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GRAB RODDY



Men about (Province)town: Roddy Bottum and Joey Holman of Man on Man

By Gregg Shapiro

When queer musical duo Man On Man - Roddy Bottum and Joey Holman, whose partnership is both creative and romantic - released its eponymous debut album in 2021, it was as if someone opened a gallon drum of poppers and we were all experiencing the same thrilling head rush. Bottum, who many know from his time in Faith No More, hinted at some of what we heard through his other band Imperial Teen. However, when combined with the youthful exuberance of Holman, Man On Man takes the sound and the style to a whole new level. Even if you've been listening to contemporary gay bands, nothing could have prepared you for what this pair had in store. Man On Man effortlessly avoids the dreaded sophomore slump with the incredible

"Provincetown" (Polyvinyl). Not shying away for a moment from its sexy subject matter, Man On Man is in peak condition on songs including "Take It From Me," "Gloryhole," "Piggy," "Showgirls," "I Feel Good," and "Kids." I had the pleasure of interviewing Roddy and Joey before their show at Gramps in Miami's Wynwood neighborhood. [Man On Man performs on Sept. 23 at The Empty Bottle.]

Gregg Shapiro: I'd like to begin by thanking you both for coming to Florida, to play in Orlando and Miami, at a time when the state isn't being seen in the most favorable light, especially when it comes to its treatment of LGBTQ+ people. Did you have any hesitation about returning to the region to play?

Roddy Bottum: Thanks for saying that. We totally addressed it amongst ourselves. When we were talking about coming down to Florida, we were like, "Yeah, it is fraught with a whole bunch of shit. Someone said to me the other day, "That's so good that you can go down there and represent." Which is a really good way to look at it, which is the way we would have looked at it anyway. We've been talking a lot in the car about what Florida means, how queers, and women, specifically in Florida have to work really hard to represent themselves. As a result, Joey was estimating that the queers and the women are way fiercer down here because they have to work so hard to represent.

GS: People think that by not coming here, they're punishing the state. But there are a lot of gay people who live in this state. Don't punish the gay people who live here, because I'm pretty sure most of us didn't vote for DeSantis.

Joey Holman: We also don't want to give the impression that we're coming down to Florida to do it a favor. I think one of the most repulsive views of Florida, even more so than the actual shit that's going on, is that Floridians aren't amazing. That they aren't progressive, that they aren't fighting, and that they aren't relevant. We need Florida and Floridians. I think that there's a slight perspective that can be a little bit condescending to places like Florida. Wait a minute! Florida is getting resistance because Florida resists. It would be silly for us to come down here and ignore that strength.

GS: I went to college in Boston in the 1980s and we made frequent trips to Provincetown, which is one of my favorite places on earth. The new Man On Man album is titled "Provincetown." Please say a few words about your connection to the gay mecca.

RB: Geographically, it was a reference point for us because it's where we made our record. But then also, in a spiritual sense, it's where an assemblage of our community, in a really extreme and specific way, exists. The balance of those two things spoke volumes to us when we were thinking about the title of our record. We were a little bit wary of claiming it as our own, but I don't think there's a danger in that. I think it's like every person's land. Every spectrum is there. For that and what it is, that was a good representation of what we wanted to put out there with our record.

GS: Do you ever run into John Waters?

RB: For sure. We've seen him riding around on his bike. We meet all sorts of people there. Even J. Mascis (of the band Dinosaur Jr.), who's on our record (on the song "Hush"). He's been a friend for a long time. He goes to Provincetown with his family every summer.

GS: That's amazing!

RB: It became this thing. We saw him and we started hanging out. We became really close just through our Provincetown connection and that's how he played on our record. GS: "Provincetown," as well as Man On Man's 2021 eponymous debut album, is gayer than most of the current albums I've heard, even from gay artists. It also reminds me of my favorite 1980s gay Boston band Human Sexual Response. Would you consider them an influence? RB: No. I think the lack of influence. or the lack of those sort of bands in my life, and for Joey, too, in his life growing up, the absence of that in our sphere, I think influenced us more than anything.

GS: "Provincetown" opens with the song "Take It From Me" which contains the lyrics "Poppers, disco/1980s San Francisco/Steve Lady, Bambi/At the Crystal Pistol." In terms of the 1980s, being an



influence... were you born in the '80s, Joey?

JH: Yes, 1983. The 1980s influenced me more than you realize. I think anytime you're born in a decade you have an intrinsic tie to it. Those were my formative years. Everything about the '80s, I would argue, was more important to me than both of you combined. The things that I noticed. The nuance, the culture, the attitude, the energy; that's what informed me in my most formative years. I think, also, when you go to college, with people in your age group, there's this mandatory "go back in time" thing with music.

GS: Retro nostalgia!

JH: You have to go to the '80s. That's where I discovered going beyond emotion, going beyond time and place, and more into atmosphere. There's a simplicity that exists from the '80s and a repetitiveness in the music that really inspired me as a guitar player and as a songwriter. There's a lot from the '80s that I think informs both of us. There's a part of us, where we meet in the middle with our musical taste, which can probably be derivative of things that happened in the '80s. I think the attitude of the music, and the culture that the music was creating, the core of it resonates with both of us.

GS: Is that when you started making music, Roddy?

RB: Probably so. Like in the opening lines of that song, I talked about living in San Francisco at that time as a 17- or 18-year-old kid. Being influenced by that culture, on the frontlines of the introduction of AIDS and queer sensibilities. Particularly in San Francisco, it was a rampant time of those ideologies.

GS: "I Feel Good" sounds like the kind of summer song that would sound great blasting from a car with the windows down or at a Ptown tea dance. Are there remixes in the works? JH: We aren't closed off to it.

RB: We haven't pursued it. **JH:** If the right person came along to do it, we'd be totally into it. **RB:** It's a funny song. It's one that we started playing, and then we turned off to it, and then it turned into a thing. Joey's been saying when we play it (in concert) that this song story started as sort of a tongue-in-cheek sort of reference. Like, I feel good, but we didn't really feel good. But it's actually more literal now. I do feel good.

JH: It's a song about owning your choices, and not being a victim of your choices. Being in a relationship, doing what Roddy and I do. You can either view it as it's hard, we're an indie rock band, we're two queer people, we don't make sense in the bigger conversation with where queerness is headed right now. It could be that. But it's also, look at the beautiful world we've been able to carve out because of what we do and who we are. No one's ever done what we're doing or looks like how we look like. That's something to be proud of. In that way, I do feel good. GS: I've seen plenty of queer bands at Pitchfork Music Festival and Lollapalooza, Would Man On Man like to play those festivals? JH: Of course!

RB: Yeah, absolutely. We started our band and we had a specific agenda. It was a little bit naive, but we honestly thought the places that we would do best were queer festivals, playing to our queer family. That works to a large extent. Also, we found over the course of the past couple years of touring that what works well is just playing to music lovers. There's a process where people get on board with our ideology of being queer, who aren't necessarily queer, that's as satisfying as preaching to the choir.

GS: I love the way that "Piggy" addresses hook-up culture with some heartfelt advice, "You gotta first love you/If you wanna fuck me." Have you heard about the song from people on those apps? *RB:* It gets a chuckle when we explain it onstage. Gay men definitely relate. We recently did a collaboration thing with Grindr. I don't know if they (Grindr) reached out for that reason or if they were aware of us referencing queer hookup apps.

GS: What was the

collaboration? JH: We made a playlist with them. And we created some stories. GS: A little corporate sponsorship. JH: Yeah, but in a dirty way [laughs].

GS: This brings me back to the upfront sexuality of the album, which you can hear on the cruisy "Who Could Know" and the sexy "Glorvhole." What does it mean to you as queer artists to be able to share

songs such as these with queer listeners?

JH: It's such a normal part of Roddy's and my life that I don't think about it that much until people ask us about it or point it out. I'm so comfortable talking about gay sex, even lyrically. It's a balance of us being proud of our story, proud of our interests, and proud of what we write about. And, also, this is part of our culture. All of our friends talk like this. We live like this. That's my take on it. Maybe Roddy has a different perspective.

RB: I feel the same way. It goes back to what we talked about at the beginning. Going back to our truths. I just want to put truth out into the world. I'm aware of the truth being what it is. I'm aware of that truth not being there when I was growing up. It's something in my head that I want to address in a provocative way. To address things in a way that I didn't have when I was a kid.



GS: Do you remember what you would consider the first queer song you ever heard?

RB: Yeah! "Relax" by Frankie Goes To Hollywood. There was so much talk about that song at the time. I didn't really understand that that was a queer song, but I remember clocking it. Like, "Oh, OK, this is gay."

JH: What was that song in the '90s that was "I Kissed A Girl"? Not the Katy Perry one.

GS: Yes, the real one by Jill Sobule by a real queer artist.

JH: The song had a great video. That was big. Also, in some ways, Tracy Chapman. I think her queerness was connected to what she was doing. She looked like a lesbian to me, and that made me feel like I need to pay attention to her.

