

northwest

Quality Pictures Will Show at Jupiter

Quality Pictures gallery owner Erik Schneider is gearing up for The Affair @ the Jupiter Hotel in September, where his gallery will get to convert a hotel room into a show room for the weekend.

"Not only will the art be unforgettable, the room will be unforgettable," said Schneider, who was a little sketchy on the details. "We have a number of new artists we're going to give some exposure to in the Northwest at the Jupiter." He is also choosing lower-priced works in the \$500-and-up range, rather than the \$4,000-\$15,000 pieces usually featured at Quality Pictures.

This is the third year of The Affair @ the Jupiter Hotel, which provides art professionals, collectors and enthusiasts a place to connect with the contemporary art scene. Schneider, 44, and his gallery are relatively new to the Portland art scene. Schneider and his partner of 12 years, Bryan Schellinger, moved to Stumptown from Atlanta and opened Quality Pictures in December 2006.

"There's a very good photography dealer in Atlanta, and once she started asking me for advice on how to run her business, I said: 'I have

to do it myself. I must know more than I think I do,'" Schneider explained.

Schellinger is a painter and installation artist whose work has appeared in the gallery. Schneider says about half of the work he shows is photography and the other half is in other visual media.

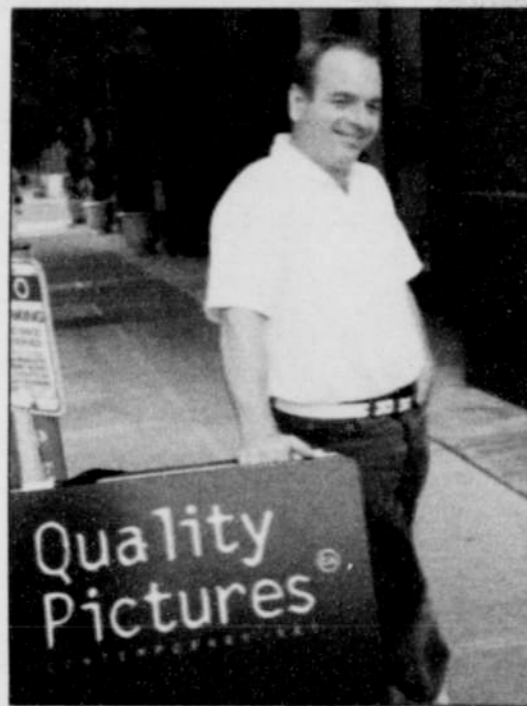
He is focused now on showing more artists who call the Pacific Northwest home. He started showing work by Portland photographers Mark Hooper and Holly Andres, both of whom had work featured in the 2006 Oregon Biennial.

Starting in September, Quality Pictures will be showing the work of internationally recognized photographer and video artist Jen Denike. Schneider describes her work as "politically charged" and her subjects as "20-year-old hotties."

Schneider says Quality Pictures has done well in its first eight months, and he is excited about the future. "Opening any new business is a combination of joy and terror, but in the past few months the joy has certainly outweighed the terror."

The Affair @ the Jupiter Hotel is from noon to 7 p.m. Sept. 15 and 16 at 800 E. Burnside St. Quality Pictures is at 916 N.W. Hoyt St.

business watch



Gallery owner Erik Schneider promises an unforgettable display at The Affair @ the Jupiter Hotel.



Jayson Malone, a renowned female impersonator in Las Vegas, has opened a quaint coffee shop in the Hollywood District.

to 700 guests a night six times a week and never missed a hard day's work. In addition to being a female impersonator, he was a manager at a salon and day spa, and when he decided to leave the stage in 2002, he became the district manager.

Malone, 44, now owns and operates 42nd Street Coffee House in the Hollywood District at 1925 N.E. 42nd Ave. with his parents, Barni and Norm. They originally wanted to have a mailbox store, but "the idea morphed into a coffee shop." After purchasing Sweet Indulgence from a Craigslist ad, the Malones personally gave the shop a makeover and reconstructed the area into a welcoming, all-accepting cafe decorated with vintage pictures of Midler and a gallery of motel signs.

"I don't want to own the next Starbucks," said Malone. "I just want to work in a comfortable environment."

42nd Street Coffee House offers soothing java from Longbottom Coffee & Tea, pastries from Delphina's Bakery and organic juices from Columbia Gorge. Customers range from beauty school students to senior citizens to small children who enjoy 42nd Street's hot chocolate. Drag star Poison Waters, a longtime friend of Malone along with the legendary Darcelle XV, walked from downtown Portland for a cup of joe. "She must have walked fast, because she was dripping wet when she got here," said Malone.

Malone did not think he would return to Portland but was embraced with such warmth that he decided to move back to the city where he was born.

"Some things are more important than money," he said. "Home and family are two of them." **JO**

Drag Star Goes Hollywood

Twenty-seven years ago, Jayson Malone performed as Marcy Kraft at the underage club Metropolis, now known as Dante's. At the tender age of 18, he became the seventh Rosebud in what is now up to its 31st member; he was still in high school at the time.

At 21, Malone moved to Seattle, where he discovered he had a talent for impersonating Bette Midler. In 1995, he wanted to take his show business to another level, so he packed his car with wigs, dresses and men's clothes and headed for Las Vegas with hopes of becoming a star.

"I wanted to be an entertainer and have that as my career," Malone said. He got what he dreamed of and became the premier Bette Midler on the Las Vegas Strip under his real name.

In the world-famous "An Evening at La Cage" at Riviera Hotel Casino, Malone performed for 600

By JULIUS CALASICAS and JULIE SABATIER

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