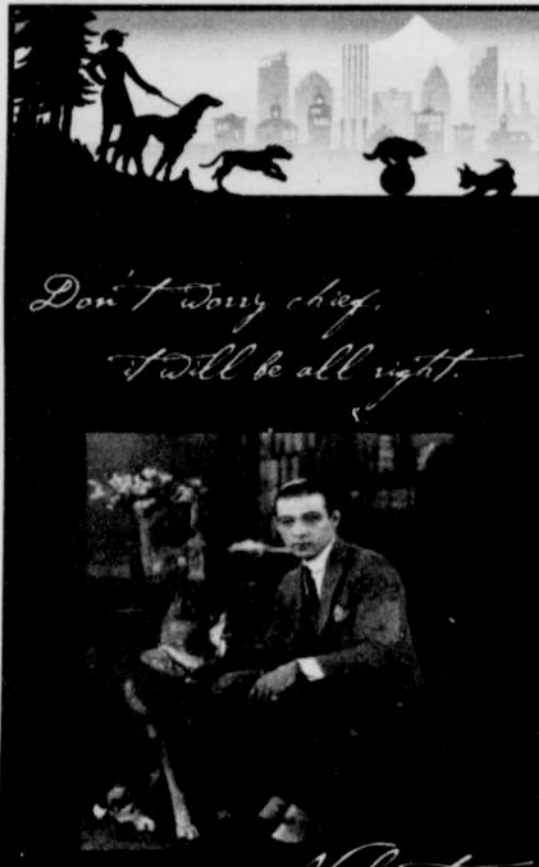


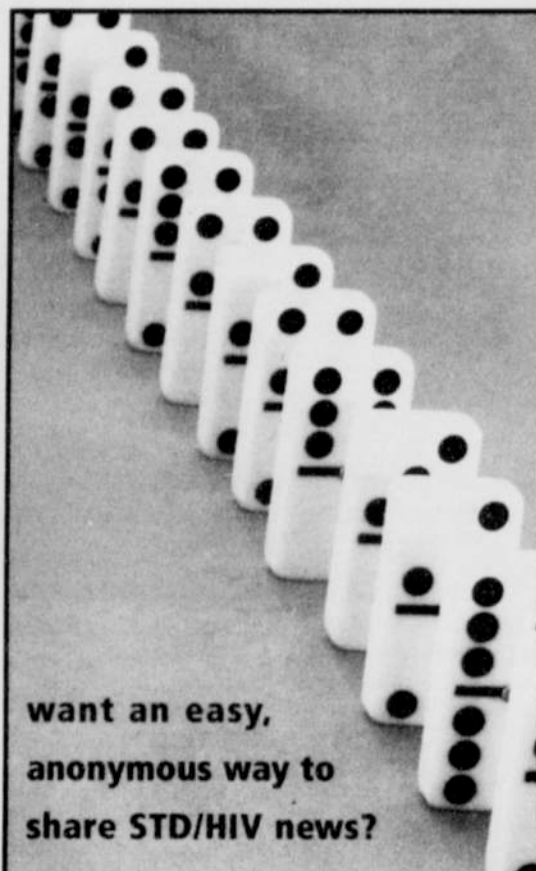


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COMPAGNIE TCHÉ TCHÉ, Côte D'Ivoire, Dec. 7-9

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TICKETS: \$14 Students and Seniors. \$25 Adult. Service fee additional.
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white bird

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Time After Time

PICA does it again with another queer-savvy contemporary art festival

PICA keeps Portland weird.

The Portland Institute for Contemporary Art will unleash the avant-garde this month during its fourth annual Time-Based Art Festival. With the departure of queer founding artistic director Kristy Edmunds, PICA recruited guest curator Mark Russell to assemble this year's diverse lineup.

My must-see event for 2006 comes from BlingLab, a collective consisting of queer photographer Marne Lucas, visual/installation artist Bruce Conkle and guests. Using hand-constructed puppets made from thrift store castoffs, they're recreating Lewis & Clark's infamous expedition... with a twist.

"The truth of the trail shouldn't stay hidden in the woods," Lucas says. "The Untold Misadventures of Lewis & Clark is a cross-country romp where a morphine-addled Meriwether 'Backwoods Mary' Lewis' affections for his 'peace pipe stoner' friend William 'Bilious' Clark unravel in a hallucinatory Bollywood-style musical number. The play also includes hot tubbing, Big Foot racing, dangerous Indian games and entertainment by the Gnat Pack—featuring Dean Marmot, Salmon Davis Jr. and Plank Sinatra to round out the journey!"

