

Volume 25 • Issue 16 • No. 464 • September 13, 2012 • outwordmagazine.com

Outword

magazine

Our 17th Annual



Special Issue

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From the Pub

It's All About Art by Fred Palmer

I hope that you enjoy this, our 17th annual Arts & Entertainment issue of *Outword Magazine*. While this issue is full of fun and interesting things for you to do in the art world, which may indicate a prosperous art community, in fact, art programs of all types in California are in financial trouble.



Art and music programs in our schools struggle to stay alive, yet statistics show children involved with music education are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college, and are less likely to be involved with gangs and substance abuse.

Sadly, 89 percent of California's K-12 schools fail to provide arts education in the recommended four disciplines of music, dance, theater and visual arts.

California is still one of the largest economies in the world, yet California is ranked 50th in the nation for per capita support for the arts.

Craig Watson, Director, California Arts Council says, "The California Arts Council continues with its very modest budget of only \$5 million for a state that has over 12 percent of the nation's population and the largest number of working artists. That level of support amounts to just 12 cents per person."

According to the Council, the arts contribute to California's economy in a very direct way. There are two times more film and entertainment-related jobs in California than any other state in the country, including more than 680,000 full and part-time creative jobs, many in high-growth fields. That translates into an estimated economic

impact of \$201.1 billion (2010 estimate) in Los Angeles and Orange Counties alone.

There is a continuing look at ways to increase in arts funding in the future, and one program that's working is Arts License Plates. Funds from sales and renewals of the palm-tree-sunset motif designed by Wayne Thiebaud are the lifeblood of the agency's grant programs. Over 25 influential Californians have stepped up to be "Arts Drivers" and promote the Arts Plate - from Debbie Allen to Wolfgang Puck to the cast of *Glee*. See ArtsPlate.org for more details.

There are many Arts & Entertainment related ads in this issue and these are businesses that count on your support. Their budget allows for very little advertising, so please let them know that their choice to ask for the gay dollar in the pages of *Outword Magazine* works.

Our region has an abundance of touring theaters, small local theaters, art galleries, performance art, choruses and more to explore and enjoy. We're also lucky to have arts organizations like the Sacramento Ballet, Opera and Philharmonic. So, please take a moment to find something new and exciting to do in town on your next date night, or girls night out, and help save the arts in our community at the same time.

Toyota Ad Features Transgender Model



A model from Israel who identifies as transgender is the spokesperson for Toyota's 2013 Auris, with the tagline for the campaign being "not in trend, not casual, not for everyone, not authority, but Auris!" The ads for the Auris will only air in Japan, but you can watch it at www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVwJrAr7GkY&feature=player_embedded

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Letters

Submit Your Photos to Capture "A Day with HIV"

On one day, Friday, September 21, people everywhere, both HIV positive and negative, can share an image of coping and care through the lens of a camera.

On that day, *Positively Aware* magazine is asking people to take a digital photograph to record a moment of their day that will focus the world's attention on the daily trials and triumphs of people living with HIV to help remove the stigma of HIV through a collective photographic portrait.

The special image could be a time with friends and family, at work or play, or any moment in the day that helps people better understand how HIV impacts people, loved ones, colleagues and communities.

Photos need to be submitted by Tuesday, September 25 to www adaywithhiv.com

The final photos selected for the photo essay of A Day with HIV will be announced in October 2012 and will be published in the November/December issue of *Positively Aware* magazine.

To learn more about this year's project, view last year's winners and get tips on how to take a great photo, visit adaywithhiv.com.

Does Your Company Participate in United Way?

Dear Outword Readers,

If you are part of a company that works with United Way, please consider helping The Center during the Fall 2012 campaign.

While we are applying to be a certified partner in 2013, you won't see our name on the list just yet! However, by writing-in "The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center," your sustained giving can be the cornerstone to keeping our doors open.

Through United Way, you can create payroll deductions to make your philanthropy easy and without fail.

You can download the giving form and return it to your HR department (visit saccenter.org), and don't forget to encourage your coworkers (LGBT and allies) to do the same!

Shara P. Murphy, Executive Director
Sac. G&L Center

Author Seeks Help for New Book

Dear Outword Readers,

My name is Gayle Pitman and I am a professor of psychology and women's studies at Sacramento City College.

I am in the process of writing my second book, titled *Fringe: On the Edges of the Mainstream Gay Community*, which focuses on marginalized groups within the LGBTQ community.

Among others, interviews with intersex activist Hida Vioria; WPATH President-elect Jamison Green; BDSM/altsex researcher Charles Moser; DOB and OLOC founder Phyllis Lyon; and fat studies researcher

Esther Rothblum will be included in the book.

I have recently launched a Kickstarter campaign to help fund the production costs of the book and you can access it at kickstarter.com/projects/1674949952/fringe-on-the-edges-of-the-mainstream-gay-community.

So far, we've raised over 50 percent of our goal, but we need support to ensure that this project will come to fruition.

Sincerely,

Gayle E. Pitman, Ph.D.

Sac Valley Veterans to Celebrate Repeal of DADT

Dear Outword Readers,

The LGBT Sacramento Valley Veterans are holding a commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," and invite you to join them for a BBQ and potluck to celebrate.

The celebration will be on Saturday, Sept. 22, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on The Bolt Bar's patio and large "backyard" area. The Bolt is located at 2560 Boxwood St. (916-649-8420 SacBolt.com).

SVV will provide all the essentials for the BBQ, but you are welcome to bring potluck dishes and desserts to share. There will also be one of The Bolt's infamous Soda/Beer Busts.

We'll bask in our victory, play some games, listen to some tunes and just have a good time, knowing that this battle has been won.

We would like to thank The Bolt for sponsoring our celebration, and all veterans, active duty members and allies are invited. We hope you can come out and party with us.

For more information, visit www.sacvalleyvets.com

Ty Redhouse, President
Sacramento Valley Veterans

Now That's Entertainment



One of Midtown's best tickets is to see *Cabaret in Midtown*, featuring Gayiel Von and pianist Jim Jordan. The show is free and is every Saturday from 7 - 9 p.m. You can also catch Jordan at the piano bar on Tuesdays from 7 - 11 p.m. Both are at Head Hunters, located at 20th & K Sts.

Outword Staff

PUBLISHER
Fred Palmer

ART DIRECTOR/PRODUCTION
Ron Tackitt

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Ron Tackitt

EDITOR/OFFICE MANAGER
Charles Peer
editor@outwordmagazine.com

ARTS EDITOR
Chris Narloch

SALES
Erin K. Newbold
Fred Palmer

CALENDAR EDITOR
Charles Peer

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Boyce Hinman
Chris Narloch
Bonnie Osborn
Charles Peer

PHOTOGRAPHY

Larry Lauszus
Charles Peer
Daniel Villanueva

DISTRIBUTION
Kaye Crawford

ON THE COVER

Singer Songwriter Brandi Carlisle
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ADVERTISING SALES

Northern California
(916) 329-9280
Fred Palmer
Charles Peer

National Advertising Representative
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(212) 242-6863

Outword Magazine Inc.

Office
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Sacramento, CA 95831

PHONE: (916) 329-9280
FAX: (916) 498-8445

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Nat. Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce
Nat. Lesbian & Gay Journalist Association
Midtown Business Association



Sac. Rainbow Chamber Receives Excellence Award

The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce was honored for excellence in community impact at the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC)'s 2012 Certify Your Success National Business & Leadership Conference held Aug. 7-10 in Chicago, Ill.

"It was a tremendous honor to be recognized before LGBT chambers from all over the United States and Canada and our corporate partners," said Bonnie Osborn, president of the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce. "Our chamber has expanded its role as an advocate for economic development, for business growth and for a diverse and inclusive business community, and our leadership and members are committed to continuing this important work."

NGLCC recognized the Sacramento chamber for its authorship of AB1960,

sponsored by Assemblymember Roger Dickinson (D-Sacramento), which would require the state to collect voluntarily submitted data from state vendors who are owned by LGBT people.

The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce is an affiliate of the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC), the exclusive certification body for LGBT business enterprises and the direct link between corporate purchasers and LGBT suppliers.

For more information, visit www.rainbowchamber.com.

Miller to Get Second Term On Roseville City School Board

With no one filing the necessary paperwork to run against him, Gary Miller, President of the Roseville City School Board, has been assured another term on the school district's board.

With two open seats on the Board, only two candidates filed for the positions. This will be Miller's second term on the Roseville board.

Miller was first elected to the Roseville board in 2008, becoming the first openly gay person to win an elective office in Placer County. Prior to that he served almost 20 years on the Robla School Board in North Sacramento. First elected to that board in 1987, he became the first openly gay person to win an elective office in Sacramento County.

