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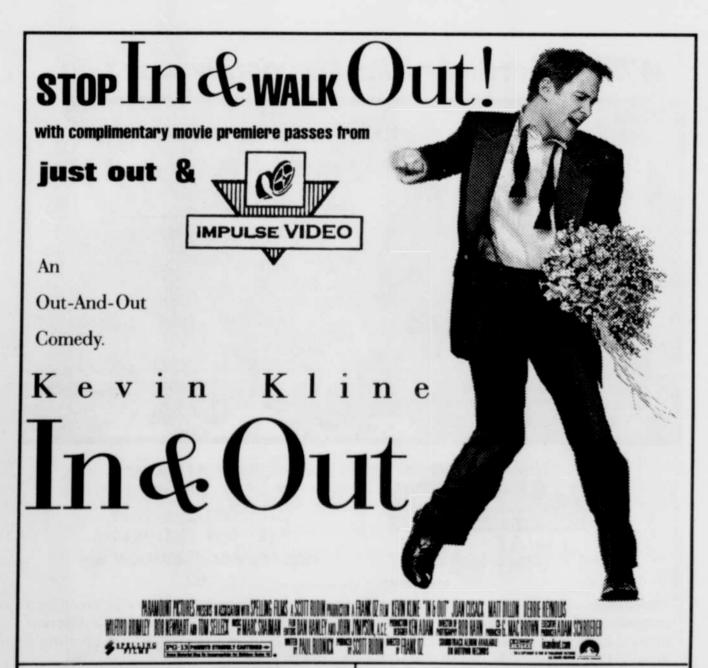


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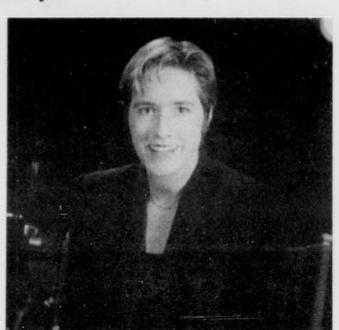
IN & OUT opens Friday, September 19th at theatres everywhere

LONG LIVE IN THE LIFE

The award-winning PBS series celebrates five years of televised queer perspectives

by Will O'Bryan





That was then, this is now: Kate Clinton (left) introduced the series to viewers in June 1992; it is now hosted by Katherine Linton (right)

and lesbian issues and culture, will celebrate five years of programming with a commemorative episode of history and highlights that have marked the series' evolution. While not all public broadcasters will make the episode available to audiences, Oregon viewers have much to anticipate.

While the show won't air in Oregon until mid-September, it did première in some markets early sexuality. Like Cucu's story, this segment also originally aired in December 1995. The two stories also have awards in common, both having been recognized by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association.

"A Day In the Life of the Lady Chablis" is the third story resurrected for the special. Lady Chablis gained national notoriety as a character in John Berendt's bestseller, Midnight in the Gar-

den of Good and Evil.

John Catania, director of communications for In the Life as well as a contributing producer, says audiences will be able to clearly observe the program's evolution from variety show to news

magazine on the anniversary special.

Catania notes that as the program's audience grew from just a handful of major cities to dozens of communities of all sizes, so did the breadth of the program. At this point, he says, "[In the Life]

elevision

in August. And reception was favorable. In New York City, the show's home, roughly a quarter of a million viewers tuned in.

The hour-long episode breaks down into four

parts. "The Early Years" examines the series' first two seasons, the period in which Bob Dole criticized the show on the Senate floor, confrontationally referring to it as the "gay Ed Sullivan show" and calling it unworthy of public funding.

"The Great Events" segment reviews pivotal moments of the last five years of queer history. The show will revisit events like the 1993 March on Washington and the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.

"In the Life and the Arts" looks at the Broadway musical Rent, playwright Tony Kushner, comic actor Marga Gomez and more. The show will also present an "In the Life Tribute" to people who've appeared on

the show and have since died. This segment will include, among others, filmmaker Marlon Riggs, activist Dr. Betty Shabazz, lesbian pioneer Peter Worth and actor Dick Sargent.

In addition to these four segments, three previously aired stories will be broadcast in their entirety.

Audiences will be reintroduced to Ciprian Cucu. His story, that of a young, gay Romanian facing harsh persecution in his homeland, first aired in December 1995.

The second memorable story the anniversary special will present is an interview with "Stefan K.," a gay man imprisoned by the Nazis for his



The Lady Chablis looking fabulous for her In the Life interview

reflects the whole of the gay and lesbian community."

In the Life will continue to flower as much during the next five years as it has in the past five, Catania predicts. The future, as he sees it, means more programming, more stations and more quality.

History and Highlights: In the Life Celebrates Five Years airs at 11 pm Tuesday, Sept. 16, on KOPB, channel 10 in Portland; KOAB, channel 3 in Bend; KOAC, channel 7 in Corvallis; KEPB, channel 28 in Eugene; and KTVR, channel 13 in La Grande.