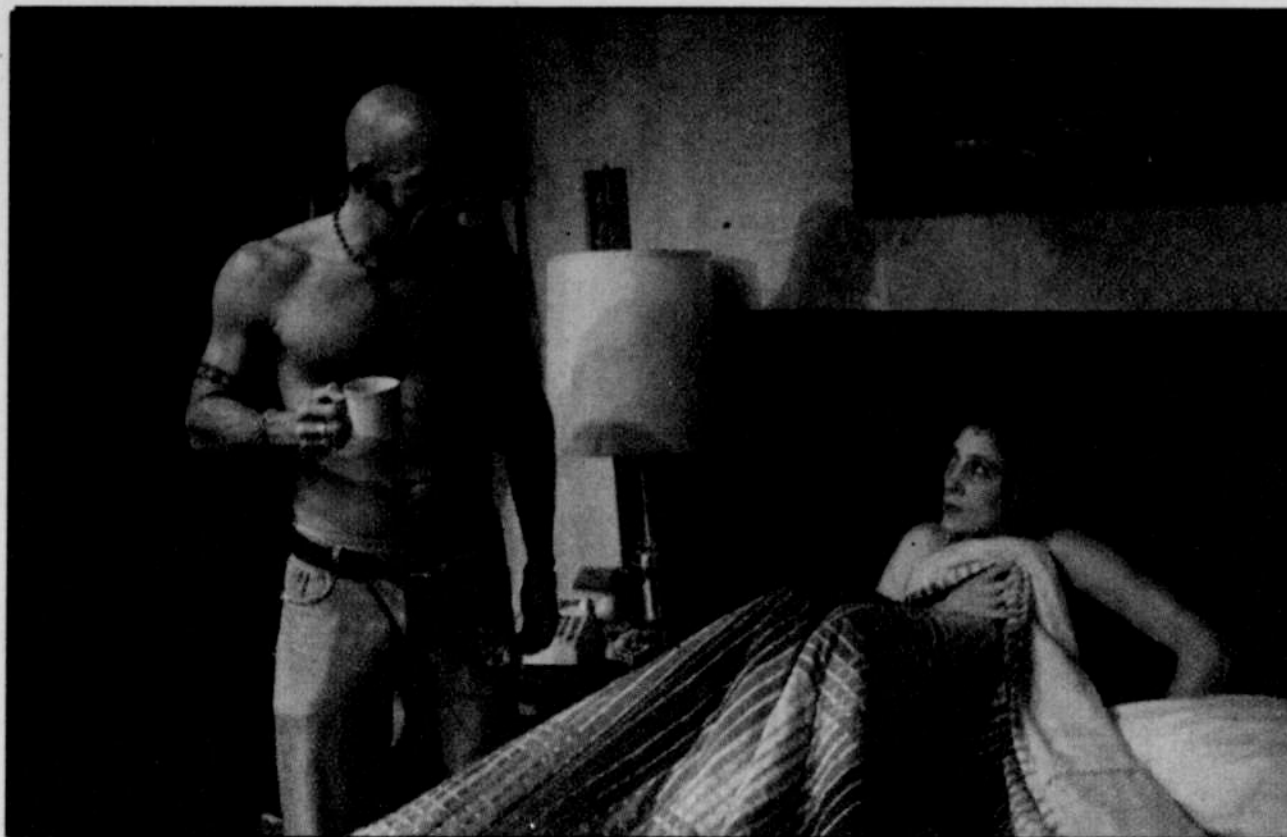




OWEN CAREY

Bug gets under your skin through Nov. 20 at Artists Repertory Theatre.

The Red King and Alex Lily's TV Smasher. (9 pm. 4811 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$5-\$15.)

Queer DJ Stormy spins at gay-owned Crush. (9 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St. \$2.)

Mock Crest Tavern presents the acoustic insanity of **Sneakin' Out**. (9 pm-midnight. 3435 N Lombard St.)

Andaz, Portland's longest-running dance night dedicated to new music, celebrates its third anniversary at Fez Ballroom with DJs Anjali and The Incredible Kid and a special Bhangra dance lesson by Bay Area instructor Joti Singh. (9 pm-3 am. 316 SW 11th Ave. \$6.)

Lesbian-operated **Moon Star Bar & Grill** presents crazy/sexy/fun drag queen shows with Ciara Dela Rosa and other outrageous female impersonators every last Saturday. (9:30-11:30 pm. 7410 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.)

SUN • NOV 27

GO OUT The fourth and final Enteractive Language Festival ends with **Brain Waves Speaking—Language of Slumber**, a "happening" utilizing sonic and visual frequencies to induce different brain states, at CenterRing. Specialty elixirs will be served. Bring a pillow and a friend. (8 pm. 5339 SE Foster Road. \$5-\$15.)

