

SUN • FEB. 4

Q Center presents **Family Playdate** every first Sunday. (Noon-2 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Gay gurus Bill Donnelly and Jeff Bader—aka the Spirit Trainers—host the yoga-creativity workshop **The Laugh-In** at Euphoria Studios to help participants increase self-esteem and confidence, laugh and unlock their own imaginative power. (1:30-4 pm. 1235 SE Division St. \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance from info@spirittrainers.com.)

C.C. Slaughters screens **Super Bowl XLI** with free hot dogs, followed by **Carnivale de Bolivia** and a CD release party for *Still, Alright* by Lily Allen. (3 pm football, 9 pm Bolivia. 219 NW Davis St.)

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

Jog's celebrates **Super Bowl Sunday** with deal or no deal bingo featuring \$100 cash games and prize games. Watch, play and win! (4 pm. 2512 NE Broadway.)

Give yourselves tools for an improved relationship for Valentine's Day with the same-sex couples workshop **From Fizzle to Sizzle** Sundays through Feb. 18 at Center for Natural Medicine. (4-5:30 pm. 1330 SE 39th Ave. \$75/couple from mrowecomunications@comcast.net; \$30/couple drop-in.)

MON • FEB. 5

Become more aware about natural strategies for pain management during a progressive, biodynamic **childbirth education class** for expectant moms, partners and families weekly through March 19 at In Other Words. (6:30-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$30 from 503-867-0941 or saratretter@gmail.com.)

You've heard the jokes; maybe you've even lived them. A couple of years into your lesbian bliss and the sex just disappears. Well, fear not! The friendly gals at It's My Pleasure offer creative and stimulating



Photographer Marc Joseph's *New and Used* is on display through March 11 at Reed College.

ideas, games and firsthand experiences to get those juices flowing again during a class on **The Curse of Lesbian Bed Death** facilitated by Ms. V. Discover a variety of ways to get into the mood and to enjoy sex more. Don't be a lesbian statistic! (7-8:30 pm. 3106 NE 64th Ave. \$10. Register at 503-280-8080.)

Love is in the air at **Q Center Valentine's Bingo** with Poison Waters featuring fun entertainment, great prizes, food and a no-host bar. Bring your sweetheart, or make a love connection! Note new day and new price. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. \$5 includes bingo card.)

The **Bisexual Community Forum** hosts a casual discussion group every first Monday at 3 Friends Coffeehouse. (7:30 pm. 201 SE 12th Ave. 503-285-4848.)



"If love be rough with you, be rough with love." Romeo (Matt Miller, left) takes some romantic advice from Mercutio (Paul Pistey) in Blue Monkey's rock 'n' roll take on *Romeo & Juliet* opening Feb. 9.

TUE • FEB. 6

In Other Words hosts a meeting for **Code Pink**. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

The Egyptian Club presents the Ladies International Poker Series **Texas Hold 'Em Tournaments** every Tuesday. Two women will be sent to the LIPS weekend in Las Vegas; earn points through May! (7 pm. 3701 SE Division St.)

Independent Lens presents **Billy Strayhorn: Lush Life** on OPB. (11 pm.)

WED • FEB. 7

Sally Cohn reads selections from *A Hand-Whistler: Memories of Creativity and Activism* at In Other Words.

Postponed because of the snowstorm. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Take 25 percent off all purchases during the third annual **Spartacus Pro-Valentine's Day Shopping Event** featuring the ever-popular lube-testing bar; a drawing for a \$100 gift certificate and other sexy prizes; beautiful holiday gift-wrapping; the Porcelain Twinn modeling lingerie; and delicious complimentary champagne, strawberries and chocolate truffles! (7-10 pm. 300 SW 12th Ave.)

THU • FEB. 8

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. (1-3 pm. 736 SE Grand Ave.)

Oregon Tradeswomen offers an information session at the Portland Community College Workforce Training Center in which participants prepare for high-wage, high-skilled careers in the building trades and learn about apprenticeships. (2-4 pm. 5600 NE 42nd Ave. Register at 503-335-8200, ext. 21.)

Meet, mingle and socialize with bisexual and bi-curious women during a happy hour social at Crush presented by **Sweet Pandora's Box**. (5:30 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St.)

