

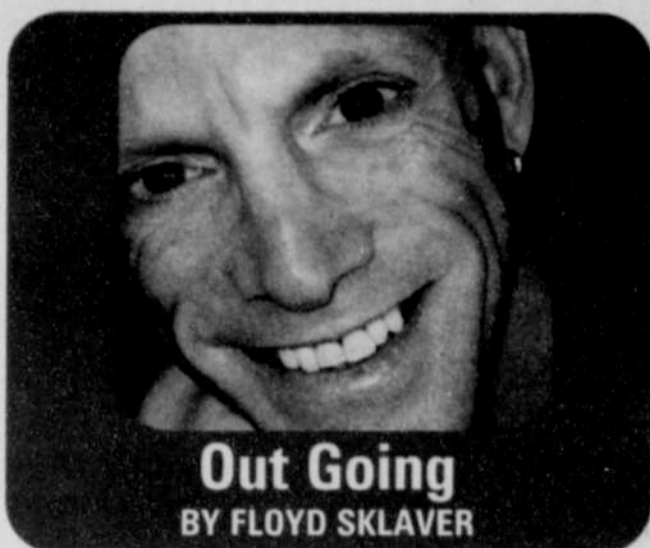
Homo Away from Home

Getaways for gays

I'm exhausted. I spent the entire summer working to make money, volunteering to fulfill my soul and socializing to write this column. So I'm beat, bleary-eyed and burned out. I need a vacation.

But Marc and I aren't ones to travel. Instead, we've chosen to save our money, squirreling it away for the day when we can use summer and winter as verbs. As a result, I wouldn't know where to go, so I began asking around.

At Salon Q (held at Vendetta in North Portland, a part of town I visit about as often as I go on vacation), C.J. Gabbe told me he likes Scandinavia for the lifestyle, cleanliness, scenery and nice people. "It's like the Northwest," he says, "with a twist." (Although he might have been referring to the drink he was ordering.) Others prefer warmer climates: Mark Haidle likes Mexico, and Jeff Pellisier just returned from Miami's South Beach, where he sat out Hurricane Barney with Gregg Suits and Hans Bernard. Brad Phillips loves Rio because he has a built-in translator in partner Valerium Pereira, who recently moved his hair salon to Northeast Sandy Boulevard.



Out Going
BY FLOYD SKLAVER

Camelot. Speaking of which, Portland Opera's Broadway series presents Lou Diamond Phillips in the Lerner and Loewe musical *Camelot* from Oct. 2 to 7. Phillips gets honorary bold print for having been married to the mother of Melissa Etheridge's children, Julie Cypher (who isn't in bold because she's no longer a lesbian).

A few nights later, I found myself at the opening of New York performance and visual artist Larry Krone's show at Elizabeth Leach Gallery. Krone, whose work is in the Whitney Museum's permanent collection, would only tell me that his fantasy vacation spot is on Lake Michigan: "I want to keep it secret so it doesn't get crowded." Robert Trotman and Bill Hetzelson enjoy Yellowstone National Park because the geysers were "more spectacular than we imagined." And former flight attendant Thom Walters had better sex than he ever imagined in the Greek islands, where he also goes for the culture, food, landscape and history. Portland Art Museum chief curator Bruce Guenther said: "I don't take vacations. Life is too much fun to vacation," and Daniel Peabody said his favorite vacation spot was "wherever I've been invited."

Speaking of invitations, Marc and I would like to invite all of you to join us for a Big Gay Field Trip to Portland Center Stage on Sept. 30 for brunch in the atrium followed by a performance of *Cabaret* starring Storm Large and Wade McCollum. Tickets (the discounted \$50 includes show and brunch) are available by calling the

box office and asking for the Matinee Idyll. Sarah Dougher served as co-music director for an idyllic opening performance in Pioneer Square of the 2007 Time-Based Art Festival. Afterward she told me she goes to Los Angeles because "I find it weirdly relaxing," particularly the smell. "Once you get a whiff of it, you're transported." Kaj-anne Pepper chooses Wolf Creek in Southern Oregon because it's a Radical Faerie sanctuary, and Chad "Pony" Tolsen fantasizes about Barcelona and "drinking cava on the beach with beautiful boys serving me." Kaj-Anne, Chad and Lee "Splendor" Kyle make up the Gender Fluids, who will be performing downstairs at Wonder Ballroom during the last two weekends of September.

I may be exhausted, but I wouldn't pass up that opportunity to be Out Going. 10

FLOYD SKLAVER wants to know about your event. E-mail him at floydsklaver@comcast.net.



The Gender Fluids make Floyd moist.

Klark Dunning told me he likes Italy for the food and wine. And David Dvorak still savors the memory of the food in Vietnam, particularly the fish patties, spring rolls and grilled fish. While he was there recently, David was at a gay club that was raided by the police.

A few nights later, Carl Halvorson invited a small group of opera buffs to his condo in the Benson, where Charlie Jones told me that Hawaii is the place to relax. Oregon Ballet Theatre's Christopher Stowell heads to Europe whenever possible, finding himself in Italy "more often than not." He adds this advice to anyone planning to attend the Verona Opera Festival: "Bring a cushion, because your ass won't survive four hours on 2,000-year-old stone."

Our host chooses Cap Ferrat in the south of France as his favorite vacation destination. Listening to Carl describe the beautiful beaches and equally beautiful men, he made it sound like

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