His re-election may make him possibly the third longest serving gay elected official in the country, following behind Tammy Baldwin and Barney Frank.

Miller's only agenda has always been



ROSEVILLE GARY MILLER

"what is in the best interest of the children," and under his leadership, Roseville City School District has obtained some of the best test scores in the county and he has a parental approval rating above 90 percent.

Among his accomplishments on the board are, along with other board members, votes to refinance school bonds, saving the taxpayers about \$2 million and the recent groundbreaking for the District's 19th school, to be opened in the fall of 2013.

His Web site is rosevillegarymiller.com.

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Bill to Include LGBT-Owned Businesses Sent to Governor

AB 1960, which would require information about LGBT owned business enterprises be included along with information about minorities, women and disadvantaged business enterprises as reported by the California Department of General Services, has been approved by the Senate and Assembly, and now goes to the Governor for his signature.

Sponsored by Assemblymember Roger Dickinson (D-Sacramento) Assembly Bill 1960 was approved by the Assembly on a 46-27 vote on August 27.

"AB 1960 helps break down discriminatory barriers facing LGBT business owners by recognizing the size and value of their contribution to our economy," said Assemblymember Dickinson. "With the Governor's signature, California will be the first state to have a law dedicated to the advancement of LGBT-owned businesses."

Under existing state law, the Department of General Services is required to make available a report on contracting activity containing information on the level of participation of business enterprises by race, ethnicity and gender of owner. California law prohibits contracting preferences or quotas for minorities, women and disadvantaged business enterprises, however, data about those enterprises is collected for statistical and reporting purposes.

AB 1960 would add LGBT owned

businesses to the list of small businesses which may voluntarily report on contracting activity with the state. Having access to accurate information about small business

"With the Governor's signature, California will be the first state to have a law dedicated to the advancement of LGBT-owned businesses."

owners will help inform the state on how to best serve small businesses that are vital to our economy, as well as lay the groundwork for future growth.

AB 1960 would provide valuable information for policymakers, marketers, researchers, individuals and businesses hoping to support LGBT-owned businesses and is sponsored by the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce.

Rainbow Village: An Idea Whose Time Has Come

A group of concerned citizens is at the drawing board for the development of an affordable housing complex that will allow LGBT older adults in Sacramento to live safely and free from fear of discrimination.

The group is working towards the formation of The Rainbow Village, a safe, friendly and affordable LGBT housing community for the aging to be located in the Greater Sacramento area. In addition to housing, the village would promote healthy living and create clubs and organizations that would stimulate both the body and mind to enrich a senior's life experience.

Due to an increasing demand to create a safe environment for LGBT older adults, there is a growing urgency to develop senior housing in the Greater Sacramento area.

The goal is to develop a plan to address the unique needs and challenges of Sacramento's aging LGBT population. Items of discussion include the needs for convenience to shopping, medical facilities and hospitals, social activities and public transportation.

A planning and development meeting for the Rainbow Village is being held on Sunday, September 23, at 1 p.m. at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1927 L St. The meeting is open to all.

For more information, contact RainbowVillageSacramento@gmail.com or 775-742-9953.



Outword Salutes Sacramento's Rainbow Chamber of Commerce

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Brian McMartin	Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate	(916) 402-4160	Broker-Associate
Bonnie Osborn	WriteAway Communications Services	(916) 212-9110	Full-service PR and Copywriting
Fred Palmer	Outword Magazine	(916) 329-9280	Publisher/Owner
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SF 49ers Make "It Gets Better" Video

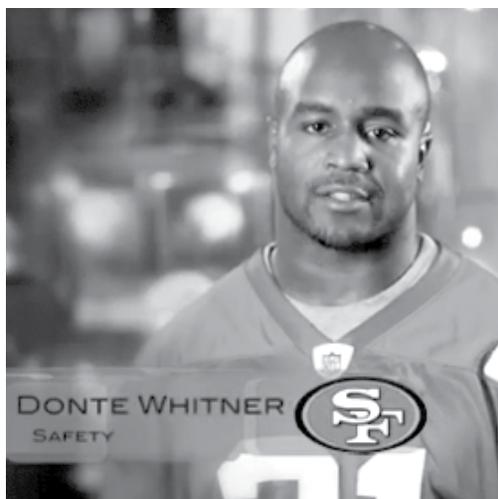
The San Francisco 49ers have become the first NFL team to join the It Gets Better Project, an online video project where thousands of videos condemning anti-gay bullying are curated.

The 49ers' video comes after a successful petition drive, led by fan Sean Chapin, who rallied more than 16,000 people to sign his petition on Change.org encouraging the 49ers to make a video.

"With their 'It Gets Better' video, the 49ers are shining a golden beacon of hope to LGBT youth, and as a gay man, I enthusiastically applaud their courage and leadership," said Chapin, who also successfully petitioned the San Francisco Giants last year to become the first Major League Baseball team in the country to make an "It Gets Better" video.

49ers Safety Donte Whitner says that each day brings unique challenges to LGBT youth around the country, but that resources are available to help teens struggling with bullying or harassment.

"The San Francisco 49ers are proud to join ItGetsBetter.org, to let all LGBT teens know that it gets better," Whitner says. "On behalf of the entire 49ers organization, we are on your side, and we promise it gets better."



SF 49er Safety Donte Whitner in a scene from the 49er's *It Gets Better* video.

Also participating in the video are Defensive Tackle Ricky Jean Francois, Defensive Tackle Isaac Sopoaga and Linebacker Ahmad Brooks.

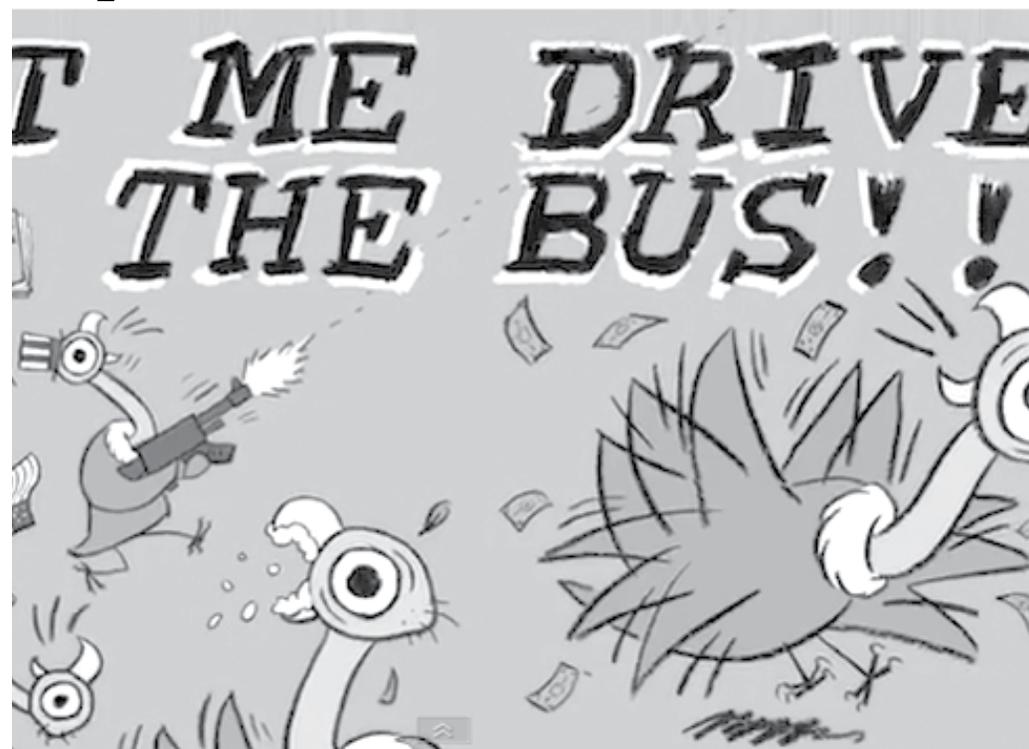
To view the video, visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1TcD95kmGQ.

Break into the Movies with *Dumbass Filmmakers*



Web video "movies" are getting better, so why not one about making Web video movies? That's the concept behind Hunter Lee Hughes' (pictured here with shirtless costar Justin Schwan) new Webisodes *Dumbass Filmmakers*. Catch all the laughs at dumbassfilmmakers.com

Parody Pleads *Don't Let Republicans Drive the Bus*



From the satirical masterminds behind the *New York Times* best-seller *Goodnight Bush* comes this scathingly funny political parody of the contemporary children's classic *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* A spot-on spoof, authors Origen and Golan use buzzards to take on the Republican political machine. Visit letmedrivethebus.com for more info.

