DIVERSIONS

Go directly to jail

After two rousingly successful summer dance parties, Alley Productions is back with **Prison Camp 2002**, a theme party to benefit Camp Starlight, which is open to kids whose lives are affected by HIV. This year's bash starts 8 p.m. **July 27** back in that alley at 2119 N. Kerby Ave.

Portlanders Jim Feild and Barry Pilip started Alley Productions solely to throw the costume parties annually in order to benefit worthy causes. Past recipients include the American Diabetes Association, Esther's Pantry, Neighborhood House and Our House of Portland. Last year's Walk Like an Egyptian drew nearly 800 partygoers, according to Feild.

This year Alley asks that you "assume your role" as a prisoner, guard or visitor. "You can imagine what people can become," says Feild, who envisions couples showing up with one in charge and the other in ball and chain. "Those who don't want to dress up," he notes, "can just come as a visitor." The sponsor also promises a laser light show that will "stop you in your tracks and make your escape impossible" as well as a special surprise on the warden's agenda.

Two drink tickets and prison food come with your $20 admission; after that you have to bribe the guards for more.

Feild works in construction and transforms the outdoor area from a space between two buildings to the chosen aesthetic fantasy every year. Other amenities come from area businesses.

"It's a collective group of vendors I work with," Feild explains, "that donate in-kind or discount their services so we can put this thing together. We just want to do a fun theme party that can make a difference for a charity."

To attend Prison Camp 2002, reserve your space (it's limited) at 503-244-3363 or www.alleyproductions.com.

It's a gay sunshine day

Portland's **Love Makes a Family** sponsors its second annual **Gay Day at Oaks Park from noon to 7 p.m. July 28**. The event includes a picnic (you're encouraged to bring a potluck dish) and all the regular fun stuff the park has to offer in the way of rides, skating rink, cute little train and cotton candy.

In case you're concerned about all those kids whose parents happen to be straight, don't fret—Oaks Park will let them in, too. "Love Makes a Family is for *all* families, so we expect to have all kinds of families there," executive director Bonnie Tinker says.

The nonprofit has underwritten the cost for the entire day with help from generous Portland sponsors; admission is free, but you're encouraged to make a donation. Tinker also notes that some financial aid is available for kids who can't afford ride bracelets and that "we welcome contributions from those who can't make it to pay for some other low-income child's bracelet."

For more information call 503-228-3892 or e-mail paul@lmfamily.org.

Slave Master haunts Portland clubs

As the Phantom haunts the opera, so does **William Patrick Dunne** haunt the gay clubs of Portland.

The New York actor, who plays the Slave Master in the "Hannibal" scene of *The Phantom of the Opera*, is taking advantage of his stay downtown, which he refers to as "the Greenwich Village of Portland."

A few words with Dunne will have you hanging your head in shame that you don't go out more. "I've been to all of 'em," he gleefully states. "I've gone to The Embers…we were guest stars at Darcelle's the other night; she was terrific. They had us stand up and say hello to all the brides-to-be. I love Silverado. Scandals is my favorite bar. Glenn is the owner; he's fantastic."

Dunne, who won't divulge his age but claims he's "old enough to know better," has been with touring with *Phantom* for four years now and plays no less than 13 different parts onstage. "Twelve costume changes," he sighs, noting that about a third of the musical's $9 million budget is for wardrobe.

Previous to *Phantom*, Dunne toured with *Cats* and played the Scarecrow in the national tour of *The Wizard of Oz* (opposite Phyllis Diller as the Wicked Witch). In the '80s he was in the kids shows *This Side Up* and *Kids World*, which he says "are still being shown today on retro Nickelodeon."

