

OUT AT THE MOVIES

QUEER, QUEER SUMMER

As you settle down into the air-conditioned darkness this season, expect some fine "family" fare

by Cathay Che



Rufus Beck (front) and Til Schweiger in Sönke Wortmann's *Maybe...Maybe Not*

My job is getting easier, and that's a bad thing. Last year my special Queer Summer Movie Preview was so full, it had to run in two parts. In contrast, this year I found myself desperately digging and stretching for more stuff, tempted to include films with minor queer content (like Pat Morita as an extremely shy waiter in *Spy Hard*) just to make it look like the 1996 queer summer at the movies is going to be

Cinema

bigger than it really is.

But there is some good news. Last year we may have had quantity, but this year we have quality. I mean, there may be fewer offerings, but none are as bad as *Lie Down with Dogs* (ouch!). Read on, but remember, release dates are always subject to change.

- Director Alexandre Rockwell (as in Jennifer Beal's hubby) directs Rosie Perez, Harvey Keitel and Steve Buscemi in *Somebody to Love*, a story about the shabby fringes of hopes and dreams in an East L.A. dance hall. Buscemi, who starred in 1986's *Parting Glances* as a gay rock star with AIDS, plays queer again a decade later, this time in drag as a copper-wigged taxi dancer for hire.

- The winner of nine international film awards, including Best German Film, *Kaspar Hauser* details the true story of Europe's most infamous "wild child." Imprisoned in a dungeon by the King of Bavaria, Hauser was released at age 16 barely able to walk or speak (he's like the gay *Nell*). His adventures, including his love affair with Lord Stanhope in 1825, inspired various theories on the nature of human development.

- What happens when a straight playboy shares an apartment with a love-struck gay couple? Lots of nudity, indecision and mayhem in *Maybe...Maybe Not*. Billed as the most successful German comedy ever (what kind of standard is that?), this *Flirting with Disaster*-type farce should have *Birdcage* appeal.

- Batman no more, Michael Keaton has two clones and one of them is gay, in the comedy *Multiplicity*. (Opens July 12 at area theaters.)

- The gayest film of the summer promises to add another chapter of folklore to the story of *Stonewall* (I know what you're thinking—why now, not two years ago?!). Late director Nigel Finch's semi-fictionalized account of the bad-hair day that spurred a revolution spins a tale both heartfelt and hopeful. This low-budget affair has a stellar cast (these queens can really act!) including modern-day DQ goddesses Candis Cayne and Sherry Vine. (Opens in September at Cinema 21.)

- *Celestial Clockwork* is another French twist: when a budding Spanish opera diva marries a hefty Parisian fag, everything starts turning up roses. But no one warns her that "happily ever after" might include falling in love with a zany female tele-therapist. (Opens in August at KOIN Center Cinemas.)

- Of course, I'd pay any amount of money to be *Bound* to Gina Gershon ("Cristal" in *Showgirls*) but the lucky lady in this film is the not so squeaky-clean Jennifer Tilly. It's destined to be a good-time, lesbian-mobster-moll, shoot-'em-up road movie; I hear the actresses weren't at all shy about shooting these hot love scenes. Can't wait!

- Hal Hartley kills two birds with one movie: *Flirt*. Criticized for populating his films with only straight white characters, Hartley unreels a flick featuring a vignette about a gay couple having commitment anxieties. One of the men is played by openly gay African American actor Dwight Ewell (also in *Stonewall*).

- Can't complain about the Chinese film *Vive l'Amour* promoting queer occupational stereotypes—the young gay man in this film sells burial plots. Like the other characters in the film, he's looking for love in all the wrong places.

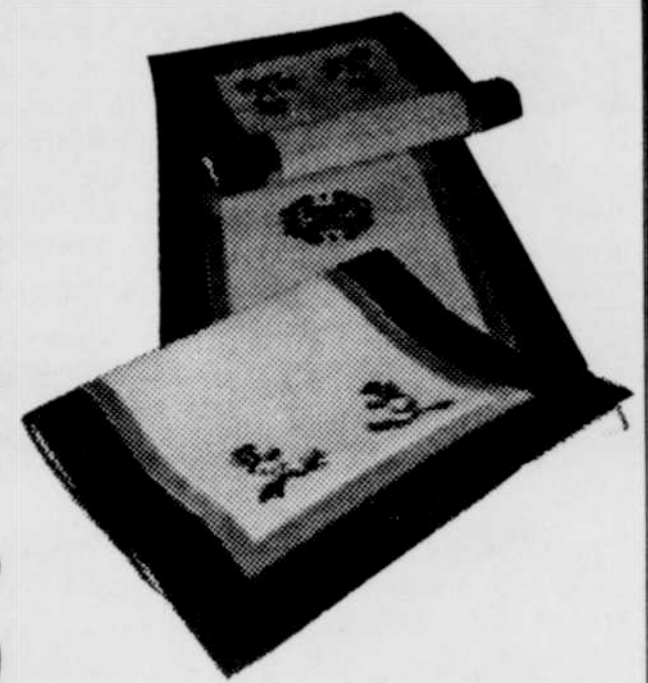
And also of queer interest: David Bowie takes a turn playing Warhol in the biopic *Basquiat*, and Lili Taylor (Valerie Solanas in *I Shot Andy Warhol*) plays it butch again in the new revisionist classic *Girls Town*. Former Madonna gal-pal and dyke model Jenny Shimizu does some girl bonding in *Foxfire*, and the family so square that everything they do is queer returns for a '90s trip to Hawaii in *A Very Brady Sequel*.



