

SUN • MAY 7

Now nonsmoking and gay-owned, **Porky's Pub** throws a beer bust and screens *Desperate Housewives* every Sunday. (Noon bust, 9 pm screening. 835 N Lombard St.)

GO OUT Lesbian laughter leader Gail Hand hosts Portland's second annual **World Laughter Day** at Jamison Square Park. Laughter, frivolity, contests and water play for pups! (1-3 pm. Northwest 10th Avenue and Johnson Street.)

Eugene's **Family Values**—which provides a social support network for queer youth, families and allies—hosts a first Sunday potluck lunch at Friendly Park. (1-3 pm. West 27th Avenue and Monroe Street. family_values_pride@hotmail.com.)

People living with HIV/AIDS are invited to the **WellBeing Sunday Brunch**, serving free home-cooked meals in the historic Mt. Olivet Building. (3-6 pm. 1734 NE First Ave.)

Get lucky during the Fox & Hounds' **Monthly Charity Bingo**. (3:30 pm. 217 SW Second Ave.)

The Egyptian Club gives away full camping setup during its monthly **Texas Hold 'Em Tournament Championship**. (4 pm. 3701 SE Division St.)

Mr. Gay Oregon XXXVI Felipe Leon and the gay Latino community invite you to the dinner and show **Una Noche de Diversidad (A Night of Diversity)** at Darcelle's. Proceeds support children of color in their education, food and health. (7 pm. 208 NW Third Ave. \$10.)

MON • MAY 8

Elizabeth Cunningham reads from *The Passion of Mary Magdalen*—likely the only version of the Mary Magdalen story in which Mary is bisexual—at In Other Words. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Three Queers for Local Theater

Though dressed in black and bound to put on a good show, Michael Rutledge is into another kind of SM as Stage Manager of *Like I Say*, the kinky love child of sadist/masochist theater punks Vertigo and Defunkt. Rangling 145 technical cues, 12 cast members and 20 lemurs of the cotton variety, Rutledge still managed to tie up a backhand game of e-mail tag kicking around playwright Len Jenkin's fun with restless, penniless denizens on the edge of nowhere.

Like he says: "All the characters in Hotel Splendide have a story to tell: where they're going, how they got there, what they're there to do. These stories are linchpinned by the wild musings of a trauma-laden writer, Isaiah, whose grip with sanity depends on the continuing creation of Coconut Joe's adventures. But Isaiah begins to merge reality and fiction into one big orgy of storytelling madness that may cause the collapse of both worlds."

And those pervy puppets? "I'll just say that maybe the devil and the devil's crocodile are somewhat violent and vulgar and have the inside on who their puppeteers really are."

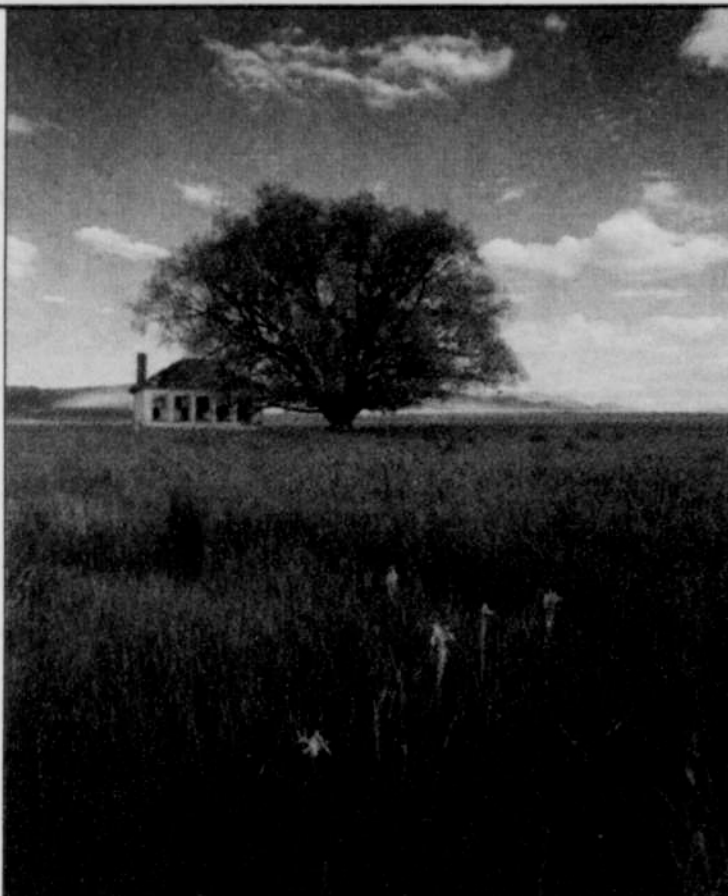
Namely, sexy-but-straight Neil Starbird and Camille Cettina. Surely, Rutledge can't be the only queer working on this show, can he? Hardly. Gay actor Gary

Norman plays "a very convincing straight widower without ever breaking character—some queer people try to do this in real life and look where it leads them." And queer actor Jesse Young "is tasked with playing a myriad of quirky characters—including a bisexual contessa who hates her husband and an islander hopped up on Loon Island Rock Candy."

