

outstanding

Taking a Spin with DJ Alex Hollywood

DJ Alex Hollywood has been a fixture in the Portland club scene since he moved here with his mom one Christmas break from Pendleton at the impressionable age of 14.

"Before I went to The City, the music I listened to was like my mom in the church choir and *American Bandstand* on TV." As if delivered to the land of Oz, Hollywood discovered Madonna and his gayness around the same time. "I turned on KBOO, and they were playing Madonna—I knew, it just all of a sudden clicked."

Hollywood has been at C.C. Slaughters as both a DJ and the marketing and entertainment director for a year. Before that, he spun at Panorama and Boxxes as well as at The City for 10 years.

"I became friends with the DJ there when I was about 14, and he got me to do lights for him. He was a drunk, so would pass out and then I would have to step up and just DJ."

Hollywood also got his chops in the music biz working for Warner Bros. and Sony doing local publicity. He also owned Turntable Mary's for about five years in the early 1990s.

Hollywood's favorite part of his job is the reaction to the crowd. "I really like the new stuff and stuff everyone's in love with." Although he is hesitant to say anything about his job that he dislikes, he does have a pet peeve for people who request a



DJ Alex Hollywood got his start at 14 running lights at The City.

song by trying to sing it themselves. "I mean, they don't know the title or the artist or anything, and they try to sing it. It's impossible!"

He has found a home at C.C. Slaughters. "It is a place where really different parts of the gay community can enjoy things they might not find elsewhere." Of course, he is referring to the legendary country nights Wednesdays and the hip-hop scene Thursdays, which draws a younger crowd. "We also have bear night once a month. It's nice to stay open to a variety of styles."

You can check out DJ Hollywood on Thursdays and Saturdays at C.C. Slaughters. Listen for his mash-up of Gwen Stefani's "Hollaback Girl" and J-Kwon's "Topsy."

—Sarah Dougher

just asking

How did you spend your best or worst Valentine's Day?



TRAVIS FOWLER
Happily Unemployed

"None stand out as being traumatically bad or magically good."



KATIE NOLAN
Licensed Massage Therapist

"I teach couples massage classes, so I usually spend it helping other people enjoy their mate."



JAE O'HARE
Carpenter Revolutionary

"I was hanging out with my roommate and her girlfriend, and they went to bed early. I was lonely and spent the evening watching *Queer as Folk* and trying to drown out the noise of them doing it."



RAMDAS RAE
Acupuncturist

"My partner and I have other names for each other, George and Mildred. She wrote a *Mercury* valentine to George from Mildred and I didn't make the connection that it was from her, but it was very sweet."

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