

TUE • OCT. 16

The **Feminist Film Society** screens *Alien* at In Other Words. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. www.feministfilmsociety.blogspot.com.)

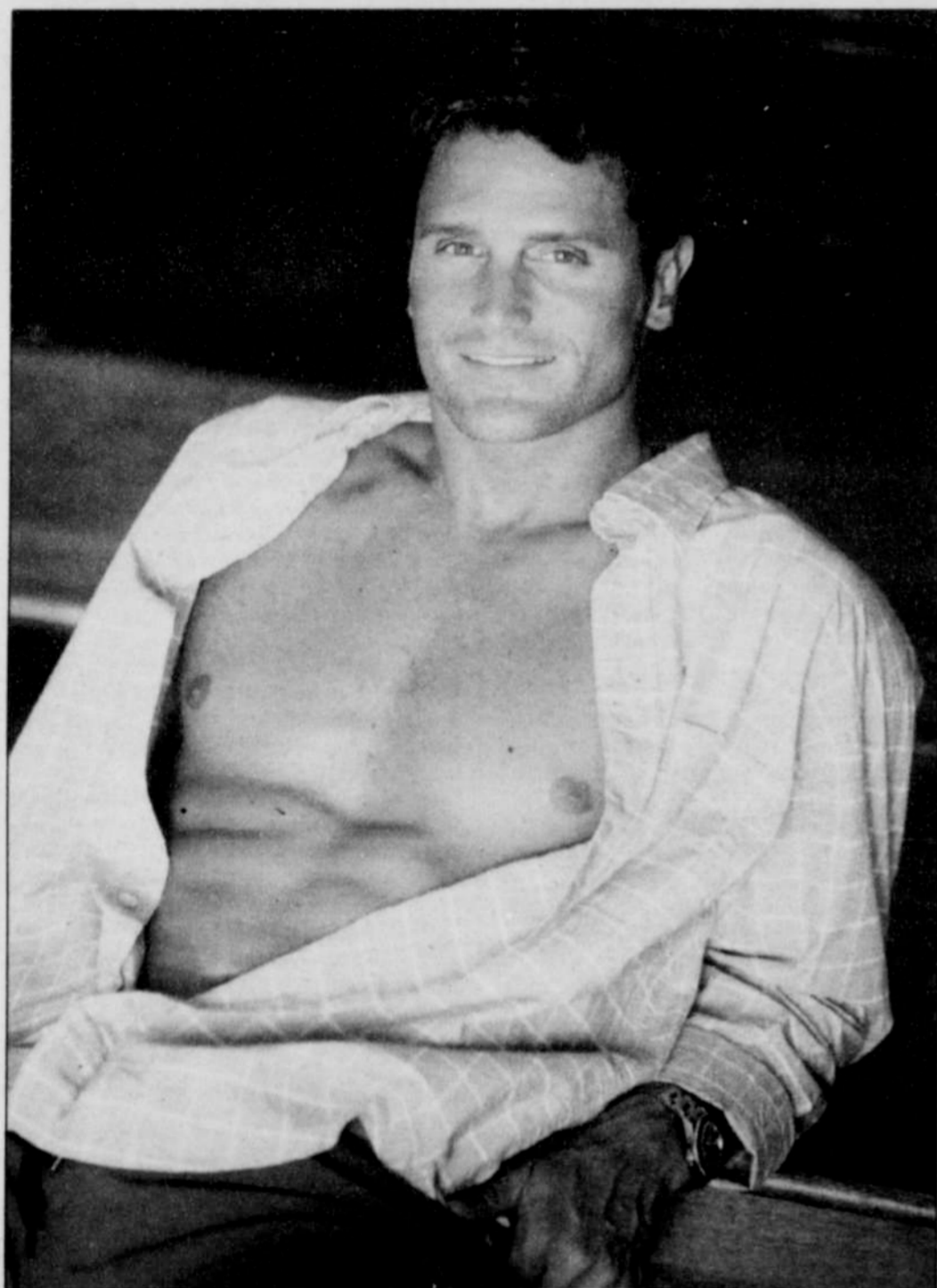
WED • OCT. 17

In Other Words hosts the **Nonprofit Industrial Complex**, a monthly discussion and working group to explore themes raised in the book *The Revolution Will Not Be Funded: Beyond the Nonprofit Industrial Complex*. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

