



**Towne Lounge welcomes Tara Jane O'Neil on July 28.**

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

The Oregon Bears throw their monthly **Double X Dance** at C.C. Slaughters. (9 pm-1 am. 219 NW Davis St. \$2.)

The drag punks of **Sissyboy** celebrate their second anniversary at Wonder Ballroom with **The Snuggle-Ups**, **DJ Stormy**, San Francisco's infamous **DJ Drag** and the second installment of their time travel summer trilogy. Last month Splendor and the "girls" were cast into the past by Sindre Whorehole's time machine to thwart evil dictator President Linah Cocaine; now they are lost somewhere in time! (11 pm. 128 NE Russell St. \$5.)

**SAT • JULY 29**

**The Adventure Group** takes a difficult 11.5-mile hike along the east side of Mount Hood, across Badger Creek, through old growth and past numerous viewpoints. Meet in Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (9 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Todd 360-883-1917. wtmeier@rdrop.com.)

Salem celebrates **Capitol Pride** with live entertainment, guest speakers, karaoke, vendors and a drag show at Cascades Gateway Park, followed by an after-party at Southside Speakeasy. (10 am-4 pm festival, 2100 Turner Road SE. 4-7 pm party, 3529 Fairview Industrial Drive SE. www.capitolpride.org.)

Girls on Gay presents **Summer Splash 2006** at Northbank Tavern in Vancouver, Wash. (6 pm. 106 W Sixth St.)

Rose Empress XXXVI Maria and Rose Empress XLIV Poison Waters host **Dining for Diplomats** featuring a four-course dinner, live music and dancing

**Ladies, Leather and Fur**

Two upcoming events require "must do" marks in your valuable weekend calendar space.

Girls on Gay presents **Summer Splash 2006** 6 p.m. July 29 at Northbank Tavern, 106 W. Sixth St. in Vancouver, Wash. Women who want to "get lei'd" and "get wet" are especially encouraged to attend.

The wet T-shirt contest is only one reason ladies will be heading to the Northbank. The DJ dance, raffles, drink specials and limbo contest are a few others.

**Rochelle Sprunk** and **Karen Hooper** started Girls on Gay to help bring the lesbian and gay community together. "We really want to be able to give back to the community and continue to create events for more seasoned and younger crowds," says Sprunk.

Girls on Gay also promotes lesbian speed dating events, relationship workshops and a Hip Holiday Soiree. It recently sponsored a weekend at Kah-Nee-Ta, a resort in central Oregon, and plans on making it an annual event.

According to Sprunk, the Northbank is little-known but can often host a crowd of 50 percent to 60 percent women. "We're hoping people will come get to know us and the Northbank."

Another not-to-miss event is a fantastic fund-raiser for **Esther's Pantry**. Join the Oregon Bears, Bad Girls, the Oregon Leather Fraternity and members of the Imperial Sovereign Rose Court for a full day of fun.

First up is a garage sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 22 next to Fat Cobra Video, 5940 N. Interstate Ave. According to **Johnney Cub**, Mr. Oregon Cub 2004, lots of items will be for sale, including books, tapes, furniture and more.

To make room for all this new-to-you stuff, donate your old stuff! Dropoff is at the garage sale location between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. If you cannot make that window of opportunity, e-mail johnneycub@msn.com with your address and phone number, and he'll arrange for a pickup.

Then a party gets kickin' from 9 p.m. to midnight at Primal Urge, aka Porky's Pub, 835 N. Lombard St. For \$2 and a canned food donation, you'll get a night of raffle prizes, auction items and live local entertainment, including the divine **Alycia Day**, Rose Empress XLVII.

Have a blast and do something good at the same time!

—Malka Geffen

at the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Vancouver, Wash. Proceeds benefit the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund. (7 pm. 107 E Seventh St. \$20 from 360-694-8656.)

Grammy Award winner **Cynthia Clawson**, who *Billboard* magazine called "the most awesome voice in gospel music," performs at Metropolitan Community Church of Portland. (7 pm. 2400 NE Broadway. \$15.)



**Cynthia Clawson**

Experimental acoustic music duo **Felina** celebrates the release of its CD *Let Me Tell You a Story* with food, door prizes and random acts of art and conversation at In Other Words. (9 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

**SUN • JULY 30**

**The Adventure Group** takes a moderate 7.1-mile hike to Pansy and Dickey Lakes to enjoy the alpine setting and meadow views. Meet in Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (8 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Evan 503-701-7922. chair@adventuregroup.org.)

