

Gay actor John Steinkamp (right, with Kevin Jones) stars in Third Rail's *A Lesson from Aloes*. BodyVox presents *Reverie* featuring gay dancer Lane Hunter (right) through May 19.



Do you yearn to be tied up? Fantasize about flogging your lover? Ms. V will teach you how to act out your kinky desires in a safe, sane and consensual way during **B/D/S/M for Beginners** at It's My Pleasure. All sexual and gender identities welcome. (7 pm. 3106 NE 64th Ave. \$10 from 503-280-8080.)

Jack Malebranche reads from *Androphilia: Rejecting the Gay Identity, Reclaiming Masculinity* at Powell's on Hawthorne. (7:30 pm. 3723 SE Hawthorne Blvd.)

Minerva performs at the Egyptian Club. (8 pm. 3701 SE Division St.)

FRI • MAY 25

Casey's Nightclub and Lounge throws a **Memorial Weekend Celebration** with go-go dancers and live DJs through May 28. (Noon-2:30 am. 610 NW Couch St.)

The Luna Music Series Estrada Project presents **Mermaid in the Rudder** featuring performances by Felina, Teri

Untalan, Dominique Garcia, Nicole Sangsoree, Raelyn Olson, Kate Mann and more at In Other Words. Proceeds benefit medical care for Joan Estrada, a disabled woman who is homeless because of a work-related injury. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$5-\$20 donation.)

Amy Bleu performs with **Katie Jean Arnold** and **Annie Vergnetti** at Roots Organic Brewing. (7 pm. 1510 SE Seventh Ave.)

The Men's Wellness Center plays **bingo** and serves delicious refreshments. Really, can you think of a better way to spend a Friday night than with a foul-mouthed drag queen and 30 gay boys viciously competing for an oversized bottle of lube? (7-8:30 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

GO OUT The drag punks of **Sissyboy** host **Trannyshack**, the legendary San Francisco drag troupe featuring Heklina and her trashy trannies, at Sameday Lounge. (8 and 11 pm. 125 NW Fifth Ave. \$5.)

Out Dancing's monthly **Dance Social** is every last Friday

at Ankeny Street Studio. Lesson and refreshments included. (8:15 pm. Southeast Ninth Avenue and Ankeny Street. \$8.)

C.C. Slaughters presents the Oregon Bears' monthly **Double X Dance** hosted by JoeyCub and featuring music by DJ Peter Calandra, along with a DVD release party for **Mr. Leather**. (9 pm-1 am. 219 NW Davis St. \$2.)

SAT • MAY 26

The Adventure Group takes a moderate four-mile hike at Angels Rest, which is just like a balcony above the western Columbia Gorge. Meet in Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (9 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Jim 503-760-3814.)

Radical Women and the Freedom Socialist Party present the forum **Strike Against War: Build a Rose City Refuge for GI Resistance** at the Bread and Roses Center. (7 pm. 819 N Killingsworth St. \$2 door donation, \$8 hearty buffet donation.)

Hey, what's your vice? Holocene presents **Double Down**, the fab queer party where the player always wins, every fourth Saturday. (8 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

The Eagle presents Portland's dirtiest dance party, **Jack**, with DJs Grant, Stormy and Jimme Jamma throwin' down ninja style! (9 pm-2:30 am. 1300 W Burnside. \$3.)

SUN • MAY 27

The Adventure Group takes an easy five-mile hike at the lovely Triple Falls. Meet in Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (9 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Steve 503-758-2544.)

The Adventure Group takes a moderate eight-mile mountain bike ride in Tillamook Forest on the Historic Hiking Trail. Meet in Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer or an hour later at the trailhead. (10 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Laurent 503-227-2914.)

Gay choreographer Mike Barber presents the 13th installment of **10 Tiny Dances**—a twice-yearly party, experiment

Portland's Fluid Gender: A Great Reason for Dancing!

It's a fact: Portland's "queer scene" is unique. The prominent difference between P-town and other cities is the infinitely ambiguous gray area Portland queers call gender.

Seth Gottesdiener, aka DJ **Girlfriends**, has coined this phenomenon as "the thin pink line." Having moved to Portland from New York six months ago, he has been elated to find such fluidity between the genders.

"In New York, sexuality is surprisingly black and white, gay or straight," Gottesdiener explains. "Portland is different; here, gender is a choice. It's about pronouns and exploration and the way people feel."

I couldn't agree more and am thrilled that Gottesdiener has no less than three DJ nights celebrating this liberation.

The Thin Pink Line, a reckless dance party thrown at Rotture, is Gottesdiener's most ambitious and successful project. Together with DJ

Linoleum (one of my faves), he has created a scene that encompasses the genderless sentiment in Portland. After visiting Thin Pink Line a couple of times, I was impressed by the freshness these nights created. Everyone was dancing with abandon. There was a feeling of liberation and independence in the crowd. Boys and girls were dancing together—girls with girls, boys with boys, all getting freaky—and the one thing everyone had in common was they were all looking sexy!

In Gottesdiener's short time in the Rose City, he has spun for **Make It Work!** at the Dunes and has started a new all-ages queer dance night called **2 B Fierce** at Satyricon. The latter is on hiatus until summer, but with DJ **Automaton** on the bill, it is destined to be another Portland triumph.