Showtime is 8 p.m. Sept. 14-16 at Someday Lounge, 125 N.W. Fifth Ave. Tickets are \$7 for members and \$10 for nonmembers.

TBA 2006 includes a whole bunch of other queer and queer-friendly options:

- **David Eckard:** The queer artist will Float down the Willamette in a mirror-, lace- and fire-adorned "carriage" while speaking to the opposing shores and the river itself through a formation of gilded megaphones. (Dusk Sept. 7 under the Hawthorne Bridge, free)

- **Kiki & Herb:** Fresh off rave reviews on Broadway, the washed-up chanteuse and her piano-battering, lifelong accompanist (aka Justin Bond and Kenny Mellman) perform gutsy renditions of songs by artists such as Nirvana, Kate Bush and Britney Spears. (8 p.m. Sept. 11 at Newmark Theatre, 1111 S.W. Broadway, \$20 members, \$25 nonmembers)

- **Nature Theater of Oklahoma:** PICA describes *Poetics* as "'70s disco theater/ballet without dance or words." Say what? (6 p.m. Sept. 12-13 and 9 p.m. Sept. 15-17 at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall, 1620 S.W. Park Ave., \$20 members, \$25 nonmembers)

- **Illegal Art:** The traveling exhibit conveys the plight of musicians and visual artists who have encountered legal problems concerning copyright. This is a rare opportunity to catch queer filmmaker Todd Haynes' 1987 short *Superstar: The Karen Carpenter Story*, a brilliant biopic using Barbie dolls instead of actors. (Through Oct. 21 at Pacific Northwest College of Art, 1241 N.W. Johnson St., free)

Queers will also find plenty of eye and ear candy during The Works, TBA's late-night cabaret at AudioCinema, 226 S.E. Madison St., where admission is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers:

- **Fleshtone:** The electro-opera *Fleshtones* tells the story of one human's transformation from a multigendered superhero into the messiah-like



Jim's Closet
BY JIM RADOSTA

creator of a new utopia where unconditional love and freedom are shared by all living organisms. (10 p.m. Sept. 10)

- **Oregon Department of Kick Ass:** Queer filmmaker Vanessa Renwick assembles *Follow Me to Certain Death*, an evening of films that cast a meditative gaze on death in many forms. (8 p.m. Sept. 11)

- **Holcombe Waller:** On the fifth anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the queer neo-folkie moves through a libretto-like series of songs and stories that rework the contemporary concept of "news media" into ritualized performance. (10 p.m. Sept. 11)

- **Neal Medlyn and Kenny Mellman:** The "Paris Hilton of performance art" joins Kiki & Herb's Mellman to present a formal evening of R. Kelly songs. (11 p.m. Sept. 11)

- **Sissyboy:** The "cathartic comedians of drag" continue to revolutionize gender. Don't forget to dress fierce! (10 p.m. Sept. 12)

- **Caught in Candy:** The electro-pop duo use alter-egos and create gender-bending characters to perform their music, accompanied by videos produced by Ali Astro of DK PDX fame. (11 p.m. Sept. 12)

- **Ten Tiny Dances:** Queer choreographer Mike Barber challenges artists to experiment with confined space by staging works on a 4x4 foot platform. Dancers must not step off the stage for longer than 15 seconds at a time and not farther than one foot away. (10 p.m. Sept. 14)

- **Tigger!:** New York's leading boylesque performer (aka James Ferguson) "completely wins over the audience...acrobatically stripping from female drag," according to *Paper Magazine*. He once toured the Bible Belt in a pink "Sodomobile" for Michael Moore's *The Awful Truth*. (10 p.m. Sept. 15)

- **Julie Atlas Muz:** The reigning Miss Coney Island blurs the boundaries between performance art, dance, burlesque and visual art with her dark, twisted, come-hither performances. (10 p.m. Sept. 15)

- **Wau Wau Sisters:** The twin acrobatic burlesque team combines aerial and circus skills, original songwriting, audacious costuming and hilarious use of props, cocktails and cliché. (11 p.m. Sept. 15) **JO**

The Portland Institute for Contemporary Art presents the 2006 TIME-BASED ART FESTIVAL Sept. 7 to 17 at various venues. For a complete schedule visit www.pica.org.

Arts and Culture Editor JIM RADOSTA needs your feedback. Write to jim@justout.com.