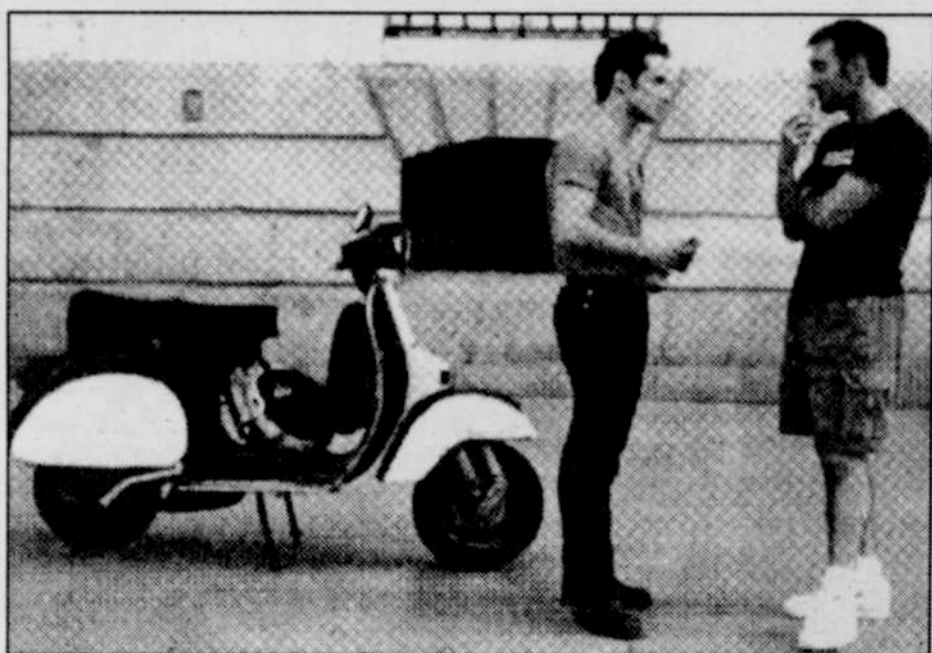


DIVERSIONS



Film festival audience loved Spain's *Km.0*

Film fest success

The Portland Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Film Festival, which ended its 10-day run Sept. 29, enjoyed its overall largest audience attendance yet. This is no surprise to Sensory Perceptions, considering the sharp increase in the number of programs offered.

However, attendance was low at some screenings, no doubt due to this increase. Artistic director Gabriel Mendoza says the audience was "overtaxed this year...we might scale back next year in terms of the amount of programming."

Audience members were allowed to rate every one of the 32 programs and, based on an attendance formula, the **Audience Award for Best Feature Film** goes to *Km.0*, the Spanish comedy centered around meeting mix-ups at Madrid's Plaza del Sol on the hottest day of the year. The **Audience Award for Best Documentary** went to the heartwarming adoption study *Daddy & Papa*, which reportedly made about 80 percent of the audience cry. **Audience Award for Best Short** goes to the charming Surinamese piece "You 2," in which a young woman working in her mother's beauty salon takes an intense interest in the affairs of their butchest of clients.

Jury awards for best film by a new or second-time director and for best short will be announced later in October when all the jurors, one of whom is from Florida, have a chance to view all the eligible films.

A highlight of the festival was an appearance by actor **Steve Guttenberg**, who turned out to be rather a Chatty Cathy during the Q & A that followed the Sept. 22 screening of his directorial debut, *P.S. Your Cat Is Dead*. The big star then joined revelers at the film festival's annual gala party at the Fez Ballroom, flirting with Poison Waters and announcing his room number via the microphone. "He was very, very nice," says Mendoza. "At first I was thinking, 'Oh God, Hollywood people,' but he was a blast, he really was."

Another high point was the special sneak preview of Portland gay director **Todd Haynes'** new film, *Far from Heaven*, which closed out the festival Sept. 29. Audience response was overwhelmingly positive to the moody drama starring Julianne Moore and Dennis Quaid as a suffocating 1950s Connecticut couple, both of whom find passion elsewhere in socially impossible situations. The film opens Nov. 15 in Portland.

The state of the intersex movement

Intersex Initiative Portland presents **The State of Intersex Movement 2002: Visions for the Second Decade**, a talk and premiere screening of the new film *Total Patient Care*, at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 9 in Room 238 of Portland State University's Smith Memorial Center,

1825 S.W. Broadway, and again at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 10 at In Other Words, 3734 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd.

This year marks the end of the first decade of the intersex movement, which is facing a time of significant transitions as Cheryl Chase, Intersex Society of North America founding executive director, prepares to retire at the end of the year. Currently based in Sonoma County, Calif., the organization's headquarters will move when a new direc-

tor is hired, according to **Emi Koyama**, coordinator of Intersex Initiative Portland, a joint project of the Intersex Society and the Survivor Project.

Koyama will be joined by San Francisco activist and performance artist **Solidad diCosta** at both events, and the pair will offer a history of the movement and a view into its future and answer any questions. The film is primarily aimed at a medical school audience but is accessible and extremely informative to the general public.