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.)

The **Gay Pinochle Group** meets every Sunday at Hobo's. Come play cards and meet the gang. (6 pm. 120 NW Third Ave. Mike 503-641-7224.)

**MON • JULY 31**

Take a 2.7- to 6.5-mile run/walk along the Willamette River during the **Portland Frontrunners Ladies Night** every Monday. Meet at the intersection of Southeast Main Street and the Eastbank Esplanade. (6 pm. Kamm 971-533-6199. wsuvet@yahoo.com.)

Graphic novelist **Abby Denson** discusses and signs *Tough Love: High School Confidential* at Powell's on Hawthorne. (7:30 pm. 3723 SE Hawthorne Blvd.)

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 • AUG. 1**

Road trip, anyone? Head north for the biennial queer music, art, film, performance and activism festival **Homo a Go Go 2006** through Aug. 6 at Capitol Theater in Olympia, Wash. Acts include Amy Ray (of the Indigo Girls), Blowoff (featuring Bob Mould of Hüsker Dü and Sugar), Hey Willpower (featuring Will Schwartz of Imperial Teen), The Gossip, The Dead Betties, Bitch, Nicky Click, Xiu Xiu, Myshkin's Ruby Warblers and queer rappers JenRO and Katastrophe. Proceeds benefit the



**Sissyboy turns 2 years old July 28 at the Wonder.**

Gender Variant Healthcare Project. (206 E Fifth Ave. www.homoagogo.com.)

Towne Lounge presents the nonsmoking queer night **Meet Dept.** every Tuesday. This week's installment is **Radio Stars**, a video dance party. (9 pm. 714 SW 20th Place.)

**WED • AUG. 2**

**Elder Resource Alliance** holds a business meeting at Friendly House. (3:30-4:30 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

Asian-American drum performance group **Portland Taiko** holds a benefit banquet at Wong's King Seafood Restaurant. (6 pm no-host bar, 7 pm dinner. 8733 SE Division St. \$35 from www.portlandtaiko.org.)

**THU • AUG. 3**

Blackout Leather Productions, Portland Leather Alliance, Bad Girls, Queer Fetish and several other organizations present **Oregon Leather Pride Week** through Aug. 13. (www.oregonleatherpride.org.)

**Disgrace Under Fire**

Once upon a time, bands like Emerson, Lake & Palmer and King Crimson took classical music and gave it a meatier thump, jacking up its adrenaline and borrowing or outright stealing the graceful, artful lines and turning them into rock 'n' roll so hard it made even the dustiest bones of the composers do 360s in their graves.

Now, **The Shondes**, a group of subversive queercore chicks from New York who also happen to be very Jewish, threaten to do the same thing not just to classical, but also to Jewish music and Jewish culture, utilizing punk rock. They count Portland's own Sleater-Kinney as big inspirations, and their particular brand of quirky, jagged raucousness brings on that vibe as well as Patti Smith and even The B-52's in other moments. Yet there's often an element of classical music floating in and around the powerful backbeats, brought into focus by the occasional violin, insertion of a fugue turned ballsy, and a traditional Jewish melody here or there.

To someone like Bach, it would undoubtedly all be quite disgraceful—which is exactly what The Shondes are about. With three transgender members, two of them Jewish, and all of them thinking quite radically about feminism and the politics of Israel, they lived their lives as outcasts in a supposedly very liberal section of society. Hence the name "shonde," which is Yiddish for "outrage" or "disgrace."

The band consists of bassist/vocalist **Louisa Rachel Solomon**, guitarist **Ian Brannigan**, violinist **Elijah Oberman** and drummer **Temim Fruchter**. All have been vocal about Israel's occupation of Palestine, with Oberman actually heading over there as part of an aide group.

The foursome is seriously frustrated by New York's indie music scene, particularly the Jewish sector of it. Its ferocity was even more evident in Solomon's comments to *The Village Voice* last month, when she talked about that scene and how it's not as liberal and progressive as it might seem. "The politics underlying them are in fact funded by Jewish institutions that are really Zionist and wedded to an ideology of Jewish nationalism and Jewish heterosexuality and procreation and all this stuff we really hate," she said.

The Shondes perform with **The Golden Bears**, **The Gay Deceivers** and **The New Bloods** 9 p.m. July 24 at Mississippi Pizza Pub, 3552 N. Mississippi Ave. Cover is \$3-\$5.

—André Hagedstedt



**The Shondes make music to connect with other people who are a "disgrace" to their communities.**