

DIVERSIONS



French Canadian tickler

The circus is here, and it's delightfully queer. Quebec-based Cirque du Soleil has pitched its tents for at least a month on Portland's waterfront, and it is worth the rather steep price of admission. While there are plenty of astonishing traditional circus acts—tightrope walker, trapeze artist, juggler—the real show is the decidedly untraditional context in which they perform. The hunky twin brother he-man act is a standout, and the overall artistic impression is intensely surreal yet accessible.

Though it appears there aren't too many bad seats in the house, the front row seats are worth it if you are a fan of exotic costumes and makeup. Most of the performers get so upfront and personal they occasionally land in your lap!

Especially appealing is the diversity of the cast—53 artists from 13 countries, including some who bend their gender identity in a delightful manner.

Here are some practical tips: The location is just south of Riverplace Marina, off Southwest Naito Parkway; spring for the \$5 on-site parking or be prepared for a hike. Arrive 30 to 45 minutes before show time to ensure you get in

the parking lot, and enjoy a glass of wine or light supper before the show. The tents are all climate controlled, so dress as you would for any indoor event. The seats, however, are none too comfy, and you'll be in yours for three hours, so bringing stadium cushions will make you the envy of your rowmates.

Suspend your disbelief, grab your inner child and run away to the circus!

It's fresh, it's fun, it's a Fling

On May 27, Rainbow Youth and SMYRC are throwing *Cosmic Fantasy Fling*, a prom for gay, lesbian, bi, trans, queer and questioning youth and friends who are 23 and under. There is no admittance charge for this nontraditional dance, and attendees are invited (but not required) to dress up as their favorite famous queers, living or dead, so you might find Walt Whitman getting down with Richard Simmons—or not.

Guest DJs, including dj tronic, will spin the tunes, and some great door prizes have been donated, including two pairs of tickets to see Ricky Martin in concert. This is a drug- and alcohol-free event; food and drink will be provided, as well as free HIV testing.

The fun happens from 8 p.m. until midnight at Miracle Theatre, 425 S.E. Sixth Ave. in Portland. The event is also sponsored by the Multnomah County Health Department, the Washington County Health Department, Outside In and YouthNet. For more information, call SMYRC at (503) 872-9664.

Their trash could be your treasure

The very queer Metropolitan Community Church of Portland holds its Rummage and Plant Sale on May 19 and 20. Early robin redbreasts can start bargain hunting at 8 a.m. both days, and the sale will be open until 3 p.m.

A wide array of both foliage and flowering plants, including azaleas, will be available in the basement of the church, which is located at 2400 N.E. Broadway.

You be the judge



The cable channel Showtime presents a Mapplethorpe double-header May 27 with the premiere of *Dirty Pictures*, the story of the obscenity trial about the exhibition of Robert Mapplethorpe's photographs. The movie stars James Woods as the museum director who dared to show photos depicting homosexual acts.

*Dirty Pictures* airs at 9 p.m. and is followed at 10:45 p.m. by *Mapplethorpe Uncensored*, an

original documentary that examines the work of the infamous queer artist, whose work was critically acclaimed but controversial due to its graphic sexual content.

A royal invitation

Rose Empress XXXVI Maria and Eugene's Empress Milo invite everyone to *Get Smart*, a show and auction May 28 to benefit three different scholarship funds.

The funds—Pride of the Rose, Audria M. Edwards and the Bill and Ann Shepherd Legal Scholarship—have collectively awarded over \$165,000 in grants over the years.

Five bucks admission buys an all-you-can-eat lasagna dinner, the show and the knowledge that you're helping some great causes. The merriment happens at Darcelle XV, 208 N.W. Third Ave. in Portland, beginning at 6 p.m.

He's out there

On May 20, the Portland Gay Men's Chorus presents *Adults Only Cabaret*, featuring acclaimed gay comedian Mark Davis for one night only.

Davis, who has been performing for a decade now, has appeared on Comedy Central's *Out There* and A&E's *Evening at the Improv* doing his pop culture observations and wacky characters.

In addition, members of the chorus will delight the audience with their previously private and secret numbers never before performed in public—definitely for adults only.

*Adults Only Cabaret* starts at 8 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center on Portland Community College's Sylvania campus, 12000 S.W. 49th Ave. Tickets are \$15 from Fastixx.

Compiled by ORIANA GREEN

Out at the ballgame

Rose City Softball Association standings as of May 16:

OPEN DIVISION	W-L
Boxxes Storm	8-0
Embers Red Wings	7-1
Full Sail Titans	7-1
JOQ's Genuine Draft	5-3
Egyptian Club Riders	2-6
Webpride, Vancouver	2-6
Quest Yellow Pages	1-7
Gay Men's Chorus	0-8

WOMEN'S DIVISION	W-L
Mad Dogs	6-0
Tan Body	5-1
Players	3-2
Just Out Mud Skippers	3-2
Hobo's	2-3
The Royals	2-4
Haggis's Hustlers	1-5
PlayHers Club	0-5

SCORES FROM MAY 14	
JOQ's Genuine Draft	16
Webpride, Vancouver	1

Boxxes Storm	16
JOQ's Genuine Draft	11
Quest Yellow Pages	12
Webpride, Vancouver	8
Full Sail Titans	20
Gay Men's Chorus	4
Full Sail Titans	22
Egyptian Club Riders	10
Embers Red Wings	22
Gay Men's Chorus	5
Embers Red Wings	13
Quest Yellow Pages	5

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Boxxes Storm	L
Egyptian Club Riders	6
The Royals	1
Haggis's Hustlers	7
Mad Dogs	2
Players	23
Just Out Mud Skippers	9
Hobo's	16
Tan Body	1
PlayHers Club	14
Tan Body	3
The Royals	

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