RB: Phranc, too, early on

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Important Facts About DOVATO

This is only a brief summary of important information about DOVATO and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and treatment.

What is the most important information I should know about DOVATO?

If you have both human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) infection and Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection, DOVATO can cause serious side effects, including:

- Resistant HBV. Your healthcare provider will test you for HBV infection before you start treatment with DOVATO. If you have HIV-1 and hepatitis B, the HBV can change (mutate) during your treatment with DOVATO and become harder to treat (resistant). It is not known if DOVATO is safe and effective in people who have HIV-1 and HBV infection.
- Worsening of HBV infection. If you have HBV infection and take DOVATO, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking DOVATO. A "flare-up" is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.
 - Do not run out of DOVATO. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your DOVATO is all gone.

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- Do not stop DOVATO without first talking to your healthcare provider.
- If you stop taking DOVATO, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your liver function and monitor your HBV infection. It may be necessary to give you a medicine to treat hepatitis B. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking DOVATO.

For more information about side effects, see "What are possible side effects of DOVATO?"

What is DOVATO?

DOVATO is a prescription medicine that is used without other HIV-1 medicines to treat human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) infection in adults: who have not received HIV-1 medicines in the past, or to replace their current HIV-1 medicines when their healthcare provider determines that they meet certain requirements. HIV-1 is the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). It is not known if DOVATO is safe and effective in children.

Please see additional Important Facts About DOVATO on the following page.

Ask your doctor about staying undetectable with fewer medicines in 1 pill.

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Important Facts About DOVATO (cont'd)

Who should not take DOVATO?

Do not take DOVATO if you:

- have ever had an allergic reaction to a medicine that contains dolutegravir or lamivudine.
- take dofetilide. Taking DOVATO and dofetilide can cause side effects that may be serious or life-threatening.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before using DOVATO?

Tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have or have had liver problems, including hepatitis B or C infection.
- have kidney problems.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. One of the medicines in DOVATO (dolutegravir) may harm your unborn baby.
 - Your healthcare provider may prescribe a different medicine than DOVATO If you are planning to become pregnant or if pregnancy is confirmed during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.
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 - If you can become pregnant, you and your healthcare provider should talk about the use of effective birth control (contraception) during treatment with DOVATO.
 - Tell your healthcare provider right away if you are planning to become pregnant, you become pregnant, or think you may be pregnant during treatment with DOVATO.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed if you** take **DOVATO**.
- You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
- DOVATO passes to your baby in your breast milk.
- Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Some medicines interact with DOVATO. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

- You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that interact with DOVATO.
- Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider can tell you if it is safe to take DOVATO with other medicines.

What are possible side effects of DOVATO?

DOVATO can cause serious side effects, including:

 See "What is the most important information I should know about DOVATO?"

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What are possible side effects of DOVATO? (cont'd)

- Allergic reactions. Call your healthcare provider right away if you develop a rash with DOVATO. Stop taking DOVATO and get medical help right away if you develop a rash with any of the following signs or symptoms: fever; generally ill feeling; tiredness; muscle or joint aches; blisters or sores in mouth; blisters or peeling of the skin; redness or swelling of the eyes; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue; problems breathing.
- Liver problems. People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening changes in certain liver tests during treatment with DOVATO. Liver problems, including liver failure, have also happened in people without a history of liver disease or other risk factors. Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check your liver. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following signs or symptoms of liver problems: your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice); dark or "tea-colored" urine; light-colored stools (bowel movements); nausea or vomiting; loss of appetite; and/or pain, aching, or tendemess on the right side of your stomach area.
- Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Too much lactic acid is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms that could be signs of lactic acidosis: feel very weak or tired; unusual (not normal) muscle pain; trouble breathing; stomach pain with nausea and vomiting; feel cold, especially in your arms and legs; feel dizzy or lightheaded; and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.
- Lactic acidosis can also lead to severe liver problems, which can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the signs or symptoms of liver problems which are listed above under "Liver problems."
- You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female or very overweight (obese).
- Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having new symptoms after you start taking DOVATO.
- The most common side effects of DOVATO include: headache; nausea; diarrhea; trouble sleeping; tiredness; and anxiety.

These are not all the possible side effects of DOVATO. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Where can I find more information?

- Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist.
- Go to DOVATO.com or call 1-877-844-8872, where you can also get FDA-approved labeling.

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GRAB JAIME

The Chicago Native Serves a Licking in *"Lollipop"*, the First Single from His Upcoming Album

By Mark Bloom

Out artist Jaime Adrian grew up on the east side of Chicago in a predominantly Mexican and very Catholic neighborhood. Kids often made fun of him for being different, calling him feminine and belittling his love of singing as "not something a real man would do".

In "Lollipop," the first single release from his upcoming album, Jaime Adrian claps back at all of the negative nellies who have tried to quash his spirit through the years. With it's a catchy and upbeat Latin/ reggaeton sound, "Lollipop" is sure to inspire everyone to the dancefloor. We caught up with Jaime at his home in Chicago.

Mark Bloom:Is "Lollipop" is a Suck-U track?

Jaime Adrian: (Laughing) It definitely is! It's a suck-u to all the people who go out of their way to bring others down. I wanted to give music fans a song that they could relate to and maybe dance off the hate to at clubs or in their rooms.

MB: What made you a target for neighborhood bullies on Chicago's east side?

JA: Just breathing made me a target! It started in 4th grade. I had no idea what a fruit cake was but that's what I was called. I was bullied for random things like my hair and because my asthma prevented me from playing sports. I didn't act like the other boys in school and that meant that something was wrong with me.

MB: Did you have the support of your family?

JA: My mom and siblings supported

me. I had certain relatives bully me, though, telling me how to sit on a chair like a man and how to wear my socks like a man. I would take my shirt off and they would call me fat. You know how that story goes. Nothing I did was right.

MB: Can you

describe the trauma that results for a young boy being judged as not manly enough?

JA: The trauma stunts your mental growth. I have anxiety attacks when I'm taking the train home to visit my extended family. I still feel like they are pointing, staring, and talking about how fem I am and how gay I look. If I go to straight clubs, I have panic attacks because all the memories come rushing back.

MB: Yet you somehow found the strength to put yourself in front of some of the harshest judges on TV's The X Factor. How did you manage that?

JA: I am a longtime fan of the X Factor UK and when I heard they were casting the American version, I was determined to be on the show. I didn't care about anything or anyone's opinion. This was my dream.

MB: Was meeting Britney Spears



everything you imagined it would be?

JA: Britney spears is my idol. She is the reason I wanted to become a popstar. Meeting her didn't go as planned. She didn't say anything rude or much at all.

MB: She was going through a rough emotional period during the second season of the show.

JA: I wish I knew what she was going through. That may have changed my entire song selection process.

MB: Why did you choose to audition with a Britney Spears song?

JA: Choosing what to sing on a reality show is a process that no one really knows about. I originally planned to audition with songs by Ricky Martin, Jay Sean, and Ne-Yo, but the show couldn't get them cleared. Once Britney signed on as judge, the producers told me I should sing one of her songs because it would give me an edge. I believed the advice and ran with it. I was young and not experienced and I took everything the producers said like it was what I had to do.

MB: This was the same season that a drag performer also auditioned with a Britney **Spears** song. Britney walked off after that performance and was booed by the crowd. JA: After being on The X Factor and seeing how crazy they get with editing, I try not to think about what really happened because unless you were there. you will never really know.

MB: Who was the harshest critic?

JA: LA Reid. His comments hurt because he made it seem like my performance was intended to make fun of Britney and it wasn't.

MB: Demi Lovato came to your defense.

JA: Demi is the only positive memory I have of that day! Her encouragement and positive feedback kept me above water. Now that I know what she was going through herself at the time, I'm even more grateful that she cared about my feelings.

MB: Can we get into some personal questions? JA: Of course!

MB: What is your idea of perfect happiness?

JA: My two dogs, Phybie and Piper. They have no secret agendas. They

just want to be loved.

MB: Which living person do you most admire?

JA: My mom. She raised three kids on her own! She's incredible. I love her so much.

MB: On what occasion do you lie?

JA: If I have personal problems going on, I often lie and say I don't.

MB: What is the quality you most like in a guy?

JA: I like chill, European guys that have a sense of humor and are able to get my sarcasm.

MB: Which talent would you most like to have?

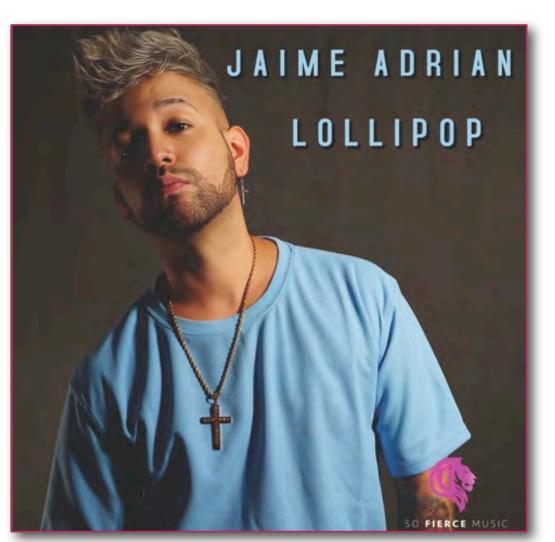
JA: I would have loved to have been a gymnast!

