

OCTOBER 15, 2024 VOL XV • ISSUE#10

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GRAB A PLANE



Which Palm Springs Do You Want to Visit?

By Rick Karlin

On a beautiful fall day, with the summer heat finally behind you, the last thing you are thinking of is escaping to the middle of the desert where it's currently 112°, but trust me, come February, when those cold winds start freezing those nether regions, you'll be thinking differently. Start planning now to get the best prices (and availability) in Palm Springs most popular resorts. There are so many facets to Palm Springs you could visit it a dozen times with a different focus each time and never go to the same place twice. Do you want to focus on Mid-Century Modern architecture? Rat Pack celebrities? LGBTQ parties? A couple's spa weekend? Ecological preservation? Off-road adventures? Relive wild-west cowboy life? Shop till you drop? Gourmet get-away? Any of these can be found in Palm Springs.

ART & ARCHITECTURE

If, as Shakespeare said, "All the world's a stage..." Palm Spring takes that seriously, with more than its fair share of theater companies. Among the companies producing

shows in the Palm Springs area are Desert Ensemble Theatre, Dezart Performs, Palm Canyon Theatre, The Bent LGBTQ company, and Revolution Stage Company, where I was lucky enough to catch two shows during my visit. Male vocal group Acabbello performed bossa nova music, and there was a fundraiser for the theater company called "We Are Barbra" in which cabaret performers around town (many Broadway vets taking a break from the cold weather) put their spin on Babs' music from classics such as numbers from "Funny Girl" to rockers such as Laura Nyro's "Stoney End." There are also two gay choruses, the more traditional, Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus and the jazzier Modern Men. Desert Winds Freedom Band, the symphonic band, marching band, jazz band, and pep band perform fall and spring concert programs and often a holiday concert as well. There are also the Annenberg Theater, Palm Springs Cultural Center, and Marvy's Magic Theater.

Palm Springs is a mid-century modern paradise, whether you are

interested in design, architecture, celebrities, fashion, or glamour, there is a tour for you. How mid-century modern is Palm Springs? Its downtown is centered around a giant statue of Marilyn Monroe. "Forever Marilyn", the 26-foot tall, 24,000-pound monumental sculpture created by sculptor Seward Johnson is extremely realistic. Join Trevor O'Donnell, one of California's most knowledgeable and accommodating architectural tour professionals, for The Mod Squad Essentials Tour, a fascinating and entertaining exploration of the city's unique collection of modernist homes and buildings. Five Star Adventure Tours include the Legends and Icons Tour, the Modernism Palm Springs Tour, the All About Palm Springs Tour, and many other. Check them out at fsatours.com. Ditch the car and stop by Bike Palm Springs Rentals to rent a bike by the half-day, day, or week. This gay-owned business is renowned for its friendly, prompt service which includes free maps, locks, helmets, and advice for the best touring routes to take in the

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area's highlights.

NATURE LOVERS

Sunnylands Center and Gardens was designed by Frederick Fisher and Partners in the late 2000s. The 15-acre center and gardens are the starting point for tours of the 200-acre historic estate. It is surrounded by a nine-acre art garden planted with more than 70,000 arid-climate plants and trees. Landscape architect James Burnett said that the design was inspired by the Annenberg's collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings. Hike to the Tahquitz Canyon waterfalls where water flows freely over the 60-foot cascade. Take an ATV (all-terrain vehicle) tour of various desert landscapes at Desert Stewards Holistic Ecological Engagement. The tour begins at Chiriaco Summit, about 50 miles east of Palm Springs, near the General Patton Memorial Museum. Each engagement is exciting and a safe desert observation with low-speed electric vehicles with the intention of ecosystem protection, wellness, and wholeness through natural energetic connection. Located just a short drive away from the desert oasis of Palm Springs, Joshua Tree National Park is a treasure trove of breathtaking natural beauty. This iconic park, named after the unique Joshua trees that dot its vast landscape, offers a stunning blend of rugged rock formations, desert vistas, and a diverse range of plant and animal life. Embarking on a day trip from Palm Springs to Joshua Tree National Park is a fantastic way to immerse yourself in nature and experience the wonders of the desert firsthand. Hike the Palm Canyon Trail, the gateway to a forested wonderland, the largest palm oasis on the continent. For more rugged terrains, Big Wheel Tours' guides will help you plumb the depths of the Earthquake Canyon Tour, tracing the San Andreas Fault.

CELEBRITY SEEKERS

For the inside scoop on the history of celebrities who have lived, loved, and played in Palm Springs,



Photo Courtesy of VisitPalmSprings.com

take a Celebrity Tour to learn a who's who of famous names who have had hideaways in Palm Springs. The Celebrity Tour is a two-and-a-half hour, in-depth overview of fun and interesting historical tidbits about celebrities who have had homes here. The tour takes you by 50-60 homes in many of Palm Springs' historic neighborhoods. Celebrity Tours is considered one of the top such tours in the country and has been operating for more than 55 years, which gives them their earned "street cred" on the history of Palm Springs' Hollywood pedigree. Call **760-895-8005** or go to palmsspringscelebritytours.com. In the old days, all the celebrities went to Melvyn's, which is still open. If you want to see some modern-day celebrities, try grabbing breakfast at Cheeky's in the Uptown Design District, or Ingleside Estate, or get a day pass at the Ace Hotel & Swim Club.

DINING DESTINATIONS

Check out Trio in the midcentury modern Turonnet building. The menu is firmly rooted in the region's vibrant farm scene, reflecting the excellent melting pot of the state's cultures and cuisines presented in a modern yet approachable fashion. Bongo Johnny's not only serves up delicious meals, but it also proudly stands as a locally owned and LGBTQ-loved gem. It also offers an extensive selection of handcrafted cocktails. Everything at Johannes

Restaurant is prepared fresh daily based on recipes from his native Austria. Head to the rooftop of La Serena Villas Hotel's Sugar High where you'll dine surrounded by the breathtaking San Jacinto mountain views. At LuLu California Bistro grab a patio seat; it's the perfect place to people-watch in the heart of downtown Palm Springs. Low Desert is a modern Mexican eatery in South Palm Springs inspired by Mexico's street food culture. Everyone raves about Koffi and it is the place to grab a cup of Joe.

SHOP TILL YOU DROP

I've never understood those people who go on vacation and shop at the same shops they have at the malls at home. That's part of what is so wonderful about Palm Springs. There are no chain stores! Everything is original (well, there may be a Starbucks.) The first Saturday of the month October through May is Palm Springs' Vintage Market at Agua Caliente Palm Springs Casino. It's a good thing I don't live there, or my house would have been filled from my one visit. Another must-visit is the Uptown Design District with dozens of shops featuring home furnishings and accessories including The Shag Store with books and merchandise by the titular artist (aka Josh Agle), Seaplane collectible apparel produced from remnants of exceptional materials, Modern Elements a blend of authentic mid-century and modern furniture, and

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SATURDAY OCT 26
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HALLOWEEND PARTY 9PM-3AM
COSTUME CONTEST 11PM



SUNDAY OCT 27
HALLOWEEND
SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOW TUNES 4-9PM

MONDAY OCT 28
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TUESDAY OCT 29
TRIVIA TUESDAY 8PM
HOCUS POCUS/AGATHA ALL ALONG/DISNEY HALLOWEEN

WEDNESDAY OCT 30
ALL THINGS DUA & ARIANA 9PM-2AM

THURSDAY OCT 31
NORTHALSTED HALLOWEEN PARADE VIEWING PARTY 6:30PM
SIDETRACK HALLOWEEN 8PM-2AM
COSTUME CONTEST 10PM



FRIDAY NOV 1
TGIF SHOW TUNES 4-9PM
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ALL GAY, ALL THE TIME

The Arenas District in Palm Springs is known for its vibrant nightlife scene. The district is home to several bars, retail stores, and wonderful places to grab a bite to eat. It's like someone put Halsted Street in the dryer and shrunk it down to Palm Spring-sized proportions. But there's a lot packed into a few blocks. For barhopping there's a familiar name to some Chicago folks, Hunters Palm Springs. Owned by the same folks who ran the popular Elk Grove Village bar, it's known for its atmosphere, friendly staff, and frequent events and parties. The venue features a huge dance floor, outdoor patio, multiple bars, and a stage for live entertainment. Chill Bar is decorated with an eclectic mix of retro and modern elements. Quadz is a musical theater video bar run by some ex-pats from Sidetrack and a local favorite for belting out show tunes in a sing-along you'll never forget. Streetbar has been in operation since the 1990s when Palm Springs was a bit of a sleepy town. The bar quickly became popular for its lively atmosphere, friendly staff, and fun events. Blackbook blurs the lines between being a bar and a damn good restaurant. Evening Citizen is a luxury lounge, unsigned and unadvertised, as you would expect from a speakeasy of the 1920s. You will need to first make a reservation and then the location will be revealed. To get inside, you will need to locate the hidden entrance.

What would an LGBTQ+ community be without cute little shops and restaurants? Stop by GayMart USA for fun and frisky attire. Bear Wear is exactly what it advertises and offers fashion and style to all in the community, recognizing that not all can have the "perfect body" and that some customers prefer a more mature and robust body type. The Palm Springs leather scene is amazing. Rough Trade Gear on Arenas has all the gear and toys you can think of, and



Photo Courtesy of VisitPalmSprings.com

more. Tool Shed bar is just south of Arenas and filled with burly men and bearded smiles. For a town so small, there is plenty of leather, both shops and bars, supported by Palm Springs Leather Order Of The Desert as well as the Desert Pigs Motorcycle Association. Off Ramp Leather offers custom motorcycle leathers by Paul Johnson. Gear Leather and Fetish is a giant toy box. You might want to time your visit to coincide with Palm Springs Leather Pride in October, International Bear Convergence in February, Hot n Dry for four fun days of sobriety every June, or Blatino Oasis California, the first weekend of May.

Greater Palm Springs Pride organizers deemed last year's Pride Week theme as 'Drag Now. Drag Forever,' taking a stand against anti-drag bills and LGBTQ+ extremism and to support the historic form of artistic expression and advocacy. It was not a one-and-done statement though, Palm Springs is a city of sanctuary and freedom of expression of all forms. Greater Palm Springs Pride president and CEO Ron deHarte said, "'Drag Now. Drag Forever.' is a theme that calls on the community to unite and support the drag community. Drag is not a crime. Our country has a rich history of drag as an artistic expression, standard of activism, and the backbone of fundraising in the community. We call on everyone to support the drag community and fight all anti-LGBTQ+ bills that threaten the freedom and equality of all."

