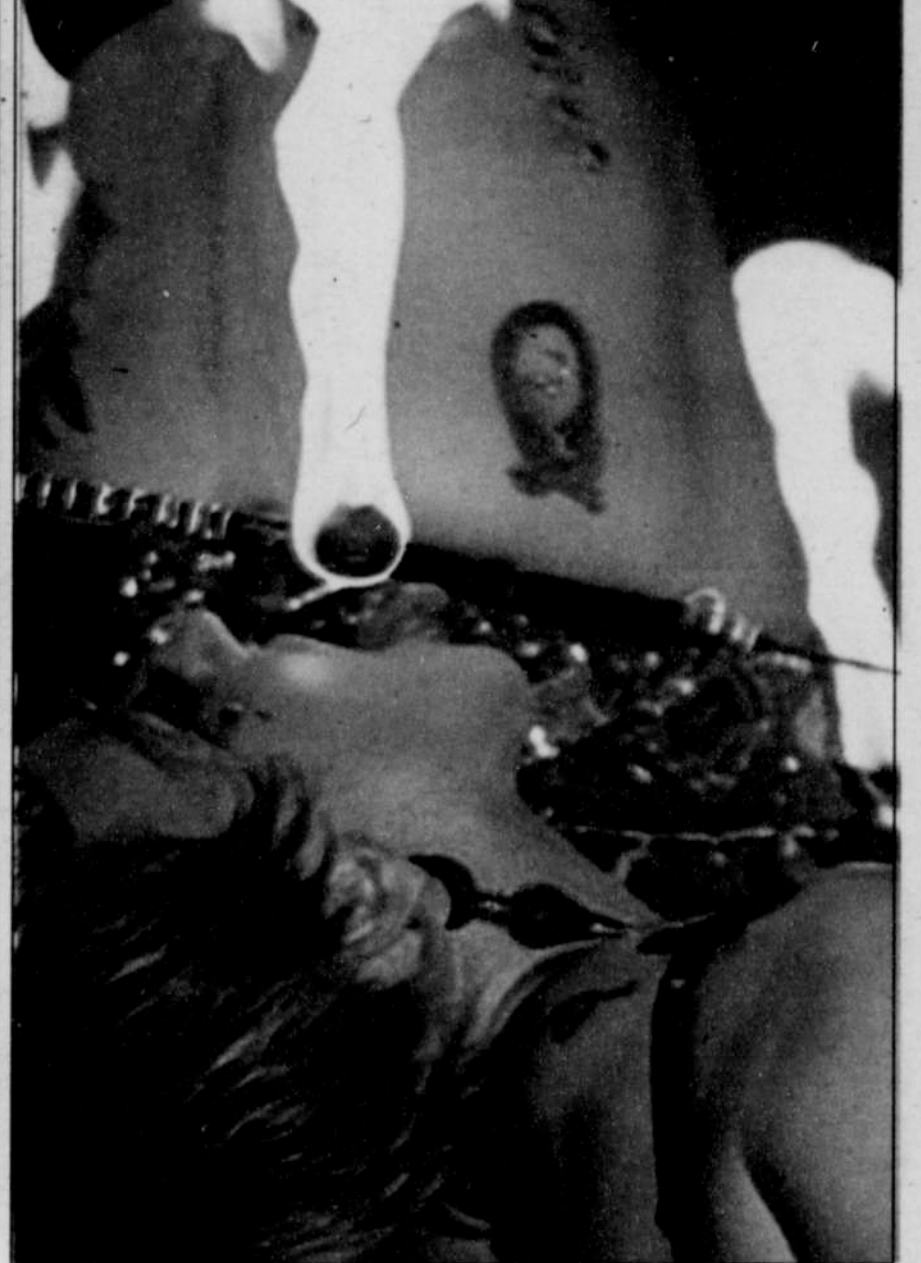




The 3rd Floor, a sketch comedy troupe featuring gay members Jason Keller (third from left) and Michael Teufel (rear), debuts *Kidshow!* March 2.



Pure Cirkus spins fire March 10 at the Blasphemy Ball.

GO OUT Dazzling queer lady musicians and producers from up and down the West Coast converge at Towne Lounge to rock your socks off and make you dance! The night's lineup includes **Gay Deceivers** and **Pash** of Portland, **Nicky Click** of Olympia and **Diamond Beats** of San Francisco. (9 pm. 714 SW 20th Place. \$5.)