MB: If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be? JA: I wish I could let loose more and not worry if I look dumb or goofy.

MB: What do you consider your greatest achievement?

JA: I once had someone come up to me after a show, gushing how they loved the reference to Buffy the Vampire Slayer in my song "Belong." Turns out Buffy had made a huge impact on their life, and they thought they were weird for it. Hearing the reference in my song and learning about the affect she had on me, too, made them realize they were not alone. That was the greatest compliment to me.

Jaime Adrian's "Lollipop" is being distributed by So Fierce Music/The Orchard/Sony Music Entertainment and is available on Apple Music, Spotify, and all digital platforms. Follow Jaime Adrian on Instagram, TikTok and Threads @ jaimeadrianreyes



GRAB A PLANE



San Francisco- Mecca Beckons Again airport surcharge. (I don't pay resort over to the G

By Bill Malcolm

The demise of San Francisco in the mainstream press has been wildly exaggerated. The City By the Bay is back and better than ever. It's ground central for the LGBTQ+ movement. There is lots of new stuff to do: the Central Subway to Chinatown, the new Salesforce rooftops gardens, the tunnel tops at the Presidio with stunning view of the Golden Gate Bridge, and more. And the homeless situation is much improved. Best of all, the drought is over. Plus housing prices have fallen.

GETTING THERE

I took Southwest Airlines both ways without incident through Denver. Fares were reasonable without annoying fees and charges. I flew into OAK (Oakland) and out of San Francisco (SFO). Both are served by BART rapid transit.

They use the Harvey Milk Terminal One at SFO full of displays of the history of the slain San Francisco Supervisor, killed by Supervisor Dan White who also murdered the Mayor, George Moscone. It's a fascinating history display entitled "Harvey Milk: Messenger of Hope" which is detailed at the exhibits in the terminal.

Don't buy any hot food though. They slap on a surprise five percent airport surcharge. (I don't pay resort fees, much less junk charges like this.) But do check out the gay souvenir section in the shops in the airport and their food to go is surcharge free.

WHERE TO STAY AND EAT

I always stay at the Beck's Motor Lodge, 2222 Market between Noe and Sanchez. It's a family-run business that is close to the Castro and Upper Market neighborhoods. You can walk everywhere, and they offer free parking if you have a car. Rates are reasonable and you can stumble home from the bars.

Peet's Coffee is across the street as is the sports bar, Hi Tops (try the nachos). Lookout Bar and Beaux bar are just steps away as is the La Mediterranee on Noe Street. Grab an It's-It ice cream sandwich (on graham crackers) at the Noe Valley Market or walk over to Courtney's Produce on 14th Street and Castro for fresh juices and low-priced home-made sandwiches. Splurge for great French cuisine at L'ardoise Bistro on Noe Street. The new Hotel Castro on 18th Street across from Molly Stone's Market is another option. The Lobby Bar in the Hotel has a fun happy hour.

WHAT TO DO

Where do I start? There's so much but I will focus on the new and extra fun stuff.

Explore the Castro and enjoy the sidewalk panels that highlight the famous LGBTQ pioneers. Then head

over to the GLBT Historical Society Museum on 18th Street.

Walk up to nearby Corona Heights, Twin Peaks, and Buena Vista Park for the stunning views.

Take the Historic F Street Car to the Ferry Building and Fisherman's Wharf. Restored street cars from around the country are a treat. The Ferry Building has great restaurants. Try the empanadas.

Take the new Central Subway from Powell Street Station north to Chinatown or south to Mission Bay and the new Mission Rock neighborhood. Explore the new Chase Center or catch a show there.

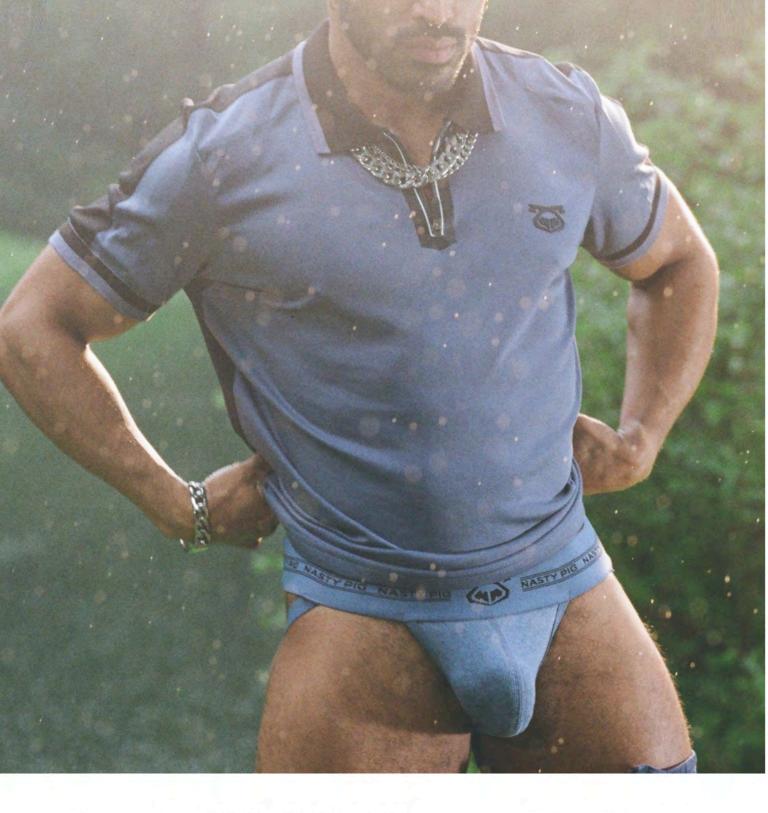
Take the Muni Metro subway west to West Portal Station. Have lunch at Squat n Gobble. Try the salmon salad.

Sign up for a ride on Cruise or Waymo, the new driverless cars. You will see them everywhere on the street.

Take the J Church up to Duboce Park for magnificent views of downtown and then over to the Noe Valley for Chinese at Erics Chinese Restaurant.

Hike with the San Francisco Hiking Club (sfhikingclub.org) which goes to nearby parks in the region.

Take a walk or run with the Frontrunners. They meet at the Stowe Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park at 9 a.m. on Saturdays. Then walk along the car free JFK Drive or take the free shuttle to the museums.



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NASTY PIC AVIE GROUP

Explore the Presidio. Take a hike or check out the museum in the Officers Club which also features a great Mexican restaurant. Enjoy the views of the Golden Gate Bridge in this huge former military reserve and the new Tunnel Tops and Visitor Center. Then take the free shuttle around the park or to the Embarcadero to explore the Salesforce Tower Transbay Terminal rooftop gardens with Mediterranean plants from around the world that thrive on the



moderate climate that lacks rain for much of the year.

Take the Powell Street Cable Car from the Powell Street Station on Market up to Russian Hill for stunning views of Angel Island and Alcatraz.

VERY THURSDAY 9pm-2am

INX GOGOS

16

BETTY

NIGHTLIFE

The bars in the Castro are busier than ever. Beaux has many events as well as a Sunday drag brunch. The Midnight Sun on 18th Street is going strong as is Moby Dick. Hi Tops on Market Street across the street from Beck's is fun and has outdoor seating. Toad Hall is another option on 18th Street. The Twin Peaks at Market and Castro is always fun and back in the day was known for its big windows. The Castro Theater on Castro has shows and is a historic gem.

IN CONCLUSION

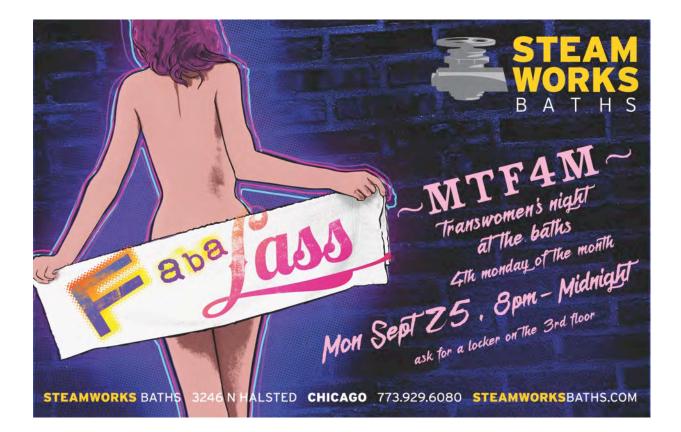
You cannot beat a vacation in San Francisco. With so much to do, a year-round mild climate, and tons of new stuff, you owe it to yourself to make a pilgrimage to the original LGBTQ mecca. The homeless won't bother you although the driverless cars might! And check out the art work at the stations at the brand new Central Subway. FOR MORE INFORMATION The Bay Area Reporter, Gloss

Magazine, and Bay Times (online or in print) have

lots of current event ideas.