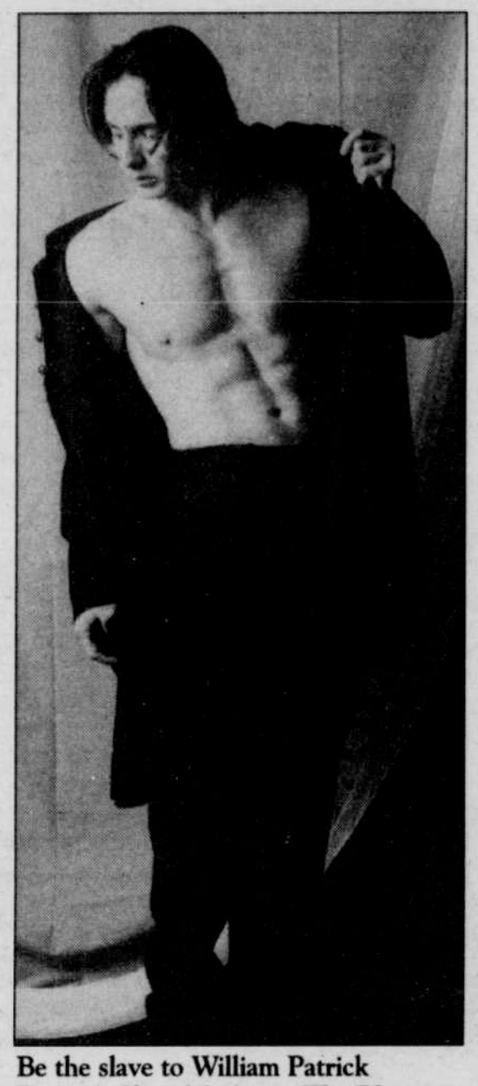
Being musical theater, *Phantom* includes several gay actors in the cast, but only Dunne is out in the open. "Since television and movies and theater are much more closer-knit now, if…you come out, it can hinder your possibilities for work," he pauses, "still in this day and age."

When fellow actors discovered he was being interviewed by *Just Out*, Dunne reveals: "They said, 'Oh, one of *those*.' And they were gay. They have no intention of being outed."

Dunne himself has decided to just not worry about it. "I know I'll always work," he remarks.

You can still see this cute gay boy in *Phantom* **through July 28 at Keller Auditorium**. And to the last day, he'll be taking advantage of our fair city. "I love the architecture down here," he says, "and Powell's—*love* it."

So pat yourself on the back, Portland, for being such a fabulous city and treating queer passers-through "very good," according to Dunne. "I've made some new friends."



Be the slave to William Patrick Dunne's Slave Master in *The Phantom of the Opera*

Diorama of fetish

Western States Center and 2 Gyrlz Performative Arts play host to an **Aug. 2** appearance by San Francisco performance art group **La Pocha Nostra**. Two of the infamous and culturally radical organization's best-known artists, **Guillermo Gómez-Peña** and **Juan Ybarra**, will perform *Mexotica: A Living Diorama of Fetishized Other* 7:30 p.m. at the Reed College Student Union. Cost is $8-$12 at the door.

La Pocha Nostra has challenged audiences for six years now to think about complex cross-cultural issues with brash, in-your-face images and productions. The constantly evolving community of cross-generational, intercultural and interdisciplinary artists engage in discussions of globalization, migration and hybrid identities, among other pertinent issues of our time.

Gómez-Peña, an immigrant from Mexico City, is one of the original members of La Pocha. His work includes video, audio, installations, poetry, journalism and performance arts in areas as diverse as immigration, the politics of language, technology and gender. A regular contributor to NPR's *All Things Considered*, he was the first Chicano/Mexicano artist to receive a MacArthur Fellowship.

Mexotica is an interactive performance that invites exploration of new ways of thinking about gender, race, class, ethnicity, identity and cultural stereotypes. Audience members are encouraged to come dressed "as your favorite cultural fetish."

For more information contact 2 Gyrlz Performative Arts at 503-318-6860 or www.2gyrlz.org. Visit La Pocha Nostra at www.pochanostra.com.

