida for some location filming). By the same token, Leavitt does a good job of evoking the craziness of the film industry.

Neither plot is really strong enough to sustain 400+ pages of narrative – both of these novels could have been cut by a third and we wouldn't have missed some of the filler and repetition. That said, if you've got some time on your hands, grab a copy of each and lose yourself in this peculiar art-imitating-art-imitating-art pair of novels. For best results, read *Tropical Storm* first.



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# Spider Lines



from the

**Wicked Witch of the Web**

## **Vriend Decision Detour**

King's University College is attempting an end run around the Supreme Court of Canada decision that led to changes in Alberta's regulatory stance on Queer rights.

The college is the fundamentalist Christian school that went to court and lost after it fired Delwin Vriend because he had come out. Not only did Vriend win his suit against the school, but also the case and the homophobic response it precipitated across Alberta inspired the provincial government to extend human rights protection to Queers.

Now King's is trying to ban Queers indirectly with a new code of conduct; it has no mention of lesbians or gays, but does prohibit "sex outside marriage" as well as things like using illegal drugs or swearing.

## **Queer Partnerships Recognized**

A Saskatchewan omnibus bill that received royal assent in July recognizes same-gender partnerships and amends 24 provincial laws to give Queer couples adoption rights, public pension benefits ... the same rights as any other couple.

Saskatchewan is the sixth province to comply with a Supreme Court decision two years ago that provincial laws must give same-gender couples the same legal rights as married and heterosexual common-law couples.

## **Or Not**

As more U.S. states start recognizing Queer partnerships, two right-wing Christian groups think they have a way to stop the evolution. The Traditional Values Coalition and Focus On the Family want a constitutional amendment banning same-gender marriage.

Coalition chair Rev. Louis Sheldon says the amendment is required because of the "barrage" of attacks on family values. "There was Hawaii, then you had Alaska, then you had Vermont. We see the writing on the wall," Sheldon says. "Our founding fathers never anticipated this. We definitely need to take this to the people. That's what a constitutional amendment would be." The amendment, which has been endorsed by Senator Jesse Helms, would need to be adopted by two-thirds of U.S. states to take effect. More than 30 states have already passed laws specifically prohibiting same-gender unions. Missouri joined that list in July with legislation that not only bans Queer marriage in the state, but also refuses to recognize same-gender union ceremonies performed out of state (i.e., Vermont).

## **Dolphin Diversity**

Brazilian scientists have documented homosexual behavior among dolphins.

The team of marine experts was studying dolphins at an archipelago off the northeastern coast, with a particular interest in their reproductive behaviour. They were surprised when they observed homosexual behavior among both males and females. The scientists are now looking for environmental anomalies to "explain" the dolphins' Queer behaviour.

## **ITV Pumps Alpha**

Britain's Independent Television network is broadcasting a 10-part documentary about Alpha, an evangelical Christian recruitment program based on the claim that Queers can choose to become straight. ITV has so far not agreed to give any Queer organization equal time.

The documentary is "the biggest Christian propaganda campaign ever seen on British TV," according to the Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association.

The Alpha course preaches that homosexuality is a sin and that Queers will go to Hell. Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, says it's "a wonderful tool for the Christian faith."

## **The Score**

A New Jersey court has ruled that trannies are protected under state anti-discrimination laws even if the laws don't specifically say so.

Tuscon warns it will cut off its \$1.5 million annual contribution to the United Way unless the organization formally respects trannies' rights. That would prevent discrimination against trannies among United Way agencies, unless they decided to forego United Way funding.

Romania has decriminalized Queer relationships between consenting adults. Previous laws imposed jail terms of up to five years for homosexual behaviour. The Romanian government made the move because it wants membership in the European Union. The EU and the Council of Europe had denounced Romania's sex laws as a breach of human rights.

Same-gender marriages have been legal since Aug. 1 in Germany. German officials have been swamped with licence applications.