Bill Malcolm lived in San Francisco for 12 years and founded the San Francisco Hiking Club which is still going strong today. He is a graduate of UC-Santa Cruz.

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Photos By Anthony Meade

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September 19, 2023



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GRAB MAIA



Sharp "Thoughts": an interview with Maia Sharp

By Gregg Shapiro

Maia Sharp is one of those queer singer/songwriters who deserve a larger following in the LGBTQ+ community. I mean Britney large. Her songs are beautiful and accessible. Even Cher thinks so! The recent expanded reissue of Cher's 1996 album "It's A Man's World" features her cover of Sharp's "Don't Come Around Tonite" (previously only available on the import version). If that's not enough, Bonnie Raitt has not only recorded her own interpretations of Sharp's songs but has also brought her on tour as her opening act. Sharp's latest, her eighth studio album "Reckless Thoughts" (maiasharp.com) never disappoints from start to finish. Maia was kind enough to make time for an interview in advance of the album's release.

Gregg Shapiro: Last year, 2022, was the 25th anniversary of the release of your debut album. In what ways do you think you've evolved as a songwriter and performer? Maia Sharp: Oh, my gosh. I hope all the ways. As a songwriter, I'm definitely more loval to the truth now than I was then. I think I was more craft-forward then. If I found a turn of the phrase. I could make it rhyme. I could set it up and I could make it land. That used to be enough. I'm not coming down on that at all, because I'm still very proud of that early work. It's probably just because I've lived more, and I have more real-life stories to tell, but now I just have too many real things that I want to share, so it isn't about just finding a turn of the phrase anymore. It's telling a true story. I think (the organization) Songwriting With Soldiers is a part of that influence for me. I've seen the power of telling a true story. Even one that you thought you were the only one who lived it. You're never ever the only one who lived any human story. Somebody out there has probably also been through it, and maybe they need to hear that you have, too, so they know that they're not alone. It has become a mission. Since "Mercy

Rising" (Sharp's 2021 album), which was almost entirely ripped from reallife headlines. I've been speaking to true things. "Reckless Thoughts" is that. It's almost entirely true. It either once was true, is true now, or it's something that I want to be true. But it revolves around the truth. Performance-wise, I got up on a stage because I love writing songs. I realized at some point that I'm going to have to be the artist to get all these songs heard. Being on a stage, being the singer/artist was not where all of this started. It took me a minute to really get comfortable. I'm very introverted. I'm very much I just want you to hear my songs. I don't care who sings them, whether it's me or somebody else. It took me a few years and a couple of albums to really enjoy being on a stage. Now, as you pointed out, thanks a lot [laughs], 25 years later I'm comfortable and I actually enjoy it and I can relax it. I feel like the audience, and I are hanging out, sharing stories.

GS: I've seen you live enough to



rest. relax. unwind.

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DESCANSO

288 E.Camino Monte Vista, Palm Springs, CA 760.320.1928 descansoresort.com know that that's true. It really does feel like a roomful of friends. MS: Thank you!

GS: You have a long history of being a collaborative songwriter and your new album "Reckless Thoughts" features tunes cowritten with Garrison Starr, Kim Richey, Mindy Smith, Madi Diaz, and others. What do you

like best about the collaboration process? MS: I'm always going to go somewhere that I wouldn't have gone otherwise if I was writing alone. They're always going to bring something. Every one of those names that you mentioned has something up her sleeves, and also (songwriters) Peter Groenwald and Dean Fields are on there, too. They bring something that they thought of that I never would have thought of. Mindy comes up with melodies where I'm always, "Oh, I never would have gone there." I didn't realize how great that melody sounded over that chord until she sang it. Then it always takes me a second to learn it. Her mind just goes somewhere different than mine. Kim's the same way. I learn something every time. It keeps my songs sounding different from each other. Also, the logistics of it. I finish a song much sooner if I write with somebody else [laughs]. When I write a

song alone, like "Fallen Angel," it was over days and days, rewriting the last verse. I have three lyric versions. I always have to pay attention when I'm printing out the latest one, because I reworked it so much because I was my own sounding board.

GS: Queer performers are also represented on "Reckless Thoughts," including the previously mentioned Garrison Starr, as well as Shelly Fairchild. As an out artist, how important is it to you to work with other queer musicians? **MS:** That's a good question. I don't set out to do that. I don't set out to make sure that I include them on the record. They're just my really close friends that are extremely talented and I want them to be a part of my work. I just want to work with them. What could have brought us closer as friends is the fact that we're all queer. That could have been why

MS: Absolutely! That's one of the rifts that it's trying to address. I wrote that in 2019 when Trump was in office. We got together and all of us were cranky AF about the culture feeling like it was excusing unkindness. People were being unapologetic about being fundamentally unkind to other humans. We were all so fed up with



we're in each other's inner circle. You want to work with people that you trust and love and want to hang out with. So, it led to that. But I didn't think, "Oh, I want to work with queer artists or songwriters." I just love what they do.

GS: I live in Fort Lauderdale. You live in Nashville, two cities in states in which the LGBTQ+ community is under relentless attack. The uplifting and anthemic "Kind," co-written with Mindy and Dean, sounds like an attempt to address the issue of the growing rift in the culture. Am I on the right track?

that. Whether it was based on sexual orientation or gender identity or race or man-to-woman or color or religion. Whatever it was, it seemed like it was sliding into this new place of acceptability. How is this OK? It had felt so peaceful. It felt like we were getting somewhere as a society under Obama. Then it slides back to 1950. We started talking about that. Sharing our mutual disdain for that feeling about where society was heading. Then we decided to flip the script on it. How about we sing something more uplifting? About the people that we want to spend our time with, the parts of society that we respect and celebrate. Why don't we do that? Once we did that, we started having a blast. We straight up had the conversation. Are we going to list the

things that we're talking about? Like all those things that you and I just said. Are we going to talk about whether you're gay or straight or white or black? That sounded too simplistic. It's been done so many times. How do we point it out without coming right on the nose? I think it was Dean that said, "How about that any other thing, other than kindness, won't matter to our friendship? What are some other things? He's the one that said, "jalapeno peppers in your ice cream [laughs]."

GS: I'm glad you mentioned those

interesting juxtapositions, because in the song you also make mention of "Pepsi or Coke" as an example of the kinds of sides people take. Out singer/ songwriter Brandy Clark makes a similar reference in the song "She Smoked in the House" on her new self-titled album. Why do you think those beverages are in the zeitgeist?

MS: [Laughs] I didn't know that! I've got to check that out, find a way to connect on that. I know that Brandy Clark and I have a bunch of friends in common. That was the line in "Kind" that took the longest. "Rich or broke/drink or smoke..." That was what held us up the longest. I think I brought up Pepsi and Coke, because I remember, as a kid, the Pepsi challenge was huge and there were at least five commercials about the Pepsi challenge every day. It was a huge ad campaign. I remember thinking, "If you're under 30, do you know what the Pepsi challenge is?" Apparently, it's an ongoing feud, so everybody knows Pepsi/Coke [laughs].

GS: "California," also co-written with Garrison, about leaving your longtime home behind, reminded me of Joni Mitchell's "California," in which Joni sang about the experience of missing and

returning to "California." Would it be fair to say that they're two sides of the same coin? MS: Yes, I auess so. She has a wist-fulness in her sona. Mine is definitely wistful. Everv word of that is not just to California the state I thought I would never leave, but also to my ex-wife the person I thought I would never leave. It's her. too. That one hurts, I

played it for, and she knows that it's about her. We had a moment about that. It's definitely both the person and the place.

> Howard Brown Health

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CHICAGO

GS: Included in your upcoming tour are a pair of dates with Bonnie Raitt, who covered three of your songs on her "Souls Alike" album. What does touring with Bonnie mean to vou? **MS:** Oh. my God! It's never

long enough. It's always a great experience. She is such a generous soul. Inspiring mojo swagger with humility. How does she pull that off? I don't know, but she's so cool. She has become a great friend. We started hanging out right around the time that I first toured with her with a band. We've been good friends ever since then. So, I also get to see my friend. That's the best way to see her. It's not like she blows through Nashville and maybe has time for lunch or maybe I come to California. and we'll take a little hike or something. We get to be out there; I get to see her and hang out backstage. It's such a good experience. The only problem is that it spoils me for all other performers. And I'm playing to her audience! I'm a diehard Bonnie Raitt fan, and that's what those people are in that room. I could just walk out there and be like, "Hey, we're all here for Bonnie. Hope you like these songs, too, and it works [laughs].

GRAB A JOB



Secure the Bag with Center on Halsted

The chance to grab that new opportunity you've been looking for is back! Center on Halsted presents its annual Career Fair on Friday, September 22nd on the Center's third floor.