GO OUT The Men's Wellness Center presents an informational session on **Celebrating the Body Erotic**, Body Electric's interactive workshop designed to connect men to their deepest centers of pleasure and help them discover how to give and receive more fully using breath, touch and movement. (7-9 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

THU • OCT. 18

Wonder Ballroom presents an evening with



Amazing Race winner (and Lance Bass ex) **Reichen Lehmkuhl** joins the cast of the gothic soap opera *Dante's Cove* Oct. 19 on Here.

comic genius **Harry Shearer**, the actor and voice behind some of America's greatest characters, including Waylon Smithers (*The Simpsons*), Derek Smalls (*This Is Spinal Tap*) and Victor Allan Miller (*For Your Consideration*). (8 pm. 128 NE Russell St. \$32 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

FRI • OCT. 19

In Other Words presents a spoken word performance by **Kimberly Dark**, whose writings explore gender, sexuality, abuse, poverty and education by blending humor, poetry, storytelling, education and social research to stimulate critical cultural analysis. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$5-\$8 donation.)

GO OUT Lesbian artistic director **Monica Huggett** launches her 13th season with **Portland Baroque Orchestra** in a debut of four rarely heard solo violin concertos by the first master of the form, Antonio Vivaldi, through Oct. 21 at First Baptist Church and Reed College's Kaul Auditorium. (7:30 pm Friday and Saturday,

909 SW 11th Ave. 3 pm Sunday, 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd. \$15-\$39 from www.pbo.org.)

Here debuts the third season premiere of the gothic soap opera *Dante's Cove*, America's sexiest guilty pleasure. (8 pm.)

Q Center presents **Cabaret with a Q**, Portland's newest "anything goes" monthly piano bar/cabaret. Be the "singular sensation" you've always wanted to be! (8-11 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

SAT • OCT. 20

Portland Sacred Harp hosts the 16th annual **Shapenote Singing Convention** through Oct. 21 at Mississippi Ballroom. Gay men will harmonize with gospel singers, transgender

folks with the oh-so-straight, lesbians with church ladies and all points in between! (9 am-3:30 pm. 833 N Shaver St.)

GO OUT Sneakin' Out performs during **Keep Portland Weird: A Community Festival** featuring group ukulele lessons, robots, zine-building, belly-dancing, wild food foraging, cacophony and much more at Central Library. (Noon-4 pm. 801 SW 10th Ave.)

The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court presents **Coronation 2007** at Crystal Ballroom. This year's theme is "Once Upon a Mattress: A Night in the Monarch's Bordello." (5 pm. 1332 W Burnside St. \$45-\$50 from Ticketmaster. For a complete schedule of related events, visit www.rosecourt.org.)

The Eagle PDX presents the sultry new dance night **How Rude! Pants Off Dance Off** featuring DJs Danny Damage, Olek, Ill Camino, Bdrn Eyes and guests. (8 pm. 1300 W Burnside St.)

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

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.)

Someday Lounge throws the dance party **Golden** featuring experimental disco/house/electronic quartet Atole, Copy, Arohan and DJs Linoleum and Mike Williams. (9 pm. 125 NW Fifth Ave. \$5.)

The Grass Is Always Greener

What do *Leaves of Grass* poet Walt Whitman, the Quaker religion and 19th century sailors have in common? If you answered "gay marriage," you would probably enjoy a conversation with **Mitch Gould**.

Gould, author of several scholastic articles on Whitman and curator of LeavesOfGrass.org, is presenting *This Beginning of Us: Walt Whitman and the Spiritual Origins of Gay Marriage* through Oct. 28 at Q Center, 69 S.E. Taylor St. It's a combination dramatic reading, lecture and exhibit of concept art from Gould's upcoming animated short, "This Beginning of Me."

Although the focus of the exhibit is the link between Whitman's writings and the current struggle for legal recognition of same-sex relationships, the heart of the event is the role the Quaker religion played in shaping his radical message of gay equality.

"It's so different than what we all thought," Gould says of the gay undertones in Whitman's work. "There is a mystery here, and it's taken me 15 years to unravel it."

According to Gould, the Quakers' acceptance of Whitman's "manly love" concept allowed him to speak out against the more conservative Puritan views of homosexuality.