MON • NOV 28

It's **Movie Night Monday** at lesbian-owned Middle Eastern bar Zaytoon. Tonight's films are

Alfred Hitchcock's *Rear Window* and Mel Brooks' *Blazing Saddles*. (8:30 pm. 2236 NE Alberta St.)

Bar Pastiche presents a dance and music performance from **El Cuadro Solo Flamenco** every last Monday. Price includes a complimentary glass of cava or a soft drink! (9 pm. 3731 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$15 at the door, \$12 in advance from 503-236-4760.)

Queer Revolution screens *Last Call at Maud's*, a 1993 documentary about the landmark lesbian bar in San



Last night a DJ saved my life! Her name was Amber Martin. She spins every Tuesday at Café Wonder.

Options for Ringing in the Year

It's class vs. sass for New Year's Eve as Portland's leading lesbians compete for your attendance at dances to raise money for worthy causes.

The **Portland Lesbian Choir** and **Lesbian Community Project** have been hosting New Year's Eve dances jointly for more than a decade. Because of planning conflicts, the groups have split this year, each hosting its own style of elegant and philanthropic parties, one with community in mind and the other vowing to spice it up.

"I am sure there are plenty of people in the community that can attend both events," says **Debbie Caselton**, co-chairwoman of LCP. She adds that LCP hopes to co-host New Year's Eve dances with the choir in the future.

LCP's event is a smoke-free, all-ages party featuring a light buffet, a no-host bar, a silent auction, a raffle and dance music from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at World Forestry Center's Miller Hall, 4033 S.W. Canyon Road. Tickets are \$30 at the door or \$25 in advance from It's My Pleasure or In Other Words.

Half of all donations and ticket sales from this event will benefit **Q Center**, Portland's new queer community center. The dance's theme will be "community."

"The Q Center promotes the need to strengthen collaboration and relationships within the community, break individual isolation and heighten our visibility in the broader community," says Caselton. "The Lesbian Community Project strongly believes this also."

The choir has teamed with **Cruise Control** to present "A Midwinter's Night Scene," promising a romantic night of revelry, risqué entertainment and a mischief-filled celebration on the Columbia River at Shenanigans, 909 N. Hayden Island Drive. This all-inclusive event is the choir's only fund-raiser, with a raffle or silent auction, and proceeds will also benefit **Bradley-Angle House** and **Dandelion Animal Rescue**.

"It will be fun, dynamic and potentially very romantic," says choir spokeswoman **Sparky Lindsay**. "We offer an alternative to the bars for people who like to go out, dance, socialize on their own, with their partner or friend or in groups [in a place] that is smoke-free with all the good elements of a great dance."

The Red Lion Hotel has rooms available where folks can spend the night after the party is over. Tickets are \$25 from It's My Pleasure, In Other Words, Music Millennium, www.plchoir.org, www.cruisecontrolpdx.com or 503-727-3306. Volunteers or those wanting to reserve a table can e-mail portlandlesbianchoir@hotmail.com.

—Jaymee R. Cuti

Francisco, and discusses the topic "The History of the Queer Bar" at Laughing Horse Books. (6:30 pm. 3652 SE Division St. \$2-\$3 donation.)

TUE • NOV 29

Vocalist **Susannah Mars** (*One: The Musical*) reunites with music director **Bill Wells** for *Mars on Life: The Holiday Edition*, another exciting evening of musical theater by favorites like Stephen Sondheim and newcomers like Adam Guettel (*The Light in the Piazza*) and Jeanine Tesori (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*) at Wilf's Restaurant & Piano Bar. Repeats Dec. 1. (7:30 pm. 800 NW Sixth Ave. \$15 from 503-223-0070.)

In Other Words presents **The Last Word** Open Mike Zine Read. (8 pm. 3734 SE Hawthorne Blvd. click_patterdale@yahoo.com.)

WED • NOV 30

Learn how you can get involved with Radical Women's upcoming activities during their **Revolutionary Feminist Meeting** at the Bread and Roses Center. (6:30 pm. 819 N Killingsworth St. \$4 snack buffet donation. To arrange child care, rides or work exchanges, call 503-240-4462.)

Special editor Bethroot Gwynn facilitates a showcase of artists and writers who contributed to the **2006 We'Moon calendar** at In Other Words. (7 pm. 3734 SE Hawthorne Blvd.)

The Kalani Jazz Projekt performs Euro jazz and dance beats as part of the second annual Sessions series at gay-owned Aura Restaurant and Lounge. (7:45-10 pm. 1022 W Burnside St.)

The Djangophiles perform gypsy jazz with a French twist every other Wednesday at gay-owned wine bistro Vino Paradiso. (8-10 pm. 417 NW 10th Ave.)

THU • DEC 1

Queer musician Tamara J. Brown hosts **Suck My Open Mike**, which returns to Thursdays at 3 Friends Coffeehouse. (7 pm. 201 SE 12th Ave.)