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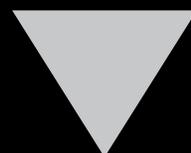
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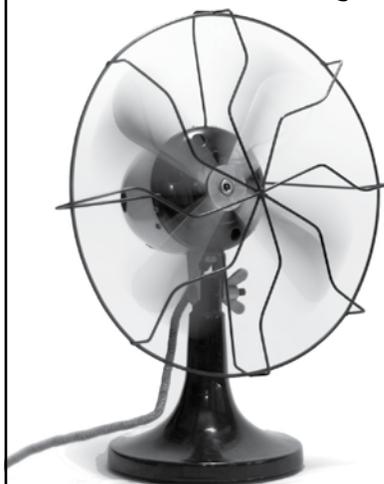
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Local Dancer/Choreographer Is on the Move

by Chris Narloch



Jacob Montoya is a triple-threat talent who can sing, act and dance. Originally from Roseville, the local performer's passion these days is mainly for the latter – and coffee, the fuel that helps him keep going during busy days spent teaching dance, choreographing dance and performing in dance.

At only 26, he is already the resident choreographer for Woodcreek and Granite Bay High School, performs around the country as part of a professional contemporary dance company, Core Dance Collective, and is the Artistic Director of the children's jazz dance company, Sweet Feet.

Montoya was recently hired to choreograph the upcoming musical *Bark* at Sacramento Theatre Company, where he teaches, and he is currently working on an opening number for SARTA's Elly Awards ceremony.

The dancer/choreographer also teaches at Hawkins School of Performing Arts in Folsom, Northern California Dance Conservatory and Impulse Dance in Roseville and Hype in Chico.

I spoke with Montoya recently about his diet, his drive and his dancing.

Jacob, when did your dancing evolve into your work as a teacher and a choreographer?

I would have to say shortly after high school, just playing with movement and trying to create my own voice through the process. It turned into a career a couple of years ago when I didn't have to have another job to support myself. All I do now is dance and teach and set choreography. I am very blessed.

I saw you in a local musical a few years back so I know that you also sing and act. Any desire to pursue performing in musical theater?

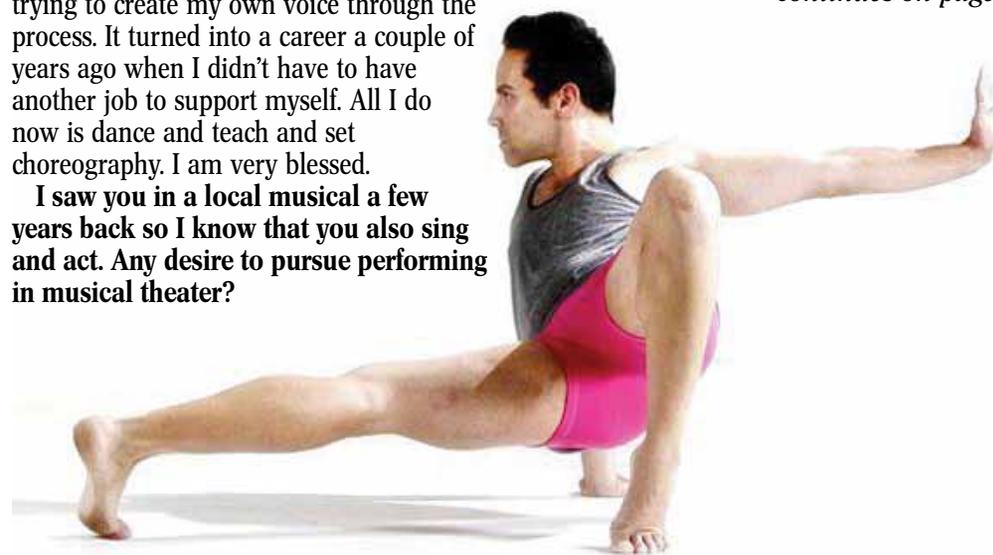
There was a time I was heading that way. I had a couple callbacks for the lead in *Jersey Boys* in New York, but nothing came to be. However I love theater. It is a huge part of who I am, and if that is a road that I am led to then I would for sure consider it.

Tell me about your work with children. Is it a challenge dealing with those stage mothers?

I love children, they are so moldable and have so much energy and they keep you young. I am constantly laughing at some of the funny things they say. As far as stage mothers go, I actually haven't had a problem with many, usually you just laugh it off because they are making a bigger deal out of something they usually know nothing about. I don't play games or do drama so it keeps my work free of nonsense.

As a dancer, are you totally disciplined about diet and exercise? Any guilty pleasures? Do you ever go wild and eat a cookie?

DANCER
continues on page 25



Jacob Montoya, photo by Scott Belding.



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With a Kitten's Meow & a Tiger's Growl, Liberal Radio Finds a Home In Sacramento

by Matthew Burlingame



For the most part, talk radio in Sacramento is for the "Cons," but a bright new face is giving the "Libs" a voice, and giving a lot of Swirl to your radio dial with a definite lesbian twist.

That new voice is Michelle Meow, the 30 year-old founder of Swirl Radio, a widely syndicated LGBT radio talk show that is now market, by year two the show had expanded into Seattle and Boston. Meow gives much of the credit to her Swirl Radio team.



Michelle Meow is the new voice on Sacramento's talk radio.

airing on Sacramento's KSTE.

In 2005, Meow, whose real last name is Sinhbandith, was serving as an intern for a show called *Queerchannel* which was comprised of out, LGBT Clear Channel employees. Soon after she was hired on full-time and successfully marketed, promoted, produced and then hosted *Queerchannel*.

"The show never really garnered full support from Clear Channel," says Meow, "so with support from my family and friends, I went rogue." Soon after, Swirl Radio was born; a show that would encompass all voices within our community.

"I really wanted to feel like the show was for the people, paid for by the people and produced to include all voices - hence, our tagline 'your A-Z covering the LGBT, LMNOP and everyone in between show'."

The popularity of Swirl Radio grew quickly; while launching in the San Francisco

"Swirl is comprised of some of the most edgy and wacky voices out there," Meow says. "My team works extremely hard in putting the show together. We write out our concepts and thoughts, and none of it is based off of what the next progressive rant out there is talking about it."

Swirl Radio's expanding market now includes Sacramento; the twist some listeners find confusing is the show is being broadcast on KSTE 650am, a traditionally conservative, right-wing radio station. But that didn't surprise Meow.

"When we launched, our intention was to be able to provide programming content palatable to listeners whether progressive or more 'left wing,'" Meow explains. "We produce this show with the thought in mind, 'if I were sitting at a bar talking to a Republican, or conservative, about my

MEOW

continues on page 25

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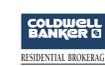
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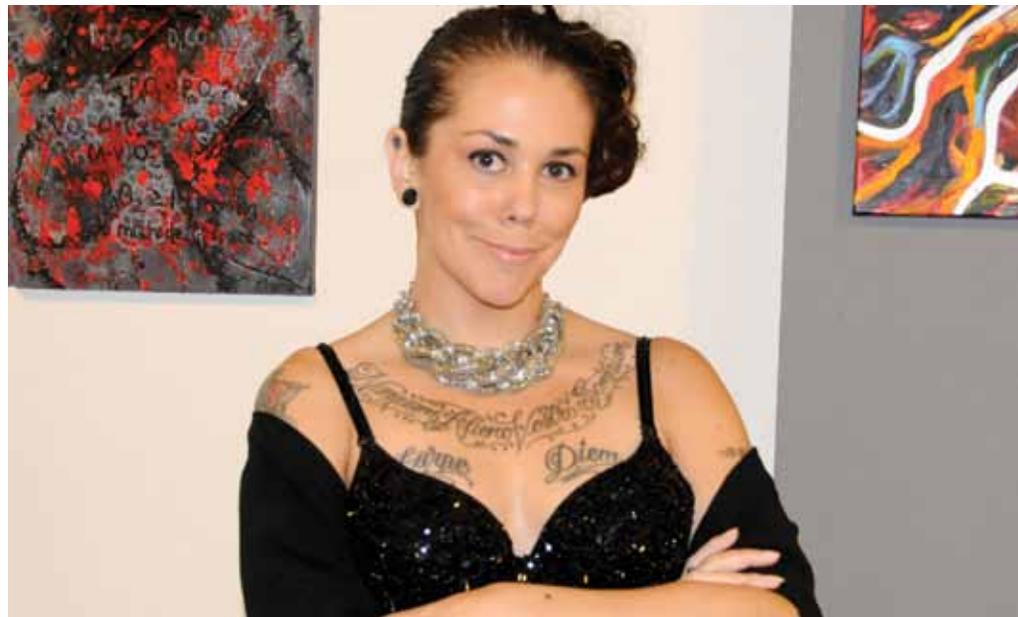
by Bonnie Osborn



It is rare to find the combination of artistic sensibility, human sensuality and entrepreneurial practicality all wrapped up in one creative package, but that is exactly what you find in “Vihil” Heather Vigil, the dynamic painter, photographer, writer of intimate stories and proprietor of Vihil Photographix studio.