Palm Springs supports its drag queens. They are performing all over town. "Chill at Chill" hosted by Ongina with performances by Aria Williams, and Madame LaQueer. Toucan's Tiki Lounge with Tommi Rose and her Playgirls is Palm Springs' longest-running drag revue. Illusions is the perfect combination of spectacular burlesque style and comedy performances by celebrity impersonators and the funniest drag queen hosts you'll ever have the pleasure of encountering. Mile High Boozy Brunch is always fun in a beautifully restored 1954 DC-3 aircraft at PS Air. Oscar's Bitchiest Brunch is held on Saturdays with alternating hosts Sherry Vine, Jackie Beat, and Billy L'Amour. At Oscar's Cabaret, you'll enjoy celebrity impersonator superstars performing during the dinner show. At Michael Holmes' Purple Room, (where Frank, Sammy, Dean, and their pals cavorted on and off the stage in the swinging '60s) on Sunday nights, the hysterical smash hit, "The Judy Show", a parody of the great icon of the '60s, stars Michael Holmes.

Not to be left out, Hunters hosts Drag Me To Bingo Wednesdays and the Risque Drag Review every Sunday with Miss Rusty Waters. Bella da Ball is a beloved Palm Springs drag queen and entertainer who has been performing for over 40 years. Known affectionately as the "Queen of the Desert," Bella is a local icon, you'll find her Monday Nights hosting Drag Bingo & Trivial Night in King's Highway at the Ace Hotel (among many other places). And of course, we've left the most

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famous for the last, the Trixie Motel, where guests are always greeted with a warm welcome and a touch of glamour! The Trixie Motel is a unique and quirky accommodation, created and owned by Palm Springs' most famous drag queen, Trixie Mattel. Trixie Mattel is a drag queen, singer-songwriter, and comedian, who was on the seventh season of RuPaul's Drag Race. Her motel features a vibrant pink exterior and interior décor that reflects Trixie Mattel's signature style, creating a fun and playful atmosphere throughout the property.

No matter what the focus of your trip you're going to need a place to stay. Palm Springs is a hip oasis with some gay resorts. Descanso Resort www.descansoresort.com, Santiago www.santiagoresort.com, and Twin Palms www.twinpalmsresort.com are all run by the same management company, and all offer a free

Continental breakfast and lunch served poolside as well as an afternoon cocktail hour. All three are clothing optional.

The first Pride in Palm Springs was organized in 1986. Billed as Sizzle, the LGBTQ community came together for an evening of celebration. Today's Pride committee produces a variety of programs in the Coachella Valley, including the Pride Parade (Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024) and Multi-Day Festival (Oct. 31-Nov. 3). Annual events include the White Party (2025 Date TBA), The Palm Springs LGBTQ+ Film Festival (Sept. 21-Oct. 1.) Halloween (which coincides with Pride this year) sees Arenas blocked off for a tea dance in the afternoon. As the sun sets, the live music begins on the stage. There is also a costume contest with cash prizes.

LESBIAN LIFE

Many older lesbians retire to Palm Springs, but there are plenty of young'uns there too. And of course,

each year the town is leaping with lesbians for Dinah Week, this year it was held Sept. 25 to 29. Contrary to popular belief, this event did not spring from the Dinah Shore golf tournament, although rumors abound that Dinah was a sister of Sappho. The event is the brainchild of party promoter Mariah Hanson who created the first "Dinah" in 1991. It continues to be the apex of women's events. With top-name talent and an intention to create an exciting, community-building, life-affirming experience. Past performers include The Pussycat Dolls, Pat Benatar, Lady Gaga, and Katy Perry (on the same bill!), The Indigo Girls, Margaret Cho, Salt N Pepa, Natasha Bedingfield, Chaka Khan, Karmin, Tegan And Sara, Mary Lambert, Eve, Evelyn "Champagne" King, Iggy Azalea, Bebe Rexha, and Samantha Ronson. For more information go to thedinah.com.



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From A Simple Chapel to A Reception for 300 – Palm Springs Has It All

By Rick Karlin

Planning a wedding in Palm Springs can be exciting and overwhelming at the same time. With its picturesque landscapes, stunning architecture, and year-round sunny weather, Palm Springs is an ideal location for couples looking to tie the knot. More than a glamorous resort, Palm Springs offers a dazzling collection of extraordinary venues. From Bohemian sophistication and “Cowboy Chic” to “Mountain Wow.” Jet Setter to sweeping lawns, or fairytale romance, Palm Springs is the icing on your wedding cake. It even has a wedding chapel for spur-of-the-moment elopements and small, informal ceremonies. LGBTQ couples looking to tie the knot would be hard-pressed to find a spot more welcoming than Palm Springs. It is a community known for being open to diversity and there are a wide array of LGBTQ-owned venues and vendors waiting to help you plan your perfect day.

In addition to traditional venues, there are many unique locations. Is Casablanca your favorite movie? Have you always pictured a Moroccan wedding? No need to fly to Marrakech. Built in the 1930s by an eccentric artist to recreate his North African youth, Korakia Pensione features dramatic carved doors, candle-lit walkways, pools, fountains, antique-filled villas, and jasmine-scented air. All the better to make your wedding one that people will remember. Beyoncé’s not the only one that can do country chic! Sparrows Lodge gives an over-the-top barn-like rustic chic vibe. Built in the 1950s by a cowboy movie star and creatively restored in 2013, with mid-century-meets-country-western architecture, blue sky, and swaying palms as your backdrop Once a real-life 1920s Speakeasy, the newly renovated Colony Palms Hotel and Bungalows hints of Spain with red tile, chic whimsy. It was once a

hideaway for Hollywood’s film community.

For something more traditional, and if you love mid-century modern design, mountain views, lakes, fountains, and palms, you can have it all at the Indian Canyons

Golf Resort. Originally a private golf course for Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, and other stars, you can exchange vows outside amid the gorgeous views. Then, enjoy dinner and dancing for up to 300 guests in the Wexler-designed North Clubhouse. Or a reception and dinner for up to 60 in the South Clubhouse. They even have event planners on staff. If the great outdoors beckon you, then Smoke Tree Ranch, hidden in Palm Springs’ foothills, is perfect. Encompassing 400 unspoiled desert acres, sweeping lawns, and vistas, the staff can create memorable ceremonies, receptions, and dinners for up to 300. Rustic inside spaces host from 20 to 125 guests. Feeling Prickly? How about getting married surrounded by cacti? Celebrate your ceremony and reception amid the lush beauty of Moorten Botanical Garden, Palm Springs’ beloved privately-owned garden begun by movie star “Cactus Slim” Moorten, one of the original movie Keystone Cops. His son now welcomes weddings from 2 to 200 guests in the beautiful Palm Grove Oasis on the family estate from Nov. 1 through May 31.

For smaller gatherings, from small weddings to bachelor or bachelorette parties there are some very interesting locations. Two-and-a-half miles up a mountain, to the alpine forests and incredible views atop San Jacinto Peak via the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway you’ll find Peaks Restaurant newly renovated with sweeping views of the Coachella Valley. It is ideal for



Photo Courtesy of VisitPalmSprings.com

rehearsal dinners and gatherings of up to 80 guests. The all-new Lookout Lounge can wow up to 40 of your besties with spectacular alpine and city views. Fasten your seatbelts, at PS Air, a bar/restaurant inside a real plane. With genuine airplane seats (business and economy) inside a darkened 747 fuselage amid airline memorabilia and whimsy from the Pan Am heydays, it’s your ticket to unforgettable pre- and post-wedding parties and rehearsal cocktails.

The Visit Palm Springs LGBT wedding guide, “Where love knows no boundaries and celebrating equality is at the heart of every joyous occasion,” is ready to help plan anything from an intimate ceremony to a grand celebration. They have the resources from wedding planners and venues to caterers and bakers to help ensure that your wedding truly reflects your love, individuality, and shared vision. Finding the right vendors to bring your wedding dreams to life can be a daunting task. When you do, be open and forthright about your budget and expectations. For example, do you want your wedding at a clothing-optional resort? Is Aunt Marge really ready to see that? Luckily, the many talented and experienced wedding vendors in Palm Springs can help you create a memorable and unique wedding day without shocking Aunt Marge. Visit Palm Springs, has a full listing on its website. Check it out at visitpalm Springs.com/wedding-vendors.

KARAOKE

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THURSDAYS 10PM-1AM

FRIDAYS 9:30PM-1:30AM

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- ▶ Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
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- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

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- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
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GRAB BETTY



Hello, again, BETTY! An interview Alyson Palmer, Amy Ziff, and Elizabeth Ziff of BETTY

By Gregg Shapiro

A new album by a band you love, especially one that takes its time between releases is cause for celebration. For me, that celebration takes on special meaning when it comes to **BETTY**, an all-female trio I have been following since the mid-1980s, during the band's early years. Since that time, **BETTY** has amassed a sizeable following via its connection to "The L Word," performing on the HBO/CTW series "Encyclopedia," appearing in an original off-Broadway musical, and playing Pride and women's music festival events. The newly released "EAT" (helloworldbetty.com) has everything we've come to know and love about **BETTY**: fabulous harmonies, a splendid cover tune, and songs with messages of empowerment, as well as humor. Alyson Palmer, and sisters Amy Ziff and Elizabeth Ziff generously made time for an interview to discuss the new album and their career.

Gregg Shapiro: For those few who may not be in the know, please say something about how **BETTY**, the name of the band, came to be.

Alyson Palmer: We just needed a name fast for a party for Dodie Bowers, dancer and music mogul who ran the legendary 9:30 Club on F Street in DC. She invited us to sing without our full band at the time, On Beyond Zebra. There was a Nair ad on TV at the time where long-legged ladies walked past a besotted guy who said, "Helloooo, Betty!" and that's what stuck with me. Surfer slang with a timeless appeal and just a smidge of street harassment.

Elizabeth Ziff: We said we would love to and thought she wanted the whole band, but she just wanted the three of us. We had no idea we would be **BETTY** for almost 40 more years.

Amy Ziff: **BETTY** is the all-American, smart, sassy, can-do gal with a twist. That's us!

GS: In **BETTY**'s early days, the band began selling t-shirts that read **BETTY Rules** (which are still available at helloworldbetty.com). How did that slogan come about?

AZ: It didn't come from us! I think it's a catch phrase that fans and friends started.

