



Photographer Brian through March 1.



White Bird presents world-acclaimed Argentine dance company Estampas Porteñas in *Tango Fire* Jan. 23.

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Wittig is probably best known for her theory of queer theory that "lesbians are not women."

Due to popular demand, Q Center presents an encore screening of the award-winning documentary **Ballot Measure 9**. (7:30 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

**Gina Daggett and Kathy Belge** read from *Lipstick & Dipstick's Essential Guide to Lesbian Relationships* at Powell's. (7:30 pm. 1005 W Burnside St.)

Relieve stress, feel calmer and improve creativity during **Men's Meditation Group** presented by Q-LAND/MenSpirit. (7:30-9:30 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or [www.lovetribe.org/menspirit](http://www.lovetribe.org/menspirit).)

**WED • JAN. 23**

Do you have money, or does it have you? Learn basic financial management tools to keep you in the black during **Money 101** at Touchstone Coffee House. (6:30-9 pm. 445 NE 70th Ave. \$24 at the door, \$19 in advance from [www.causeit.org](http://www.causeit.org).)

**Satori Men's Chorus** seeks new singers to attend weekly rehearsals for its March 15 concert, *A Time for Peace*. The nonauditioned, nondenominational chorus welcomes men of all creeds, colors and classes. Member dues are free for the first month. (7-9:30 pm. \$30/month. 503-242-4244. [www.satorichorus.org](http://www.satorichorus.org).)

Gay-owned 23Hoyt presents international songstress, diva and concert soprano **Gina Osborn**. (9 pm. 529 NW 23rd Ave.)

**THU • JAN. 24**

**Dads Group**, a support/social group for men coming out later in life, meets every fourth Thursday at Q Center. (7-8:30 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

The Men's Wellness Center screens **Another Gay Movie**. In the dirtiest, funniest, most scandalous gay-teen-sex-comedy-parody ever, four young gay

friends make a pact to lose their virginity by the end of the summer. Come on over for some good laughs and great treats. (7-9 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

Samaritan Counseling presents **Relationship Enrichment Workshops** on Thursdays through Jan. 31 at Metropolitan Community Church of Portland. This week's topic is "Where Is the 'Me' in 'We?': Breaking the Ties of Co-Dependence"; next week's topic is "The Nuts and Bolts of Love: Commitment, Friendship and Intimacy." (7-9 pm. 2400 NE Broadway. \$10 a person, \$15 a couple from 503-281-3318 or [register@sccpdx.org](mailto:register@sccpdx.org).)

**Robert Leleux** reads from *The Memoirs of a Beautiful Boy* at Powell's Books. (7:30 pm. 1005 W Burnside St.)

Gay-owned 23Hoyt presents operatic tenor, accordionist, pianist, composer and consummate showman **Eric Stern**. Repeats Jan. 30. (9 pm. 529 NW 23rd Ave.)

San Francisco queer band **The Winsome Griffles** play a sincere, often humorous mix of Americana, Southern and cowboy music at Luckey's in Eugene. Their debut CD, *Meet the Griffles*, features "Your New Stupid Boyfriend," "Gay Cruise" and "Birthday Party Clown." (10 pm. 933 Olive St.)

**FRI • JAN. 25**

**Keshet** hosts a potluck and Shabbat welcome for all who identify as queer Jews as well as their spouses, partners, significant others and good friends and family, whether Jewish or queer or not. Bring a dish and a beverage. (6:30 pm. David 503-224-7075.)

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.)

Described as "an edgy blend of Suzanne Vega meets PJ Harvey—with attitude," New York lesbian singer/songwriter/guitarist **Swati** performs at Balcony Bar. (9 pm. 3862 SE Hawthorne Blvd.)

Gay-owned 23Hoyt presents Brazilian, flamenco, classical and jazz guitarist **Jason Okamoto**. (9 pm. 529 NW 23rd Ave.)

C.C. Slaughters presents the Oregon Bears' monthly **Double X Dance** featuring music by DJ Peter Calandra of Studio 54 fame. (9 pm-1 am. 219 NW Davis St. \$2.)

**SAT • JAN. 26**

Weather permitting, **The Adventure Group** takes a hard four-mile hike on Courtney Road Cliff Loop. Meet outside Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (9 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Jeff 503-234-4800.)

Q Center presents **Small Biz Marketing 101**. Let the world know you're ready for success with practical, proven marketing tools from small-business professionals. Lunch included. (10 am-4 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. \$39 at the door, \$34 in advance from [www.causeit.org](http://www.causeit.org).)