Now in its eighth year, this is your chance to meet with LGBTQ+-affirming organizations of all kinds to



hear about their work and open opportunities. Exhibitors include major corporations, small businesses, government agencies, and non-profit organizations that all work to uplift our community in various ways.

"We've seen incredible support from organizations this year," says Mitchell Kraemer, Corporate Relations Officer at Center on Halsted and one of the event's organizers. "It's great to have sponsors engaged from financial services like CIBC, to manufacturing companies like ITW, to even the Blackhawks! There are tons of opportunities here for job seekers, with a wide variety of industries represented."

Each year the Career Fair seeks to increase access to the workforce for the LGBTQ+ community by eliminating barriers. Job seekers are able to enter the Center's affirming and uplifting space with other members of their community. They're able to speak with companies that are supportive of them and understand them. And they're able to learn in a safe environment.

"I'm always in awe of this event and am proud to organize it each year," says **Joey McDonald**, Manager of Events and Volunteers at the Center and another event organizer. "It always feels like the world is your oyster when you walk into the gym and see all the tables. We're continuously excited to bring all of our exhibitors into our space and make sure that our community is centered, feels supported, and feels affirmed. In a time where the LGBTQ+ community is





receiving undue negative attention, again, this event works to shine a positive light on organizations that are affirming and act as allies."

This year the Career Fair will also feature new programming at the event: panel discussions with some of the corporate sponsors. Make sure to carve out time to hear directly from organizations about how they're committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in their hiring and maybe get some tips on how to nail your interview with their company.

Center on Halsted focuses on programming that sees each person's whole self. And the Career Fair is no different. In addition to the event itself, the Center is proud to offer job readiness opportunities leading up to the event and in perpetuity.

Learn more and register in advance at *centeronhalsted.org/careerfair* or show up on the day of to explore your next potential opportunity!

Full sponsor listing includes: CIBC, Chicago Blackhawks, ITW, Atkore, McDonald's, Aon, Bimbo Bakeries, CDW, Cboe, Chicago Behavioral Hospital, CNA, Ferrara, Morningstar, Rivers Casino, SC Johnson, and United. MON, OCT 2ND to FRI, OCT 13TH 2:30AM - 12:30PM

EMPLOYMENT BOOTCAMP

Are you unemployed or looking for a new job? Center on Halsted's FREE 2-week Employment Bootcamp class for those 45+ may be just what you need to jump-start your job search! The course will include a variety of skill-building activities and individualized employment support.

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There's a \$75 stipend for individuals who complete the bootcamp! This bootcamp is supported by The Chicago Community Trust.

Pre-registration is required via registsration link.

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ASOPM-6:30PM THURSDAY

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*Online registration recommended for available appointments. Walk-ins welcome. 1st and 2nd dose Mpox vaccine available. Pfizer and Moderna COVID Bivalent booster also available. Supported by ViiV Healthcare's Positive Action Community Grant Program. Financial support has also been provided by Gilead Sciences.



centeronhalsted.org/MPvaccine.html



GRAB YOUR FRIENDS

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: . \$5 Stoli Cocktails (Any Flavor), Everyday Specials: \$5Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (BuschLight, PBR, Hamm's), Free Pinball & Darts.@mosphere: \$5
Well Cocktails & Draft Beer 6-8pm. Cell Block: Open 4pm-2am. Charlies: Bingo 7 – 11 pm Dancing until close. D.S.Tequila Co: \$5 10oz Margaritas. Hydrate: Lips and Mascara Doors at 8pm Show at 10pm.. North End: Open at 11am, \$5 Well Drinks.Shakers on Clark: Comedy Night \$1 off Well Drinks and Well Shots. Sidetrack: Open at 3pm, Musical Monday Show Tunes 8pm-2am. Steamworks: Every 3rd Monday TM4M (Trans Men For Men) 8pm-2am. The Sofo Tap: \$5 Whiskeys, Ryes & Bourbons. Everyday Specials: \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort, \$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's) Free Darts. Touche: Open 5pm-4am. 6/4 Euchre Night, Come out and Play 7-10pm Sports on our screens Club room Open!.

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: . \$3 House Shots, \$7 Big Miller Lite Drafts Everyday Specials: \$5Jager, 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. *Charlie's:* Tune Up Tuesday Karaoke 7 – 11PM, Tag Team Tuesdays 11p – 2am, Dancing until close. *D.S.Tequila Co:* . 50cent Wing Night 5pm-10pm, Must Purchase a drink for special. Dine in Only. *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:,\$5Jager, \$5 Fireball & Malort, \$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's)Free Darts. *Touche:* Open 5pm - 4am.Hardcore Cruisin' No Cell Phones/Wifi. 8/1 Hardcore Full Moon Party.

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: \$4Miller Lite Drafts, \$5 ESD 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 WEDN 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. 9/27 BNC 7:30pm

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. D.S. Tequila Co: Bottomless Tacos! \$23.95 5pm-10pm , Must purchase a beverage for special. Dine in Only. 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.
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 (Busch Light, PBR, Hamm's) Free Darts. Touche: Open 5pm - 4am.Throwback Thursdays70's & 80's Music & Porn by BijouVideo.

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SUNDAY

2 Bears Tavem 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 (BuschLight, PBR, Hamms), 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. Charlies: 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. D.S. Tequila Cor TGIFSpecial \$5 Effen Cocktails and \$4 Homitos Shots. Hydrate: Fresh Faces A New Drag Competition Second and Forth Friday of the Month. 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 & Hamms, Kit Kat Lounge: Happy Hour 5-7pm \$8.95 Martinis. Meeting House Tavem: \$6 Tito's Cocktails \$7.50 Big Miller Lites. Happy Hour Specials.5pm-8pm: \$5 Chicago Handshakes. Everyday Specials \$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort, Free Darts & Pool. North End: Open at 11am, \$3 Miller Lite Drafts 4-7pm. 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 4-7pm. 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 4-7pm. Sidetrack: Open at 3pm, Firee Darts. Touche: Open 5pm - 4am. 9/22 These Boots Are Made For Walkin' Benefit for Chicago House AIDS Walk Team, 9/29 Full Moon Party & Contest.10/13 Feitsh Connection Orange Hanky Party, 10/20 Cowboy Round Up Save a Horse Ride a Cowwboy.

2 Bears Tavern Uptown: \$6 Lagunitas IPADrafts. Happy Hour Specials: ½ Off All Drafts \$5 New Amsterdam Cocktails. Everyday Specials:\$5 Jager, Fireball & Malort \$4 Tallboy Beers (BuschLight, 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 HandshakeEveryday 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: ½ Off All Drafts Everyday Specials: \$5Jager, Fireball & Malort, \$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR,Hamm's)Free Darts. *Touche:* Open 2pm - 5am. 9/23 RIPE PARTY, Dim lights, Deep BeatsGo-Go Dudes DJ HarryT, 9/30 Annual Oktoberfest Beer Stein Holding Contest. 10/7 Chicago's BEAR Night Midnight Pizza Panic. 10/14 Dungeon Master Night S&M Demo @ Midnight CWB 5pm. 10/21 Gear Night with Bluf/Chicago Barber & Bootblack on duty Dress Code in ClubRoom BNC 6 pm.

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 (BuschLight, 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 Charlies: Queeriod! Every other Sunday 5pm - 7pm, Singsational Sunday Karaoke 7pm - 11pm Mas Leche 11pm - 1am, Dancing until close. D.S. Tequila Co: CoyoteUglyDrag Brunch\$50all Inclusive food and beverage package plus Drag Show.Hvdrate: 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 Punch2nd Sunday: \$5 Dog Bowls (Premium Well) 3rd Sunday: \$3 Busch Light, PBR & Hamm's Tallboy Beers4th Sunday: \$5 Stoli Cocktails (Any Flavor)5th Sunday: \$6 New Amsterdam & Red BullEveryday 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 Tavem: \$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 Stoli Vodka (and Stoli flavors) and Stoli Bloody Mary's. **Sidetrack:** Open at 1pm, Sunday Funday Show Tunes 4-9pm, Sunday Funday After Dark Dance Party 9pm-2am The Sofo Tap: \$6 New Amsterdam Cocktails \$7.50 Big Miller Lite Drafts Happy Hour Specials: 12pm– 2pm: \$3 Miller Lite Drafts 1pm-3pm: \$3 House Shots FREE Chicago-style hot-dogs (while supplies last) Everyday Specials \$5Jager, Fireball & Malort.\$4 Tall Boy Beers (Busch Light, PBR, Hamms)Free Darts. Touche: Open 2pm - 4am. Beer Bust \$2 Bud Light Drafts, \$2 Sodas, Clubroom Opens 6pm, Movie Night 7pm.