EZ: I remember that people would shout it to us on the street in DC. It just stuck. It was better than **BETTY** rocks... and it's stood the test of time. Some people have theirs from back in the day, but lots of new, young fans are buying them now and wearing them proudly. It's definitely a cult [laughs].

GS: In addition to **BETTY**, the DC music scene has produced some legendary musical acts including Roberta Flack, Mary Timony, Fugazi, Trouble Funk, Shudder to Think, Minor Threat, E.U., Tommy Keene, Crystal Waters, and Mary Chapin Carpenter. What does it

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mean to you that BETTY is part of that legacy?

AZ: It means a lot. I love being part of that incredible music community.

EZ: It means everything. We played with a lot of those people. Roberta Flack, Trouble Funk, MCC, and the list goes on. It was such a great scene in DC in the '80s. The underground go-go scene and the harDCore scene and the new wave scene. We all supported each other. As a matter of fact, Jason Carmer, who was in a lot of DC bands including 9353, is the producer on our new album "EAT." DC was and always will be seminal to BETTY and our life.

AP: BETTY wouldn't exist if it were for the bubbling gumbo of music, art, spoken word and politics that defined DC in the '80s. All of us were raging against Reagan and the diabolical, hateful conservatives who swept into town. Regardless of our mode of expression, we all poured our passion for a better world into our art. Because the scene was relatively small, we supported each other and ran from party to venue to see what and how other artists were busting out. Essex Hemphill and Wayson Jones were at packed house parties with Brenda Files and other poets like you Gregg, everyone snapping fingers at the smooth truths flowing. Trouble Funk played out on the street where we all danced wildly on swampy summer nights while Bad Brains showed us how to slam dance in steamy venues. Chapin sang at Kramer Books and pop idol Tommy Keene was everywhere. The nexus of all new music was the 9:30 Club where

a wild blonde wailed an entire set from the top of a grand piano jammed onto the tiny stage with her band, soon to sing solo as Cyndi Lauper. Natalie Merchant hid behind drums, REM jangled, Iggy Pop bled, The Bus Boys preened, Red Hot Chili Peppers came out for their encore stark naked with just sweat

organization The BETTY Effect. Is being an activist something that was ingrained in you by your family or was it something you came to on your own?

AP: Great question, Gregg! I think each of us had formative experiences that made us warriors. My dad grew up with severe corporal punishment and tried to lessen the degree with my brother and me but used it liberally. I found it abusive, unfair and unacceptable even at a young age – not so much for myself, but when this raging giant of a man would lash my gentle, artistic brother I couldn't take it. When I was about 10, I threw myself between the two of them and yelled from my soul that never again would I allow him to take out his anger on a small defenseless being, never. He never did again. I became a protector. Some would say bossy, but I can't tolerate unfairness and cruelty to weaker beings.

EZ: It was ingrained in me as a kid. We were Air Force brats living overseas and we

grew up Jewish in some very anti-Semitic places. Paris, Virginia, etc. So, I learned at a very young age that life wasn't fair, and people could be mean for no reason. I grew up knowing that girls were getting the raw end of the deal, and I wanted things to be fair... it's never stopped. The more you know, the more you become aware of the wrongs in the world, the more you want it to be right.

AZ: BETTY was born in DC. We knew early on that it was our responsibility and privilege to speak (and sing) out as artists about things that needed to change, and causes



socks covering their johnsons and Henry Rollins mesmerized the packed room of sweating punk boys by grinding slowly for long delicious minutes as he sang and grew the biggest bone I've ever seen on stage, literally having sex with the crowd and popping minds open left and right. Fine artists flourished, including Mapplethorpe causing scandal at the Corcoran with his show. It was an amazing time to be a feminist art rock trio with a lot to say!

GS: BETTY has also made a name for itself via the activism of its members, including the founding of the 501(c)3 not-for-profit

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GS: Please tell the readers something about the mission of The BETTY Effect.

AP: The BETTY Effect is an organization that uses music and performance techniques to help strengthen, embolden and empower women, girls and LGBTQ+ folks. BETTY has found that anything can be achieved if done in harmony with community, no matter how long it may take. That's why we travel around the world holding workshops and concerts to connect people in need of bolstering with the beauty of their inner rockstar, with their possees, and with local organizations that can serve their immediate needs and continue to help grow confidence. At the end of the day, that's all it takes – believing in your mission and believing you are the right messenger. It's so simple but can seem impossibly hard, until you have your crew who believes in you. The BETTY Effect builds crews from inside out.

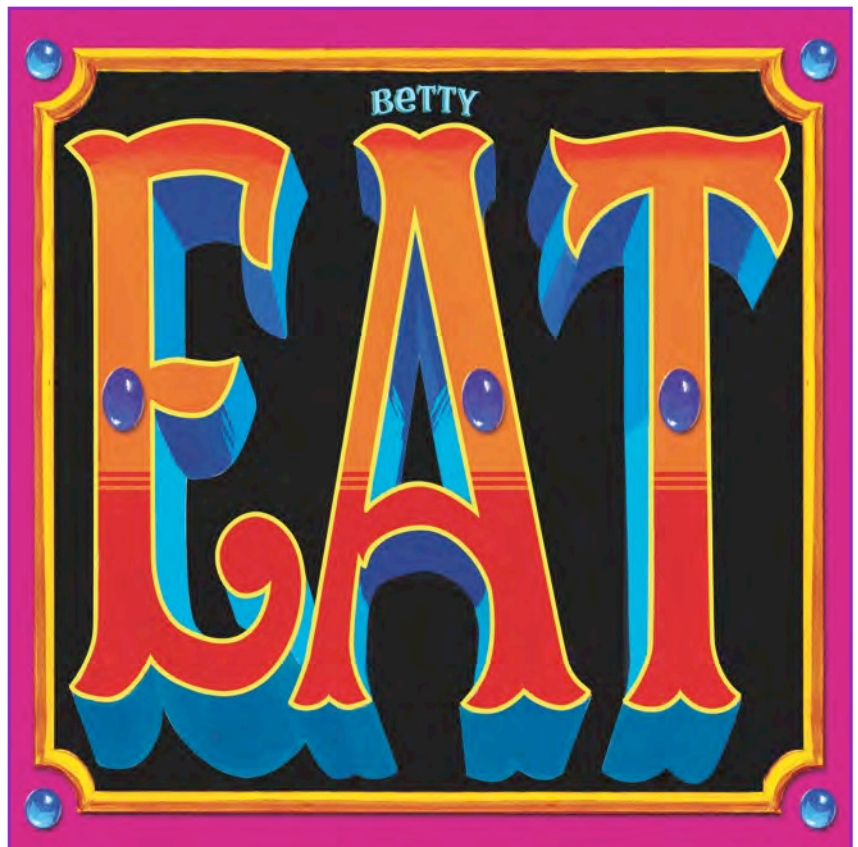
GS: In late August, BETTY performed at the Women's Equality Day event at Kennedy Center. What is that like for each of you playing for the hometown crowd?

AZ: Wonderful!

AP: I love DC. So many memories! Parties, playing and protests, like our first Pride Day hidden-away behind the trees on 21st Street to protect the still-closeted, Take Back the Night Rallies, and glorious Adams Morgan Day. At Kennedy Center we received our first award, "Entertainer of the Year," so it's a delight to be back at such a gorgeous place for celebrating all the arts, the best DC has to offer.

EZ: It's been a long time since we've lived in DC. I love it there but consider myself a full-on New Yorker at this point. I still love going back to DC. It's so cool there and political and fun. And it's beautiful and the Kennedy Center is very posh, so I'll have to wear clothes [laughs].

GS: "EAT" is BETTY's first new full-length album in a number of years. Were all the songs written over the course of the period or were they written in one burst for



the purpose of the album?

AZ: Great question! Some were written recently, and a couple were actually rewritten and changed while recording.

AP: Every seven years we get the itch and pop out another album. Some of the songs have been incubating for quite a while but two burst out from skeletal beginnings in the studio with our fabulous producer, Jason Carmer and Human Fader, who are wildly creative and fun artists to create with in sexy Mexico City.

EZ: Some songs have been churning around and changing and forming for a few years, some were written during the pandemic, and some came together for this album. All of them are new in the way that they have changed and grown.

GS: "EAT" opens with the song "Together," which was originally recorded in a rock/funk version on 1999's "Betty 3," and is now heard in a dance music version. Please say a few words about why you chose to re-record that song.

AP: I am 1000% about community. The older I get the more I see that

having a tribe, village, family, your bevy is everything. To accomplish the biggest goal, the actual changing of society, the only way is by connecting a web of like-minded souls to rise against an unfair status quo and create change. Ever since that nauseating November day when we woke to understand that America had elected a hateful, ignorant boor for President instead of a brilliantly over-qualified woman, it has been my daily mission to correct that wrong. As Gloria Steinem says, outrageous rebellions start with everyday acts. Creating unity with joy is a radical act, especially with music, together. It can't be said enough.

AZ: Now, more than ever, we need unity. Otherwise, the world will not survive.

GS: The anthemic "Pride," the first single from "EAT," was released in advance of Pride 2024. What does BETTY's embrace by the LGBTQ+ community mean to you, as either a member or an ally?

EZ: Being a big lez, and also a gay man in lesbian clothing, I'm all about it. I pretty much assume everyone is

gay until I find out shockingly that they're not.

AP: It is. Everything. The two times I felt myself break bounds I realized that society had wrapped around me were the first time I saw LaBelle on TV as a child, where, terrified, I saw for the first conscious time that women could be fantastical and scary and explode with power without caring what men or anyone thought, and my first Pride Parade in DC.

Seeing the riot of wit and color unleashed by people who had just as much right as anyone to love and be loved, but had to fight to exist, I had the epiphany that I stood surrounded by joyful warriors. They risked it all, proud on the streets, snapping their fingers under the nose of anyone who tried to deny them. I saw they were the evolved ones, the ones who lived like artists at least in that moment, freely, and I fell in love spiritually, not physically, with this tribe I understood.

GS: "Pride," as well as "Flow," "Soundproof," "Gangway," and "Big Size Love," have irresistible dance energy. Have you ever been at a club and heard a DJ spin a BETTY song? If so, how did it feel?

EZ: I'm a DJ (DJ ezgirl), so I've spun them, and it feels great to watch people dance to our music.

Recently, we had the pleasure of hearing our song "Pride" and the remix by Bill Coleman and Peace Biscuit spun by the amazing and infamous DJ Lina Bradford in front of thousands of new folks and they dug it. So, that's amazing. Let's hope DJs all over the world spin our stuff.