Korea recently adopted an Internet rating system to protect the public from "harmful" sites and almost immediately shut down [www.ivancity.com](http://www.ivancity.com) because it served the Queer community. The government's filtering system is also blocking other Queer sites from outside Korea.



# Women's Creative Network News

## Bar Volunteers Needed

Thanks to Laura, we have been able to run a quality bar the last few dances (ie. good selection of drinks). We are in need of a roster of volunteers who are capable and willing. It can be fun; but you need to want to work hard too - there just isn't time to chit-chat! If you've had some bar or restaurant experience or mix drinks for friends or think you'd be good training material, please call Susan (382-3677). The idea is to develop a list of capable volunteers; 4-6 people from the list would be needed at each dance. Thanks.

## Memberships

WCN Board recognizes that some women are anxious to renew their memberships. Thank you! We are just starting to get re-organized in this department. Please contact Susan if you wish to help. Why memberships? As well in addition to cheaper drinks at events, members are the back bone of WCN. Thanks to your membership support, we are getting closer to our goal of having our very own women's building.

## Events

### Upcoming:

Wyrd Sisters in Concert  
Friday, October 5th, 2001

Victoria Conservatory of Music, Tickets \$18 in advance or \$20 at door

### On-going:

Coming Out Support Group for Women  
- first and third Friday evenings of the month  
- AVI 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
- Tammi (413-2473 - leave message)

## Hallowe'en Dance

Saturday, November 3rd, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 8:00pm

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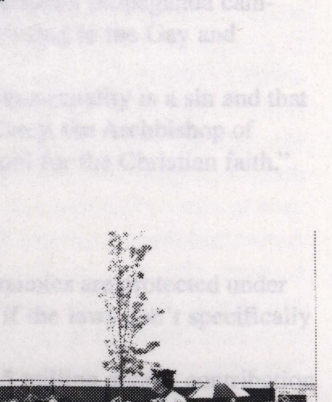
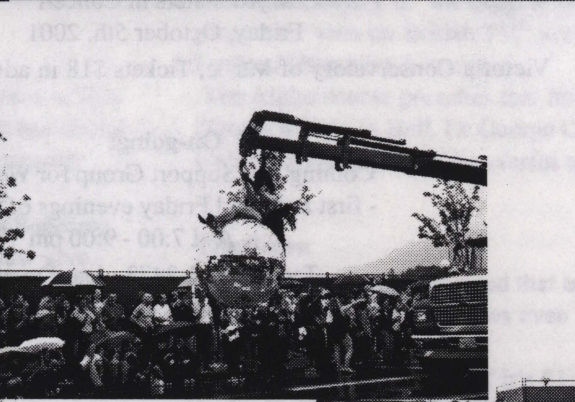
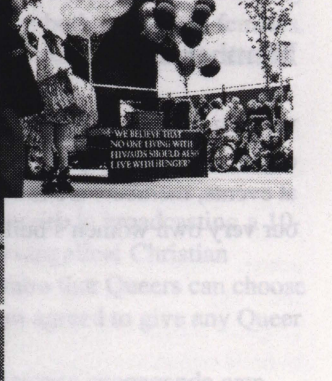
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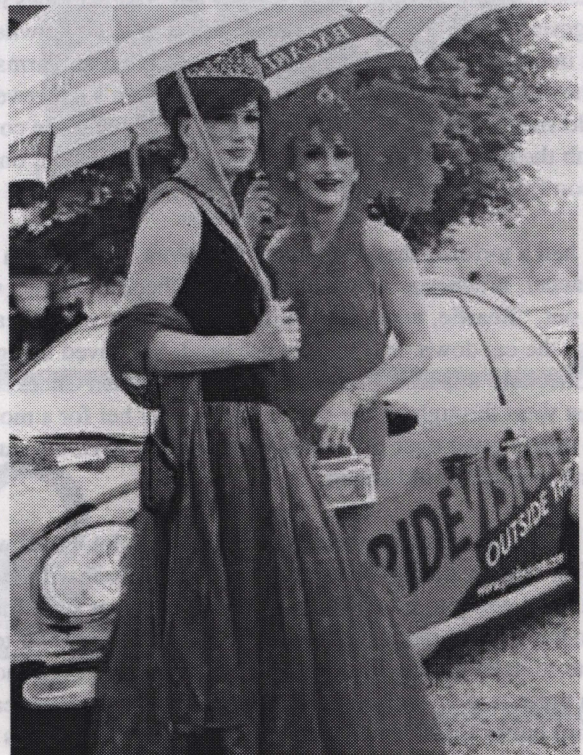
**Janet Weigelt 385-2960**