WED • MARCH 7

The **Portland Lesbian Choir** rehearses Wednesdays at Ainsworth United Church of Christ with its fabulous new director, Ray Elliott. (6:30-8 pm. 2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-727-3306. portlandlesbianchoir@hotmail.com.)

THU • MARCH 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.)

All right, crafty ladies: Bring your projects to **Lights, Action, Crafts!**—an evening of crafting and chatting at In Other Words. Vegan and veggie snacks will be provided. Bring yourself and your knitting, crocheting, decoupage, whatever you can transport to show off and share! (6:30-8:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Q-LAND and LoveTribe present **Create a Job You'll Love**, a practical, fun and affirming workshop where men support one another in figuring out their right livelihood. (6:45-9:45 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Lesbian-owned taco bar Dingo's presents **Girls Night Out**

every Thursday. (7 pm. 4612 SE Hawthorne Blvd. 503-233-3996.)

Voodoo Lounge presents **Ladies Night** every Thursday featuring cocktails and dancing for women who are lesbian, bi or just curious. (8 pm. 53 NW First Ave.)

Annie Vergnetti, Melissa Larkin and **Right on John** perform at Alberta Street Pub in support of Larkin's The Forgotten Tour, in which she spends every day before her gigs going around to forgotten places like homeless shelters, women's shelters and senior citizen communities to put on free shows. (9 pm. 1036 NE Alberta St. \$5.)

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 • MARCH 9

The Back Room—an occasional series of presentations, symposia and bacchanals hosted by queer scribe Matthew Stadler—welcomes photographer Marc Joseph on the occasion of his exhibition at Reed College, in conversation with Cooley Gallery curator Stephanie Snyder. Food will be prepared by Naomi Pomeroy of Clarklewis. (6:30 pm. \$45 from www.thebackroompdx.com.)

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.)

GO OUT The Men's Wellness Center screens 2006 Sundance Film Festival award winner **Quinceañera**, a coming-of-age charmer about a pregnant teen and her gay cousin—a juicy slice of telenovela drama served up for indie lovers. (7-8:30 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

DJs Girlfriends and Linoleum spin during the queer party **Thin Pink Line** every second and fourth Friday at Rotture. (10 pm. 315 SE Third Ave.)

SAT • MARCH 10

The Adventure Group goes shoeshoeing at the Frog Lakes sno-park and heads up to Lower and Upper Twin Lakes. On a clear day, Upper Twin Lake has a view of the summit of Mount Hood. Meet in Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (9 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Sarah 503-341-6226.)

Q Center presents the **Trans Employment Conference** for trans people, employers and human relations representatives. (10 am-2 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. To register call 503-381-9478.)

GO OUT Want to make a difference in the lives of queer youth? The **Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center** presents a two-day volunteer training through March 11 for outgoing and energetic adults 24 and older to work in its drop-in center. (10 am-5 pm. 2100 SE Belmont St. RSVP to Zan at 503-872-9664, ext. 27, or zan@cascadiabhc.org by March 5.)

The **Portland Gay Men's Chorus** presents a program of music and dance inspired by *Piano Men* at Newmark Theatre. (3 and 8 pm. 1111 SW Broadway. \$20-\$30 from www.pdxgmc.org.)

Metropolitan Community Church of Portland presents *Elevation 54*, an evening of disco and solid-gold hits from the '70s, followed by an "Angel Auction" of MCC people and their services. (6:30 pm hors d'oeuvres, 7 pm concert. 2400 NE Broadway. \$10 suggested donation.)

The **Rose City Gay Freedom Band** presents a *Dedication* of classic works for wind ensemble to important people who have touched our lives in many different ways at Reed