In her studio, Vihil specializes in fetish photography with a primary focus on rope bondage, in addition to personality and fashion portraits. Her work includes fashion-forward high school senior portraits, couples, families and intimate portraits for loved ones. “As a portrait photographer, I try to capture my client’s unique essence, that intimate moment most do not see on a regular basis,” she says.

Navy, stationed at Pearl Harbor, Vihil landed at Humboldt State University, where she graduated in 2005 with a BA in Art History and a Certificate of Study in Museum and Gallery Practices. Upon her return to her native Sacramento, Vihil managed photography studios for two well established local photographers before beginning her MBA studies in San Francisco.



Vihil Vigil at a recent Second Saturday art exhibit, THEshow, at the Sacramento G&L Center.

After two shows of her work at the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, Vihil took on the volunteer role of Art Programs Director for the Center, where she curates monthly shows of local artists for Sacramento’s Second Saturday Art Walk.

Now add into the mix the fact that Vihil has a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) and extensive hands-on experience with the business end of the art world and it’s easy to understand how she came to launch her most recent enterprise, the Business for Artists Workshop Series.

The five monthly workshops are designed for artists who are ready to create a business from their artwork, as Vihil has done with her photography.

“The first year I made my photography a business, I bought a business license and organized my expenses and income appropriately like I did for others as an accountant, I was really surprised by my financial return at the end of the year,” Vihil says. “It helps me to understand how much time and money I spend on my work as a photographer.”

The expenses incurred in creating art, Vihil says, can be tax write-offs, just as any business expense. “For most businesses, the first two to five years you’re putting out more money than you’re bringing in. If you don’t use that knowledge of how much you are spending to run your business you are essentially really losing even more,” she says.

After an enlistment in the United States

Vihil says she knew from the time she was 12-years old that she wanted to be in a “senior business position in an arts institution. “I thought, when I grow up I want to help run the San Francisco MOMA,” she says.

Vihil’s attributes her affinity for erotic and intimate art to her passion for art studies, when as a child she became entranced with art history and the work of the Romantic painters, their rich textures, solemn eyes and intense shadows are influence that can be seen in her work today. Other influences, including the taunting and whimsical nature of DADA and Surrealists became the focus of her study at Humboldt State, with a nod to her ancestral Spanish roots and her love for painters such as Francisco de Zurbaran, Francisco de Goya, Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali.

“I like to balance harsh, imposed structure on a very fluid image,” Vihil says. “Which is why I like the softness of skin against the taunted nature of the ropes.”

For more information about her workshop series, Business for the Artist, visit www.business4artists.com and take a peek inside her fine art photography studio, www.vihil.com. You can also meet her in person every Second Saturday at the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, 1927 L St., from 5 to 9 p.m., for THEshow, the Center’s exhibit of local artists.

Bonnie Osborn is a freelance writer and the owner of Writeaway Communications Services. She can be reached at 916-212-9110 or Bonnie@WriteAwayCommunications.biz

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New Memoir Urges Readers to Volunteer and Find Their Purpose

In the musical *Avenue Q*, the character Princeton sings of his struggle to find his purpose, "That little flame, that lights a fire, under your ass. Purpose, it keeps you going strong like a car with a full tank of gas." Sacramento Author Michael Doray has also searched for his purpose and believes you can find yours through volunteerism.

In his new memoir, "Finding Positivity," Doray shares his story of how volunteering has helped him develop and maintain a positive outlook on life despite his many hardships, and how he credits his work helping others as the source of his positive attitude and his ability to overcome numerous obstacles.

As a product of an environment where physical and emotional abuse was the norm, Doray could easily have lived a much different life. Instead of sinking into misery or lashing out against others, though, he focused on building strong relationships with people - especially those people he helped in his volunteer work.

"Finding Positivity" chronicles his journey of sadness and struggle to being a source of hope and positivity for others.

Doray also takes readers through his experience as a gay man. He believes the lessons on positivity he learned early in his life helped him face the difficult reality of coming out and being identified as a part of a minority



Finding Positivity
author
Michael Doray.

group. Even through these difficulties he was able to remain positive.

"I want readers to be inspired to find their positivity," says Doray about the goals he has in mind with the release of "Finding Positivity." "I want to uplift people. I share my life in hopes of doing that."

Doray wants to help you find your purpose, and like Princeton sings, "What Will It Be? Where Will It Be? My Purpose In Life Is A Mystery. Gotta Find My Purpose. Gotta Find Me."

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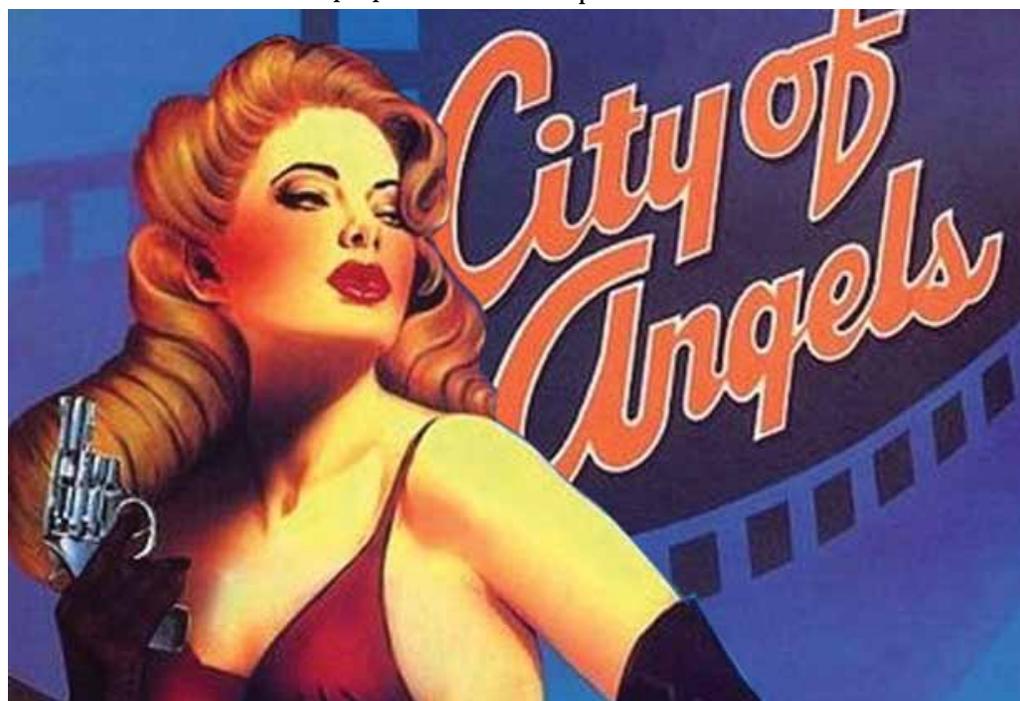
by Chris Narloch

Next up at the Cosmopolitan Cabaret is the hilarious musical comedy, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. I am also looking forward to the return of "Best of Broadway" and to the upcoming season at Davis Musical Theatre Company.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

The title of this show says it all. At its core, the hit musical is about people and

their desire to connect. *I Love You* delves not only into the ups and downs of dating, but also the comical ways husbands, wives and partners interact.



The musical comedy, which has played an astonishing 4,500 performances all over the world, is filled with original songs and insightful scenarios. The next show up at the Cosmopolitan Cabaret, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* plays Sept. 28 through Nov. 18. Visit www.CosmopolitanCabaret.com.

Best of Broadway

Has it really been 39 years for Sacramento's *Best of Broadway*? River City's annual salute to the Great White Way returns this month, just shy of four decades old, with nine shows at the Fair Oaks Veterans Memorial Amphitheatre.

Featuring musical numbers from classic and current Broadway shows, *Best of Broadway* showcases some of the finest singers and dancers Sacramento has to offer in a fast-paced and high-spirited review. Plays Sept. 14-30. Visit www.bestofbroadway.org.

Davis Musical Theatre Company

DMTC kicks off its 28th season with *City of Angels*, playing Sept. 14 through Oct. 7, and follows up that fine show with one of the most ambitious and eclectic rosters of musical theater Sacramento has seen in many a moon.

A Christmas Carol plays later this year, and in 2013 DMTC will produce the Stephen Sondheim classic *Follies*,



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Word on the Street

What Was Your Favorite Summer Movie, Play or Art Event



Ashley Stefaniak
The Avengers, sad but I have been working a lot and that is all that I saw this summer.



Clint Vigen
 The Kinsey Sicks at the Cosmo Cafe were a lot of fun – I even bought their new CD.



Ryan Mc Killop
 I saw *Ave Q* and then had a juicy meaty cheeseburger.