**Geena and Irma do Victoria proud in Vancouver's 2001 Pride Parade.**

# Vancouver 2001

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## Good Night, Old Friend

By: Jenny Laing

On a hot July day in 1989, I was introduced to a black and tan Lab/Shepherd puppy. She was perfectly square, all feet and tail, and full of spit and vinegar. In the backyard of our house in Sharonville, she pattered about, snuffling and leaping at grasshoppers and leaves. Backing up for an especially tough jump, she ran her round bottom into a miniature rose bush. With a yelp, she whipped around, and in seconds flat gnawed the offender to the ground. There was nothing for it — we had to take her. We lived in that house for six years, and she never let that bush grow more than a foot high.

Andy named her "Beast" - to the outraged cries of his family, and Beast she was. For 12 years she graced our home with laughter and mud, bringing in old socks, dead leaves and the occasional stray puppy. She never got huge, as her paws had suggested she might, and she never did learn to come when she was interested in something else. She ate Barbie doll arms down to the elbows, and chewed every pair of women's underwear she could snarf. When she was young, she learned that she could climb the chain-link fence, and from that point on, the only reason for the fence was to keep other dogs out.

She had a tortoise-shell cat named Checkers, who died in 1998 of cancer. Whenever we wanted to keep Checkers in line, we'd call out, "Beastie, where's the kitty?" and Beast would leap up, chase the cat down, and step on her head. She loved this game — Checkers was less than enamoured of it. When Checkers died, Beast went through all the rooms looking for her for a month. She even tipped over the garbage, not eating anything, just trying to find her old friend.

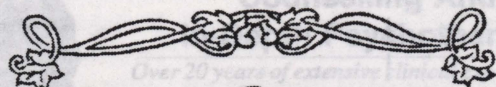
I'm a great one for a party, so we entertained a lot. Beast was the perfect dog for that, greeting everyone at the door with enthusiasm, then going to lie down at my feet. She never stole food from the table or the plate, though if offered, she was far too polite to decline. She loved peanut butter, maybe even more than meat, and the only time she begged was if we were eating peanut butter toast. Until Andy introduced her to the joys of Ruffles Potato Chips. It was all-downhill from there.

Although she loved every member of the family with gusto, she was my dog. She followed me everywhere, underfoot and in the way. She slept on or under or beside my bed, and in thunderstorms came to wake me with her terrified panting and a paw on my arm. We often talked long and earnestly to each other, with eye contact and nose contact and the occasional tongue contact (never MY idea). She knew when I was unhappy, and when I was getting ready to go on a trip. She lay under my legs when I sat on the couch; both of us content to just be together.

Beastie didn't do well with other dogs or fleas, being unhappy whenever she was in the presence of either. She was unpleasant enough with other dogs that she was never off her leash the last few years. Her flea allergy was bad enough that we almost lost her a few times, and she would look like a mangy cur by the end of summer. This past year, we noticed her weight was lessening, and she seemed to be coughing more. A checkup at the vet's in June showed an enlarged heart, enlarged liver, arthritis throughout her spine, and cancer. Rick (our wonderful vet) thought she wouldn't make it to the end of the month, but being Beastie, she fooled us all.