So, are Vertifunkians just a little more fucked up than usual theater folk, or do they have ulterior motives to conquer the world? "Vertigo and Defunkt have teamed up to secretly replace the word 'apple' with 'llama' in every dictionary in the world. Other than that, they are also hoping to turn people on to the idea of storytelling through theater.... They like to push the envelope without feeling like they need to make everything about sex. They like to be the true bringers of chaos by challenging your mind, not your libido."

Like I Say runs 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through May 13 at Theater Theatre, 3430 S.E. Belmont St. Tickets are \$15 from 503-306-0870; Thursdays are "pay what you will."

—Timothy Krause



Ike Leahy's nature photographs are on display this month at gay-owned Brian Marki Fine Art.

African and Japanese percussion celebs **Hakim Muhammad** and **Monmouth Taiko** "drum up" funds for Portland playwright Lava Alapai's *Mutt* (opening Nov. 24 at Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center) at Tin Shed Garden Cafe. Door prizes include a massage, a haircut and art-work! (7 pm. 1438 NE Alberta St. \$13-\$15.)

Nola Gray teaches **The Mini Marshall: GLBT Tango** classes for queer folks and their friends Mondays through June 12 at Tango Berretin. No partner needed. (7-8 pm beginner [\$45 full series, \$10 drop-in], 8-8:30 pm guided practica [\$25 full series, \$5 drop-in]. 6305 SE Foster Road. 503-238-3939.)

Get down and dirty to the best in booty bass, crunk, grime, electro and old-school hip-hop during the free queer dance party **Tha' Boom** every Monday at Berbat's. DJs Automaton, Beyonda, K.O. and Wesley spin the hits. (9 pm. 10 SW Third Ave.)

TUE • MAY 9

Elizabeth Cunningham reads from *The Passion of Mary Magdalen*—likely the only version of the Mary Magdalen story in which Mary is bisexual—at Borders. (7 pm. 708 SW Third Ave.)

The Human Rights Campaign presents the monthly mixer **Salon Q** at Aura. (7:30 pm. 1022 W Burnside St.)

In your busy life, do you long for some peace and quiet? Q-LAND and LoveTribe invite men of all ages, races, faiths, experience levels and backgrounds to participate in a **Men's Meditation Group** every second and fourth Tuesday. (7:30-9:30 pm. 503-381-3776. RSVP to www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Towne Lounge presents the nonsmoking queer night **Meet Dept.** every Tuesday. This week's installment is **In the Mix**, a gritty, high-energy dance party full of booty shakers of every color, shape and size. DJs Puppet, Sugarbear and Kelly Moe spin hip-hop, Latin, electronica and anything else that gets people's blood boiling. (9 pm. 714 SW 20th Place. \$2-\$5 sliding scale.)

GO OUT Paragon Club presents the queer night **Havoc** every Tuesday featuring DJs Girl-Pilot, Rashidoblaze and rotating guests spinning '80s, new wave, dark techno pop and hip-hop. (9 pm. 815 N Killingsworth St.)

WED • MAY 10

Lesbians Enjoying Nature and Science hold a planning potluck at Old Wives' Tales. (6:30 pm. 1300 E Burnside St. RSVP to Vicki at 971-998-6040 by May 6.)

Morningside United Methodist Church in Salem offers a study of the book *Gifted by Otherness*, which explores what it means to affirm, not merely accept, people who are gay or lesbian as well as Christian. Wednesdays through May 31. (6:30 pm. 3674 12th St. SE.)

Radical Women hold a **Revolutionary Feminist Meeting** at the Bread and Roses Center to discuss immigrant rights organizing, reproductive justice and other campaigns for social change. Bring your ideas! (6:30 pm. 819 N Killingsworth St. \$3-\$6 snack donation.)

In lieu of this month's luncheon, the **Portland Area Business Association** presents a dinner at the Governor Hotel with Mayor Tom Potter speaking about politics, elections and their effect on local business. (6:30-8 pm. 614 SW 11th Ave. RSVP to www.paba.com.)

Art for Life Offers an Evening of Glamour and Excitement

Oregon's finest art, food and entertainment will dazzle guests during the 17th annual **Art for Life**, a celebration of life and art featuring live and silent auctions 6:30 p.m. May 13 at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. This year's theme is "The Art of Color, the Color of Art."

Art for Life, the largest contemporary art auction of its kind in Oregon, has a fund-raising goal this year of \$600,000, which will benefit Cascade AIDS Project's prevention, support services, housing, education and advocacy programs. The event features food from Oregon's best restaurants and caterers along with live music and entertainment throughout the venue. Rose Empress XLIV **Poison Waters** will serve as mistress of ceremonies.

