



Rick & Steve: The Happiest Gay Couple in All the World premieres July 10 on Logo.

Vita Café hosts a fun summer night of **Roller Derby Bingo!** Rose City Roller derby girls will be selling cards and giving out excellent prizes, and the lovely Miss Esmerelda will call the games. Proceeds benefit the Siren Nation Women's Music & Arts Festival scheduled for Nov. 1-4. (7 pm. 3024 NE Alberta St. \$2 a game.)

FRI • JULY 20

GO OUT Bagdad Theater presents **Tegan and Sara**. (7:30 pm. 3702 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$20 from Ticketmaster.)

Pink Martini performs during the daVinci Days Festival on Oregon State University's campus in Corvallis. (8 pm. \$10 from www.davinci-days.org.)

In Other Words and the Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls host a midnight book release party to celebrate J.K. Rowling's **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows** featuring a spe-



Haiku displays queer artist Sharon Comunale's **Doll Parts** through July 24.

cial reading, treats and performances by Killer Llamas and Coffee Shop. (8 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$5 donation.)

SAT • JULY 21

The Adventure Group takes an easy two-mile walk along Eastbank Esplanade and Waterfront Park. Meet on the Esplanade at Southeast Main Street. (9 am. Evan 503-701-7922.)

Love Makes a Family holds a social gathering every third Saturday at Q Center. (10 am-noon. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Life coach Jill Nelson presents **Five Secrets to a Better Relationship**, a free seminar to give you powerful tools for improving your personal relationships, at Metropolitan Community Church of Portland. (2-4 pm. 2400 NE Broadway. RSVP to 503-730-9187 or stepbeyondcoach@aol.com.)

Pink Martini—the genre-bending, best-selling, supremely talented and raucously fun 12-piece ensemble that *The New Yorker* calls simply "beautiful, sophisticated and breathtaking"—performs at Les Schwab Amphitheater in Bend. (6:30 pm. 344 SW Shevlin Hixon Drive. \$20-\$45 from Ticketmaster.)

Maria Webster performs fun music at Cooper's Coffee. (7-9 pm. 6049 SE Stark St.)

BearBust at Gail's Dirty Duck. (8-11 pm. 429 NW Third Ave. \$8 members, \$10 nonmembers.)

Tip your hat to **Crystal's Country Jam** at the Portland Metro Club (PPAA). (8-9 pm lessons, 9 pm-1 am dancing. 618 SE Alder St. \$5, \$8 with lessons.)

All-female indie electro-pop band The Trucks performs during **Sluts + Squares** at Acme. (9 pm. 1305 SE Eighth Ave. \$5.)

SUN • JULY 22

GO OUT Make a big summer splash! Fat Action Troupe Portland (F.A.T. PDX), known best for its popular event FatGirl Speaks, presents **Chunky Dunk**, Portland's only fat-positive group swim, at Peninsula Pool. (5:15-7:15 pm. 6400 N Albina Ave. \$5.)

Summer Shakes

This summer, star-crossed lovers will off themselves in downtown Portland, and a bit of epic proportions will wreck havoc at various parks. The mayhem comes to us courtesy of Portland Actors Ensemble, a company that has staged free outdoor Shakespeare in the Park productions every summer since 1970.

The season opens with *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* through July 21 at Lovejoy Fountain Park. This year's touring production is *The Taming of the Shrew*, a catty comedy about a man who gradually quells his wife's fiery temper. The show makes its way to six metro-area parks from July 28 to Sept. 3.

Local theater veteran John Monteverde directs *Romeo and Juliet*, reviving the modernized version of the classic that he staged for Blue Monkey Theater Co. in February. His interpretation of the tragic romance has no explicit queer content, but he suspects that the show's dramatic costumes will appeal to queer viewers with fashion savvy.

Monteverde sets his version in contemporary Italy, using the battle between Romeo and Juliet's families as a means of spoofing the battle between the Armani and Versace clothing empires. "Lady Capulet is styled after Donatella Versace," he says.

For the Blue Monkey production, Monteverde designed the set to resemble an indoor fashion runway. Of course, the Lovejoy Fountain location forces the fashion show to go alfresco. "Now it's an outdoor runway," says Monteverde. "I like the strutting feel of the models. The men strut and preen."

From the songs by Offspring to the goth outfits and makeup worn by the teenage characters, the production boasts some serious punk attitude. Monteverde called on young costume designer Devin Clancy to ensure that the hip factor of the February production is intact in the great outdoors.

Clancy—a self-described "queer youth" and "equal opportunity lover"—is a Portland



Count Paris (Butch Flowers) looks sharp in Ralph Lauren.

native who is on break from her undergraduate studies at Illinois Wesleyan University. "I went through a goth phase," she says. "I also went through a high-fashion phase."

When she's not creating or reinforcing costumes, Clancy has taken some time to reflect on a play that's still timely 400 years after the Bard wrote it.

"There's a lot to be drawn from it," she says. "Fighting is not the right answer, and you shouldn't outlaw connections between groups."

Heed these words from Monteverde if you think you'd rather get rabies than watch a Shakespeare play: "This is one of his most beautiful and pure love stories, and it has some of his dirtiest jokes. And this version has plenty of swordplay and violence, amped up with a rock 'n' roll feel."

Visit www.portlandactors.com for dates, locations and showtimes.

—Stephen Blair



Mercutio (Paul Pistey) struts and swaggers at the measure of his sword in *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*.

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