"I consider myself more of a music mixer than a DJ," says Gottesdiener. "My passion is throwing parties and bringing people together!"

This might be true, but the hundreds of "cool" kids dancing at Thin Pink Line proved that DJ **Girlfriends** really knows how to spin some beats. I cannot wait to see where this guy is headed. If there was such thing as the Queer Mayor of Portland, he would certainly have my vote.

The Thin Pink Line starts 10 p.m. every second and fourth Friday at 315 S.E. Third Ave. Cover is \$3. The May 25 party is military themed, with free admission and vodka drinks for everyone in costume.

—Mark "Zebra" Thomas



The Thin Pink Line is a reckless dance party thrown every second and fourth Friday at Rotture.

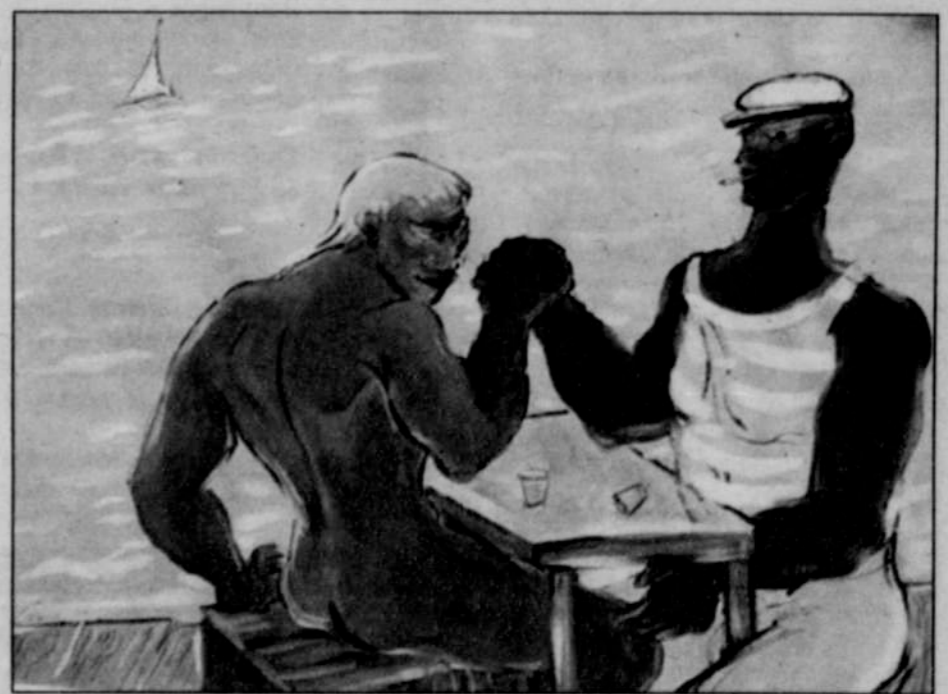
Art Gallery Exhibits Latin Queers

Gay-owned Onda Arte Latina presents **Poder y Fuego/Power and Fire**, the first Portland-area show of artwork by Latin gays and lesbians, May 31 to June 26 at 2215 N.E. Alberta St.

This special exhibit is a part of Portland's 2007 Latino Gay Pride Celebration in coordination with Pride Northwest and sponsored by *El Hispanic News* and the Jupiter Hotel. It kicks off with a Last Thursday artists reception from 6 to 9 p.m. May 31.

Latin and gay elements combine to ignite the creative expression in this group show of original paintings, photographs and prints by nine artists. While it might not be possible to pin down exactly how these art pieces differ from others, there is a distinct sensibility affecting how the cultural themes, sexual imagery and personal exploration are portrayed.

The artists include **Indra Arriaga**, born in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico, and now a widely exhibited and published artist who teaches in Anchorage, Alaska; **Jedidah Chavez**, a photographer and installation artist working in Portland; and **Anna-Marie Lopez**, a lesbian artist in San Antonio whose interpretation of the Virgin of



Rocío García's paintings are part of the group show **Poder y Fuego/Power and Fire**, opening May 31 at Onda Arte Latina.

Guadalupe became a cause célèbre when it was censored as pagan by a cultural center.

The artists living in the United States are joined by several openly gay and lesbian artists living and working in Cuba. After a difficult period of intolerance during the '70s in Cuba, the official policy of the government has now given way to a more egalitarian treatment of queers. "We have to abolish any form of discrimination against those persons," says **Ricardo Alarcon**, president of Cuba's National Assembly. The exhibited artists enjoy an enviable freedom of expression in this political climate.

A self-taught artist, **José García Montebello** began to paint in 1980 and had his first solo exhibition in 1984. He paints strong portrayals of religious figures, particularly the orishas, or Santería deities. Many of his paintings depict birds, animals and the lush Cuban plant life but with a provocative sexuality and strength that suggest an allegorical or religious symbolism as well.

Rocío García's paintings are ironic commentaries on the conflict and mystery of sex, profoundly philosophical and chilling. Other Cuban artists featured are **José Gallosa**, **Manuel Mendive** and **Alfredo Sosabravo**, the latter two among the most revered and internationally collected artists in Cuba today.