AP: It's a rollercoaster! At first you think, "I know this song. Who IS this?" Then you realize. Then you're slightly embarrassed. Then you fling yourself into the experience with joyful abandon, loving it even more as it's released into the wild!

AZ: Seeing people groove, dance, and respond to our music is what it's all about!

GS: BETTY is no stranger to cover tunes. Over the years BETTY has covered The Association ("Windy"), The Beatles ("Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds"), and Sammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen ("High Hopes"), to name a few. "EAT" contains BETTY's



rendition of Burt Bacharach and Hal David's "What the World Needs Now Is Love." Please tell the readers why that song was chosen.

AP: That was Elizabeth's idea. We're all mad for slinky cool vocals like Dionne Warwick and Shirley Bassey, so when she suggested it, we all dove right in!

EZ: We fought so much when we were arranging this song acapella. It's so hard to sing and was intense to work out, but all three of us love this song and we chose to put it on this album because it's acapella and important to us to do that. Also, in this time of division and strife, it's important to us to remember that love is what we all need.

AZ: The world is upside down now. Especially since Oct. 7th. I've never seen so much hatred and misinformation spewed in my lifetime. I've also never felt more unsafe being part of the Jewish community, for myself and my family. If love can't find a way to survive and thrive, I worry for us all.

GS: BETTY has some tour dates this fall. What are you most looking forward to about those shows?

AZ: Playing our new songs, seeing old friends, and connecting with new people. And wearing groovy new clothes and getting lots of prezzies

from fans [laughs].

EZ: Playing our new music and meeting new fans. And, of course, continuing our wonderful career that never ends.

AP: I love playing live! Like I said, flinging yourself with wild abandon into a song you adore as it's amplified into the wild is a thrill everyone should have a chance to feel. Like a chef serving a great meal to a crowd or an athlete moving with the stands cheering her on, experiencing the flow of your creative energy connecting with the electric desire of others is a feeling that ignites your whole being like a lighthouse. People flowing along with us by singing along to our songs feels absolutely incandescent.

GS: Are there more tour dates in the works?

AP: Always. That's the profound beauty of what we do. No matter how terrible (and there have been nightmares) or how glorious a show is, there's always another one. Another adventure is waiting just ahead, with friends old and new to share it. We're taking "EAT" to beloved Provincetown October 17-20 for Women's Week at the Post Office and 2025 has some great escapades brewing. The BETTY Rulers on our email list (hellobetty.com) are always the first to know!

GRAB JAMES

The writer's the thing: An interview with James Magruder

By Gregg Shapiro

I'm just going to say this, James Magruder is the funniest person alive, and he's not even a stand-up comic. It's something I learned about him when we first met, and it's something that comes through in his writing, be it his fiction or his plays. You'll get a sense of it when you read this interview with him where we discuss his new book "The Play's The Thing" (Yale University Press, 2024). Subtitled "Fifty Years of Yale Repertory Theatre (1966-2016)," it's a serious work of historical significance, which in Magruder's capable hands manages to "be seriously delightful and entertaining," according to Tony Kushner, and is described by Amy Bloom as "a chronicle of joy, vision and knowledge, gossip and witty truths." James was generous enough to make time to talk about the book before its September 2024 release.

Gregg Shapiro: James, I'd like to begin by asking to tell the readers about the genesis of the book "The Play's The Thing."

James Magruder: Around 2014, James Bundy, the Artistic Director of Yale Repertory Theater and Dean of the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale (formerly the Yale School of Drama) commissioned another writer to chronicle the first fifty years of Yale Rep. He was unhappy with the sample chapters the first writer submitted, so he called me on my birthday in 2015 to see whether I would take over. I was broke, so it was an easy decision. I had no idea how the project would take over my life.

GS: How long did it take for you to

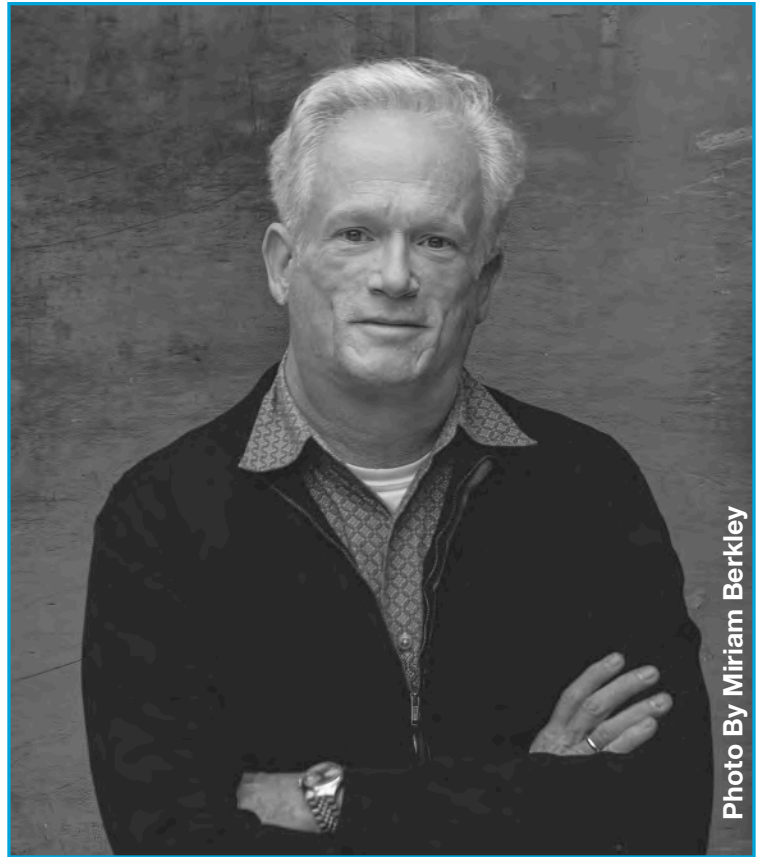


Photo By Miriam Berkley

complete "The Play's The Thing" from start to finish?

JM: Eight years. Two years of research, two years of writing, one year spent on a crash editing diet, then a final three years spent running an arduous production steeplechase for Yale University Press. If it were a human being, it would be in the third grade.

GS: The book's title, "The Play's The Thing," is a line from Shakespeare. What do you think of the title and how much, if any, input did you have when it came to titling the book?

JM: I had two other titles in mind: "Staying in the Moment" and "Serving the Play." I was overruled at some point – marketing reasons, naturally – but when all is said and done, YRT and the drama school have always put the play text first, in the case of the school, for almost a century, so it's a very appropriate moniker.

GS: As a Yale alum, with a

doctorate in dramaturgy and dramatic criticism from the Yale School of Drama, how would you describe your memories of your time there?

JM: I was a mean, arrogant, but entertaining SOB. Dramaturgs back then, and to a lesser extent now, carried little status in the American theatrical biosphere. I made a lot of friends and a couple of frenemies. I've never regretted matriculating there.

GS: Would it be fair to say that your status as a Yale School of Drama alum made you an ideal and qualified person to write "The Play's The Thing"?

JM: Yes. If I were a director or design or management alum, the book would have been naturally skewed to their biases. I was trained to read and analyze new plays-in-vitro and assess new and classic plays in performance.

GS: What were the challenges and

rewards of a project such as “The Play’s The Thing”?

JM: What started as a money gig became a labor of love by the time I began to write it in 2018. For two decades, I’d been used to “making shit up” in my fiction and my plays. Now I had to write fairly, accurately, and thoroughly. With no background in long-form non-fiction, I learned as I went. Today, skimming my little hardcover third grader, I feel that the book encompasses my accumulated beliefs (and prejudices) about how to make theater. It is my testament of faith. That outcome I could never have predicted.

GS: Please say something about your interview process regarding the subjects included in “The Play’s The Thing”.

JM: I’m a good listener, but my gregariousness is a front. I never relish meeting or talking to one stranger, much less the 127 people I called or met with for “The Play’s the Thing.” I dreaded every interview beforehand, then wound up 90 percent of the time having an absolute blast. Theater people are more than eager to share their recollections and opinions.

GS: What do you think each of the artistic directors or deans of the Yale School of Drama would view as their primary contribution to the school during their tenure?

JM: All four regimes had uneven seasons – it’s par for the course for a theater that is also a teaching hospital for students. Robert Brustein willed the theater into existence and rescued the school from oblivion. He had great taste, was a compelling leader, but some faulted him for front-loading the mind over the heart. Lloyd Richards, the first Black man to run a major American theater, corrected Brustein’s blind spots about female playwrights and playwrights of color. His most lasting achievement would be the permanent enrichment of American literature by making a great playwright out of August Wilson. Stan Wojewodski, Jr, matched Brustein’s high mind and taste, but expanded the roster of artists who worked at the Rep and, with his interest in dramatic form and design, enlarged what a production could look like, and how a play might behave. James Bundy, an

actual alum of the directing program, has managed to avoid the mistakes of his three predecessors and build on their foundations. He has also put superhuman effort – and material resources – into EDIB (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging) issues for the school and the theater.

GS: Would you agree with them?

JM: It’s more a question here of would they agree with me [laughs]!

GS: Robert Brustein, the Yale Repertory Theatre founder passed in October 2023. How do you think he would feel about the book?

JM: Although he approved my quotes, he didn’t live long enough to read the book. He answered a final question about August Strindberg for me from his sickbed. I’d like to think he’d be proud to see what he had wrought.

GS: Please share a few of the things you learned about the Yale Repertory Theatre in the process of writing the book that surprised you.

JM: I joked for years by calling YSD/YRT “Thespis’ House of Horrors,” but the process made me proud to be an alum. Stepping back to look at the entire institution, after decades away, was eye-opening.

GS: In addition to your work as a playwright, you are also a novelist and short story writer. Please say something about the different writing muscles involved in writing a book such as “The Play’s The Thing.”

JM: My hitherto underused truth and accuracy and research muscles got a huge workout, but not at the expense of entertaining myself as I wrote – essential to how I work. Yale Press ran a ton of interference along the way, but they didn’t attempt to alter or modify my voice. The book reads like a Magruder. I hope you’d agree with me, Gregg, on that point.

GS: I agree wholeheartedly. The theater community has a long history with the LGBTQ+ community. Being an out gay man, would you say that such a connection existed at the Yale School of Drama?



