

The **Basil** BAR
Restaurant & Bar



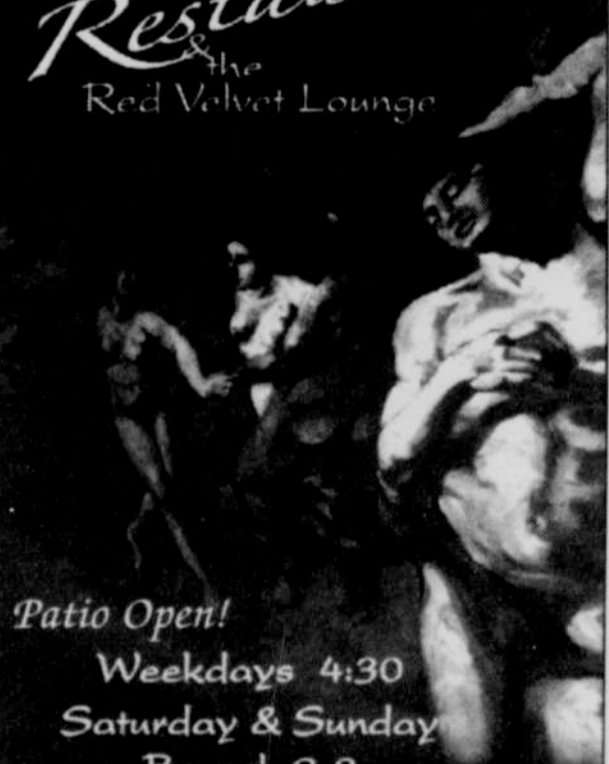
THURSDAY IS QUEER NIGHT

- Happy Hour Menu
- Non-Smoking Bar till 9
- Comfortably Upscale
- 4:30 PM to 11:30 PM

(present this ad for free appetizer)

3135 NE BROADWAY
503.281.8337

*Wildly
Abundant*
Restaurant
the
Red Velvet Lounge



Patio Open!

Weekdays 4:30
Saturday & Sunday
Brunch 9-2
Dinner 5:30

Closed Tuesday

503.232.4458
2411 SE Belmont
Portland

Art: Nicole Ravilina

Chameleon
RESTAURANT & BAR
Patio open!

Come check out our new menu.

2000 NE 40th
(2 blocks north of Sandy)
503/460-2682

Private parties & catering available

5:30 to 9 pm Tues-Thurs
5:30 to 10 pm Fri-Sat
Late-night lounge on weekend

JOHN
street
cafe

8338 N. Lombard
503-247-1066

eating out

Check out page 38 for more restaurant choices.

Casual Dining

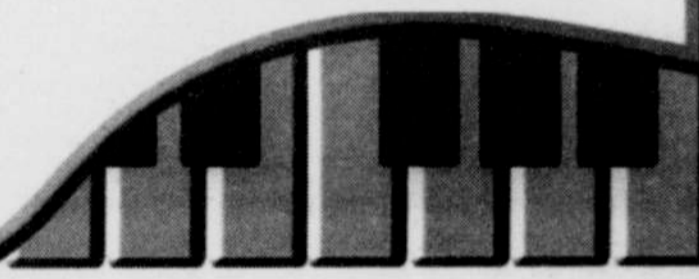
Piano Lounge

Game Room

Open 4:00 Daily

120 NW Third Avenue
Portland, Or 97209
(503) 224-3285
www.hobospdx.com
Parking Validated
Smart Park Davis & Front

Hobo's



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epiQueerean

BY JENNY NGUYEN

Harnessing your veggie might

This might not sound like a very dyke thing to say, but I like my meat as much as the next girl. Being so proudly closed-mouthed about eating veggies, I was hesitant when my editor asked me to do a no-meat column. Alas, just like the first time I sampled that other "meat" alternative, my mind was blown. Here are a few places to strap on your veggie might.

Vita Café • 3024 N.E. Alberta St.

Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, this cozy neighborhood dive is brimming with seasonal veggie and vegan goodies. From vegan biscuits 'n' gravy to decadent dairy-free and egg-free desserts, Vita Café has it all going on. I popped in for a nooner and was pleasantly surprised at the welcoming décor and service waiting inside the seemingly seedy storefront. Inside were educational pamphlets and knowledgeable (hot) staff who could teach even a seasoned carnivore like me a few things about "the other side." The tempeh Reuben was tasty, served on rye with vegan Thousand Island dressing. Other raves are the vegan French toast and the S.O.S. If you're a vegilliterate like me (don't know tempeh from tofurky), check the back of the menu for a quick lesson. Vita was definitely a kind, gentle and delicious experience for a first-timer, turning this veggie-virgin into an herbiv-whore.

Vege Thai • 3272 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd.

Trying meat alternatives like tempeh was a small step; I was ill-prepared for the meat impersonators of Vege Thai. Using no shrimp paste, no fish sauce and no oyster sauce, Vege Thai claims to be "the first and only real vegetarian Thai food" in our City of Roses. I was doubtful. To start we had the Vege Rolls with soy ham. (Gross, right? Delicious.) We ordered Thai iced teas with soy milk. (Better than the real thing.) Tom yum soup with soy shrimp. (Inconceivable! How could this not have fish sauce?) By the main dish—Pad Woon Sen with soy chicken—I was emotionally drained, all my expectations smashed. This isn't just great vegetarian Thai, this is great Thai.

Veganopolis • 412 S.W. Fourth Ave.

The suffix "polis" is late Latin for "city," which accurately describes the enormous space Veganopolis fills in the center of downtown. But the tiny menu makes finding your hunger a home in this city difficult. Breakfast consists of a buffet-by-the-pound style dining that is grand, vegan and delicious, if you can handle flashbacks to elementary school cafeteria lunch lines. Unique lunch items like build-your-own-salad and daily special wraps make this daytime hot spot a mecca some vegans swear by. But for those in search of a comfy, old-fashioned restaurant with classic standby vegan cuisine, look elsewhere. [E]

JENNY NGUYEN would love to hear from you at jenny0080@hotmail.com.