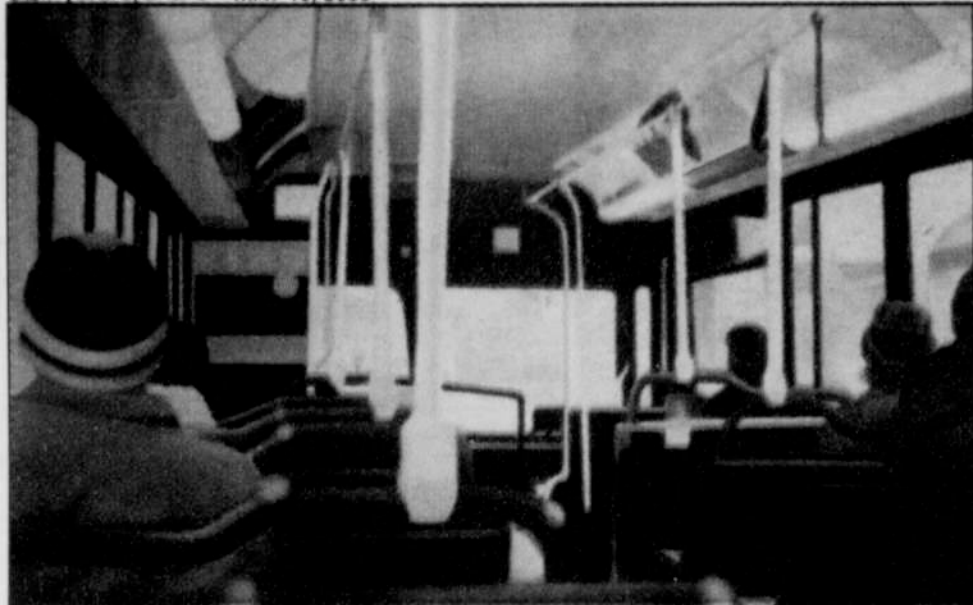




Queer artist Patty Coatney-Ellenbecker is part of the **2006 Bachelor of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition** at Marylhurst University. Check out a preview reception May 24 and a gallery talk June 1.

Team Dresch performs with Libber and Swan Island at Wonder Ballroom. (9 pm. 128 NE Russell St. \$8 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

SUN • MAY 28

Portland trio **Pan Dulce** performs a delightful mix of Brazilian and Mexican songs, flamenco and French cafe music, Argentine tangos and original pieces at Mississippi Pizza Pub. (4-6 pm. 3552 N Mississippi Ave.)

FatGirl Speaks and F.A.T. PDX present **Cupcake**, a monthly dance party for fat folks and allies of all genders and sexualities at Holocene. Shake your bodacious booties to the bountiful beats and win fantastic raffle prizes in a room full of chublove! (5 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

Come to compete, spectate or wet them down during the 11th annual **Wet T-Shirt Contest** at the Egyptian Club. The winner will receive an iPod Nano or \$100 cash! (9 pm. 3701 SE Division St. \$5.)

Now nonsmoking and gay-owned, Porky's Pub presents **Smut!**, a new queer night with DJs ChaotiQueer and BlackEye, every second and fourth Sunday. (9 pm. 835 N Lombard St.)

MON • MAY 29

Western Buddhist nun Gen Kelsang Dechen teaches **beginning meditation classes** every Monday at In Other Words. (7-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

TUE • MAY 30

Towne Lounge presents the nonsmoking queer night **Meet Dept.** every Tuesday. This week's installment is **Meet Hook**, to help you find a date! (9 pm. 714 SW 20th Place. \$2.)

Emmy-winning talk show host Rosie O'Donnell hosts this month's episode of the gay and lesbian newsmagazine **In the Life** on OPB. "Family Ties" explores the diverse and complex world of family within the queer community. (11 pm.)

WED • MAY 31

Today is the deadline to enter **Total Drag 2006**, the first-ever national-level drag competition presented by DJ Puppet and Tart! The contest is open to all ages and all genders and will be held June 16 at Wonder Ballroom. (To compete visit www.totaldrag.com.)

Elder Resource Alliance holds a screening at Friendly House of **Soldier's Girl**, an unflinching film based on the 1999 murder of Pfc. Barry Winchell by fellow soldiers in

Fort Campbell, Ky. Light refreshments served. (2-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

The Multnomah Monthly Meeting of Friends (Quakers) celebrate Walt Whitman's birthday with **I Call to Mankind: Leaves of Grass as Quaker Testimony** at Multnomah Friends Meeting House. (7 pm. 4312 SE Stark St.)

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 In Other Words. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Gay-owned **Vino Paradiso** celebrates its first anniversary with a free sangria party featuring an artist reception for Cathie Joy Young's **To Hell in a Handbasket** and The Djangophiles performing with special guest vocalist Timothy Nishimoto of Pink Martini! (7-10 pm. 417 NW 10th Ave. RSVP to timothy@vinoparadiso.com.)

Gay author **David Oates** reads from **City Limits: Walking Portland's Boundary**, a book about his trek along the 260-mile urban growth boundary and the Rose City's love/hate affair with planning, at St. Johns Booksellers. (7:30 pm. 8622 N Lombard St.)

THU • JUNE 1

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

FRI • JUNE 2

The Women's Health Network presents the lecture **Making Sex Safe** at Kennedy School. Continental breakfast provided. (8:30-11:30 am. 5736 NE 33rd Ave.)

Happy Ours Productions hosts a social and networking **gathering for gays and lesbians of color** every first Friday at Cup and Saucer Northeast. (5-8 pm. 3000 NE Killingsworth St. www.happyoursproductions.com.)