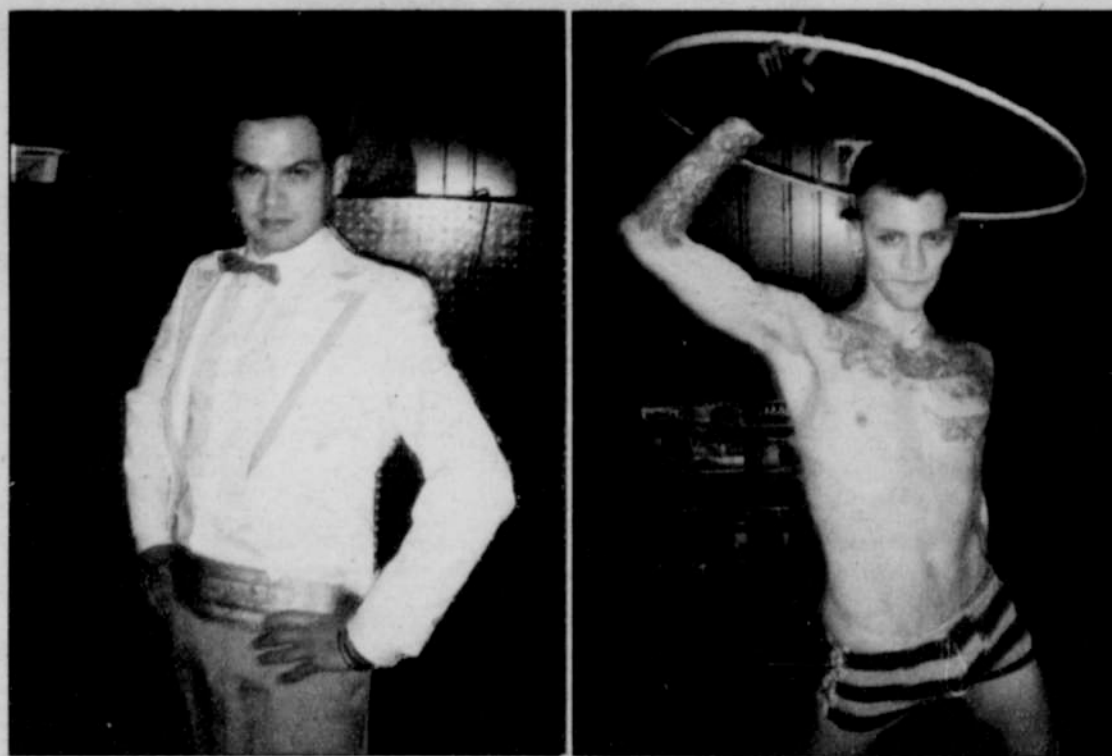
Manic Mondays

Walking into Acme, 1305 S.E. Eighth Ave., on a Monday night is like walking onto the set of a Doris Day-Rock Hudson flick directed by Wong Kar-wai. The ambiance captures the innocence of a 1960s lounge club with brooding undertones. All the windows are blacked out, and gold hanging letters spell out the word **Lingo**. French lounge music plays from the DJ booth while some great Fellini film dances on the wall. Velvet curtains hang from high rises, revealing a tiny stage no bigger than a wooden pallet. On that pallet, three or four performers do whatever it takes to make the crowd fall in love with them. Lingo is an alcohol-infused art show showcasing simple staged moments of irreverent charisma and lovely human error. It's glass diamonds set in fool's gold.

Last month the theme was "John Waters vs. David Lynch," where we saw **Splendor** of Sissyboy feed "dog doo" to Sol; **Jamie Lee** from the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art sing "Blue Velvet" to the sound of rain falling; and "**Laura Palmer**" dance to Roy Orbison in a body bag. Not too bad for a free show on a Monday night!

Lingo has become the watering hole for up-and-coming artists and a great space for local performers to showcase new work. Usually there is a theme to these nights, such as "Night of the Accordions" or, my personal favorite, "Night of 1,000 Morrisseys," but the themes are more like loose suggestions for a night where anything goes.

Acme is the perfect place for these strange Monday happenings. It is becoming the new home for the renaissance "queer" scene in Portland. Not only does it host the überpopular freaky queer dance party **Booty** on Thursdays, but now Monday night belongs to the art fags and their fabulous assembly of glitterati. The man responsible for these madcap Mondays: queer Portland newcomer and Acme bartender **John Camacho**. Camacho is cool; clever words fall from his tongue effortlessly.



Portland newcomer John Camacho (left) is the mastermind behind Lingo, a weekly showcase for art fags at Acme.

"I moved to Portland because of *Twin Peaks* really, and *The Goonies*," says Camacho. When I informed him that *Twin Peaks* was shot in Washington, he retorted, "I know, but like I'm really going to move there!"

Camacho claims he does not work too hard on the shows: "I don't promote. I talk about it to people I think might be interested. This party is for the person who wants it. Staying out too late and expecting the unexpected is what it's about."

I was impressed with his confidence. I have seen some great performances here during the past few weeks. If you can get yourself out of the house on a Monday night, Lingo is a must!

—Mark "Zebra" Thomas