Lesbian-owned taco bar Dingo's presents **Girls Night Out** every Thursday. (7 pm. 4612 SE Hawthorne Blvd. 503-233-3996.)

Standup comedian **Suzanne Westenhoefer** performs at Aladdin Theater. Rescheduled because of back surgery. (8 pm. 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave. \$28 at the door, \$25 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Loungy singer/songwriter/pianist **Ashley Marie** performs every Thursday at gay-owned wine bistro Vino Paradiso. (8-10 pm. 417 NW 10th Ave.)

Ashleigh Flynn celebrates the release of *Live at Mississippi Studios* with **Sneakin' Out** and special guest **Jamie Vineyard** at Sam Bond's Garage in Eugene. (8:30 pm. 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.)

Green Papaya presents **Homo Happy Hour** Thursday through Saturday featuring an electroclash mix by DJ Tool and a \$2 food and drink menu! (9 pm-midnight. 1135 SW Morrison St.)

GO OUT Come to Porky's Pub for live and unpredictable entertainment during the second annual **Booty Pageant**. Six of Portland's bravest souls will vie for a \$200 grand prize in evening wear, swim wear and talent competitions. The panel of celebrity judges includes 2004 winner Grandma Ruby, Booty guardian J-Ho and *Just Out* nightlife scribe Aaron Scott! (Midnight. 835 N Lombard St. \$5. www.bootypdx.com.)

FRI • DEC 2

The Women's Health Network presents the lecture **Staying Alive and Well—Drugs, Alcohol and Addictions** at Kennedy School. (8:30-11:30 am. 5736 NE 33rd Ave.)

Out Dancing's **beginning swing** class starts tonight and continues every Friday in December at Ankeny Street Studio. **Intermediate salsa** follows. (7-8 pm swing [\$20 for month], 8-9 pm salsa [\$24 for month]. 975 SE Sandy Blvd. 503-236-5129. out_dancing@yahoo.com.)

Ashleigh Flynn celebrates the release of *Live at Mississippi Studios* with **Sneakin' Out** and special guest **Government Issue Orchestra** at White Eagle Saloon. (9 pm. 836 N Russell St. \$5.)

SAT • DEC 3

Lesbian social worker Laney Kibel offers a **free workshop on how to have a happier holiday** at queer-owned Jackman Joe Coffee. She will look at options for interfaith/interracial couples to create more meaningful holiday traditions as well as ideas for self-care during the season. (9-11 am. 1111 NW 16th Ave. 503-781-3900.)

GO OUT Girls on Gay presents **Winter White Benefit**, an evening of quality dining and coming together of "family" and friends, at Starky's. Proceeds benefit Basic Rights Oregon. (6 pm. 2913 SE Stark St. \$30 from www.girlsongay.com.)

No Ordinary Girl Indeed

Piece together Americana, alterna-folk, pop and various world music influences, add a few touches of Tori Amos, lace it with silky atmospheric and you have some picture of the shimmering talents of **Magdalen Hsu-Li**. The Seattle artist's ultradynamic voice wanders between the bluesy, belting qualities of Melissa Etheridge and the ethereal vibe of the various vocalists you've heard coming from The Orb or Chemical Brothers, all the while cajoling you with subtle, multi-layered songwriting that digs a hole in the heart.

This striking Asian-American beauty traverses many influences but maintains a front of arty pop that manages to hold the imaginations of the masses while still stoking the intellectual fires of those willing to delve a little deeper. One tune may begin with swirling, deep, mysterious long tones and an East Indian or Middle Eastern slant; another may wander into country territory. Many other selections from her stunning CD *Smashing the Ceiling* are expansive in sound, wild and sweeping in their mood changes, with a hypnotizing sense of the grandiose that borders on the symphonic. A mix of the bonkers and the beautiful, it's a little like slam dancing with Enya.



Magdalen Hsu-Li performs music from Smashing the Ceiling Nov. 18 at Lewis & Clark College.

Whatever Hsu-Li digs into, she dredges up musical treasures with an unusual angle and a passion that doesn't let go. An all-star band behind her doesn't hurt, either, including musicians who have worked with the likes of Garbage, Ani DiFranco, Faith Hill, Shakira and Fiona Apple, among numerous others.

Hsu-Li dealt with prejudice while growing up in the Deep South, eventually slinking into post-grunge Seattle with an eye toward redefining how Asian Americans can influence the music and art world. As one of her songs says, she's "no ordinary girl." She seems to have nailed that one on the head.

Hsu-Li performs with **Dale Fanning** from Living Daylights 7 p.m. Nov. 18 at Lewis & Clark College's Agnes Flanagan Chapel, 0615 S.W. Palatine Hill Road, as part of the second annual Multicultural Symposium.

—André Hagestedt