JM: Not in the 1980s, when I was a student. The gay actors were not out for fear of never getting hired. Nearly all of the male design students were gay, but they only celebrated their status once a year at an insiders’ party. In the 50 years of the Rep, I covered, there were only a tiny handful of plays with queer content produced. The fifth Artistic Director might change that.

GS: Are there plans for you to do readings and book signings in support of “The Play’s The Thing”?

JM: The pie-in-the-sky idea is a forum at the Lincoln Center Library of the Performing Arts with Tony Kushner, who wrote a wonderful blurb for the book, and alumna Meryl Streep. We can all stay tuned for that. There will be a book party in New Haven and one for me in Baltimore, but no one wants to hear me read about Brecht, Shaw, and Beckett [laughs].

GS: Have you started thinking about or working on your next book or theatrical project?

JM: My last book of short stories (or so I think), titled “No One is Looking at You,” is coming out next March. I’m writing the book for a new musical based on my friend Amy Bloom’s novel, “Lucky Us.” Come to think of it, I’ve also pitched a gay adaptation of Carlo Goldoni’s 18th century “Holiday Trilogy” to Yale Rep. In these terrible times for live theater, Yale Rep is basically the last place in the country that can support that kind of work.





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TUESDAY

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: . \$3 House Shots, \$7 Big Miller Lite Drafts Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (BuschLight, PBR, Hamm's), Free Pinball & Darts. **@mosphere:** \$5 Well Cocktails & Draft Beer 6-8pm, Game Night with Tony. **Cell Block:** Open 4pm-2am. **Charlies:** Tune Up Tuesday Karaoke 7 – 11PM, Tag Team Tuesdays 11p – 2am, Dancing until close. **Hydrate:** TatTuesday XXL Doors open at 8pm. **Kit Kat Lounge:** Happy Hour 5-7pm \$8.95 Martinis **Lucky Horseshoe:** Open at 6pm. Dancers at 8pm. Open auditions for male dancers 7pm. \$5 drink specials. **Meeting House Tavern:** \$3 House Shots, \$7 Big Miller Lite Drafts. Happy Hour Specials 5pm-8pm: \$5 Stoli Mules (all flavors). Everyday Specials \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort. Free Darts & Pool. **North End:** Open at 11am, \$5 Canned Beers, Seltzers & Ciders. **Shakers on Clark:** \$3 Domestic Beers. **Sidetrack:** Open at 3pm, Trivia Tuesday 8-10pm, TRL Tuesday: Totally Rad Line-up of 90's-to-Now Music Videos 10pm-2am, OUTspoken LGBTQ+ Storytelling 1st Tuesday of the month from 7-9pm. **Steamworks:** Every Tuesday 4 pm – 4 am Guys Under 25 Get In Free* (*Free 30 day membership and free locker). **The Sofo Tap:** \$5 Amsterdam Cocktails, \$5 Tallboys Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, \$5 Fireball & Malort, \$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR,Hamm's)Free Darts. **Touche:** Open 5pm - 4am. Hardcore Cruisin' No Cell Phones/Wifi. 6-9pm \$3 Well Drinks \$1 Off call-imports, \$3 PBR/Rolling Rock. 10/29 Pumpkin Fisting.

WEDNESDAY

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: \$ New Amsterdam Cocktails \$5 Tallboy Beers Specials: Everyday Specials \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (BuschLight, PBR, Hamm's), Free Pinball & Darts. **Cell Block:** Open 4pm-2am. **Charlie's:** Country Line Dancing 7 – 10pm, Sapphire's Secret Shadows 10pm – 1 am, Dancing until close. **Jackhammer:** \$5 Whiskeys, Ryes & Bourbons, Everyday Specials: \$5 Fireball, Jager & Malort Shots, \$4 Tallboy Beers(Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's. **Kit Kat Lounge:** Happy Hour 5-7pm \$8.95 Martinis **Lucky Horseshoe:** Open at 6pm Dancers at 8pm. \$5 drink specials. **Meeting House Tavern:** \$4 Miller Lite Drafts, \$5 Stolis (All Flavors). Happy Hour Specials 7pm-10pm: \$6 Any BIG drafts Everyday Specials \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort. Free Darts & Pool. **North End:** Open at 11am \$5 Lagunitas Draft & Cans. **Shakers on Clark:** Karaoke Night \$1 Off Long Islands. **Sidetrack:** Open at 3pm, All Things Taylor & Ariana 1st Wed of month, All Things Beyoncé 2nd Wed of month, All Things Gaga 3rd Wed of month, All Things Britney & Rihanna last Wed of month: all 9pm-2am. **Steamworks:** Bear Hump Every second Wednesday 6-9pm A monthly mid-week gathering of Furry Men. **The Sofo Tap:** \$3 House Shots, \$5 Tito's Cocktails, \$7 Big Miller Lite Drafts Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort, \$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR,Hamm's)FreeDarts **Touche:** Open 5pm - 4am. Jockstrap Night Free Clothing Check. 6-9pm \$3 Well Drinks \$1 Off call-imports, \$3 PBR/Rolling Rock. 10/30 Jack-o-Lantern Jockstrap Night BNC 7:30.

THURSDAY

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: \$5 Whiskeys, Ryes & Bourbons . Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (BuschLight, PBR, Hamm's), Free Pinball & Darts. **@mosphere:** \$5 Well Cocktails & Draft Beer 6-8pm, RuPaul Drag Race All Stars 6 Viewing Party - 7pm. **Charlie's:** Survivor 10 pm – 1 am, Dancing Until Close. **Jackhammer:** \$3 House Shots \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails \$5 Miller Lit Tallboys Everyday Specials: \$5 Fireball, Jager & Malort Shots, \$4 Tallboy Beers(Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's. **Kit Kat Lounge:** Happy Hour 5-7pm \$8.95 Martinis. **Lucky Horseshoe:** Open at 6pm. Dancers at 8pm. \$5 drink specials. **Meeting House Tavern:** \$6 Tito Cocktails, Everyday Specials \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort. Free Darts & Pool. **North End:** Open at 11am, \$5 Deep Eddy Cocktails. **Shakers on Clark:** \$1 off All Call Liquor Mixed Drinks, Karaoke 10pm-1am. **Sidetrack:** Open at 3pm, Let's Go Thursdays with Alex Kay & Friends 9pm-2am. **Steamworks:** Lights Out Thursdays, The Club goes Dark Every Thursday 4pm-4am. **The Sofo Tap:** \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails \$5 Tallboy Beers Everyday Specials: , \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort, \$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR,Hamm's)Free Darts. **Touche:** Open 5pm - 4am. Throwback Thursdays 70's & 80's Music & Porn by Bijou Video. 70's & 80's Music. 6-9pm \$3 Well Drinks \$1 Off call-imports, \$3 PBR/Rolling Rock, 10/17 Full Moon Party & Contest, 10/24 Halloween Maze Opens in Club Room, 10/31 Halloween Party Costume Contest.

Daily Specials;

FRIDAY

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: \$7.50 Big Miller Lite Drafts \$3 House Shots. Happy Hour Specials: 3pm-6pm: \$4 New Amsterdam Cocktails \$5 Chicago Handshakes. Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's), Free Pinball & Darts. **@mosphere:** \$5 Well Cocktails & Draft Beer 6-8pm, Dancers 10pm-1am. **Baton Show Lounge:** Doors open at 6pm, Shows at 7:30pm, 9:30pm & 11:30pm. **Cell Block:** Open 4pm-2am. Charlie's: 1st and 3rd Fierce Fridays 10p - 1am, 2nd Fierce Fridays - Traffic Light Party 10p - 1am, 4th Fierce Fridays - Glow Up Party 10p - 1am, 5th Fierce Fridays - Strut 10p - 1am, Dancing until close. **Jackhammer:** \$5 Miller Lite Tallboys \$8 New Amsterdam & Redbull Happy Hour Specials 5-9pm: \$5 Whiskeys, Ryes and Bourbons \$5 Chicago Handshake Everyday Specials: \$5 Fireball, Jager & Malort Shots, \$4 Tallboy Beers (Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's). **Kit Kat Lounge:** Happy Hour 5-7pm \$8.95 Martinis. **Sidetrack:** Open at 3pm, TGIF Show Tunes 4-9pm, Friday Night Dance Party 9pm-2am. **The Sofo Tap:** \$3 House Shots, \$7.50 Big Miller Lite Drafts Happy Hour Specials: 3pm-6pm: \$4 New Amsterdam Cocktails. Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tall Boys Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's), Free Darts. **Touche:** 10/18 Cowboy RoundUp Save a horse ride a cowboy. 10/25 Pumpkin Perversions Carving Contest.

SATURDAY

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: \$6 Lagunitas IPADrafts. Happy Hour Specials: 1/2 Off All Drafts \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails. Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's), Free Pinball & Darts. **@mosphere:** \$5 Well Cocktails & Draft Beer 3pm-5pm, Dancers 10pm -1am. **Baton Show Lounge:** Doors open at 6pm, Shows at 7:30pm, 9:30pm & 11:30pm. **Cell Block:** Open 2pm-3am. **Charlie's:** Country Line Dancing 7 - 10pm, The Main Event 10pm - 1am Dancing until Close. **Jackhammer:** \$3 House Shots \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails \$5 Miller Lite Tallboys Happy Hour Specials 5-9pm: \$5 Whiskeys, Ryes and Bourbons \$5 Chicago Handshake Everyday Specials: \$5 Fireball, Jager & Malort Shots, \$4 Tallboy Beers (Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's). **Jackhammer:** \$3 House Shots \$5 Miller Lite Tallboys Happy Hour Specials: \$5 Whiskeys, Ryes and Bourbons. Everyday Specials: \$5 Fireball, Jager & Malort Shots, \$4 Tallboy Beers (Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's). **Lucky Horseshoe:** Open with dancers at 3pm. \$5 drink specials. **Meeting House Tavern:** \$5 Signature Margaritas Happy Hour Specials. 2pm-5pm: \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails \$12 Mimosa Carafes, Everyday Specials \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort. Free Darts & Pool. **North End:** Open at 11am, \$3 Miller Lite Drafts 11am-2pm. **Sidetrack:** Open at 1pm, SaturGay Drag & Games with Sasha & Zamora Love 3-6pm, Saturday Night Dance Party 9pm-3am, Dog Day 1st Saturday of the month 1-5pm. **The Sofo Tap:** \$5 Lost Coast Tangerine Wheat, \$5 Signature Margaritas, Happy Hour Specials: 12pm-3pm: 1/2 Off All Drafts Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort, \$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's) Free Darts. **Touche:** Open 2pm - 5am. 10/19 Gear Night with BLUF/Chicago Barber & Bootblack on duty dress code in Club Room. 10/26 A RIPE Halloween Party.

