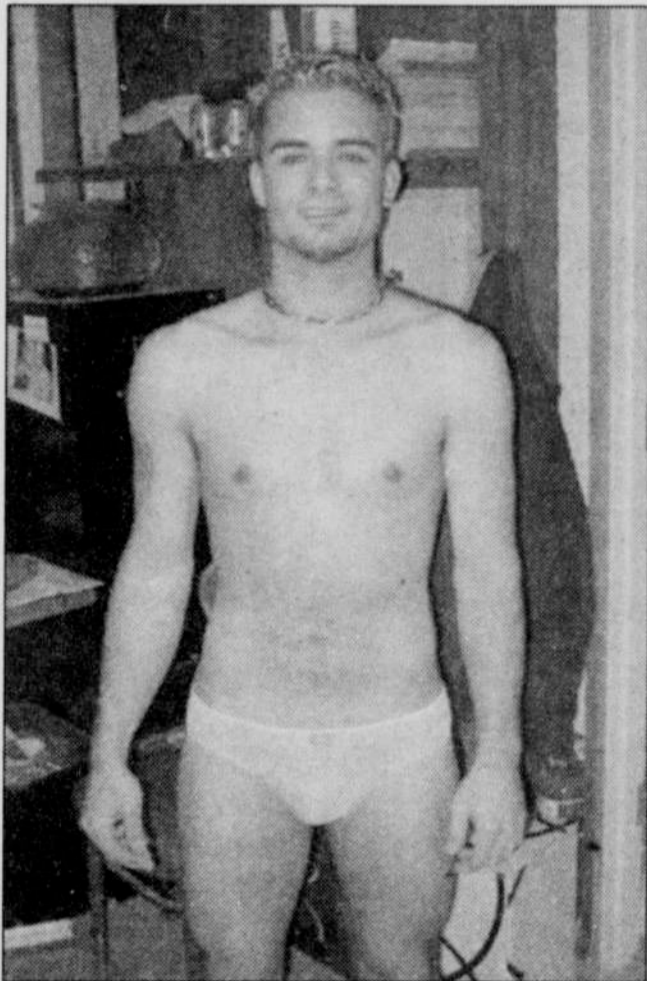


culture

Happy New Queer

Wanna ring in 2006 with a midnight smooch? This is where the out crowd will be partying.

Gay-owned **Vino Paradiso** serves a multicourse meal paired with the perfect wines prepared by new chef Matt Stauss, who has been creating some unbelievable things in his tiny kitchen, including sexy appetizers and decadent desserts! (4 pm-midnight. 417 NW 10th Ave. RSVP to timothy@vinoparadiso.com.)



The Platinum Ball returns to C.C. Slaughters.

Pink Martini performs with the Lions of Batucada and members of the Harvey Rosencrantz Orchestra at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Gay frontman Thomas Lauderdale is particularly excited to welcome jazz legend Jimmy Scott, in a rare appearance, as special guest bandleader. The performances will be recorded for a public television program and DVD, so dress fierce! (7 and 10:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$25-\$60 from Ticketmaster.)

Slip into your disco duds, fetish frocks or formal attire and "Hustle" down to **Darklady's New Year's Eve Party** featuring a potluck, a no-host bar and door prizes at Studio 69. Get your "Le Freak" on with a kinky S/M play space, casting couch exhibitionism, a massage table, birthday fantasies, vendors and a cloakroom. Shake your groove thing until the "Last Dance" of the year with music by DJ ChaotiQueer and Full Brazil. Bring a donation for Dandelion Animal Rescue, which has been assisting in the effort to save pets stranded because of Hurricane Katrina, and receive a \$5 discount. (7 pm-2 am. \$20 costumes, \$25 street clothes. RSVP to darklady@darklady.com.)

Start the new year with wall-to-wall lesbians! **The Egyptian Club** celebration features dancing, karaoke, party favors, midnight champagne, a buffet and an after-hours continental breakfast at 2:30 am. (7 pm-4 am. 3701 SE Division St. \$10 at the door, \$5 in advance.)

Gay-owned **Crush** gets festive with music by DJ Synthetic, a midnight balloon drop and the debut of house wicca witch Wanda Weegee, who specializes in Tarot readings, casting spells, chanting, making personal charms and celebrity gossip! (8 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St.)

The **Lesbian Community Project** invites lesbians and their friends to a smoke-free, all-ages, elegant and fun evening featuring dancing, hors d'oeuvres by Cassidy's, a no-host bar, a silent auction, a raffle and music by Pan Dolce, Galloway & Luckett and DJ Crystal at World Forestry Center's Miller Hall. Proceeds benefit LCP and Q Center. (8 pm-12:30 am. 4033 SW Canyon Road. \$30

at the door, \$25 in advance from *In Other Words*, *It's My Pleasure*, *Balloons on Broadway* or www.lesbiancommunityproject.org. To volunteer or donate silent auction items, call 503-227-0605.)

