



A gay butler (Ralph Fiennes) befriends a tobacco heiress (Susan Sarandon) in *Bernard and Doris* debuting Feb. 9 on HBO.



CoHo Productions stages *Tales of Ordinary Madness* through Feb. 23.

SAT • FEB. 9

The **Adventure Group** goes downhill skiing at Mount Hood Meadows. Meet outside Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (8 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. RSVP to Jim at 503-760-3814.)

Maria Ochoa and Barbara K. Ige read from the multidimensional anthology *Shout Out: Women of Color Respond to Violence* at In Other Words. (2 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Northwest Gender Alliance—a social, support and educational group for people who desire to explore and express another gender—meets every second Saturday at Q Center. (2-6 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Asian & Pacific Islander Lesbians & Gays present their Lunar New Year Banquet and Annual Meeting at Shenzhen Restaurant. (5-8 pm. 707 NE 82nd Ave. \$30 at the door, \$25 in advance from Meei at 503-784-5388 or aplg_pdx@yahoo.com.)

Eugene's Indigo District throws a **Hot Flash Dance Party** every second Saturday featuring dance music from the '70s to today. Power surges for seasoned lesbians 30 and older—and the women who love them! (5-9 pm. 1290 Oak St. \$8.)

Celebrate good times! Embers presents **L4L PDX** for lesbians 35 and older every second Saturday. Dance to '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s music in a nonsmoking environment. (5-9 pm. 110 NW Broadway. \$5.)

Hip Chicks Do Wine presents **Valentine's Day Wine and Chocolate Tasting** featuring a tasting of six to eight wines, appetizers, chocolate delights by Godiva, live music by There She Goes and a rose for your sweetie. (6-9 pm. 4510 SE 23rd Ave. \$10.)

The seductive **Eartha Kitt**—an 81-year-old showbiz icon whose career has spanned more than six decades of stardom in film, theater,

cabaret, television and the recording studio—makes a rare Portland appearance in a special pre-Valentine's Day concert with the Oregon Symphony at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$20-\$112 from Ticketmaster.)

GO OUT The **Portland Lesbian Choir** presents *Passion for Peace* featuring songs about peace, freedom, justice, celebrating women and, of course, love at Bridgeport United Church of Christ. (7:30 pm. 641 NE 76th Ave. \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance from Touchstone Coffee House, In Other Words and Music Millennium.)

HBO debuts *Bernard and Doris*, a grown-up fairy tale about the extraordinary relationship between tobacco heiress Doris Duke (Susan Sarandon) and her gay butler, Bernard Lafferty (Ralph Fiennes), who was granted control over her billion-dollar fortune. (8-9:45 pm.)

Girl4Girl celebrates one year in Portland with a celebrity appearance by Dani Campbell from MTV's *A Shot at Love* with Tila Tequila, the Pacific Northwest's hottest go-go dancers and music by DJs Mel and Beyonda at Wonder Ballroom. (9 pm. 128 NE Russell St. \$15 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

Having returned from their yearlong sabbatical across the pond, 2 Gyrlz Performative Arts presents a good old-fashioned rock show featuring **Tex Napalm & Dimi Dero** with **Anthony S. Malat** of Bellmer Dolls and opening sets from **Magick Daggers** and **The Garland Ray Project** at Rotture. (9 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$8.)

SUN • FEB. 10

Garrison Starr performs at Borders. (2 pm. 708 SW Third Ave.)

Q Center presents **NoHo Trans/Genderqueer Group**, for folks who are not on hormones, every second Sunday. (2-4 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Butch/femme advice columnists Gina Daggett and Kathy Belge celebrate the release of their book, *Lipstick & Dipstick's Essential Guide to Lesbian Relationships*, during the monthly dance party **Pop Tart** featuring Rose City Sirens and Ashleigh Flynn at Holocene. (5-7 p.m. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

GO OUT Authors, poets and songwriters (including former *Just Out* columnist and award-winning humorist Marc Acito) tell **True Stories** at Mississippi Studios. (7:30 pm. 3939 N Mississippi Ave. \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance from 503-288-3895.)

MON • FEB. 11

In *Other Words* presents the **Olin Study Group** discussing the link between the anti-capitalist struggles of Latin America and our own struggles here at home. (6 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Write Around Portland facilitates a free 10-week workshop for transgender adults to explore the power of writing and community in

a safe, respectful and creative environment Mondays through April 21. Journals, pens, snacks and beverages provided. (6:30-8:30 pm. 917 SW Oak St. #405. RSVP to 503-796-9224.)