Katherine Ray
 That classic movie about the lesbian surfer chicks.



RJ Bennett
Dark Shadows.



Shane Antcliffe
 I went to the Natural History Museum.

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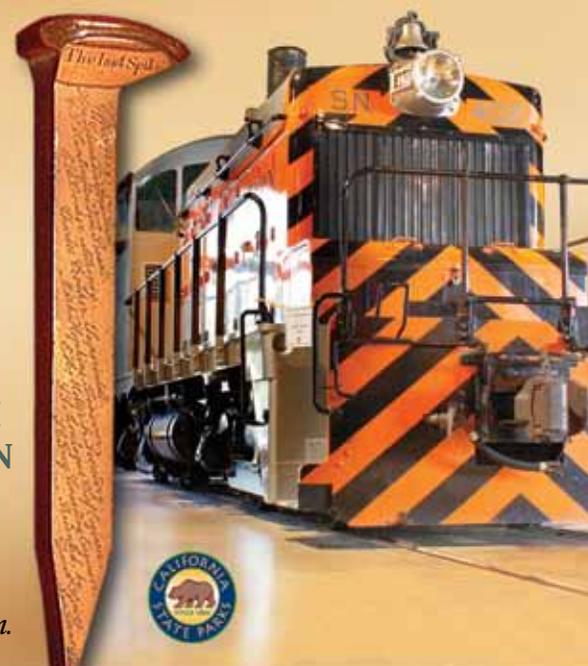
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Vinegar Tom Dives in, Plus New Shows at B Street, STC and Cap Stage



by Chris Narloch

Fans of serious theater – I like to refer to us as “drama queens” – have plenty to look forward to on local stages this fall, including a timely play about the economic collapse, a dark comedy about dropping out and a classic work about Helen Keller. There’s even a play performed in an abandoned, once men-only swimming pool.

Vinegar Tom

In all of my years attending theater, I can state with confidence that I have never seen a play performed in a swimming pool. That will change next month when the brave souls at KOLT Run

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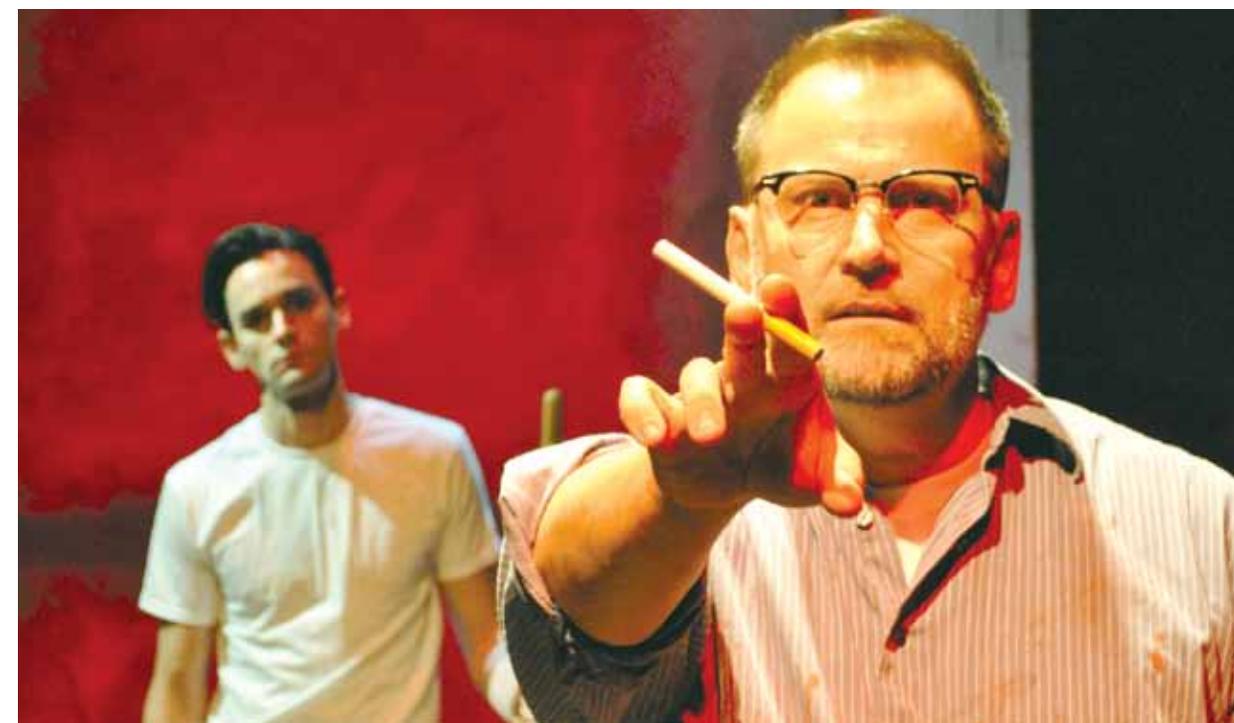
Enron

One of the most infamous scandals in financial history becomes a dynamic new theatrical event as Capital Stage presents a play that was a sold out sensation

which had its premiere at the 2011 Humana Festival of New American Plays.

In *Maple and Vine* Katha and Ryu, a stressed-out straight couple from New York, decide to drop out of the rat-race and move into a planned community that attempts to recreate the values of the 1950s. But were things really simpler then?

Conforming isn’t always comfortable, and it comes with its own contradictions in this very funny and thought-provoking play. *Maple and Vine* runs September 29-November 11 at B Street



Brian Dykstra as Ken and David McElwee as Ken in B Street Theatre's *Red*. John Logan's 2010 Tony Award winner for Best Play has been extended through Sept. 23. Photo by B Street Theatre.

Creations stage their next production in the original 1920s (now empty) swimming pool of the Elks Tower, on 11th Street in mid-town Sacramento.

The unique staging would be reason enough to attend, but the work itself is also intriguing – a production of the great playwright Caryl Churchill's classic tale of witchcraft hysteria, *Vinegar Tom*.

Just in time for Halloween, *Vinegar Tom* plays October 12-November 3. Visit www.koltruncreations.com

in London.

Enron follows a group of ambitious men and women through the rush of greed and fraud that led to a legendary financial collapse.

Stephanie Gularte directs Lucy Prebble's *Enron*, playing September 19-October 21 at CapStage on J Street. Visit www.capstage.org.

Maple and Vine

There is a surprising same-sex secret at the heart of this clever new comedy by Jordan Harrison,

Theatre, hot on the heels of their excellent productions of *Seminar* and *Red* (extended through Sept. 23). Visit www.bstreettheatre.org.

The Miracle Worker

The classic story of Helen Keller and her teacher Annie Sullivan opens the 2012-2013 season at STC (Sacramento Theatre Company).

William Gibson's timeless and inspirational play runs October 3-28 in honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Visit www.sactheatre.org.

Lord of the Rings Series Explored at Central Library

The Sacramento Public Library is leading a voyage to Middle Earth with a fun new adventure, *Full Circle: An Exploration of Tolkien's Lord of the Rings*, a four-month series of programs that delve into J.R.R. Tolkien's well-known trilogy.

Each month features one of the classic Tolkien books: September is *The Fellowship of the Ring*, October is *The Two Towers*, November is *The Return of the King*, and December is *The Hobbit*, just in

time for the December 14 release of the new film by *Lord of the Rings* director Peter Jackson.

Several programs will be led by university professors exploring the epic and myth in Tolkien's books, the moral elements in *Lord of the*

LORD

continues on page 25

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Frank Ocean Makes Hip-hop History & Melissa Etheridge Comes Back Strong

by Chris Narloch

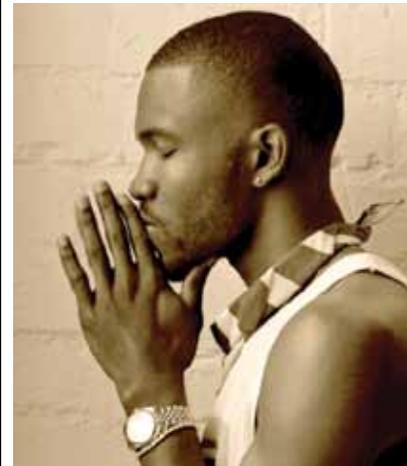
Two recent releases have found themselves “stuck” in my car’s CD player the last few weeks. So if you see a guy driving around town in a silver Toyota Camry with the windows rolled down listening to Frank Ocean or Melissa Etheridge, it’s probably me.

Frank Ocean

Channel Orange, Island Def Jam

It’s about time. Finally, a classic hip-hop album gay men and women can relate to, thanks to the recent admission by Frank Ocean that his first real love and heartbreak involved another man.

