



Night Moves, a group show of nighttime photography, is on display through Dec. 22 at 23 Sandy Gallery.



Tori Amos seduces fans Dec. 4 at the Schnitz.

C.C. Slaughters throws a CD release party for *Neptune City* by **Nicole Atkins**. (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St.)

MON • NOV. 26

Q Center hosts the **Queer Trying to Conceive** discussion group for people interested in conception and pregnancy every fourth Monday. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

TUE • NOV. 27

GO OUT Scribes who teach in Literary Arts' **Writers in the Schools** program—queer *Hip Mama* editor and publisher Ariel Gore, playwright Hunt Holman and poet and short story writer JoNelle Toriseva—get together to read their work at Bipartisan Cafe. (7 pm. 7901 SE Stark St.)

Dexter's Famous Spoken Mic gives writers "rock star status" by bringing beginners and more established readers together for inspirational rants and performances every last Tuesday at In Other Words. (7:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

WED • NOV. 28

Elder Resource Alliance presents a Fall Prevention Workshop at Friendly House Community Center. Learn from professionals at

Oregon Health & Science University's Geriatric Department about risk factors and how to prevent falls. (2-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

In Other Words Women's Books and Resources presents **Because Reading Is Sexy: The Dirty Queer Book Club** on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Riding the wave of Dirty Queer, Portland's only X-rated open mike, the group will let loose to discuss the best in queer, perky, kinky porn—with 10 percent off sexy selections! (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St. \$1 donation.)

Q Center presents **Women's Life Coaching and Consultation**. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

THU • NOV. 29

In Other Words presents a special unveiling for **We'Moon '08: Mending the Web**, a global, astrological, feminist, goddess-honoring datebook/daily planner in its 27th year. Mother Tongue Ink's latest calendar boasts Oregon's own much-adored Betty LaDuke as its celebrated cover artist and Alice Walker, author of the Pulitzer-winning *The Color Purple*. (7-9 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

GO OUT Do you and your boyfriend have different HIV statuses? Are you thinking about dating someone whose status is different from yours? Come explore the issues surrounding dating, relationships and sex for guys who are both HIV-positive and HIV-negative and

discuss the ins and outs of being **Magnetic Men** at the Men's Wellness Center. (7-8:30 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

Splendor and the Gender Fluids host the new weekly dance party **Queer Bait** at Crush. The last Thursday of every month is an open-invitation performance salon, so sign up now! (9 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St. \$3. For salon details e-mail loveleear@yahoo.com.)

The Egyptian Club presents **Crash Parlor** and **Gaea** live! (9 pm. 3701 SE Division St.)

FRI • NOV. 30

In Other Words showcases Portland female musicians during the monthly **Luna Music Series**. (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

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 **Cazwell** performing

his hits "All Over Your Face," "Watch My Mouth" and more. (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St.)

SAT • DEC. 1

The Adventure Group goes on this season's first ski and snowshoe weekend on Mount Hood through Dec. 2. Time and location will be determined by Nov. 29. (Evan 503-701-7922.)

Sundance Channel premieres the British documentary **Stephen Fry: HIV & Me** as part of its World AIDS Day programming. (2 pm.)

Boxx presents **Vamp**, a quarterly dance for single lesbians featuring DJ Lauren. (5-9 pm. 1035 SW Stark St. \$8.)

Salem's **Marionberry Salon** presents a potluck and book discussion of *Through a Brazen Mirror: The Famous Flower of Servingmen* by Delia Sherman. (6:30 pm. Cary 503-363-6036. marionberrysalon@comcast.net.)

Satori Men's Chorus presents *Winter Light*—

featuring music from many countries and traditions, sacred and secular, serious and fun—through Dec. 2 at Community Music Center. This concert will inspire us to see light in even the smallest events in our wonderful Northwest wintertime. (8 pm Saturday, 7 pm Sunday. 3350 SE Francis St. \$7-\$12 from 503-242-4244.)

"Women Who Rock" presents blues singer **Candye Kane** at Mt. Tabor Legacy. Oregon Bears receive a \$2 discount! (9 pm. 4811 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$7.)

Holocene presents **Gaycation** with DJs Automaton, Snowtiger, Mr Charming and special guests. (9 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$3.)

Jimme Jamma, resident beat Svengali of Sissyboy, brings you **Money Shot**, Portland's dirtiest electro night, every first Saturday at the Eagle PDX. (9 pm. 1300 W Burnside St.)

SUN • DEC. 2

Get lucky during the Fox & Hounds' **Monthly Charity Bingo**. (3:30 pm. 217 SW Second Ave.)



BRIAN WILLIAMS

Pulp Fiction

Monica Nolan's *Lois Lenz, Lesbian Secretary* is a delicious contemporary homage to queer pulp novels. Written with an appropriately hyperventilating emphasis ("That pink, glistening mouth!"), this 1950s story features Lois, a high school cheerleader with highly developed organizational skills, finding mystery and romance in the big city. When she moves into an all-female residence, she discovers a pernicious plot that might be linked to the advertising agency where she performs secretarial duties.

Lois Lenz is a parody that features what Nolan calls "the three big scares of the '50s"—homosexuality, drugs and communism—along with many winking double-entendres.

On the phone from her home in San Francisco, the author describes how she developed her interest in the pulp genre. "As an undergraduate, I found Ann Bannon's *Journey to a Woman* in the living room of our dorm. I started reading it out loud and acting it out [with friends]. It was a classic—one of the most over-the-top lesbian pulps ever!

Lois Lenz showcases the fruits of the author's detailed research into magazines and pulp and career girl novels of the era. For example, a not-so-coded subtext equates same-sex desire with trouble, as when Lois is scolded for extending her lunch break to have a secret make-out session with a comely co-worker.

"Lesbian pulps were the earliest appearances of lesbian characters," Nolan admits, a little breathlessly, adding, "I love the way you can get away with a lot in genre fiction and push the envelope of sex."

Yet the author made sure her sex scenes served their proper purpose.

"I wanted [them] to have narrative, not clinical details," Nolan explains. "I read enough of [lesbian pulp sex] to know what it should look like. I wanted to provide a little turn on and not make people laugh."



Monica Nolan reads from and signs *Lois Lenz, Lesbian Secretary* Nov. 20 at In Other Words.

Nolan succeeds with amazing acuity, and *Lois Lenz, Lesbian Secretary* is an auspicious debut. When asked if this book is the start of a possible series, the author admits, "My ambitions are to write the saga of the Lesbian Career Girls."

With luck, she will.

—Gary M. Kramer

Later this season Bolenbaugh and the Fall Guy gang will present *Big Rock Show!*—a spoof of stadium concerts—and *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* by Nobel Prize-winning Italian playwright Dario Fo.

Fall Guy Theatre presents *The House of Yes* through Dec. 9 at Theater Theatre, 3430 S.E. Belmont St. Tickets are \$20 from 503-223-4240.

—Stephen Blair