This evening, at 6:15, Beast lay down in our arms and died. Rick spent lots of time with us first, explaining the procedure, talking about making the best choices, and where her ashes would go. When he pulled the needle out, he whispered, "There you go, no more sick." I am so grateful to him for his thoughtfulness, but the ache in my heart, and the empty place beside my bed are going to cause me a lot of pain for the next while. I loved my old girl, and I'll miss her forever. I know, however, that she's running free, without a leash, stepping on the cat's head and biting down rose bushes.

Goodnight old friend. We'll meet again.



*Karen Wreggitt*

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"Most of the time we stand with our backs to our own Light, looking into the shadows."

Swami Radha

**Susan -Rose  
Slatkoff**

M.A., R.C.C.

Psychotherapist

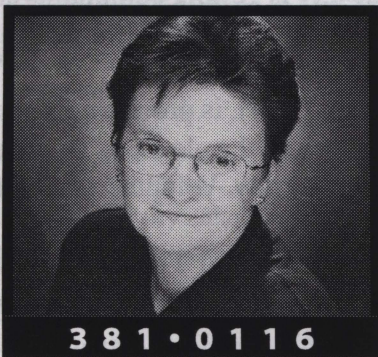
1422 Wende Road, Victoria, B.C. V8P 3T5 250-477-8385

**Do you love Leather? Do you love Leathermen? Leatherwomen? Are YOU into leather?**

The Victoria Pride Society, in conjunction with several community groups, is proud to announce that it will be co-producing the very first Mr. and Ms. Vancouver Island Leather Contests. This will be an official event in preparation for the 2003 Mr. BC Leather competition. We are seeking volunteers to help in planning and execution of this fun, weekend long event. The weekend will consist of meet-and-greets, vendor areas, the contest, a brunch and play parties. If you would like to get involved, compete, or for more information, please e-mail [bleedingrose@telus.net](mailto:bleedingrose@telus.net) or call 385-3099. Watch your Rhino for more details in the months to come!



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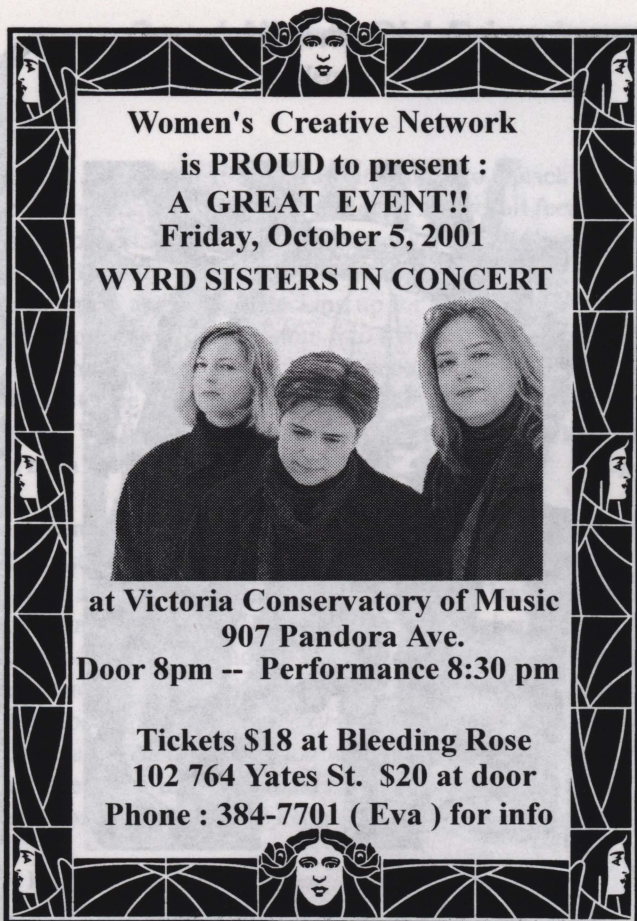
# Queer Spirit