SUNDAY FUNDAY

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: \$5 Signature Margaritas, \$6 Chicago Handshakes Happy Hour Specials 2pm-5pm \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's), Free Pinball & Darts. **@mosphere:** \$6 Jack Products, \$4 Domestic Draft, House Shots \$2. **Baton Show Lounge:** Doors Open at 11am, Shows at 7:30pm, 9:30pm & 11:30pm. **Cell Block:** Open 2pm-2am **Charlie's:** Queeriod! Every other Sunday 5pm - 7pm, Singational Sunday Karaoke 7pm - 11pm Mas Leche 11pm - 1am, Dancing until close. **Hydrate:** Doors open at 2pm Northalsted's Official after Brunch party. **Jackhammer:** \$5 New Amsterdam CoctKails \$7 Jackhammered Long Islands Happy Hour Specials :1st Sunday: \$7 Planter's Punch 2nd Sunday: \$5 Dog Bowls (Premium Well) 3rd Sunday: \$3 Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's Tallboy Beers 4th Sunday: \$5 Stoli Cocktails (Any Flavor) 5th Sunday: \$6 New Amsterdam & Red Bull Everyday Specials: \$5 Fireball, Jager & Malort Shots, \$4 Tallboy Beers (Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's). **Kit Kat Lounge:** Divalicious brunch 11am-3pm, Happy Hour 4-7pm \$8.95 Martinis. **Lucky Horseshoe:** Open with dancers at 3pm. \$5 drink specials. **Meeting House Tavern:** \$3 House Shots, \$12 Mimosa Carafes. Happy Hour Specials: 7pm-10pm: \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails. Everyday Specials \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort. Free Darts & Pool. **North End:** Open at 11am, \$3 Miller Lite Drafts 7-10pm **Shakers on Clark:** \$1 off Bloody Mary's, \$1 off Mules: Vodka, Tequila, or Whiskey. And \$1 off all Revolution beers. **Sidetrack:** Open at 1pm, Sunday Funday Show Tunes 4-9pm, Sunday Funday After Dark Dance Party 9pm-2am. **Touche:** Open 2pm - 4am. Beer Bust \$2 Bud Light Drafts, \$2 Sodas, Clubroom Opens 6pm, Movie Night 7pm.

Educate yourself about Project 2025.

Vote November 5th!

GRAB A HIT

Top 30 Dance Chart For the First week of October



Visit nexusradio.fm

	Artist	Title
1	Hugel & Diplo	Forever Ft. Malou & Yuna
2	Camelphat & Nadia Ali	Endlessly (Club Radio Mix)
3	Nathan Dawe & Joel Corry	Higher Ft. Sacha
4	Matoma	Let Me (Short Radio Edit)
5	Alan Walker x Joe Jonas x Julia Michaels	Thick Of It All
6	Madism & Thierry Von Der Warth	Chemicals (Radio Edit)
7	David Guetta & Alesso	Never Going Home Tonight Ft. Madison Love
8	Sonny Fodera x Jazzy & D.O.D	Somedays
9	Swedish House Mafia x Alicia Keys	Finally
10	Manyfew	Wanna Love U Ft. Darah
11	Zedd	Out Of Time Ft. Bea Miller
12	Daya	Don't Call
13	Arminhmr	Moments Ft. Z3lla
14	The Blessed Madonna & Kylie Minogue	Edge Of Saturday Night
15	3lau & Justin Caruso	Music Is The Answer
16	Twinsick x Saint Raymond	Chase The Sunlight (Radio Edit)
17	Brooks	Monster (Radio Mix)
18	Crusy	Hey Girls BBoys (Radio Edit)
19	The Chainsmokers & Kim Petras	Don't Lie
20	Robin Schulz x Joel Corry x Kopyy	Upside Down
21	Alesso & Nate Smith	I Like It (Deerock Remix)
22	Sofi Tukker	Woof ft. Kah Lo (Original Mix)
23	Meduza	Another World ft. Hayla
24	Weiss vs James Hype	Feel My Needs
25	Punctual & Lewis Thompson	Perfect
26	Yves V	Now Or Never (Radio Edit)
27	San Holo	Disappear ft. Artemis Orion & Dobi
28	Audien	Living In Color ft. Jeoff Harris
29	Clean Bandit x Anne Marie x David Guetta	Cry Baby
30	Lavern x Sigala	Like Sunshine

HE'S TRAVELED ACROSS SPACE & TIME
TO A LEGENDARY PLACE FILLED WITH WHAT HE CRAVES:

THE FLESH OF MEN!

HE MUST TOUCH HE MUST FEEL HE MUST GIVE

THE ANAL PROBE!

HE'S RENTED AN EXTRA LARGE ROOM!
RESISTANCE IS FUTILE

HALLOWEEN INVASION

GIVE YOURSELF TO THE INTERGALACTIC PLEASURE

PARTIES AND EVENTS

OCTOBER 25-31

featuring

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Photos By Anthony Meade



Touche





Touche

**TRICKS
AND
TREATS
AT TOUCHE**

SUN 10/27

BIG BOO BEER BUST

\$2 BEERS & RAFFLES

SUNDAY MOVIE NIGHT/FRIGHT FLICK 7PM

MON 10/28

**ROCKY HORROR
VIEWING PARTY**

"LETS DO THE TIME WARP AGAIN" 10PM

TUES 10/29

**PUMPKIN PERVERSIONS
CARVING CONTEST**

PUMPKINS PROVIDED / JUDGING 11PM

WEDS 10/30

**JACK-O-LANTERN
JOCKSTRAP PARTY**

DECORATING SUPPLIES PROVIDED

JUDGING AT MIDNIGHT

THURS 10/31

**TRICKS + TREATS
HALLOWEEN PARTY**

LAST NIGHT TO CRUISE THE MAZE

COSTUME CONTEST 11PM

THURS 10/24

**HALLOWEEN
MAZE OPENS**

IN CLUB ROOM / OH, THOSE THINGS THAT
GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT!

FRI 10/25

**PUMPKIN FISTING
CONTEST**

HANDS IN AT MIDNIGHT

SAT 10/26

HALLOWEEN BLACK OUT

FREE GLOW STICKS TO DARE THE DARK

**FRIDAY
NOV 1**



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GRAB ROGER

ESTATE PLAN CHECKLIST

By Roger V. McCaffrey-Boss, Esq.

Some common problems that I see with estate plans are: Plan for Incapacity. Carry with you a wallet card with contact information for emergency caretakers. If you have a pet at home carry a pet card to inform emergency care providers that there is a pet in your house that needs care.

Have an ICE (In Case of Emergency) entry in the address book of your cell phone. That listing can help the paramedics call your LGBT partner, spouse or friend that you chose, if needed, while you are riding to the hospital in the ambulance. Also, make sure your apartment building, has updated contact information for you and who can enter your apartment and have access to the important documents to assist you. You may not want your niece that you have not seen in over 20 years gaining entry to your apartment because she is your closest blood relative.

Share Finances. Share details of your financial affairs with your

spouse or partner. This should include the location of all assets and vital documents such as insurance policies, passbooks, deeds etc. Each person should list the names, addresses and account numbers of every bank, mutual fund and brokerage account; policy numbers for health disability and life insurance policies; car registration and title numbers; credit card numbers; employer pension account numbers, and make sure the other person has a copy of your list. The lists should also include IRA accounts with beneficiaries, pension funds and profit sharing plans, annuities, safe deposit boxes, location of valuable antiques, jewelry etc.

Not Safekeeping Documents. You need not always give copies of your trusts, powers of attorney, etc. to other people (agents and fiduciaries) who may need to implement them. However, you should communicate to the interested people their role, what kind of documents exist, and where they can find them if the need arises.

If these people cannot reach the documents when needed, implementation will not be smooth. Many times clients do not know where their documents are. Keep copies in each person's car and suitcase when you travel. Old Powers of Attorney. Powers of attorney are wonderful documents in theory. Working with them can sometimes be a chore, though, especially when trying to convince others (like banks) to accept them on their face. An "old" power of attorney is more difficult to deal with than a fresh one because a question arises as to whether it is still good or whether it has been replaced. I suggest that you "refresh" your



powers of attorney every two to three years by restating them.

Outdated Beneficiary Designations. Always verify who the named beneficiaries are for each asset that does not pass through a will. Individuals will often name someone other than their LGBT partners/spouses as beneficiaries on employee benefits such as life insurance or 401(k) plans. It is extremely common for clients simply to forget that a previous unmarried partner or parent is still named on an IRA or life insurance policy. For individuals who wish to leave a portion of their estates to a charity, designation of a charity as a direct beneficiary of some or all or a tax-deferred account is often preferable to making a bequest in the will that will be funded with post-tax dollars. Power of Attorney for Healthcare. The agent and successor agent(s) under your healthcare power of attorney should be made aware of its existence and the location where it can be found in the event the agent needs a copy of it for purposes of implementation. The healthcare power of attorney is only effective if the agent is aware of it and can obtain a copy when it needs to be used. Further, it is your agent's or your responsibility to communicate the healthcare agency to your healthcare providers.

Roger McCaffrey-Boss is a graduate of Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota, and is a member of the Chicago Bar Association. You can email him at RVMLawyer@aol.com. He suggests that you consult your own lawyer for any specific questions regarding the issues raised in this column.

SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS FOR YOUTH You Are Not Alone



It's time to take action if you notice these signs in family or friends:

1. Talking about or making plans for suicide.
2. Expressing hopelessness about the future.
3. Displaying severe/overwhelming emotional pain or distress.
4. Showing worrisome changes in behavior, particularly in combination with the warning signs above, including significant:
 - Withdrawal from or changing social connections/situations.
 - Changes in sleep (increased or decreased).
 - Anger or hostility that seems out of character or out of context.
 - Recent increased agitation or irritability.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available.

Text or call 988 or chat 988lifeline.org, or reach out to a mental health professional.

988

SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

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The Chicago

LGBT
Hall of Fame



Photos By Ken Brown



GRAB HOLLY

Our Own Particular Wasteland

By Holly Maholm

I – a member of a frolic of unicorns – was at the end of my tether (as we who know the pain of cinch and bit and hobble are wont to say). I had reached a point where I felt the need to confront my Queen (something I intended to do “respectfully,” out of regard for her ever-present horn). We were together in the orchard, and I spoke.