The medical community, says Koyama, "views intersex as a problem of genital or gender identity, so they focus on these two aspects while neglecting other health and emotional needs.... The film is aimed at bringing into public consciousness that the goal of any intervention must be to improve the child's overall quality of life and that the current medical standard is clearly failing in this regard."

Admission to both events is free, but donations are graciously accepted.

Dina's back in town!

Seattle's most infamous drag legend returns to Portland for **An Intimate Evening with Dina Martina** 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11 and 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Oct. 12 at Theater! Theatre!, 3430 S.E. Belmont St.

If you missed her sold-out show last Novem-

ber at Echo Theatre, here's your chance to witness the lovable human wreck, who simply oozes with ridiculous songs, ludicrous dance and wonderfully horrifying film segments.

Grady West created his alter ego, Dina, and her unique brand of storytelling pathos about 12 years ago. Her reputation grew quickly, although audiences have difficulty describing the freakish variety show. According to West, people think of her as "an aging, washed-up Vegas never-been." It's true Vegas itself has had a big influence on him. "I fell in love with it and was also repulsed by it." That, my friends, is a big, big clue.

Advance tickets are on sale now for \$15 from the Gold Door, Balloons on Broadway and Fastixx. Tickets will be \$18 at the door.



The iron ladies of Portland

Ever dreamed of a volleyball tournament in which participating teams have names such as the Portland Manhandlers or the Vancouver Towelboys? Well, here's your big chance to see that dream come true.

Portland Team Volleyball plays host to its annual **North American Gay Volleyball Association tournament** (otherwise known as Fall Ball 2002) Oct. 11 to 13 at the Tualatin Hills Recreation Center, 15707 S.W. Walker Road in Beaverton. The tourney offers play in the A, BB and B divisions.

Portland's boys of volleyball will offer you "a weekend of fun, sport and friendship" beginning Friday evening with a registration party, continuing Saturday with pool play and a seedling banquet and culminating Sunday with elimination play, an awards ceremony and an after-tournament party.

"This is a great opportunity," says tournament director **Ryan Reilly**, "for the GLBT [community] and their straight friends to get together in competitive sport. The main point is to have fun, but competition does get intense."

There are 24 teams registered so far from Vancouver, British Columbia; Seattle; San Francisco and Sacramento, Calif.; Minneapolis; and Portland. Although no promises are being made, last year one randy Seattle team showed up in drag.



Dina Martina's world tour in Portland on Oct. 11 and 12

Spectators are more than welcome to attend the games. Call 503-680-6005 or visit www.portlandteamvolleyball.com.

The league also plays host to **open gym time** from 1 to 4 p.m. every Sunday for the low, low price of \$5 at the Hillside Recreation Center, 653 N.W. Culpepper Terrace. New boys are oh so more than welcome.

Gay Men's Chorus gets steamy

The Portland Gay Men's Chorus kicks off its exciting new season with a tip o' the hat to "those of you with a hunger for lowbrow fare—really lowbrow," proclaims president **Timm McBride**. **Adults Only Cabaret** is a "randy, raucous, risqué" one-night-only event at 8 p.m. Oct. 19 in Reed College's Kaul Auditorium.

Executive director **Tony Stroh** describes the occasion as "a lot of tongue and a lot of cheek. It's our way of starting the year off and letting our hair down at the same time." Special guests **Carol Reise** of Portland's Rose City Swing and **Empress XLIV Poison Marie Waters** will also make appearances.

The chorus' season will continue with *Yule La La* Dec. 14 and 15—"holiday with a French flair"; *Classical Voices* Feb. 23—the fifth annual classical concert featuring friends of the chorus and PGMC's chamber ensemble; *Men in Lights* April 5 and 6—a springtime celebration of music and dance from opera, Broadway and Hollywood; and, finally, *Wings to Fly* June 21—the annual Pride concert featuring the Aurora Women's Chorus.

The group will also be offering three additional events this year "to solidify our standing in the community as a solid, viable arts organization," says McBride. Brunch with Beefcake Santa will be held Dec. 22 at Il Fornaio Restaurant; the third annual Rainbow Ball will kick off Pride on June 13; and on July 12 the chorus will hold its first-ever silent auction.

For more information and ticket prices, call 503-226-2588 or visit www.pdxgmc.org.



In the Life takes a look at how Sharon Smith's (right) wrongful death lawsuit has affected California law

In the Life debuts 11th season

The award-winning queer television news-magazine *In the Life* opens its 11th season on Oregon Public Broadcasting at 11 p.m. Oct. 8. The premiere episode includes a story on the **Sharon Smith wrongful death lawsuit** and its effect on California law regarding gay and lesbian couples. The mauling death of her partner, Diane Whipple, by her neighbors' dogs shocked the nation in January 2001.

Other stories include an interview with the director of the new film *Family Fundamentals*, which explores the lives of gay and lesbian children in fundamentalist Christian homes, and a behind-the-scenes look at the new Broadway musical *Hairspray*. **JW**

Compiled by **LISA BRADSHAW** and **SARAH LEIMERT**