Coming In The Next Rhino




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Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
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(250) 381-1431



**Women's Creative Network**  
 is PROUD to present :  
**A GREAT EVENT!!**  
**Friday, October 5, 2001**  
**WYRD SISTERS IN CONCERT**



**at Victoria Conservatory of Music**  
**907 Pandora Ave.**  
**Door 8pm -- Performance 8:30 pm**

**Tickets \$18 at Bleeding Rose**  
**102 764 Yates St. \$20 at door**  
**Phone : 384-7701 ( Eva ) for info**



**Why Walk?**  
**Because AIDS has no cure!**

Join us Sunday, September 23rd  
 for the 7th Annual Victoria AIDS Walk.

Registration begins at 9am.  
 Walk begins at 10am.

Food, Refreshments, and Entertainment  
 (for all ages) starts at noon.

To register call Shelley or Judy at 384-2366,  
 pick up a registration brochure at participating  
 sponsors, or register on-line at  
[www.aidswalkcanada.com](http://www.aidswalkcanada.com).















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## PARK CLEAN-UP

The cruising areas of Beacon Hill Park are in serious need of a cleanup and, should they not be cleaned up, the police and the city may take action to close these areas at night. The city is getting complaints about people's disgust with the areas when they walk through these areas during the day. Of course, these areas should be cleaned and maintained by those who use them but that is not going to happen!

Ayla Lepine, with the support of Jim Oliver, Men's Wellness Program (AVI), is proposing a cleanup of these areas, and has asked that groups like Prime Timers be invited to assist with the cleanup. This is an open invitation to everyone – especially those who use the park either at night or by day. Volunteers will be provided with appropriate tools and protective wear to do the job.

**The cleanup will commence on Saturday, September 15 at NOON sharp! The more bodies willing to help the faster the job can be done. Refreshments will be provided to volunteers after the cleanup at a place yet to be determined.**

Just be at the intersection of Park & Cook at NOON, September 15 and help responsible people get the job done so that everyone can continue to enjoy ALL areas of the park.

..... And don't forget the Pride Society AGM on Friday, September 14 at 6:00PM at the Bleeding Rose.

# What's Going On?

Rhino's Web Page <http://members.home.net/lavrhino/index.html>

**ALL notices are \$15 first 25 words and .50/word thereafter. Call 385-3099.**

**Deadline the first of the month prior to publication. Email April [bleedingrose\\_april@telus.net](mailto:bleedingrose_april@telus.net)**

**HAPPY HIKES:** Guided day hikes on southern Vancouver Island. Gourmet picnic lunches provided. Hikes customized for clients. Call 652-3818. Website [www.happyhikes.com](http://www.happyhikes.com)

**TAROT AND RUNE:** readings, spiritual guidance on how to face challenges in life. 10 yrs experience. \$40-50/hr sliding scale. Joy (a.k.a. Aurora) 361-4680.

**FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH:** 5575 West Saanich Road, welcomes all to worship together in an atmosphere of inclusiveness, acceptance, and respect on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Services of Union and other services supporting LGBT life in community are part of our Unitarian tradition. Phone 744-2665 for further information.

**INTERESTED?:** in forming a support group for lesbians who have a brain injury or have had to deal with a brain tumor. Partners welcome! For more information please call Brenda Vallillee: 479-9602, mornings or leave a message if no answer. Or email [brenster@sprint.ca](mailto:brenster@sprint.ca).

**TO RENT:** One bedroom basement suite near Gorge waterway to quiet dyke. Cat OK. Shared laundry. \$450 monthly including utilities. Call 744-3362

**FOR SINGLE WOMEN ONLY:** 35 & over. Organizing potluck social dinner/dessert evenings in comfortable home. Call 383-9546 if interested.