The **Portland Lesbian Choir** and **Cruise Control PDX** present "A Midwinter's Night Scene," a smoke-free, all-ages night of revelry and romance at Shenanigans featuring a silent auction, food, music by DJ Lauren and swing, two-step, Greek circle, Yiddish hora and belly dancing. Appointed "angels" and "devils" will warm up the floor by asking women to dance! Proceeds benefit the choir, Bradley-Angle House and Dandelion Animal Rescue. (8 pm-1 am. 909 N Hayden Island Drive. \$25 from *In Other Words*, *It's My Pleasure*, *Music Millennium*, www.plchoir.org, www.cruisecontrolpdx.com or 503-727-3306. To volunteer e-mail portlandlesbianchoir@hotmail.com.)



Deb Przepasniak (left) and Ally Britton celebrate with the Portland Lesbian Choir.



C.C. Slaughters throws its 25th New Year's Eve party during **Platinum Ball '06** featuring silver décor, platinum toys, go-go boys and a dance floor ready to rock in the new year! Hosted by Bolivia Carmichaels with music by DJ Alex Hollywood. (8 pm-2:30 am. 219 NW Davis St. \$10.)

The Eagle punishes bad boys during the second annual **Cell Block Break Out** featuring jailhouse food, mug shots and an after-hours breakfast buffet at 2 am. No cover! (8 pm-4 am. 1300 W Burnside St.)

Tough Titties Productions presents a New Year's Eve celebration with the ladies featuring live performances and DJs Saffronica and Harmony at lesbian-owned Middle Eastern bar Zaytoon. (8:30 pm. 2236 NE Alberta St. \$12 costumes, \$15 street clothes.)

Make a new year's resolution to enjoy the acoustic insanity of **Sneakin' Out**, performing with the Rose City Kings at Beale Street NW. (8:30-9:15 pm. 10721 NE Sandy Blvd.)

Out Dancing puts on another New Year's Eve dinner and dance party. Enjoy a delectable buffet, party favors, sparkling cider and swing, ballroom, country and Latin moves! (9 pm-1 am. \$30 at the door, \$25 in advance from 503-236-5129 or out_dancing@yahoo.com.)

Put'm Up Productions launches its weekly party **Swine** at Porky's Pub with live music, free hors d'oeuvres and midnight champagne, drink specials and dancing with DJ Puppet in a nonsmoking environment. Dress up and get down! (10 pm-2 am. 835 N Lombard St. \$5.)

main stage series
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in the
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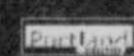
KeyBank presents MARK SETLOCK in
This Wonderful Life
a stage adaptation of the screenplay *It's a Wonderful Life*
written by STEVE MURRAY directed by MARTHA BANTA

"I've never been as captivated as I was by Mark Setlock's one-man interpretation of 'It's a Wonderful Life.'"

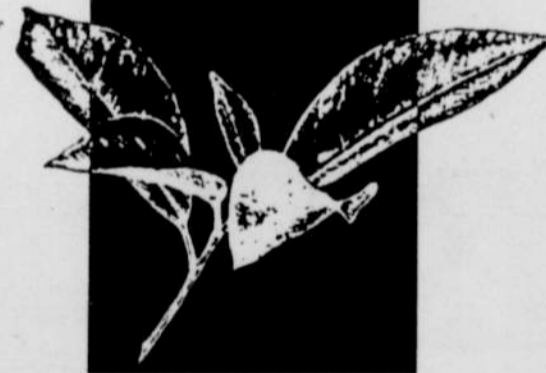
— *Willamette Week*, Johanna Droubay

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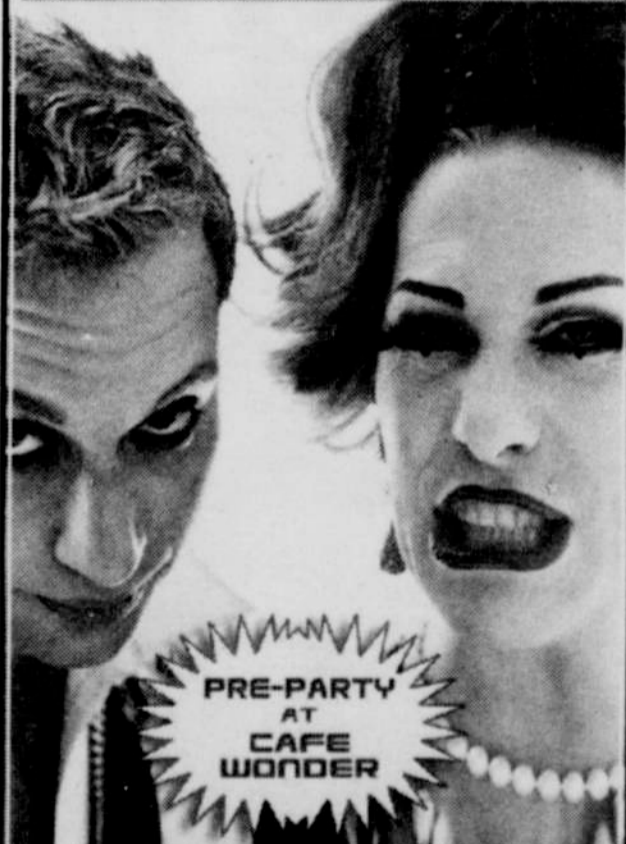


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