What would life be like if you were at the source of your own experience? Metropolitan Community Church presents a free introduction about **The Landmark Forum**. (1-4 pm. 2400 NE Broadway. [www.landmarkeducation.com](http://www.landmarkeducation.com).)

In Other Words presents author and scholar **Namasear Shaktini** sharing her research on pioneer lesbian activist Monique Wittig, who is probably best known among queer theorists for her 1978 declaration that "lesbians are not women." (2 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Join hundreds of seasoned lesbians 36 and older celebrating during the **Hot Flash Fourth Anniversary Party** at Barracuda featuring Queen Bee and her Delicious Little HoneyPots, burlesque by Sahara Dunes and butch/femme advice columnists Lipstick & Dipstick. (5-9 pm. 9 NW Second Ave. \$8.)

Winter blues getting you down? Come to Hip Chicks Do Wine for the **Beat the Winter Blues Party** featuring six wine tastings, appetizers and live music by Beth Willis. (6-9 pm. 4510 SE 23rd Ave. \$8 a person, \$15 a couple, \$5 wine club members.)

Hey, what's your vice? Holocene presents **Double Down**, the fab queer party where the player always wins, every fourth Saturday. (8 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

**SUN • JAN. 27**

**First Congregational United Church of Christ** celebrates its 16th anniversary as an "open and affirming" congregation with music by the Portland Gay Men's Chorus. (10:25 am. 1126 SW Park Ave.)

Interested in being a Q Center volunteer? Come to an orientation meeting and learn about all the opportunities to help out. (2 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

MIKE KEATING



Bust out your wildest head accessories for the 11th annual Chameleon Hat Party.



**Hat Full of Stars**

Start dredging your closets for that razzle-dazzle hat that doesn't get much play because it's just too extravagant for most occasions: You're going to need it the night of Jan. 27. That's when **Pat Jeung**, chef and owner of Chameleon Restaurant and Bar, 2000 N.E. 40th Ave., opens the doors of his epicurean oasis for the annual **Hat Party**, celebrating 11 years of great food, great times and a spirit of giving that outlasts the holidays.

Jeung, born and raised on the Thailand/Laos border, came to the United States with two siblings at age 16. He opened his first restaurant in Portland at age 24 with the help of his sister. In 1997 he opened Chameleon, which has been a hidden gem of eclectic gourmet dining ever since, save for a couple of months each year when Jeung closes it down to travel the world, always bringing back fresh recipes with which to reinvigorate Chameleon's ever-changing menu.

Chameleon remains something of a well-kept secret, but one with a loyal clientele. Jeung reveals: "90 percent of the people who come here are regulars. I'm not the sort of person who follows trends. I do what I think is best, based on my credentials and experience as a chef and connoisseur."

As in years past, the party will feature an elaborate buffet of the chef's tastiest morsels, special performances, a no-host bar serving cocktails for every taste and a contest with prizes for the reveler with the best hat. Portland City Commissioner (and future mayor?) **Sam Adams** will be the guest of honor. Entertainment typically includes exotic spectacles such as fire dancing, belly dancing and performance art by members of Sissyboy and the like.

Come early for mellow snacks and conversation; stay late for the real action. The party starts at 7 p.m., but it's the after-party, which begins at 10, where things really heat up.

The suggested donation is \$25, 100 percent of which will be given to charity. Local nonprofits that have benefited in the past from the Chameleon's high spirits include the Portland Rescue Mission, Our House of Portland, Equity Foundation, Dress for Success and the Hollywood Senior Center.

—Tony LeTigre

Today, when "order" (manifest not least by virtually nonstop socio-political-cultural reinforcement of "traditional" concepts of gender and sexuality) seems increasingly to supersede freedom, Shaktini views Wittig, who once provocatively proclaimed that "lesbians are not women," as a refreshing counterbalance.

"Wittig's thought... is still at the most radical end of the spectrum in the critique of gender categories," she says. "In all of her work, she calls for their disappearance.... Her theory attacked the compulsoriness of heterosexuality and identified it as a political regime."

She likens Wittig to radical greats like Sappho, Marx and Brecht. "Her texts... continue to raise the reader's consciousness. Like Marx, she left a class analysis and called for the disappearance of that class—the class of 'women.'"

As formidable as Wittig's intellect may have been, Shaktini characterizes her work as relatively accessible. "She was a brilliant lesbian and feminist... who wanted to reach a wide audience by using the clearest language possible."

People interested in expanding their frame of reference should therefore avail themselves of what is sure to be an engaging, informative presentation and discussion of a fascinating queer intellectual.

—Christopher McQuain