	Artist	Title
1	Calvin Harris	Miracle Ft. Ellie Goulding
2	Ownboss & Selva	Riot (Original Mix)
3	Da Buzz	Lost Without
4	Yves V X Sem Thomasson	Sound Of A Beating Heart (Bhaskar Remix)
5	Jess Glynne	What Do You Do
6	Lizot X Hours X Gigo'n'migo	Better As Friends (Open Beatz Anthem 2023)
7	Julian Cross	All I Need Radio Ft. Afrojack
8	Ewan MCvicar	Groove Thang
9	Belters Only	4eva
10	Icona Pop	Fall In Love
11	Kylie Minogue	Padam Padam
12	Andrew Rayel X Jes	From This Day On (Ben Gold Remix)
13	Felix Cartal & Karen Harding	Need Your Love (Original Mix)
14	Zack Martino & Tudor	Subliminal
15	Loud Luxury & Two Friends	If Only I Ft. Bebe Rexha
16	Dastic & Aeden	Loved By You Ft. Jai Ryu
17	Sonny Fodera & Paul Woolford & Ella Henderson	Like I Used To (Radio Edit)
18	Tungevaag X Steerner	Imma Love You
19	Calvin Harris & Sam Smith	Desire
20	David Guetta	Something To Hold On To
21	Casso x Raye x D block Europe	Prada
22	Troye Sivan	Rush
23	London Grammar & Camelphat	Higher (Radio Edit)
24	Morgan Page X Farfetchd	Runaway Ft. The Dirty Rich
25	Miley Cyrus	Jaded (Ludvic Remix)
26	Da Buzz	My Life
27	Robbie Mendez & Lucles	All Night
28	Eren Ab & Lena Leon	Fyi
29	Allegra	Round & Round (Tiesto Remix)
30	Swedish House	Ray Of Solar (Radio Edit)
	·	•

GRAB Magazine 30



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GRAB HOLLY Speak of the Devil

By Holly Maholm

Dot had just finished explaining to me how she had contrived to use common, everyday horse-magic to bring about the reclamation of Blair's tortured soul when that very Devil (whom we sometimes rudely gossip about) made her appearance. Not in a puff of smoke (no acrid odor, nor vape-derived floral or fruit fragrances), but just Blair herself, visible as she walked up the dusty driveway. We fell silent, hoping thereby to avoid embarrassing either ourselves or that Satanic figure-of-speech about whom we had been gossiping.

When Blair reached the porch, Dot stood up and announced, "Nice to see you again, Blair. I've got chores to finish, so how about you and Holly catch up." She went inside, and Blair took her seat. But before Blair could begin, Dot reappeared, a glass of ice tea in her grasp. She handed it to Blair, with the words "It's hot as Blazes out here, so I brought you this." Blair gladly accepted the gift, then began. "I came here, Holly, to thank you for putting me in touch with Dot. I was feeling pretty depressed a few weeks ago, and I didn't know Dot or anything about the Horse Rescue." She took a sip of tea. then went on.

"Back then, I was lost in what feels to me now like a 'toxic fog' of shame, confusion and self-hatred. I was nothing less than 'clinical.' I distrusted my emotions and refused to accept the evidence of my own eyes. I was plagued by feelings of disgust about my body, and sometimes I felt I had been condemned to live out my years in my own, private Hell.

"When I got here, I expected that... Dot being 'elderly,' she would wear me out with lectures, advice and stories about 'how things used to be.' But that never happened. Instead, Dot sat me down and explained to me the Rules of the Horse Rescue. Which are: No cell phones, no social media, and – the one I didn't expect, and the hardest one to follow – no endless, inconsequential chit-chat intended to fill the silence with petty distractions.

For the first four days she made me observe a sort of 'vow of semisilence' in which we only talked about basic, everyday things like: Chores and how to do them, what the horses need first thing in the morning, and how to know when strawberries are ready to pick. Those four days gave me the first taste of healing and serenity I've felt in years.

"I realized that my head – and heart – had been so filled with guilt and self-abasement that my only possible salvation was a

powerful 'cleansing.' That is exactly what Dot provided, and before long all the gender-confusion I had been fed by Kaylyn began to dissipate.

"The next 10 days at the farm were a revelation. Dot and I got up early to feed and water the horses, then turn them out to pasture. We picked strawberries and put up several dozen quarts of preserves. We picked and froze snap beans and many (!) quarts of stewed tomatoes, for spaghetti sauce. Of course, we had our own daily meals to prepare, and Holly, as much as I love donuts, I confess to you we ate healthier at breakfast here than anything you can get at Donut Time.

"But honestly, what touched me most was taking care of the rescue



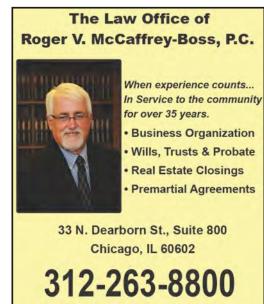
horses. Dot's got two of them right now that came to us sick. One is getting over a colic, and the other had severe malnutrition. I learned to give them the treatment the vet instructed, and I spent a lot of time with them in their stalls, brushing, stroking and comforting them.

"What I didn't expect was... as much as my labor revived those horses, even more so it renewed my spirit and revealed to me that I had been lied to. I learned there's nothing wrong with my gender, nor am I infected with transphobia or patriarchal privilege. No. The only thing wrong with me was living ignorant of the power I possess – a kind of magic – to heal the hurt of those around me.

"After I completed Dot's 'Horse Rescue Detox,' I saw this world has so much good to offer: There's healthy, tasty meals; there's the simple satisfactions of doing my daily chores; and there's pausing to enjoy a sunset, a summer shower, and the fragrance of magnolia, dogwood and viburnum. "It all came clear to me that day Dot and I took the horses out to the western pasture. Me lying on the ground and looking up at the endless sky, I heard the sound of Blossom's heartbeat in my ear. That was, for me, a voiceless, wordless blessing, which in that resting place for horses - alive and dead - I found quiet enough to hear."

(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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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME ARE PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO **CELEBRATE THE 2023 INDUCTEES TO THE** CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME AT OUR ANNUAL INDUCTION CEREMONY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 6:30 P.M.

CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM 1601 N. CLARK ST. **CHICAGO, IL 60614**

RSVP STRONGLY SUGGESTED AS CAPACITY IS LIMITED PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO RSVP: HTTPS://CHICAGOLGBTHALLOFFAME.ORG/RSVP





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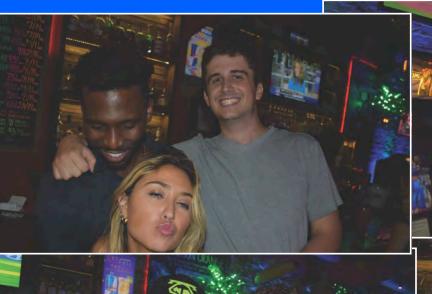


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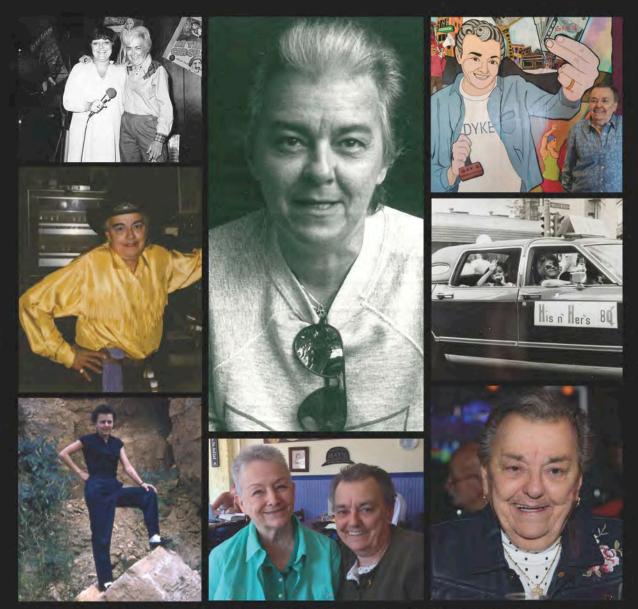
Photos By Anthony Meade PhotoBooth.

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beer & bourbon

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September 19, 2023



A CELEBRATION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF MARGE SUMMIT

Legendary Chicago Bar Owner, Promoter of Live Music Artists, Political Advocate and so much more.

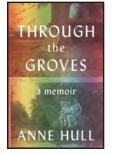
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 FROM 4-7PM AT THE BATON SHOW LOUNGE 4713 NORTH BROADWAY

Sharing Memories and stories of this remarkable lesbian that held Chicago's LGBTQ+ communities in her heart for over 80 years.



GRAB A BOOK By Terri Su

"Through the Groves: A Memoir" by Anne Hullc.2023, Henry Holt\$26.99 224 pages



You can't see the forest for the trees.

Fluffy pines, and oaks that started growing before your parents were born. Tall willows, towering cottonwoods that create a canopy far above you. The forest soothes your mind; if you have an out-of-control imagination, it offers a good scare. Nature's there, and in the new book "Through the Groves" by Anne Hull, you'll find memories, too.