CORINTHIAN RUG COMPANY

Corinthian Rug Company will work with you to design an Exquisite Handcrafted Rug. Our skilled artisans will make your ideas come alive! Please call for more information on pricing, products and possibilities.

1627 NE 2ND 1-800-860-6989
Portland, OR 97232 287-6989



WHEEL ALIGNMENTS & TIRES

Ferguson
AUTOBODY

(503) 232-3600

2454 E. BURNSIDE • PORTLAND, OR 97214
Family Owned & Operated Since 1952



2375
NW Thurman St.
Portland

Get Off The Bottom Of The Food Chain.
Become A Member

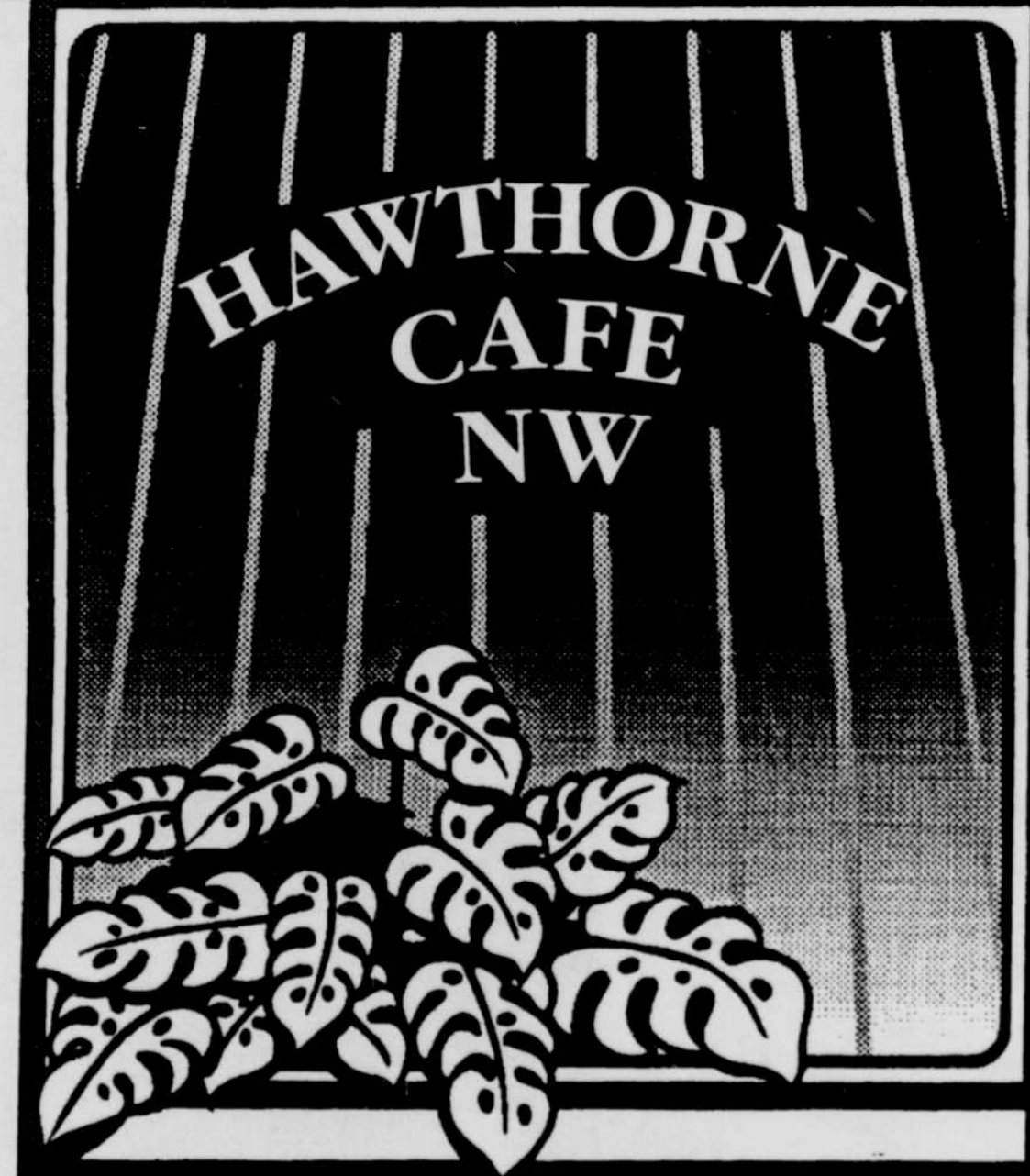
Homeopathics
Organic Produce

Bulk/Deli Items
Natural Groceries

Food Front
Cooperative Grocery

Serving our Community
since 1972

Open
9-9 Daily



Now Open!

1310 NW 23rd

(Corner of NW 23rd & Overton)

Serving Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

7 Days a Week • 222-7840