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April 23, 2005

7pm to Midnight
Ambridge Event Center
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\$30 General Admission (Discount to couples and seniors)

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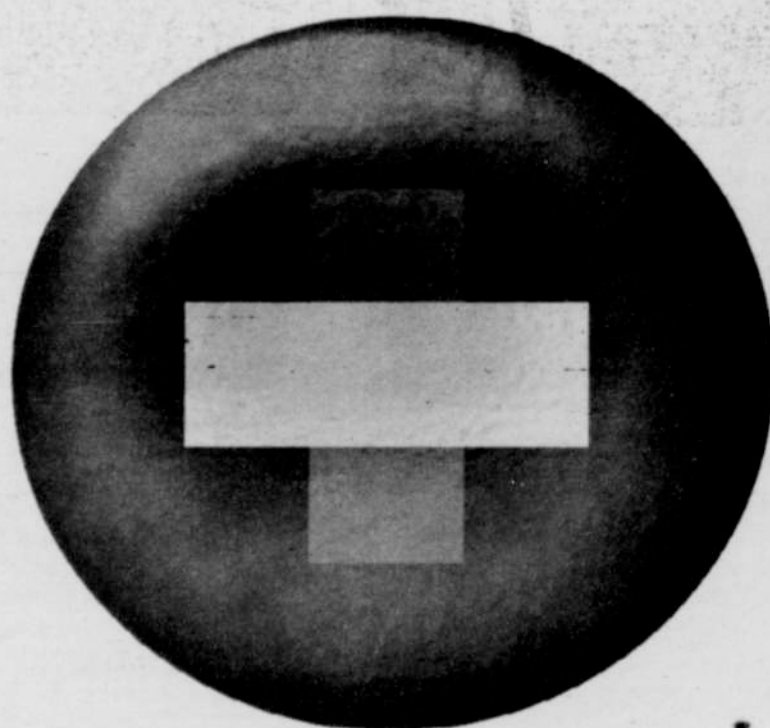
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PEOPLE

My heart belongs to Patti

After flying off the handle with airport security,
Broadway chanteuse descends on Portland

BY FLOYD SKLAVER

Patti LuPone first captured the hearts of theatergoers with her Tony-winning performance in the title role of *Evita*. Since then, she has lent her distinctive voice, peculiar look and volcanic personality to roles as varied as Maria Callas in *Master Class* and Corky's mom on ABC's *Life Goes On*. She also starred in the world premieres of *Les Misérables* and *Sunset Blvd.* in London. Now, the 56-year-old diva shares a bit

of her own heart when she arrives at Keller Auditorium for eight performances of her one-woman show *Matters of the Heart*.

Variety called the evening "a tribute to the overwhelming power of love. Sublime. An emotional biography." LuPone performs more than two dozen songs by a wide range of composers, including theater greats like Richard Rodgers and contemporary songwriters like Randy Newman and Judy Collins.

Just Out recently had a chance to talk with LuPone by telephone about some matters of her own heart.

Floyd Sklaver: How is this show different from your Carnegie Hall gig or cabaret shows? [LuPone performed at Carnegie Hall the night before this interview.]

Patti LuPone: Cabaret is a different form of entertainment, even though sometimes I perform in a cabaret house. I try to present a theatrical experience. I'm not belittling cabaret; it's just not what I was trained to do. Each show that I do comes out of the same vein. They are more concertlike and more theatrical in that they have a through line to them.

FS: Do you have a large gay fan base?

PL: I have no idea. Why are you interviewing me?

FS: Well, I think you're fabulous, but do other gay men?

PL: I'm playing to a darkened house, and I have no idea who's out there...I don't know how I would know unless I had them fill out a questionnaire as they walked out the door.

FS: What do you think of same-sex marriage?

PL: I think it must happen. I think it's the most insane thing that it can't happen but we can drop bombs. It's about love and commitment, and it just burns my ass that we're in this world right now where loving people can't be married. It's just hideous. I support it wholly.

FS: Gays and lesbians are very concerned with privacy and harassment issues. Do you mind talking about what happened with air-



Patti LuPone stars in her new theatrical concert, *Matters of the Heart*, April 5 to 10 at Keller Auditorium.

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