Guillermo Gómez-Peña shocks and delights in *Mexotica: A Living Diorama of Fetishized Other* Aug. 2

Oh, baby

Serendipity is the driving force behind Lisa Goddard and Katie Grindeland's baby, scheduled to be born in October.

A friend donated sperm, and, after only one try and without the medical establishment, Grindeland became pregnant. Now the couple are holding a **fund-raiser July 26 at the Cup and Saucer Café** to offset the high legal cost for Goddard to adopt the baby.

The two met 3 1/2 years ago in the café; Grindeland was a customer and eventually worked up the courage to ask Goddard, who works there, out on a date. The event runs from 7 to 9 p.m. and features **Portland Taiko drummers**, refreshments and a raffle. Cost is $7-$9 sliding scale.

Though both women did not always want to have children (Goddard was leaving the decision up to the universe), they are now ready to be equal parents, partially thanks to an incredible queer network. "If we hadn't had community support, we wouldn't be pregnant right now," Goddard says.

For both mothers-to-be, the reasons to adopt are clear. Grindeland wants to be sure her biological connection to the child doesn't make her more a parent. Goddard agrees and is eager to use Oregon's laws that allow lesbians to adopt—a privilege that's allowed in only eight states.

While they are anxious about the financial implications of the adoption, Goddard and Grindeland are happy and deeply in love—with each other and with the life they are building. They hope that the fund-raiser and the support they've found so far are the beginnings of a community of queer parents.

"I feel very strongly that this is a community baby," Grindeland says. "We have been blessed."

—*Nadia Cannon*

A Portland date for Melissa!

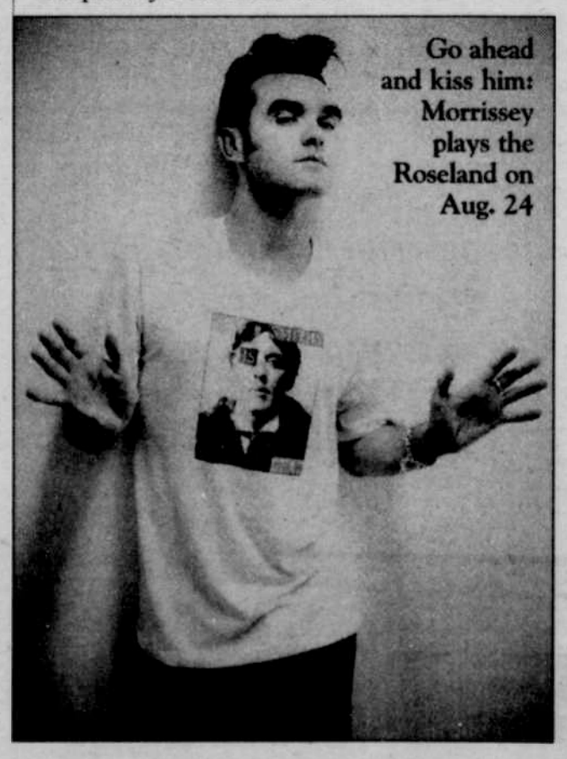
Melissa Etheridge has added a few shows to her summer tour, and, by golly, Portland is one of them. Guess she felt sorry for all those dykes having to drive to Woodinville, Wash.

Sept. 1 is the date set for her show at Keller Auditorium. Funk and soul singer **Rosey** will open. Tickets are $58.50-$79.50 from all Ticketmaster outlets.

Also gracing the Rose City with a summer show is ex-Smiths frontman **Morrissey**. The British post-punk hero garners as many stage-rushed kisses from boys as girls yet remains allusively sexually ambiguous. (Popular word has it he's straight but likes kisses from boys anyway. Hmm.)

Morrissey plays the Roseland **Aug. 24**. Tickets are on sale now for $29.50 from Fastixx or www.hob.com.

Compiled by LISA BRADSHAW



Go ahead and kiss him: Morrissey plays the Roseland on Aug. 24