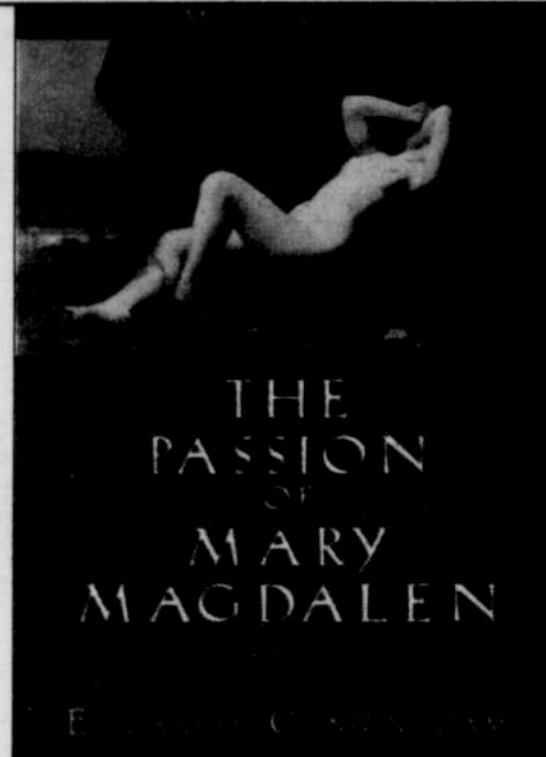
The artists featured include the likes of Arvie Smith, Storm Tharp, Julie Rall, Louis Bunce, Henry Hillman Jr., Anna Skibska and Melinda Thorsnes. The silent auction showcases more than 275 contemporary artworks. The live auction features 21 premier artworks; a special selection of these artworks will be presented exclusively at a patron dinner preceding the event at 5 p.m.

The event also honors Dr. Mark Loveless and his wife, Karen, for their heroic efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS. CAP started in the lobby of Loveless' office. Both have worked tirelessly for more than two decades—creating integrated care models for those stricken, advocating for prevention, researching the disease and training many of Oregon's current HIV doctors.

Since 1985, CAP has provided community-based HIV services including housing and education to those living in Oregon and southwest Washington. More than 6,000 families in CAP's service area have a loved one living with HIV. Last year, CAP supported and housed 2,200 people with HIV/AIDS and their affected family members, including 297 children. CAP educated nearly 23,000 people about HIV prevention, 40 percent of whom were children and youth. Part of making this possible is the devotion of CAP volunteers; 570 youth and adult volunteers gave more than 15,000 hours of service.

Art for Life tickets are \$100-\$275 from 503-223-9255 or www.cascadeaids.org.

—Jim Radosta



Elizabeth Cunningham reads from *The Passion of Mary Magdalen*—likely the only version of the Mary Magdalen story in which Mary is bisexual—May 8 and 9.

Hip Mama founding editor **Ariel Gore** presents a traveling road show featuring music, an elegant shadow puppet show and readings from her new book, *The Traveling Death and Resurrection Show*, at Powell's. (7:30 pm. 1005 W Burnside St.)

Bettie Ford Lounge presents the queer dance party **Homo Therapy** every Wednesday featuring DJs L-Train and Automaton spinning the most cutting-edge mixes all night long. Food and drink specials until midnight. (9 pm. 1135 SW Washington St.)

THU • MAY 11

Elder Resource Alliance invites older members of the sexual minorities community to meet each other, share common interests and enjoy fun conversation every second Thursday at Niki's Restaurant. (2-3:30 pm. 736 SE Grand Ave. Rachel 503-224-2640.)

GO OUT The Oregon Bears teach **American Sign Language classes** every second and fourth Thursday at Cascade AIDS Project. (6:30-8 pm. Suite 300, 620 SW Fifth Ave. \$2 donation. bears@yahoogroups.com.)

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

Get to know sex columnist ("Savage Love") and author (*The Commitment*) **Dan Savage** at Crystal Ballroom. Hear stories, ask questions, and swoon to the torch songs of special guest **Storm Large**! (9 pm. 1332 W Burnside St. \$7 at the door, \$5 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

FRI • MAY 12

Central Lutheran Church hosts Portland's first **Disability Pride Art and Culture Festival** through May 14 featuring the performance *Pride and Prejudice: Revealing the Disability Experience Through Dance, Music and Spoken Word*; inclusive dance and theater workshops for people with and without disabilities; and a disability film festival. (1820 NE 21st Ave. \$20-\$30. 503-238-0723.)

GO OUT House of Cunt entertainer **Amber Martin** presents her final solo performance in Portland before moving to the Big Apple during Portland Community College's Art Beat at the Sylvania Campus Performing Arts Center. (Noon. 12000 SW 49th Ave.)

Michael Helquist delivers a lecture at Oregon Health & Science University's Old Library Auditorium about Portland



Clockwise from center, Keith Cable, Nathan Gale, Amy Newman, Jesse Young and Darius Pierce star in *Like I Say*.