That confession comes printed on a small square of paper stuck in



the sleeve of Ocean’s new CD, and it’s so beautifully written and personal that it’s painful to read.

Ocean is apparently bisexual – he writes explicitly about having sex with women on both of his albums – but *Channel Orange*

would still be a great CD even if the artist had not chosen to “come out” when he did.

The singer has one of the sexiest voices in all of hip-hop, including a falsetto that is nothing short of exquisite, and he isn’t afraid to embrace old-school soul music, as on “Lost,” a hot r&b workout that is one of my favorite tracks on *Channel Orange*.

Elsewhere, Ocean astounds on “Bad Religion,” in which he confesses his sins to a cab driver and “Pyramids,” an epic hip-hop drama about dating a stripper that clocks in at around ten minutes in length.

Other standout cuts include the sultry “Pilot Jones,” a trippy and terrific track entitled “Sierra Leone” and the dynamite double-whammy of “Pink Matter” and “Forrest Gump” near the end of the disc.

If you love *Channel Orange* as much as I do, you will want to also seek out Frank Ocean’s first, self-released disc, *nostalgia, ULTRA*, which is as good if not

better than *Channel Orange* and includes “Nature Feels,” one of the most erotic pop songs in ages.

Melissa Etheridge 4th Street Feeling. Island

Melissa Etheridge has been accused of both over-singing and over-writing on some of her previous albums and that may account for the more restrained

Melissa Etheridge
4TH STREET FEELING



quality – both musically and lyrically – of this first-rate release, the singer’s 12th disc.

The gutsy guitarist can still rock out with the best of them; just listen to the edgy and excellent opening track, “Kansas City.”

Elsewhere, *4th Street Feeling* has a more stripped-down sound, as evidenced by “Be Real” and “Enough Rain,” two of the CD’s finest cuts.

Chris Narloch is *Outword’s Arts and Entertainment Editor*. You can reach him at Chris@OutwordMagazine.com

Nureyev Dances On at the de Young

Two must-see exhibits make a drive over to the Bay Area an artistic requirement this fall. SFMOMA is currently showing the work of Cindy Sherman, the hottest living photographer on the planet, while the de Young is set to open a celebration of the life and work of the late, great, Russian ballet dancer, Rudolf Nureyev.

Cindy Sherman

One of the most influential artists of our time, Cindy Sherman creates provocative photographs that explore wide-ranging issues of identity and representation, while also commenting on ageism and sexism in our society.

Working as her own model, she deftly transforms her appearance using wigs, costumes, makeup,

prosthetics and props to create intriguing tableaux and characters inspired by movies, TV, magazines and art history.

Sherman’s photo of four different dark-haired young women partying, complete with Red Solo cups in hand, could almost be the Kardashians, but all the models are in fact the artist herself. Through October 8th. Visit www.sfmoma.org.

Rudolf Nureyev: A Life in Dance

On the 20th anniversary of Rudolf Nureyev’s death from AIDS, *Rudolf Nureyev: A Life in Dance* opens on October 6 at the de Young Museum in San Francisco’s Golden Gate Park, the exhibition’s exclusive U.S. venue.

The de Young will present more than 70 costumes from ballets danced or choreographed by Nureyev, as well as a selection of photographs, videos and ephemera that chronicles his illustrious life. Through February 17, 2013.

Visit www.deyoungmuseum.org. For information about free museum days in San Francisco, visit sf.funcheap.com/city-guide/monthly-free-museum-days

Two Gay Men Play Big Roles in Cirque Du Soleil's *Dralion*



by Daniel Villanueva

Other than the recently ended Olympics, beautiful athletic bodies twisting, bending and flying through the air can only mean one thing: "Cirque du Soleil." The current touring production by Cirque is *Dralion*, a show that combines elements of traditional Chinese circus with western contemporary circus, bringing together an "east meets west" theme.

In addition to the fearless acrobatics, bold costumes and contortionists Cirque productions are also well known for their musical numbers and songs. *Dralion* is no exception and proudly standing as one of the main singers is Cristian Zabala; and making sure it all comes together flawlessly is artistic director Sean McKeown. Both Zabala and

family, though, and in fact he is the only person in his family working in a circus. "As a very young boy I used to go to the



Cristian Zabala in costume for *L'Âme Force*. Photo by Daniel Desmarais and costumes by François Barbeau.

local circus and my mom used to tell me that if I didn't behave she would send me away with the circus," said McKeown. "When I actually joined the circus she said, 'well, I am really not surprised because you were never threatened by the idea of it' To work in this industry is incredibly satisfying. Bringing happiness and joy to other people, allowing them to travel to another world through the shows and to direct the wonderful artists and cast that create that escape world for other people is really something special."

DRALION

continues on page 24



As *Dralion's* Artistic Director, Sean McKeown's main job is to coordinate the artists, music and special effects to create an escape for the audience into another reality.

McKeown are openly gay men.

"I actually started out as an actor," said McKeown. "I've also done tap dancing with a really crazy comic dancing group and was a soloist with a 200 person concerto orchestra. All that general experience is really what solidified my abilities in the role as stage manager for the Cirque."

McKeown did not come from a circus

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compiled by Charles Peer

Sep.

Thursday, 13

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Do you like to sing? Singers of all skills are invited to join the Chorus as they start rehearsing for their 28th season, with open auditions through Sept. 7 - 9:30 p.m. Pioneer Congregational Church, 2700 L St. Info: SacGayMensChorus.org

VALLEY BEARS' NIGHT OUT

Join the Sacramento Valley Bears for food and socializing. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Hometown Buffett, 2344 Watt Ave. Info: SacBears.org

Friday, 14

OUTWORD'S HAPPY HOUR

It's been a long week, so come and unwind with a very special Happy Hour at The Depot. We will have some great raffle prizes and of course TJ has some great drink specials. 5:30 - 7 p.m. The Depot, 2001 K St. Info: OutwordMagazine.com

Saturday, 15

AIDS BENEFIT PLANT SALE

A selection of hard to find and unusual perennials, many not generally seen in local nurseries, with plants from starters to gallon size. Benefit for Sunburst Projects. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Gifted Gardener Parking Garage, 18th & J Sts.

CENTER'S BOOK CLUB

You can borrow a copy of the "book of the month" at The Center and then be ready to discuss it at the meeting. 10 a.m. G&L Center, 1927 L St. Info: Jessica at azaker@saclibrary.org

PUPS IN THE PARK

Meet Uncle Matty, host of PBS's *Woof! It's a Dogs Life*, plus dog parade and costume contest, K9 hero Bodie, live music and great food. On site pet adoptions. 9 - 11 a.m. McKinley Park, 333 McKinley Blvd. Info: 916-394-1584 ydnetwork.org

Sunday, 16

VALLEY BEARS' BRUNCH

Join the Sacramento Valley Bears for brunch and socializing. 10 - 11:30 a.m. Eggies, 1650 Fulton Ave. Info: SacBears.org



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Coyote Grace

Michael Connolly, Ingrid Elizabeth and transman Joe Stevens are sweeping the country with their blend of acoustic instruments from guitar and upright bass to banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and accordion – with liberal doses of left coast politics, honest messages and sweet harmonies slipped in.

See:

Sep. 28



BOSTON BRASS

With burning jazz standards, exciting classical arrangements and works from their original repertoire, this brass quintet is a one-of-a-kind musical experience. \$25. 3 p.m. The Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. Info: 916-974-1357
sacramentocommunityconcerts.com

Monday, 17

SAC VALLEY VETS MEETING

Join this LGBT veterans and active duty group for their monthly meeting and get together. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. The Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. Info: 916-436-7676
www.sacvalleyvets.com

Tuesday, 18

RAINBOW CHAMBER GALA DINNER

The LGBT Chamber's annual dinner with keynote speaker Diana S. Dooley, Secretary of California Health and Human Services Agency, and Mistress of Ceremonies Michelle Meow, from Talk Radio KSTE 650. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Woodlake Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane. Info: RainbowChamber.com

PFLAG SACRAMENTO

Author Marc Adams, the founder of HeartStrong and the gay son of a fundamentalist Baptist minister speaks at this support group for parents and friends of LGBT. 7:30 p.m. St. Marks UMC, 2391 St. Marks Way. Info: pflagsacramento.org

Wednesday, 19

CAPITAL CITY SQUARES

Sacramento's LGBT square dance club is starting their fall season of lessons, and tonight's class is free, a great chance to find out what all the fun is about. Partners not required and attire is casual. 6:20 - 8 p.m. Fruitridge Community Center, 4000 Fruitridge Rd. Info: Larry, 916-789-1929
iagsdc.com/capitalcity



Friday, 21

A NIGHT OF LGBT ONE ACT PLAYS

Sacramento's brand new LGBT theatre, Closet Door Theatre Company, introduces its self with a night of three one-act plays. \$10. 6 p.m. Sacramento Comedy Spot, 1050 20th St. Info: ClosetDoorTheatre.org

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

Youth peace delegates from Japan and China, youth performers from ethnic groups, peace promoting speakers, dove release and a Peace Bell Ringing Ceremony led by representatives of various organizations and communities. 5 - 7 p.m. West Steps, State Capitol. Info: 916-487-1414
kidsforpeaceandgrownupstoo.com.