**GETAWAY TO PORT RENFREW:** Explore Botanical Beach, mile long Crescent Beach, hike the West Coast/Juan de Fuca Trails, swim in Fairy Lake, or lay by the woodstove and puruse our little library from this quaint , ocean view paradise. Equipped, three bedroom bungalow rented by the night - low rates: 388-0754

**LOOKING FOR UNDERSTANDING** and advice about your situation? Let the knowledge of the Kabbalah and the Tarot help you. Private, discreet and reasonable. [info@bleedingrose.com](mailto:info@bleedingrose.com) or [zenon\\_tarot@msn.com](mailto:zenon_tarot@msn.com)

**SUPPORT GROUP:** For Lesbian/Gay/Trans women with Disabilities meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. each month. Meet new friends and reconnect with old. Comfortable place to network and offer peer support. Call C-Jaye 383-2131

**ON SALT SPRING ISLAND** Gays/Lesbians/Allies: meet on the third Sunday of the month, from 2 p.m.-4 p. m. at the Seniors for Seniors Building, 379 Lower Ganges Road (across from GVM). Plan social events; get involved in education, exploration & visibility projects. For more info call (250) 537-7773 or e-mail [caffyn@saltspring.com](mailto:caffyn@saltspring.com).

**DREAMING THE NEW SACRED PLACE©:** Dream Analysis, Consulting, Study Programs, Apprenticeships, Shamanic Dreamwork, with a Jungian framework. Dreamwork offers opportunities for spiritual growth, healing, release of old patterns, birthing new ones. Accesses personal Sacred Images and Allies for wisdom and life direction. Claire Turcotte, Keeper of the Dream, Reiki Master, Shamanic Practitioner, Crone. 595-0088.

**SPIKES VOLLEYBALL:** meets Wednesdays, Lansdowne Jr. Secondary Sch 8:30pm

**HAVE YOUR YOGA INSTRUCTOR?** Certified Hatha Yoga instructor (chakra system) Available for individuals and small groups. 29yrs. experience. Sliding scale. Eva 384-7701

**DINNER CLUB:** Monthly potluck dinners to meet new women and get to-meet old friends. Call 383-2131

**COTTAGE NEAR THE SEA FOR SALE IN PORT RENFREW** - \$114,500: Well maintained three bedroom home, with water and mountain views, on large lot, one house from the beach. Collectively owned and casually operated for 5 years as a nightly rental/getaway business. Annual 50% revenue increase. Can also facilitate group purchase. Duncan: 748-1579 Victoria: 385-3064

## SERVICES, ACTIVITIES & CONTACTS

**AVI:** 384-2366, 1601 Blanchard St.

**BJ'S Gay/Les etc. Bar:** Broad Street at Johnson 388-0505

**Bleeding Rose Books, Video:** 102-764 Yates St. 385-3099. Mon-Sat 10 to 7, Sun 12-5 <http://www.bleedingrose.com>

**Blue Star Consignment:** 3416 Quadra St., 477-0055

**Dyke Dimensions Radio:** CFUV Mondays, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. FM 104.3 Cable FM 101.9

**Camosun College Lesbian Collective.** Alternate weeks. 370-3484

**FTM (etc)** Peer-run drop-in is the First Saturday of every month at AVI, 304-733 Johnson St. Transgender Resource Line at 413-3220.

**Lesbian Seniors Care Society Victoria:** Reva @ 250 388-4161 Mail P. O. Box 39022 James Bay Postal Outlet V8V 4X8  
**Musaic:** Lesbian & Gay Choir. Box 8533 Victoria, BC V8W 3S1, 360-1966

**Pink Pages:** Community Resource Directory Box 5231 St. B, Victoria V8R 6N4 Email [pinkpage@gayvictoria.com](mailto:pinkpage@gayvictoria.com)