“Your Majesty,” I began, “may I speak freely?” Penelope looked over at me quizzically and replied, “Why Holly, I thought when you lawyers had something to say, there was always a price to be paid? But if you feel the need to unburden yourself of some grievance, ‘speak away.’”

I dipped my toe into that well of bitterness from which I had recently been drinking. “With respect, Your Grace, it seems to me of late that I have heard you speak dismissively, even unsympathetically, about my species. You have repeated that epithet ‘murder monkey’ to describe us, and you hold the one profession we have that is intended to discourage our propensity for murder – the practice of law – in thinly veiled contempt. So, do you regret having me in your frolic? Do you want me to go away?”

It was evident I had struck some chord of pity, as the Queen turned and replied. “No, Holly, your presence in

my frolic is valuable to me, and I want you to stay. But I can see why you have spoken as you have, and I owe you an explanation. And to do so,” she continued, “I must tell you the history of how the Species Unicorn and the Species Human came to take such different paths through life.

“You see, many, many generations ago, our two species enjoyed a deep and mutually beneficial relationship. At that time, we unicorns did not use our power of disguise to hide ourselves from humans. We were perfectly visible to all, and in those localities where a frolic of unicorns lived, each unicorn would have been known – personally, and by name – to whatever small encampment of humans resided nearby. There existed many “cross-species” friendships among humans and unicorns, as we shared a common language, history and culture. It was a ‘Golden Age’ of friendship, cooperation and respect.

“At that time, your species lived by hunting, and you might imagine that from time-to-time, some humans – being unable to find sufficient game, and facing starvation – would turn to hunting unicorns as a last resort. But this never happened, for three reasons: First, when game was scarce, the local frolic would scout the nearby forests and inform your hunters where game was hiding. Next, the possibility of killing and eating

unicorns was a repulsive, even taboo, idea (bordering on cannibalism) inasmuch as humans and unicorns shared a common language. And thirdly, there was always our horns, of which one glance at a unicorn reminded you how near the surface your vital organs lie.”

My Queen fell silent, and I could see she was struggling to voice some deep and painful confession. At last she spoke, “Holly, the truth is, I am not angry with you – or your species – and the source of my less-than-sympathetic words and tone of voice was not due to any ‘misbehavior’ on your part, nor any falling-short of you... or the Species Human, in general.

“The fact is, it is my sorrow, grief and regret that motivates me to speak as I have. Sorrow that an unbridgeable gap has opened



up between our two species; grief that bonds which were once as close as brothers and sisters have been irreparably broken; regret that you and we have been forever exiled from that one, common world which once we shared. Thus, today, humans and unicorns subsist alone in each our own particular wasteland, our lives dulled of that expressive, sparkling laughter which, before, we found in the other.”

Penelope took a deep breath and went on. “Even a child – and here I am thinking of a child of the Species Human, who enjoys but few analytical skills – could tell you the cause of this great ‘divorce’ suffered by our two species. As the years progressed, the advantages of your dexterous hands, your nimble fingers and your opposable thumbs opened up countless new opportunities for development of exciting and productive new technologies. These were, of course, not anything the Species Unicorn could employ. Accordingly, once those technologies took hold and were shared out among humans, we unicorns were left behind.

“Nevertheless, Holly, we unicorns do not see this great divide as an injustice to our species. We have our role to play in this great, earthly drama authored by Those Greater Than Ourselves, to which we are reconciled. However, there is one great tragedy, here, which is entirely unknown to you humans, which I must tell you about.”

(To be continued)

Holly Maholm is a transgender woman living in Cleveland, Ohio. Look for Holly's book *Offered Magic: My Life Among the Unicorns* (now available on Amazon) which collects the first 126 episodes of Holly's adventures involving both magical unicorns and her LGBTQ friends. Send a message to Holly at www.hollymaholm.com.

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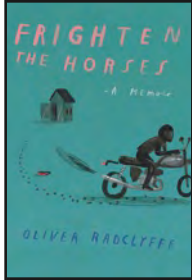
Photos By Ken Brown



GRAB A BOOK

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

"Frighten the Horses: A Memoir" by Oliver Radclyffe
c.2024, Roxane Books / Grove Atlantic \$28.00 352 pages



Finding your own way.

It's a rite of passage for every young person, a necessity on the path to adulthood. You might have had help with it. You might have listened to your heart alone on the quest to find your own way. And sometimes, as in the new memoir, "Frighten the Horses" by Oliver Radclyffe, you may have to find yourself first.

If you had observed Oliver Radclyffe in a random diner a few years ago, you'd have seen a blonde, bubbly, but harried mother with four active children under age seven and a distracted husband. You probably wouldn't have seen trouble, but it was there.

"Nicky," as Radclyffe was known then, was simmering with something that was just coming to the forefront.

As a young child, Nicky'd been raised in comfort in a family steeped in genteel British wealth, attended a private all-girl's school, and never wanted for anything. She left all that behind as a young adult, and embraced the biker lifestyle and everything it entailed. The problem now wasn't that she missed her old ways, it was that she hated life as a wife and mother. Her dreams were filled with fantasies of "exactly who I was: a man on a motorbike, in love with a woman."

But being a man? No, that wasn't quite right.

It took every bit of courage she had to say she was gay, that she thought constantly about women, that she hated sex with men. When she told her husband, he was hurt but mostly unbothered, insisting that she tell absolutely no one. They could remain married and just go forward. Nothing had to change.

But everything had already changed for Nicky.

Once she decided finally to come out, she learned that friends had already suspected. Family was supportive. It would be okay. But as Nicky began to experiment with a

newfound freedom to be with women, one thing became clear: having sex with a woman was better when she imagined doing it as a man.

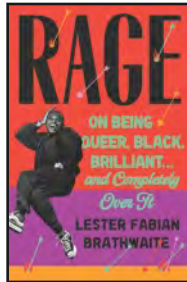
In his opening chapter, author Oliver Radclyffe shares an anecdote about the confusion the father of Radclyffe's son's friend had when picking up the friend. Readers may feel the same sentiment.

Fortunately, "Frighten the Horses" gets better... and it gets worse. Radclyffe's story is riveting, told with a voice that's distinct, sometimes poker-faced, but compelling; you'll find yourself agreeing with every bit of his outrage and befuddlement with coming out in a way that feels right. When everything falls into place, it's a relief for both author and reader.

And yet, it's hard to get to this point because this memoir is just too long. It lags where you'll wish it doesn't. It feels like being burrito-wrapped in a heavy-weighted blanket: you don't necessarily want out, but you might get tired of being in it.

Still, it remains that this peek at transitioning, however painful, is essential reading for anyone who needs to understand how someone figures things out. If that's you, then consider "Frighten the Horses" and find it.

"Rage: On Being Queer, Black, Brilliant... and Completely Over It"
by Lester Fabian Brathwaite c.2024,
Tiny Reparations Books \$28.00
288 pages



Somewhere up in the clouds.

That's where your blood pressure is, right there as high as it's ever been. Hoo, boy, are you angry. Your teeth are clenched, your eyes are slits, and you can't trust yourself to speak in more than a growl. You're plenty steamed and, as in the new book "Rage" by Lester Fabian Brathwaite, it shouldn't have to be this way.

When he came with his family to America from Guyana at just four years old, Brathwaite couldn't believe what his new home country offered. Malls, new kinds of food, cable television? Shirtless white men on TV and in

magazines? Yes, please!

He's always had crushes on white men, but he loves being a gay Black man – even though racism, overt and subtle, can be an aggravation. When Brathwaite is on a dating app, white men sometimes dismiss him with a racial comment. He's heard and seen the "n-word" more than once and he doesn't tolerate it. Wouldn't a greeting and a no thanks be less rude?

He is bothered by unnecessary meanness.

He is bothered in a different way by bodybuilding. Hot, muscular bodies, to be exact and he's sure that whoever created the sport was a genius. Brathwaite participates in bodybuilding himself sometimes – it's expensive and he does it for himself, not for other men – though he believes that gay men are bodybuilding's biggest subset. For sure, he's payed homage to his share of bodybuilders, superheroes in movies, and hot shirtless boys on TV.

There were many times, years ago, that Brathwaite ended up drunk and in a stranger's bed or looking for an old hook-up, and he was arrested once. Nearing thirty, though, he realized that that life wasn't what he wanted any more. His knees couldn't take it. Besides, he liked who he was and he liked his blackness. He realized that he didn't need anyone else to be a hero of his tale. He could do it better himself.

One thing's for certain: "Rage" lives up to its title.

At times, author Lester Fabian Brathwaite rails against so many things: racism and desire, club society, being a writer and editor, the generational differences between gay men, politics, and loss. At other times, he's outRAGEous and hilarious, writing to readers as though he's holding court in a cafe somewhere and you'd better listen up.

You should know that that means honesty – poking in the corners, calling things out for what they are, chastising people who need schooling on how to behave in a way that doesn't leave room for nonsense. This arrives unabashed and raw, accompanied by plenty of profanity.

You've been warned.

And yet, Brathwaite's candor and his blunt talk is fresh and different. This gay man doesn't pussy-foot around, and getting his opinions without fluff feels good and right. Readers will appreciate that, and they might come away educated.

Generally speaking, this ain't your Grandma's book, unless Grandma likes real talk laced with profanity. If that's so, then get "Rage." You'll both be mad for it.



Photos By Anthony Meade



GRAB A QUEEN



Crowning Beauty Kataluna Enriquez is the Reigning Miss International Queen – USA

By Jamie Booth

The Miss International Queen pageant celebrates the beauty and tenacity of transgender women with contestants showcasing their stories of transformation, resilience, and incredible talent.

Kataluna Enriquez is the reigning Miss International Queen – USA. She made history in 2021 when she became the first openly transgender woman to win the Miss Nevada USA pageant, ultimately competing in Miss USA. She recently competed in the Miss International Queen pageant in Thailand, where she won the best talent category and placed in the Top Six of the overall competition.

In December, she will travel to Las Vegas to crown the next Miss International Queen – USA and she is hoping you will join her.

Jamie Booth: How has your year as Miss International Queen – USA impacted your life?

Kataluna Enriquez: My year as Miss International Queen USA has

offered me the opportunity to connect with people all over the country. It has allowed me to share my story and advocate for mental health. It's also helped me to brush up on my English! English is my third language and the language barrier was a hurdle, especially in the beginning, but I've managed it pretty nicely.