Out Dancing's **beginning tango** class starts tonight and continues every Friday in June at Ankeny Street Studio. **Intermediate foxy** class follows. (7-8 pm tango [\$30 for month], 8-9 pm foxy [\$40 for month]. Southeast Ninth Avenue and Ankeny Street. 503-236-5129. out_dancing@yahoo.com.)

Bonnie Brinkman presents **Getting the Love You Want**, a workshop to help gay and lesbian couples truly discover the joy of being together, through June 4 at the Downtown Embassy Suites. (7-10 pm Friday, 9 am-6 pm Saturday and Sunday. 319 SW Pine St. \$700 a couple from 503-234-4440 or norene@innovationsincounseling.com.)

Powell's presents **Leslie Larson** reading from **Slipstream**, a debut thriller in which the lives of five lonely people converge as a creepy ex-employee plots revenge at LAX. (7:30 pm. 1005 W Burnside St.)

Rory Stitt performs his signature theater-pop for the soulful and the stary-eyed at Mississippi Studios. (9:30 pm. 3939 N Mississippi Ave. \$10.)

Award-winning author **Michelle Tea** reads from her novel **Rose of No Man's Land** at Acme with Portland artist and writer **Nicole Georges** and live music by the **Golden Bears**. Proceeds benefit the Independent Publishing Resource Center. (10 pm. 1305 SE Eighth Ave. \$8.)

SAT • JUNE 3

Gregory Douglass performs his passionate amalgamation of contemporary acoustic pop with **Acoustic Minds** and **Debra Aryn** at Mississippi Studios. (8 pm. 3939 N Mississippi Ave. \$10.)

The Stolen Sweets, inspired by the arrangements of old-time radio stars The Boswell Sisters, perform music from their new CD, **Shuffle Off to Buffalo**, with special guests **3 Leg Torso** at Aladdin Theater. (8 pm. 3017 SE Milwaukie Ave. \$15 at the door, \$12 in advance from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Disjecta presents **The Silent Spring Fling**, a benefit and dance party celebrating biodiversity, with music by Dynasty DJs L-train and Synthetic, DJ Tiger Stripes and funk-up-

electro band Dat'r. (8 pm. 230 E Burnside St. \$5.)

Baraka presents **Slag** every first Saturday with DJs Mac Gann Bear, Sugar Bear, Airick and Turn On. (9 pm. 1824 NE Alberta St.)

Wonder Ballroom presents the **Wonder High Talent Show** featuring a raffle and performances by The Travesty Revue, The Dahoo Chorus, Kazum, The WonderBoyz and MarchFourth Marching Band. Proceeds help send MarchFourth to Germany for the World Cup Soccer Games. (10 pm. 128 NE Russell St. \$10.)

SUN • JUNE 4

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

Peter Wood of Ce Soir Cellars presents four wines from the Rhone Valley, paired with chef Matt Stauss' perfection on a plate in four courses of food, at gay-owned **Vino Paradiso**. (6-8 pm. 417 NW 10th Ave. \$50 from timothy@vinoparadiso.com.)

Tommy, Can You Hear Me?

More than 35 years after its debut, The Who's rock opera **Tommy** is still blazing.

Now you can catch a live production by the Portland company Radiant Theatre. Gay singer and actor **Zac McCoy** plays the title role. McCoy, who turns 25 during the run, admits he had zero knowledge of **Tommy** before his audition.

"Most of the cast members have known the show for years," he says, "but I didn't know what it was."

Tommy is a psychedelic coming-of-age tale inhabited by fabulously freaky characters like the Pinball Wizard and the Acid Queen. The soundtrack includes the early 1970s hits "I'm Free" and "Listening to You."

For the uninitiated, the story goes like this: Tommy's father, presumed dead after World War II, comes home and murders his wife's lover. Traumatized by the slaying, young Tommy turns deaf, dumb and blind and suffers beatings and sexual abuse at the hands of relatives. Later he becomes a pinball champion, gets cured of his afflictions, attains guru status, gets betrayed by his followers and, finally, finds some peace of mind.

In a shift from most productions, Radiant Theatre puts a queer spin on the story by casting a woman as the murdered lover.

Primarily composed by Who guitarist **Pete Townshend**, **Tommy** started off as a two-LP set in 1969. In 1975 director **Ken Russell** made a film version that endures as a cult classic thanks to electrifying appearances by **Elton John** and **Tina Turner**. **Tommy** resurfaced yet again in 1993 as a Tony-winning Broadway musical.

Radiant presents the show in two acts with a live band. McCoy says the production is very accessible, though there are some surreal bits that might confound the audience.

This role marks a return to performing for McCoy after a long absence from the stage. He drew a comparison between the show's central themes and his decision to resuscitate his performing career.

"The message of the show is about redemption and the forgiveness of self," he says. "And I get a sense of redemption after all these years of people asking me, 'Why aren't you on *American Idol*?' There's redemption for me in people actually seeing me do something."

Tommy runs through June 10 at Liberty Hall, 311 N. Ivy St. Tickets are \$17-\$20 from 503-502-8261; Thursdays are "pay what you can."

—Stephen Blair



Zac McCoy is a pinball wizard in **Tommy**.

Located on the corner of NW 9th & Hoyt

Simply Divine
home furnishings & décor

Spoil Yourself with Comfort
Spoil Yourself In Style!
503.796.0999
828 NW Hoyt
Hours: Mon thru Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5 & Sun 12-5

Jeffrey Palladini

show runs may 1 thru 31
opening reception
friday, may 5, 6 - 9pm



"currents" - oil on wood
jeffrey palladini

BRIAN MARKI FINE ART & FRAMING

503-249-5659 | 2236 ne broadway | mon - sat 10 to 6 | www.brianmarki.com