She still recalls the smell and the heat and the pesticides.

Anne Hull was her daddy's sidekick the summer she was six years old, riding along with him on his job as a fruit buyer in the middle of Florida where rows of orange trees stretched for miles. Together, they visited the dusty, scarred older Black men who worked the groves on her father's route, and her father taught her all about "withholding confidential information" and not telling her mother about using a chalky field as a bathroom or about the gun in his car.

Hull's mother already knew about the roadside stops he made, and the bars along his way home: the ridealongs Hull so enjoyed were meant to deter her father from "Friday afternoon fever" and bright neon beer signs.

Back then, Hull was only starting to notice that her family moved often, from one ramshackle house to another, and she saw the weekly checks her great-grandmother gave her father. She already knew that adults kept secrets that weren't so secret to a growing girl who was obsessed with being a spy someday. These were adventures, just like the adventures she had with cousins and her little brother, who was an accident-prone "calamity."When Hull's mother left Hull's father and moved in with Hull's grandmother, that was an adventure, too – until it wasn't. Hull had became old enough to understand genteel poverty and that hand-me-downs weren't cool. She bonded with her grandmother over

music; sneered at her mother, as teenagers do; and she thought about her dad, but only in the abstract.

He never forgot about her, though.

He never stopped trying to be her father.

Do you really want some treacly life story now? Nah, you want something solid and sincere, right? Something different. Part coming-ofage, but more, maybe.

You want "Through the Groves." Rather than opening this tale where most childhood memoirs start, with eye-rolling, attitudinal teen years, author Anne Hull's story begins the summer she was six years old and they move forward from there. This gives readers the gift of an observant kid's-eye view of life – one that's older than its years and doesn't miss a thing, but that's not insufferably precious or precocious. Viewed through the lens of a grown-up, then, those early memories give readers the "more" they crave, becoming a triplewhammy of coming-of-age, coming out, and coming to terms with the frailty of family. That's sharp as flint but also hilarious.

Hull says her father was a storyteller and this orange apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Start "Through the Groves" and you'll find that you just can't leaf it.

"Sipping Dom Perignon Through a Straw: Reimagining Success as a Disabled Achiever" by Eddie Ndopu c.2023, Legacy Lit\$29.00 240 pages



You really get around.

You're here, you're there, at all the best parties and all the biggest events. It seems like everyone knows you, too, and you call them all "friend." You're a mover and a shaker and you sure do get around – even if, as in the new book "Sipping Dom Perignon Through a Straw" by Eddie Ndopu, it's on four wheels.

He almost let it go.

In the days after receiving an acceptance letter from "the oldest university in the English-speaking world," Eddie Ndopu was stunned. The scholarship he'd landed from Oxford paid for his classes and room

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

and board. He'd also get a stipend but the scholarship didn't include one essential thing: funds for his "disability-related needs."

Diagnosed at age two with spinal muscular atrophy, Ndopu was not expected to live beyond age five, but he defied the odds. Now his body required a wheelchair to get around, and help with his personal hygiene, bedtime, dressing, eating and drinking, and other day-to-day things he couldn't do himself. Not only was Oxford discluding money for that, but his regular caregiver, Lucky, was denied a visa provision.

That ultimately turned out for the better. Ndopu was in love with Lucky, who said he'd never be with another man but he suddenly was. Lucky's insincere vows broke Ndopu's heart and gave him impetus to seize the Oxford offer. Things could change. He'd figure it out.

He said yes, and began searching for a new caregiver who'd bring him from Johannesburg to London and stay to help - but before he even got to Oxford, he was passed between two people, one of whom told him that England had laws by which caretakers had to abide. Caretaker Four decided the job wasn't for him. "Five" was homophobic. "Six" embarrassed Ndopu. "Seven" had family issues to tend to. And then the final blow arrived: a £66,000 bill (around \$84,000 U.S.) that Oxford University wanted for their help..."Sipping Dom Perignon Through a Straw" is really quite the complexity.

Author Eddie Ndopu has a lot to be proud of - his humanitarian work and activism on behalf of the disabled, his education, and his dogged wallbusting, to start - but only a fraction of this book is about those things. The rest is largely a good long rant about how a major institution colossally dropped the metaphoric ball, and about the individuals who disappointed Ndupo in ways large and small while time he was studying there. In that, Ndupo expresses outrage - righteous and right, when he's dismissed, denigrated, or lessened – but others are not always given that grace, and seem to be dismissed and judged. Complex, see? - and conflicting. Though readers will absolutely note the indignation and unfairness of what Ndopu endured, and may be compelled to act, don't look for a lot of joy in accomplishment inside this tale. Instead, it's an assertive, loud call for change at every level, and you should consider it as such. You'll like "Sipping Dom Perignon Through a Straw" if you can get around that.





Photos By Anthony Meade





HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY Charlies

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GRAB A FILM

REELING 2023 Screening Schedule



Reeling: The Chicago LGBTQ+ International Film Festival today announced the dates and opening night presentation for its 41st edition, running September 21 - October 8, 2023. This year, the second-longest running LGBTQ+ film festival in the world celebrates opening night with the Chicago Premiere of THE MATTACHINE FAMILY, to be held Thursday September 21 at the Music Box Theatre (3733 N. Southport Ave.) with a reception with special guest writer and director Andy Vallentine in attendance. The festival unspools more than 40 feature films and 12 short film programs over the following 10 days at Landmark's Century Centre Cinema (2828 N. Clark St.) and at Chicago Filmmakers (1326 W. Hollywood Ave.), with virtual streaming continuing until October 8.

Written by Andy Vallentine and Danny Vallentine, and executive produced by the award-winning actor and director, Zach Braff, THE MATTACHINE FAMILY, directed by Andy Vallentine in his directorial debut, tells the story of loving gay couple Thomas (Nico Tortorella) and Oscar (Juan Pablo Di Pace) who find that they have different ideas about what making a family actually means after their first foster child returns to his birth mother.

Reeling: The Chicago LGBTQ+ International Film Festival runs September 21 - October 8, 2023. The full program for the 41st edition of the festival will be announced in mid-August, with tickets (\$12-\$40) going on sale at that time. Presenting Sponsors for the festival include AARP and Chicago Filmmakers.

For more information visit *http://www.reelingfilmfest.org/*

Festival Venues

Music Box Theatre 3733N. Southport Ave *Landmark's Century CentreCinema*2828 N Clark St *Chicago Filmmakers*1326 W Hollywood Ave.

Thursday, September 21 (Opening Night) 6:00 PM Music Box - Lounge Pre-Screening Reception 7:00 PM Music Box - The Mattachine Family Friday, September 22 7:00 PM Landmark - American Parent 7:15 PM Landmark - Norwegian Dream 9:15 PM Landmark - The Judgment 9:30 PM Landmark - All the Colours of the World are BetweenBlack & White 7:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Anhell69 9:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers - T Blockers Saturday, September 23 12:30 PM Landmark The Chambermaid 1:00 PM Landmark - This is Not Me 2:45 PM Landmark - Studio One Forever 3:00 PM Landmark - Before I Change My Mind 5:00 PM Landmark - Chasing Chasing Amy 5:15 PM Landmark - About Us Not About Us 7:00 PM Landmark - Lie With Me 7:15 PM Landmark - Silver Haze 9:00 PM Landmark - Ganymede 9:15 PM Landmark - Smokin' Hot and Regular Hot 7:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Playland 9:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Chocolate Babies 40 **GRAB** Magazine **September 19, 2023**

Sunday, September 24

1:00 PM Landmark - Fireworks 2:30 PM Landmark -Big Boys 3:30 PM Landmark - 20,000 Species of Bees 4:30 PM Landmark - Susan Feniger. Forked 6:00 PM Landmark - Leilani's Fortune 7:00 PM Landmark - Leilani's Fortune 7:00 PM Landmark - Since the Last Time We Met 8:15 PM Landmark - House of Izabel 8:45 PM Landmark - Drifter **Monday, September 25** 7:00 PM Landmark - Queen Tut 7:15 PM Landmark - Healed 9:15 PM Landmark - Single, Out

Tuesday, September 26

9:30 PM Landmark - Break the Game

7:00 PM Landmark - Fancy Dance 7:15 PM Landmark- Kenyatta: Do Not Wait Your Turn 9:00 PM Landmark - Golden Delicious 9:30 PM Landmark - The Floating Man

Wednesday, September 27

7:00 PM Landmark - The Lost Boys 7:15 PM Landmark - Febrero 9:00 PM Landmark - A Big, Gay, Hairy Hit! 9:30 PM Landmark - A Place of Our Own

Thursday, September 28

7:00 PM Landmark - Chestnut 7:15 PM Landmark - Moe 9:00 PM Landmark - Glitter + Doom - Centerpiece 9:30 PM Landmark - Mirror Mirror/Self Reflection

Friday, September 29

7:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Navigating Love and Family 9:15 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Heartbeats and Inspiration