**P-Flag:** Information, 385-9462

**Prime Timers Victoria:** email [victoria@lasvegasnv.net](mailto:victoria@lasvegasnv.net)

**Restaurants Gay/Les Owned:**

**Rosie's Diner** 615 Johnson St.

**The Bistro** 714 Cormorant St 381-1431

**Steam Works:** Health Club for Men 582 Johnson St. 383-6623

**This Way Out:** CFUV 10:00 to 1:30 p.m. Mondays 101.9 or Cable 104.3

**VYPS:** Victoria Youth Pride Society (14-25) 413-3177 [vyops@writeme.com](mailto:vyops@writeme.com)

**Women's Creative Network:**

[www.victoria.tc.ca/community/wcn](http://www.victoria.tc.ca/community/wcn)

**Women's Outdoors Club:** 474-8159

email [Kanaice\\_sls@telus.net](mailto:Kanaice_sls@telus.net) Sherry Norie [s.norie@home.com](mailto:s.norie@home.com)

# September at the Bleeding Rose

Vancouver Island's Only GLBT Specialty Store!

Mon-Sat 10am-7pm

102-764 Yates St., Victoria V8W 1L4

250-385-3099 <http://www.bleedingrose.com>

## Queer BDSM Support Group

Are you kinky? do you love someone who is? A place for people at all levels in the community to meet, mingle, and share information in a queer friendly atmosphere.

Starting soon. For more information or to help facilitate, please call the store during regular business hours or e-mail [bleedingrose@telus.net](mailto:bleedingrose@telus.net)

## Wednesday Coffee Chat 11am-1pm

Come chat with old friends or meet some new ones. All are welcome. Coffee/tea/hot choc provided by donation.

We buy used GLBT books and videos. Better yet, set up a trade account for use on books, video rental, cards, stickers etc. Bring your stuff by or give us a call and we can come by and take a look. Also buying select collections and estates. Bleeding Rose gladly accepts donations.

## Educational Workshops Dates and times vary

Upcoming workshops include:  
Safe Sex, Safe S/M,  
Polyamory, Dykes in Porn,  
Healthy Sexual Attitudes. For more info call during store hours.

## Sunday Brunch

September 23

Come and join us for brunch!  
Lots of fun and good conversation. Dessert and coffee served at the Bleeding Rose after. 12pm  
Rosie's Diner

## NEW ON THE SHELVES!

**When the Wave Breaks** - Ciarán Llachlan Leavitt  
(lesbian historical fantasy)

**Hot & Bothered 3** - Karen X. Tulchinsky  
(lesbian erotica)

**Erotique** - Masterpieces of Erotic Photography  
(male and female erotic photos)

**The Ethical Slut** - Easton & Liszt  
(Sexual Politics)

**Flogging** - Joseph W. Bean  
( bdsm how-to)

**The Bear Book** - Les Wright  
(Bear History and Culture)

## NOW CARRYING MAGAZINES!

We now have the following magazines:

Anything That Moves

Curve

Girlfriends

The Advocate

Out

Alternative Family

Our World (travel mag)

The Gay and Lesbian Review

Bitch

XY

Ask about our BDSM and XXX Selections!

## YOU ASKED FOR IT...

In response to our customer requests and in our own need to serve you better we will be expanding the items we have available here at the Bleeding Rose. Starting in September and October we will be carrying a full line of adult products including silicone dils, lube, body paint, liquid latex, dental dams, condoms, adult mags and other accessories.

We will also be carrying bondage/sm gear, fetish wear and a large selection of bdsm reading material. If you have any questions about our products or have any specific requests of items for us to carry, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## NEW VIDEOS!

**What Makes A Family** (*Brook Shields*)

**The Truth about Jane** (*Stockard Channing*)

**Boys' Life 2**

**Queer as Folk** (*Both UK & US versions*)

**Menmaniacs** (*Legacy of Leather*)

**She's Safe** (*lesbian safe sex video*)

**Edge of Seventeen** (*gay romantic comedy*)