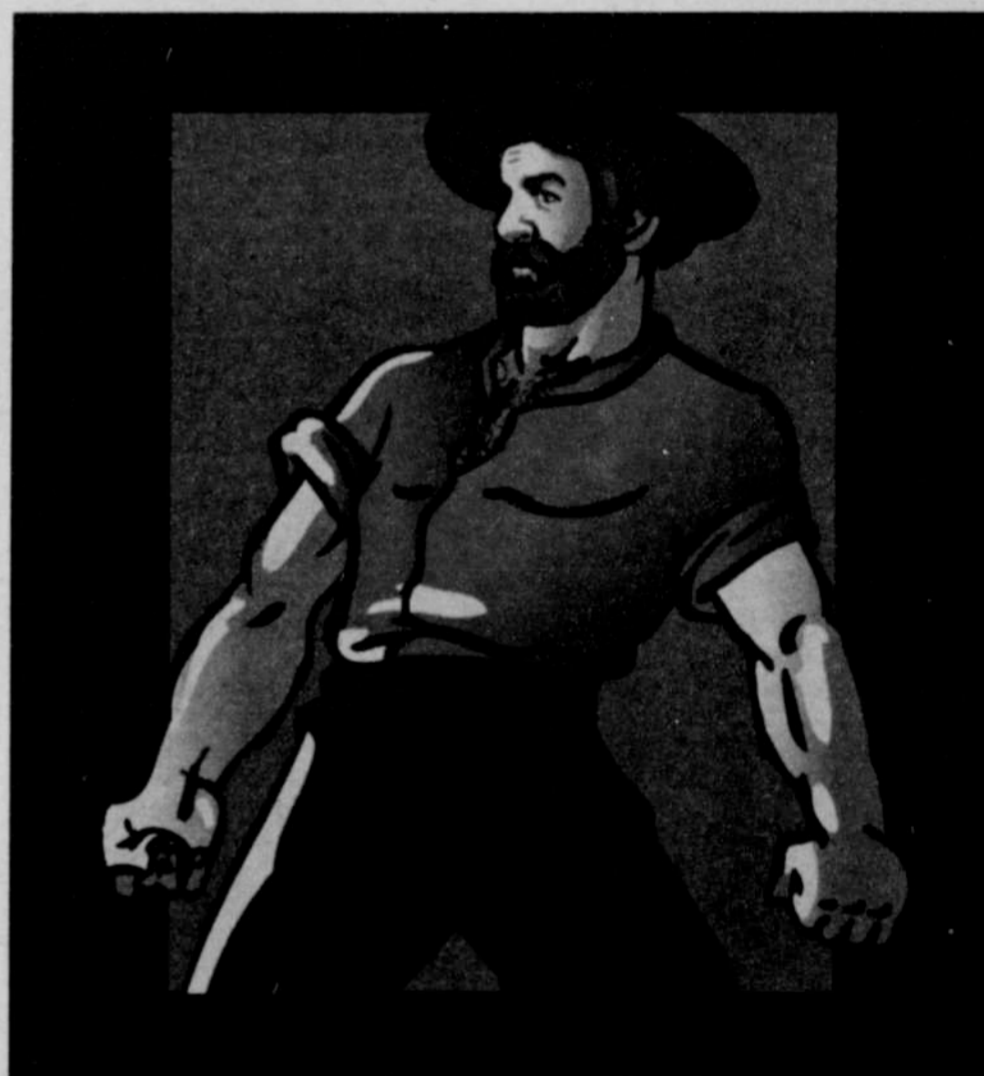
"If you break it down to the level of theology, conservatives oppose gay marriage because they believe love between two men or two women leads people away from God," Gould says. "The picture we get from Whitman and the Quakers couldn't be more in contrast to that idea."

Although the scribe's work is no stranger to queer lit theory, Gould says he's never seen queer Whitman criticism paired with Whitman's involvement with the Quakers.

"The nature of my findings has been so difficult to prove," in part because of the Quakers' "reputation of moral strictness," Gould says. "It's really challenged not only our understanding of Whitman but of Quakers, too."

Gould will give two presentations in addition to the exhibit. "I Call to Mankind: *Leaves of Grass* as Quaker Testimony" is a dramatic reinterpretation of Whitman's well-known "Song of Myself" and will be delivered during the exhibit's reception at 6 p.m. Oct. 5. Gould will also deliver a more in-depth summary of the exhibit at 2 p.m. Oct. 7. For more information call 503-234-7837.

—Ben Nystrom



This month Q Center displays concept art from "This Beginning of Me," an animated short by Walt Whitman scholar Mitch Gould.

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