JB: How has your platform helped to advance visibility and advocacy for the transgender community?

KE: Simply being a representation of hope and resilience advances the visibility of trans people. Like many trans people of color, I am a survivor of physical, sexual and mental abuse. Many of us are often ashamed of our traumatic experiences, but as Miss International Queen USA, I made it my purpose to be vocal and to share my experiences openly. It's important to tackle trauma, shame and fear head on and my hope is that by standing my ground and

finding success on my terms, it will encourage younger generations to know that anything is possible.

JB: What were some of the biggest challenges you faced during your reign?

KE: There was a lot of pressure in being the first to represent the new USA franchise in the Miss International Queen pageant. Preparations for the international competition were extremely tough. I wanted to make sure that my wardrobe and packaging were more than exceptional. The two weeks I was in Thailand competing for the international crown, I didn't get more than four hours of sleep each night. So many hours went into sewing, finishing gowns, wardrobes, and working on speeches. It was a lot and though I may have not won the crown, I did win everyone's heart.

JB: As you prepare to crown your successor, what advice would you give to the next Miss International

Queen USA?

KE: My advice to the next Miss International Queen USA is to know and love yourself. There will be plenty of naysayers, but what is more important is the love that you have for yourself. Self-love radiates like no other, especially on stage. No one can surpass you when you are fearless and have a great understanding of who you are and your purpose.

JB: What do you think the future holds for pageants like Miss International Queen in terms of promoting inclusion and diversity?

KE: Miss International Queen USA will continue the legacy of paving the way of what it means to be brave and to be free. In the future, I hope the organizers will consider eliminating the age limit and career history requirements.

JB: What is your next goal?

KE: My next goal is to one day compete on RuPaul's Drag Race. I'd like to be the first Miss USA competitor to compete on the show and the first Filipino American to win it! Drag has been extremely influential to my win and reign. It has shaped me and my ability to express myself fearlessly. There are many stories I haven't shared with the world yet. Stories from my childhood and from all of the pageants that I have competed in. There were so many things I had to hide to survive and I cannot wait for the world to hear all about it.

JB: On the final night, when you place the crown on your

successor's head, what emotions do you expect to feel, and how will this moment resonate in the history of transgender representation?

KE: The emotion I will feel the night of crowning my successor is simple: grateful.

Miss International Queen – USA will dazzle the city of Las Vegas from December 8–12, 2024. Tickets are available now at [Bethetransformationalchange.org/miq-usa-tickets](https://bethetransformationalchange.org/miq-usa-tickets). Follow on Facebook at Miss International Queen USA and on Instagram @Missinternationalqueenusa.



Photo By Anneli Adolffson

**CHICAGO'S 10TH ANNUAL
ARTS IN THE DARK HALLOWEEN
PARADE CELEBRATES
CHICAGO'S CREATIVE
LANDSCAPE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19**



LUMA8 celebrates the 10th Annual Arts in the Dark Halloween parade, a family-friendly happening featuring unique floats, spectacle puppets and all forms of creative performance taking place Saturday, October 19, from 6-8pm. This magical evening procession will celebrate ten years of honoring Halloween as the “artists’ holiday” and parading as an art form largely lost in American culture. Where parades often feature political and commercial messages, the purpose of the Arts in the Dark parade is solely to uphold and uplift Chicago’s creative communities. This parade draws together participants from major cultural organizations, inspiring youth programs, and aspiring artists in every field and from every ward of Chicago. This dazzling production annually delights an audience of 60,000+ gathered along historic State Street, from Lake to Van Buren Streets.

In celebration of the 10th year of this explosion of art, color and spectacle, this anniversary parade is sure to be bigger, better and grander than ever; among the new elements is the honoring of “10 Creative Spirits” – ten leaders of Chicago’s arts and culture world who will be introduced and honored at the Parade.

“We are delighted to celebrate the 10th iteration of this parade by honoring some of the city’s most distinguished artists. These creative individuals make the arts shine in our great city,” said **Mark Kelly**, Arts in the Dark parade Co-founder and Artistic Director.

For more information visit www.artsinthedark.org

**10TH ANNUAL LAKEVIEW
HALLOWEEN PUP CRAWL
SATURDAY OCTOBER 19TH**



The 10th Annual Lakeview Halloween Pup Crawl will be held Saturday October 19th, 10am-2pm, at Halsted & Aldine. Costume fun for pups & their people! Treats, gift bag, raffle prizes & a patio brunch after party at Lark 3441 N Halsted 11-3pm Hosted by **Miss Foozie!** (Prize Drawing at 2pm).

\$10 Advance Registration at lakeviewpupcrawl.com. Check in at Halsted & Aldine prior to 10am.

**GREAT HALLOWEEN BOO-
TACULAR SUNDAY OCTOBER 20
AT THE CENTER ON HALSTED**



Halloween games, arts & crafts, spooky drag story time, and more! Fall fun for LGBTQ+ families with children ages 0-11!

Family-Friendly Drag Bingo Alumni from the youth drag education program, Dare to Drag, will present family-friendly Halloween Drag Bingo! Don't miss your chance to win a prize, 3pm-4pm.

Drag Story Time Alumni from the youth drag education program, Dare to Drag, will be reading kid-friendly spooky stories at 2:30 and 4:00!

Costumes are encouraged but not required, and Center on Halsted invites all Boo-tacular attendees to contribute to this welcoming and inclusive afternoon.

For more information visit <https://www.centeronhalsted.org>

**THE 27th ANNUAL HAUNTED
HALSTED HALLOWEEN PARADE
WILL BE HELD THURSDAY
OCTOBER 31ST IN THE
NORTHALSTED
NEIGHBORHOOD**



The free-to-watch parade, ranked one of the top ten in the US by Fodor’s Travel, has a spectacular Costume Contest with hundreds of entrants (Sign Up Free) featuring \$4,000 in cash prizes and concludes with an awards presentation.

The 2024 Halloween Parade Grand Marshals are coming to haunt you straight from **The Boulet Brothers Dragula** featuring **SCYLLA, Auntie Heroine and Aurora Gozmic**.

The Parade also features the Chicago Full Moon Jam fire performers, Windy City Jeep Club, Lakeside Pride Marching Band, Chicago Spirit Brigade pep squad.

The costume competition covers 5 categories: Character, Creative, Scary, Youth (<13) and Group. Each category will have a \$500/\$200/\$100 prize winner for 1st place/2nd place/3rd place, respectively.

Northalsted has a ton of Halloween events throughout October: Parade after parties and contests, the Lakeview Halloween Pup Crawl, Drag Competition, Trick or Treat, and more.

All are welcome to be a part of the fun! Registration & Parade Starts at: Halsted & Belmont. Sign up to participate between 6:30-7:30pm. Look for Registration tent.

7:30PM Parade Kickoff at Halsted & Belmont

8:00PM Parade Ends at Halsted & Cornelia

8:30PM Awards Show: Halsted & Brompton (3514 N. Halsted; parking lot)

For more information or to register online visit <http://www.hauntedhalsted.com>

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**EDDIE IZZARD CELEBRATES
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WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 30**



Eddie Izzard: The Remix is a chance for Eddie, inspired by her

ever-loyal audiences to remix and re-imagine some of her own favorite, personal comedy highlights.

Eddie's 35 years of sell-out comedy shows stretch from Live at the Ambassadors in 1993 to Wunderbar in 2019. Ever wondered what became of Darth Vader and Mr. Stevens or the monkey in the tree, did the pears ever ripen... and will God ever appear?

It's a glorious chance to 'maybe' find out the answers or discover more questions to those Izzard conundrums. It's highly likely that no night will be exactly the same, so, as ever with Eddie, expect the unexpected. This show promises to

be a beautiful, hilarious journey spanning a 35 year career, talking thought-provoking, nonsense – who could resist?

Tickets are now available in person at the Genessee Theater Box Office 203 North Genessee Street Waukegan, IL or online at <http://www.GenesseeTheater.com>

**MUSIC THEATER WORKS
ANNOUNCES THE CAST AND
CREATIVE TEAM FOR LITTLE
SHOP OF HORRORS, OCTOBER
24 - NOVEMBER 17, AT THE
NORTH SHORE CENTER FOR
THE PERFORMING ARTS IN
SKOKIE**



Music Theater Works has announced the cast and creative

team for the second production of its 2024 season, *Little Shop of Horrors*, in the North Theatre at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, October 24 - November 17. *Little Shop of Horrors*, with music by **Howard Ashman** and book and lyrics by **Alan Menken**, is directed by Producing Artistic Director **Kyle A. Dougan**, choreographed by and music directed by **Linda Madonia**.

The frighteningly fantastical musical arrives just in time for Halloween to make audiences scream with laughter. From the award-winning duo of Howard Ashman and Alan Menken (Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and The Beast* and *Aladdin*), *Little Shop of Horrors* is a sci-fi horror

comedy meets love story meets rock musical as a carnivorous plant from outer space takes over meek Mushnik's Flower Shop employee Seymour's life and threatens to ruin his hope of finding love with his secret crush, Audrey.

The performance schedule is Wednesdays at 2 p.m., Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., with additional performances on Saturdays, Nov. 2, Nov. 9 and Nov. 16 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are now available at MusicTheaterWorks.com or by calling the Music Theater Works box office at the North Shore Center, **847.673.6300**.

**RAVEN THEATRE COMPANY
ANNOUNCES CAST AND
PRODUCTION TEAM FOR
LIMITED PRODUCTION, "THE
COMEDIANS" NOVEMBER 14-24**



Chicago's Raven Theatre Company today announced the cast and production team for the limited engagement World Premiere of **Philip Dawkins'** *THE COMEDIANS*, running

November 14 - 24, 2024 and directed by **Colm Summers**. Originally commissioned by Audible, this first-ever staging will appear at Raven Theatre at 6157 N. Clark.

Two comedians walk into a comedy club... it's the start of a bad joke and a serious relationship. Chauncy and Nsaku are both comedians and both working hard at the comedy grind, but when Nsaku's career starts to take off, will Chauncy be left behind? Told through a series of hilarious stand-up sets, *THE COMEDIANS* examines the shifting dynamics of a relationship tested by fame. Originally commissioned by Audible, Raven's production of this queer love story marks the first time the play will be staged for an audience.

The production stars **Bill Larkin** as "Chauncy" and **Terry Guest** as "Nsaku."

To purchase tickets and for more information about Raven Theatre's 42nd season, visit www.raventheatre.com.

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