The **Human Rights Campaign**, which advocates for queer issues, holds a volunteer meeting every second Monday at Q Center. Get involved! (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Logo premieres *Transamerican Love Story*, a reality dating series starring actress and activist Calpernia Addams in her quest for love. Join host Alec Mapa (*Desperate Housewives*, *Ugly Betty*) and Calpernia's best friend, Andrea James, as they whittle down a group of eight eligible suitors in their search for her Mr. Right. (10 pm.)

TUE • FEB. 12

Haven Coffee hosts the **Bisexual Women's Discussion Group**. (6:30 pm. 3551 SE Division St. RSVP to pdxbiwomen@gmail.com.)

Women's rights activist **Susan Wicklund** reads from *The Common Secret: My Journey as an Abortion Doctor* at In Other Words. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Gilt Club hosts **Salon Q**, a monthly mixer for men and women to network, chat, socialize, flirt, dish and kibitz in a smoke-free environment. (7-11 pm. 306 NW Broadway. www.salonqdx.com.)

Doug Fir Lounge presents an evening with two uniquely gifted performers, **Baby Dee** and

Holcombe Waller. (9 pm. 830 E Burnside St. \$10 from TicketsWest.)

WED • FEB. 13

The **Portland Area Business Association** holds its monthly meeting at MacTarnahan's Taproom with a scholarship committee presentation. (11:30 am-1 pm. 2730 NW 31st Ave. \$18-\$25 from www.paba.com.)

Central Library presents **Zinesters Talking** featuring Nicole Georges (*Invincible Summer*) and Greg Means (*Clutch Split*). (6:30-7:45 pm. 801 SW 10th Ave.)

GO OUT **Beren deMotier** reads from *The Brides of March: Memoir of a Same-Sex*

Hard Living

Mary Gauthier's latest release, *Between Daylight and Dark*, is country noir: sad, despairing and, at times, bleak. Each song is like a short fictional portrait of liminal people, those lost and disenfranchised souls who pass through this life invisible in their misery to most of us.

"Thanksgiving Day" is a stark, firsthand account of families waiting outside in the bitter cold for a visit to see kin in Tallulah State Prison on the holiday. "Can't Find the Way" speaks to the ordeal of displacement of a Hurricane Katrina victim, now scraping by in Houston. "Snakebit" conjures images of utter desperation with crying hungry children in the background and a woman, gun in her hand, whose circumstances are unclear. The gravely voice of personal experience resonates in these songs; there is no question that Gauthier herself has done some hard living.

Born in New Orleans, Gauthier spent the first nine months of her life abandoned to the St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage by a mother she never knew. She recounts: "I was adopted by a couple with a deeply troubled marriage that would end in divorce after 23 years of conflict and unhappiness. My mother was unstable, my father an alcoholic—and the war between them lasted for my entire childhood." Not surprisingly, Gauthier began using drugs and alcohol at an early age, racking up time in rehab and jail and before finally quitting in her late 20s.

Gauthier eventually landed in Boston, where she found work in restaurants. Combining her love of food and her home town of New Orleans, she opened Boston's first Cajun restaurant, the Dixie Kitchen. Unfortunately, the opening night for her establishment took an ugly turn; she made the morning paper for a drunken driving arrest rather than a culinary review.

One of her employees took her to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, and so began her sobriety. At age 39, 10 years into her sobriety, Gauthier was coaxed into an open mike night by an employee. Soon she was part of the prolific Boston singer/songwriter scene, leading to three self-released CDs, *Dixie Kitchen*, *Drag Queens in Limousines* and *Filth and Fire*. 2005's *Mercy Now* on Lost Highway Records—a label she shares with Lucinda Williams, Willie Nelson and Ryan Adams—received critical acclaim and a nod from none other than Bob Dylan himself.

Gauthier might have other skeletons in her closet, but she has always been frank about her sexuality. She is one of the few openly gay musicians to have played the Grand Ole Opry, a notoriously straight old boys club.

Between Daylight and Dark is Americana storytelling at its best. Gauthier's arrangements are spare with familiar, waltzlike tempos. Each song is linked together by her visual lyrics of humanity, establishing herself as a songwriter of merit.

—Dale Schiff



Mary Gauthier performs Feb. 6 at Lola's Room.

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fresh fish, Peking duck and meat-free options such as tables and tofu. Guests will also have a chance to names in a raffle to win gift certificates for massage and fine eating establishments around town as well as Portland's Japanese Garden and Chinese Classical wonderful group of folks who get together two or year for different occasions and celebrations, and only one of the best ones to be at," says Lum. organizes a range of social activities throughout the outdoor activities, potluck dinners and movie says she hopes the Year of the Rat will bring v directions, new faces and more friends" to the n is \$30 at the door or \$25 in advance. RSVP to 8 or aplg_pdx@yahoo.com.
—Julie Sabatier