Saturday, 22

DADT REPEAL CELEBRATION

The Sacramento Valley Veterans are celebrating the one-year anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell with a free BBQ, some games, music and a great time. Bring a dish or desert to share, burgers & dogs are on them. Veterans, active duty and allies welcome. Plus \$8 Beer/Soda bust. 5:30 - 8 p.m. The Bolt, 2560 Boxwood St. Info: SacValleyVets.com
916-649-8420 SacBolt.com

LISA LAMPNAELLI

It's all about tough love as the Queen of Mean - and laughs - comes back to Sacramento. Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. Info: LiveNation.com

FEAST AT THE FORT

History enthusiasts and food and wine lovers can both celebrate at this unique culinary experience, with a four-course, sit-down dinner prepared by Sacramento's top chefs amid a beautiful setting inside the historic walls of Sutter's Fort. \$75. 6:30 p.m. Info: 916-323-7626 suttersfort.org

Sunday, 23

LGBT SENIOR HOUSING

An organizational meeting to discuss ideas and plans for affordable LGBT senior housing in Sacramento. 1 - 3 p.m. Sac G&L Center, 1927 L St. Info: 916-442-0185 SacCenter.org

Monday, 24

KVIE ART AUCTION PREVIEW GALA

Mingle with artists and enjoy Amador Vintner's wines and delicious seasonal and silky chocolate bites, whilst previewing the amazing local art up for bid. \$50. 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Cocktail attire. KVIE 6, 2030 W. El Camino Ave. Info: kvie.org/artauction

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August

Over one smoldering Los Angeles summer, emotions run high when the relationship between Jonathan and Raul is tested. Jonathan receives a message that his former partner Troy is back in town after years in

Nate & Margaret

This quirky comedy finds gay 19-year-old film student Nate happily "in friends" with Margaret, a 52-year-old spinster, until his classmate Darla sets him up on a date with James.



Scene from August.

Barcelona.

A seemingly innocent rendezvous with Troy disrupts Jonathan and Raul's life together and revives Jonathan's long-buried desire for Troy. This blast from the past becomes a passionate affair that develops into a tangled love triangle. www.WolfeVideo.com.

Nate's new romance shakes up his friendship with Margaret, who goes off on her own to pursue a lifelong dream of being a stand-up comic. Will their friendship survive? You'll just have to see for yourself. www.nateandmargaret.com

Leave It On The Floor

Thrown out of his home by a dysfunctional mother, Brad steals her car and drives to Los Angeles, where he stumbles into the world of drag balls and the struggling House of Eminence.

There, Brad finds a real home and a loving family, led by the indomitable housemother "Queef Latina," played by Barbie-Q. Well worth seeing for its colorful costumes and the energetic choreography by Beyonce's dance master, Frank Gaston. www.WolfeVideo.com.

To read Chris Narloch's regular movie column, go to www.OutwordMagazine.com

Joe + Belle

In this dark lesbian comedy, things get very complicated very quickly when Joe (Veronica Kedar), an angsty drug dealer, meets Belle (Sivan Levy), a suicidal psychopath.

After an outlandish accident in Tel Aviv leaves the pair with a body to dispose of, they embark on a wild journey to lose the cops and end up finding love. www.joebelle.com

The New Normal on NBC & Steel Magnolias Redux



Two essential television shows make their debuts this month and next. The queer sit-com *The New Normal* began its debut season on NBC on September 11, and on October 7, Lifetime presents the world premiere of the African-American remake of *Steel Magnolias*.

The New Normal

You should already be watching this controversial new comedy from *Glee* creator Ryan Murphy, because it's extremely pro-gay and because conservatives don't want you to see it.

An affiliate in Salt Lake City refused to broadcast the show because of its content, and the conservative group One Million Moms has called for a boycott.

Ellen Barkin stars as the homophobic mother of a young woman providing surrogate services for a gay couple, played

currently on television. (He's just a regular guy, as opposed to the sassy super-gays viewers are used to seeing on *Will & Grace* and *Modern Family*.)

I was only able to preview the first episode before our deadline, but based on the number of times I laughed during the series initial 30 minutes, *The New Normal* can count me as a fan.

Steel Magnolias

None other than Queen Latifah stars in and executive produces this film, a television adaptation of the iconic play and 1989 film



by Justin Bartha and Andrew Rannells, who decide to have a child.

Also along for the ride is the hilarious Nene Leakes who goes toe-to-toe with Barkin's bitchy character, much as she has with Sue Sylvester on *Glee*.

Andrew Rannells is admittedly funny as the shallow flamer of the pair, but the better news is that Bartha's character is one of the most realistic portrayals of a gay person

that starred Julia Roberts, Sally Field, Dolly Parton, Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis and Darryl Hannah.

This time out the comic tearjerker about six wacky women in Louisiana will feature some of our finest black actresses, including Phylicia Rashad, Alfre Woodard, Jill Scott, Adepero Oduye and Condola Rashad. They are directed by the great Kenny Leon.

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Catching Up with Brandi Carlisle

by Erin K. Newbold

Brandi Carlisle is well on her way to becoming a folk rock icon, and her journey has brought her from the school of Freddie Mercury to a place where the lessons she's learned from the rock Gods before her are starting to pay off in spades.

She and her collaborators, Tim and Phil Hanseroth, have produced something very special with their latest album *Bear Creek*, and her fans were treated to some of the standouts from that CD at their recent performance at The Center for the Arts in Grass Valley on Aug 24.

Highlights included new tracks "Hard Way Home," "100," "Keep Your Heart Young" and "That Wasn't Me" as well as favorites like "Turpentine," "The Story," an amazing unplugged version of "What Can I Say" and covers of Patsy Cline's "Crazy" and Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody."

Brandi was kind enough to take time out to talk with *Outword*.

Tim and Phil Hanseroth are your longtime collaborators and bandmates. Is it more of a professional type relationship, or are you more like siblings at this point?

[laughs] It's far from professional. FAR from it. Phil is married to my sister and they have a baby. So, that makes Tim and Phil technically my brothers. And they both live in the same small town that I live in. Only a couple of miles away from me. Tim and I are both engaged and we all tour on the bus

together. All six of us and a baby. I wouldn't call that too professional [laughs].

What kind of music did you grow up listening to?

I grew up listening to classic Country & Western music, but it was never just about the music. It was the persona and entertainment value of those particular performers. As I got a little older, I sort of wandered away from country music for a bit. I fell in love with Elton John, Freddie Mercury and the more flamboyant performers.

How has being openly gay in the music industry been for you?

Most of my favorite pioneering artists were gay artists. I think we find role models and look to them to show us how life can get better and that we can be equally important and successful. So to have arrived at this place of being somewhat debatably successful in the music industry, I feel like I'm in good company.

You support various charities with your Looking Out Foundation. Is there any one charity that is especially important to you personally?



It's hard because they're like children to me. Ones that I always tend to come back to are the local food banks and I come back a lot to The If Project, which was started by the Seattle Police Department to help incarcerated women alter the trajectory of at risk youth.

If you hadn't chosen music as a career, what do you think you'd be doing right now?

I always joke and say I'd be a cowboy [laughs] because that's just an easy way of saying I would spend a lot of time in a rural

setting with animals. Or maybe a vet if I had the time to go to school. I love to take care of animals. I have eight animals now. Tow chickens, two goats, a horse, two cats and a dog. I also really love to cook.

You can check out Brandi's new CD, *Bear Creek*, at www.brandicarlisle.com and also visit The Center for the Arts in Grass Valley site, thecenterforthearts.org, to find out about some of the great events they have coming up.

Erin K. Newbold is a freelance writer and can be reached at erina.bizarro@gmail.com.

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Dralion

continued from page 19

Like McKeown, Zabala also has a very extensive history of a variety of artistic qualities and has appeared in musicals such as *Cats* and *Chicago*. Born in Argentina, he now has been calling Cirque du Soleil home for 12 years.

"I've been singing since I was a little boy," said Zabala. "My sister and I always sang Argentine folk music and every time we got together with the family we would be singing. From there we started singing in public at folk festivals in my country and after that I started doing acrobatics and working for musicals. I saw *Dralion* on TV and I applied."

When the *Dralion* cast is not performing, it normally is practicing; both McKeown and Zabala admit to not having much time to go to gay bars or clubs in the many cities that they visit while touring.