Women of the Rivers, the Portland/Vancouver chapter of Women on Wheels, holds its monthly meeting at Zaytoon. (6:30 pm. 2236 NE Alberta St.)

The 100th Monkey Studio, a community space that encourages creativity in all people, hosts an **HIV/AIDS support group night** every second Thursday. (6:30-7:30 pm. 110 SE 16th Ave. \$6 members, \$12 nonmembers.)

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

It's a jungle out there for the single dyke. It's My Pleasure presents **Lesbian Dating 101** facilitated by Ms. V. Learn how to avoid dyke drama and U-Haul syndrome, find where all those infamous Portland lesbians hide out, red flags, how to approach the ladies, the joys and perils of online dating and all the right moves, whether you're hoping for one wild night or a steady beau. Seasoned daters welcome—come share your experience! (7-8:30 pm. 3106 NE 64th Ave. \$10. Register at 503-280-8080.)

Acme presents **Booty: Queer as Ye Be**, Portland's queer party for the piratecore, every Thursday. (9 pm-2 am. 1305 SE Eighth Ave. \$3 before 10 pm, \$5 after.)

FRI • FEB. 9

In Other Words presents **Dirty Queer**, an X-rated open mike to celebrate sexuality and strut your creative stuff! Hosted by writer, comic and dork-gone-wild Kelli Dunham and renegade writer and poet Sossity Chiricuzio, it promises to be an evening full of laughter and full-body shivers. (6:30-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. www.dirtyqueer.com.)

Acoustic dyke duo **Terra** opens for **Camille Bloom** at Mississippi Studios. (7 pm. 3939 N Mississippi Ave. \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance from 503-288-3895.)

The Men's Wellness Center presents **Eating Out**. Nutritionist Garrett Berdan helps us navigate the minefield of fast food casual dining restaurant menus with an eye toward healthier eating. We all know the pitfalls of this

Behind the Scenes of Blue Man Group

Lory Henning has a job that many might envy—if they knew it existed.

Henning is associate production manager for Blue Man Productions in New York, which is the main office for **Blue Man Group**.

The popular and long-running Blue Man production—featuring three bald performers covered in cobalt grease paint—combines music, comedy, multimedia theatrics and audience interaction into a highly entertaining show that creates what the group's co-founders call "a party atmosphere."

Resident Blue Man troupes perform regularly in seven cities: New York, Boston, Chicago, Las Vegas, Berlin, London and Amsterdam. According to the group's Web site, approximately 70 Blue Men are rotating through the various shows worldwide.

Henning is responsible for production and stage management at the New York office. In this role, she might apply her management skills to produce a commercial or organize a photo shoot. She is an essential cog in the Blue Man Group performance machine, albeit one that most audience members rarely consider.

Sometimes Henning helps supervise an entirely new production, such as *How to Be a Megastar 2.0*, a rock concert experience that comes to Portland's Memorial Coliseum as part of a 61-stop tour Feb. 3.

Henning's role in *Megastar* was head stage manager, which meant she was in constant contact with the designers, operators and director during the show's production. When rehearsals started in September 2005, she would arrive before the directors, the performers and most of the technical staff to do what she calls "detail-oriented troubleshooting."

She would continue her problem-solving duties throughout the day's rehearsal. For example, if the video and music were intended to finish together but didn't, Henning might correct the video cues. Or if the director needed to speak with the guitarist, Henning would stop the rehearsal so the conversation could take place.

Henning summarizes: "It's an issue of keeping all of the elements of the show in my head the way they're the supposed to be, checking what's actually happening on stage, and seeing that it matches the way I see it's supposed to be."

At the next rehearsal, Henning would do it all again. She was involved through initial rehearsals, technical rehearsals and dress rehearsals—right up until opening night. Then, she says, "I pack it up, put a bow on it and hand it off."

Up to 20 people take part in an average rehearsal: musicians, performers and a "small army" of directors and designers. Of them all, 35-year-old Henning is usually the only woman: "To be a lesbian among all those men, I feel like a sailor stuck out at sea."



Lory Henning served as head stage manager for Blue Man Group's *How to Be a Megastar 2.0*.

Despite the gender imbalance, Henning loves her job; she has been with Blue Man Group for nearly 11 years. "It's never dull, and I'm always getting to learn about the entertainment industry from different angles," she says.

—Rebecca Ragain