Saturday, September 30

2:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Bittersweet Love Stories
4:30 PM Chicago Filmmakers - What Were You Thinking
7:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Charity Starts at Home
9:15 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Strange Nights and Talking Dogs

Sunday, October 1 1:00 PM Chicago Filmmakers Spirited

3:15 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Hookups and Rabbit Holes 5:30 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Manifestation 7:30 PM Chicago Filmmakers - Living Your Truth



<u>STREAMING ONLINE SCHEDULE</u> http://www.reelingfilmfest.org Streaming Online from September 29 to October 8



20,000 Species of Bees ... IL Only, Anhell69 ... IL Only, A Big, Gay, Hairy Hit! ... IL Only Bittersweet Love Stories ... Worldwide, Break the Game ... IL OnlyCharity Starts at Home ...
Worldwide Egghead & Twinkie ... Midwest Only, Fireworks ... Worldwide. The Floating Man ... U.S. Only Heartbeats and Inspiration ... WorldwideHealed ... Worldwide. Hookups and Rabbit Holes ...
Worldwide. House of Izabel ... IL Only. The Judgment ... Worldwide Kenyatta: Do Not Wait Your Turn ...
Worldwide Leilani's Fortune ... IL Only. Lie With Me ... Worldwide. Living Your Truth ... Worldwide Manifestation ... Worldwide Mirror Mirror/Self Reflection ... Worldwide. Moe ... U.S. Only. Navigating Love and Family ... Worldwide. Single, Out ... IL Only. Smokin' Hot and Regular Hot ... Worldwide. Spirited ... Worldwide. Strange Nights and Talking Dogs ... Worldwide.Studio One Forever ... IL Only Susan Feniger. Forked ... IL Only. What Were You Thinking ... Worldwide

















September 19, 2023

KOKANDY PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS THE CHICAGO PREMIERE OF AMERICAN PSYCHO: THE MUSICAL SEPTEMBER 14 – NOVEMBER 26, 2023 AT THE CHOPIN THEATRE



Indulge in '80s excess and "pure, decadent pleasure" as Kokandy Productions concludes its 2023 season with the Chicago premiere of American Psycho: The Musical, directed by Producing Artistic Director Derek Van Barham, with music direction by Heidi Joosten and choreography by Breon Arzell, playing September 14 – November 26, 2023. Just in time for Halloween, The Chopin Studio Theatre (1543 W. Division St., Chicago).

American Psycho is a ruthless and daring musical from Duncan Sheik (Spring Awakening) and Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa (Riverdale, The Picture of Dorian Gray). Based on the electrifying novel by Bret Easton Ellis, the musical tells the story of *Patrick Bateman*, a young and handsome Wall Street banker with impeccable taste and unquenchable desires. Patrick and his elite group of friends spend their days in chic restaurants, exclusive clubs and designer labels. But at night, Patrick takes part in a darker indulgence, and his mask of sanity is starting to slip...

Comments Director Derek Van Barham, "American Psycho is slick and sexy. It's also highly disturbing and sickeningly upbeat, so... let's get into it! Set against a backdrop of cinematic '80s excess, the show fills our ears with a throbbing EDM-fueled sound unlike any musical I've heard before. It's horror, it's satire, it goes for the guts and gets into your head. And it's all tinged with that David Lynchian unease of 'What is actually happening?' Extending that question of uncertainty into the live experience. we're playing with what we show vs. what we don't show, what you see vs. what you think you saw. A lot is going to be left up to the audience, and I can't wait to have those conversations.'

Tickets are now on sale at *bit.ly/ AmericanPsychoChicago.*

HELL IN A HANDBAG PRODUCTIONS ANNOUNCES 22ND SEASON OF WORLD PREMIERES The Golden Girls Save XmasThe Lost Episodes



Hell in a Handbag Productions is pleased to announce its 2023/24 season featuring three world premieres including the return of a fan favorite! Now in its 22nd year, Handbag continues to serve Chicago audiences with the best camp and parody – thus insuring the preservation and celebration of this unequivocally queer art form.

The season kicks off this November with The Golden Girls Save Xmas – The Lost Episode Parody Series, featuring an all-new holiday tale story by Artistic Director **David Cerda**.Blanche accidentally incapacitates Santa Claus on the night before Christmas! Can the girls save the holidays in time for all the children of the world to get their toys on Christmas morning?

Tickets are now on sale at https://www.tickettailor.com/ events/ hellinahandbagproductions/ 980115 DIRECTORS PHYLICIA RASHAD AND JESS MCLEOD JOIN STEPPENWOLF THEATRE COMPANY'S 2023/2024 SEASON



Steppenwolf Theatre Company, the nation's premier ensemble theater company, has announced that directors **Phylicia Rashad** and Jess McLeod will join the company's 2023/24 Season. Rashad, a two-time Tony Award winner, will direct the world premiere of Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' Purpose, an epic drama that confronts family, faith and Black American Politics featuring ensemble members Alana Arenas, Glenn Davis and Jon Michael Hill. McLeod, who served as Resident Director of Hamilton Chicago, will helm Steppenwolf's Chicago premiere of Larissa FastHorse's The Thanksgiving Play, a skewering comedy about everything right, wrong and woke in America, featuring ensemble members Audrey Francis and Tim Hopper.

Artistic Directors Glenn Davis and Audrey Francis comment, "A successful production requires an exceptional director, and we're thrilled to have hired two incredible leaders to helm these projects next year. First, we are ecstatic to welcome the legendary Phylicia Rashad back to Steppenwolf, where she last directed 2018's The Roommate. Phylicia is an honored friend of the theatre, and we're looking forward to her partnership with the brilliant Branden Jacobs-Jenkins on his new play. And for our production of The Thanksgiving Play, who better than Jess McLeod, a highly skilled and thoughtful director who brings a passion for social justice and a healthy sense of humor to Larissa Fasthorse's shrewd and biting comedy."

Classic Memberships are now on sale for Steppenwolf's 2023/24 season at **steppenwolf.org/ myseason.** Single tickets for both productions will go on sale at a later date. HEATRE

STEPPENWOLF THEATRE AND MARK CORTALE PRESENT JEREMY JORDAN



Steppenwolf Theatre Company and Mark Cortale are pleased to present Broadway star Jeremy Jordan in his much-anticipated Chicago debut, performing two shows only on Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 2 pm and 8 pm in Steppenwolf's Downstairs Theater, 1650 N. Halsted in Chicago. The award-winning actor/musician will bring his signature and thoughtprovoking style to Steppenwolf for the first time, showcasing a wide array of vocal styles across all genres of Broadway and pop music, with Benjamin Rauhala at the piano. Songs and tales from his storied career will include selections from Newsies, Smash, The Last 5 Years, Little Shop of Horrors, Waitress, and many more.

Jeremy Jordan is best known for his Tony and Grammy-nominated portrayal of Jack Kelly in Newsies on Broadway, as well as his many roles on television including series regulars on CW's Supergirl, NBC's Smash and Disney's Tangled. He's currently doing a return engagement as Seymour in the New York production of the iconic Little Shop of Horrors. Next up, he'll star as the title role in the world premiere musical, The Great Gatsby, at Paper Mill Playhouse. Jeremy stars as the tenacious record industry giant, Neil

Bogart, in the new feature film, Spinning Gold. Other films include The Last 5 Years opposite Anna Kendrick, Joyful Noise with Queen Latifah and Dollv Parton, American Son with Kerry Washington and Newsies live on stage. Additional Broadway credits include Bonnie & Clyde (Theatre World Award), West Side Story, Waitress, American Son and Rock of Ages. He has quest starred on numerous television shows, including The Flash. Elementary and Law and Order: SVU. Jeremy's concerts and cabaret shows have won awards and acclaim worldwide. He is also the lead singer of "Age of Madness," a new rock band which launched last year. Follow @JeremyMJordan for all updates.

For tickets, visit **steppenwolf.org/** *jeremyjordan* or call the Box Office at (**312**) **335-1650**.



UPCOMING

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Fri-Mon 9/29-10/2	The Dark Crystal, 1982
Tues-Thurs 10/3-10/5	Scanners, 1981, The Lure, 2015
Tues-Thurs 10/6-10/9	Psycho, 1960, Texas Chainsaw Massacre, 1974
Tues-Thurs 10/10-10/12	What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? (B&W), 1962
Fri-Mon 10/13-10/16	Addams Family Values, 1993 -Friday the 13th, 1980
Tues-Thurs 10/17-10/19	Carrie, 1976, Rosemary's Baby 1968
Fri-Mon 10/20-10/23	The Exorcist, 1973
Tues-Thurs 10/24-10/26	The Shining, 1980
Fri-Mon 10/27-10/30	Beetlejuice, 1988, Halloween (1978)
Sunday 10/29	Addams Family, 1991
Tuesday 31-Oct	Halloween, 1978, The Shining 1980
Fri-Mon 11-/1-11/4	The Thing, 1982
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