"It's a lot of work and leaves no room for personal time, but I'm in a place where I do enjoy that," said Zabala. "I've learned more about singing through the Internet as well as taking violin lessons, I keep myself occupied and just make sure I rest a lot."

Zabala plays an androgynous character and has the opportunity to showcase his voice in a variety of ranges and tones, sometimes

sounding like a male and then sounding like a female.

"Being gay has helped me in some ways, it helped me recognize that if you're honest with yourself you can be anything you want to be" said Zabala. "A lot of times when you are doing the type of work I'm doing you've got to have a little bit of homosexuality and androgynity. In *Dralion*, the character I'm doing is not a man or a woman. I always tell my family, If I could be born again and got to choose, I would choose to be gay."

You can see the work of both of these men in person, as *Dralion* is coming to the Stockton Arena, October 17 - 21, and to Fresno's Save Mart Center, November 7 - 11. For tickets and more information, visit CirqueDuSoleil.com/en/shows/dralion.

Daniel Villanueva is a free lance writer and photographer in Sacramento and can be reached at dani_o2@hotmail.com.



Dancer

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I am pretty disciplined with food, but actually I kind of live off of coffee. When it comes to cookies, well I do what I want. I work hard enough so I eat what I choose, when I am not drinking coffee that is.

Which choreographers, living or dead, do you admire most?

Bob Fosse because his contribution to musical theater is timeless. Angelin Preljocaj is also brilliant. I love his *Snow White* ballet. George Balanchine because classic Balanchine takes my breath away. Mia Michaels – she helped pave the way for contemporary movement. And my good friend Kelli Leighton, whose voice and choreography is truly inspiring.

Tell me about Core Dance Collective and your upcoming performance, *The Doorway*.

Core is a professional contemporary dance company under the artistic direction of Kelli Leighton. We just got back from the Jazz Dance World Congress where Kelli Leighton/Core won second place in the international Choreographers competition. *The Doorway* takes you on a ride through different rooms in a Victorian house, led by a cast of extremely talented dancers that will capture your heart and leave your imagination stirring. *The Doorway* is thrilling, spooky, quirky and thought provoking.

How can people get tickets?

You can get tickets by visiting Coredancecollective.org. You don't want to miss it. We perform October 18-27 at the Benvenuti Performing Arts Center.

Chris Narloch is *Outword's* Arts and Entertainment Editor. You can reach him at Chris@OutwordMagazine.com

I Love You

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Urinetown, Oklahoma and Leonard Bernstein's masterpiece, *Candide*. Visit www.dmtc.org.

An Evening To Remember

Tickets start at just \$50 for this cabaret concert benefiting California Musical Theatre, the fine folks responsible for Broadway Sacramento, Music Circus and The Cosmopolitan Cabaret.

An Evening To Remember features Dennis Mangers and friends, including the featured performers Jerry Lee, Gayiel Von, Mike Yee, Carrie Hennessey, Steve Winlock, Jimmy "Fingerz" Jordan, and others to be announced.

An Evening To Remember will happen one night only, October 8, at The Cosmopolitan Cabaret on K Street. For tickets, call 916-557-1999.

Chris Narloch is *Outword's* Arts and Entertainment Editor. You can reach him at Chris@OutwordMagazine.com



Meow

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partner and our three kids, would he stare at me and tell me that I've committed a sin? Maybe, but that stuff happens a lot less than Americans think. As members of the LGBT community, African-American, Asian American, Jewish, Iranian, Hispanic community – we at Swirl purposely produce a little something for everyone in hopes it opens up people's hearts and minds to new perspectives – none of that linear BS that has plagued our airwaves for a long time."

Since launching in Sacramento Swirl Radio has included interviews with a number of local community icons including Dennis Mangers, David Thompson and Shara P. Murphy, all of whom do their share to make our community safer and stronger.

While Swirl Radio may be new to Sacramento, Meow, a native of Stockton, feels very much at home here. Not only does her best friend live in Midtown, but also her stepfather works for the *Sacramento Bee*. She has also been spending a lot of time in Sacramento helping with local events, and will be in Sacramento on Tuesday, September 18 as the Mistress of Ceremonies at the Rainbow Chamber's 2012 Annual Gala Dinner.

For more information about Michelle Meow and Swirl Radio, log onto swirlradio.com.

Matthew Burlingame is an award-winning journalist, playwright and author in Northern California. His new book, "Sorry Charley" is a murderous dark comedy available from Amazon.com. You may contact him at matthew.burlingame@gmail.com.

Lord

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Rings and medieval dragon mythology in *The Hobbit*.

Plus, there will be a *Lord of the Rings* fashion show, a photo showing of locations from the *Lord of the Rings* film series and a sword fighting demonstration.

Programs will be held at 2 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of each month from September 16 through December 16 at the Central Library, 828 I St.

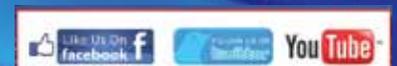
For more information, call the Library at 916-264-2920 or visit www.SacLibrary.org.



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Sacramento To Celebrate the Arts with ARTober

For the second year, October will become "ARTober" in Sacramento, with a month-long celebration of the arts that will put a spotlight on the talent and creativity of artists throughout the region.



As part of National Art & Humanities Month, the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission (SMAC), the Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB), Sac365, and For Arts Sake (FAS) are collaborating to bring attention to over 150 art events taking place during the month of October.

including exhibitions, poetry slams, art festivals, concerts, musicals and plays.

A Web site has been dedicated to the month-long arts awareness celebration and it includes up-to-date event listings and details. The public is encouraged to visit the site daily to find new art experiences to participate in.

Throughout the month the public can experience and participate in art events, performances, and free family activities

For all that's happening in the arts in the month of October, log on to: artobersac.com/index.php/home-2/

Love Free Or Die to Screen at the Crocker

Gene Robinson is the first openly gay person to become a bishop in the historic traditions of Christendom, and *Love Free Or Die* is the award-winning documentary that tells his story.

The movie, which won a Special Jury Prize at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival, will be part of an evening of film and discussion this month, presented by Soulforce, the Sacramento International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, St. Marks United Methodist Church and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

Love Free Or Die will be presented on Tuesday, September 25 at 7 p.m. in the Setzer Foundation Auditorium at the Crocker Art Museum.

Tickets for this one-night-only screening are free, with Museum admission, and can be obtained by visiting www.siglff.org.

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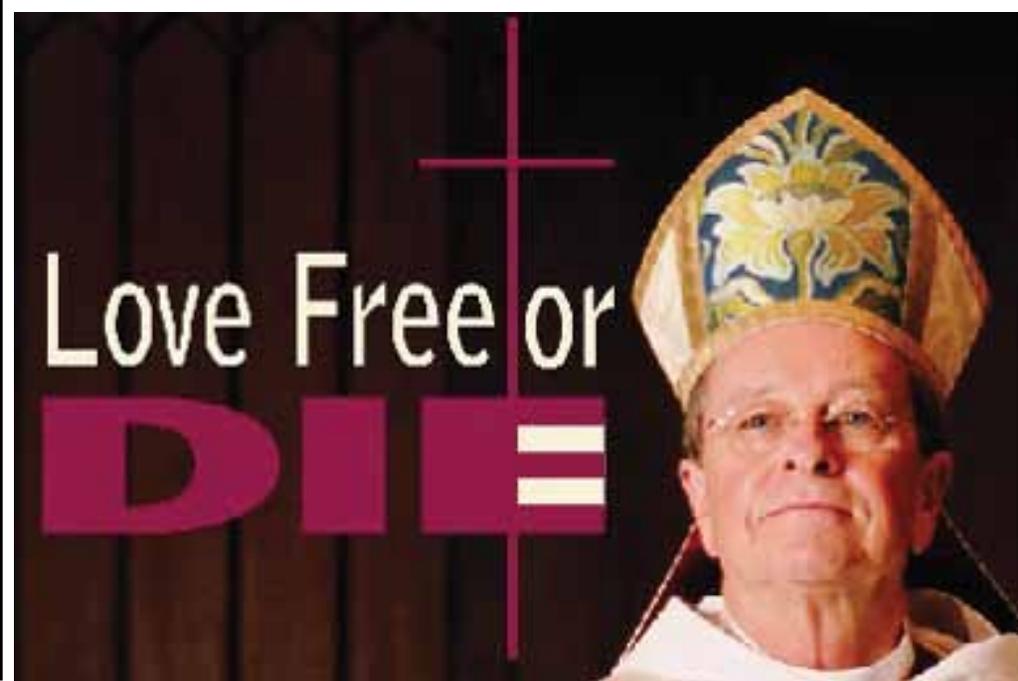
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Keynote Speaker



Diana S. Dooley

Secretary of California Health & Human Services

Featuring Mistress of Ceremonies



Michelle Meow

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