

Marriage at St. Johns Booksellers. (7:30 pm. 8622 N Lombard St.)

THU • FEB. 14

Elder Resource Alliance invites older members of the sexual minorities community to meet each other, share common interests and enjoy fun conversation every second Thursday at Niki's Restaurant. (1-3 pm. 736 SE Grand Ave.)

Actors Cabaret of Eugene presents **An Evening of Love & Laughter** featuring Wymprov! comedy troupe, songs from *Ring of Fire: A Johnny Cash Revue*, dinner, wine, dessert and a gift bag valued at more than \$35. Proceeds benefit Basic Rights Oregon. (6:30 pm dinner, 8 pm show. 996 Willamette St. \$25-\$55 from 541-683-4368.)

Full Circle Temple invites self-identified women to a **Valentine's Dessert Soiree** featuring delectable desserts, coffee, tea and dancing in the Fire Room. (7-9 pm. 3125 E Burnside St. \$10 donation.)

Still looking for a Valentine's Day sweetheart? Join other single guys in a round of **speed dating** at the Men's Wellness Center. Who knows, maybe you'll be struck by Cupid's arrow? (7-9 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

GO OUT Celebrate with your sweetheart on Valentine's Day at **Darcelle XV Showplace** with a delicious prime rib dinner and a delightful cabaret show. (7 pm dinner, 8:30 pm show. 208 NW Third Ave. \$29.95 a couple from 503-222-5338.)

Learn everything from designing or remodeling your home to filling it up with beautiful furniture! Gay-owned Paolo Design Group presents the free public service workshop **Romancing Your Home** at Lee/Eastman Contemporary Design Studio in Tualatin. Followed by a Valentine's Day champagne toast and chocolate lovers buffet. (7-9 pm. 18035 SW Lower Boones Ferry Road. RSVP to 503-624-1368 or valerie@leeeastman.com.)

Rotture presents **I've Got a Hole in My Soul** featuring DJ Beyonda spinning "soul transmissions from the Stax satellite." (9 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$3.)

FRI • FEB. 15

In Other Words presents **Girl Movie Night** with a screening of *Chisholm '72: Unbought & Unbossed*, a documentary about the first black woman elected to Congress and to run a serious, high-profile campaign for the U.S. presidency. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

The Men's Wellness Center invites you to try your luck at **Chicos Latinos Bingo** featuring fabulous prizes and the fabulous Miss Mylar! (7-9 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

"Really, this book could save your life," swears queer Portland author Tom Spanbauer. **Natalie Goldberg** reads from *Old Friend from Far Away*—a profound affirmation of the capacity of the written word to remember the past, free us from it and forever transform the way we think about ourselves and our lives—at Powell's Books. (7:30 pm. 1005 W Burnside St.)

For those who prefer the "company" of their own sex, plus all of their friends: Basil Bar presents **Fruits** every third Friday featuring drink and food specials, a cozy area for dancing and an amazing DJ. (10 pm. 3131 NE Broadway. \$3.)

Rotture presents **Black Gold** featuring DJ Girlfriends. (10 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$3.)

SAT • FEB. 16

Weather permitting, **The Adventure Group** takes an intermediate cross-country ski and snowshoe trip at Pocket Creek toward views of Mount Hood. Meet outside Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (8 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Evan 503-701-7922.)

Tired of the same Valentine's Day fluff? Love-savvy life coaches explore what really makes relationships work, how to find a partner and how to get your needs met while having fun during the queer- and poly-friendly discussion **Causing Love** at Q Center. (Noon-4 pm. 69 SE Taylor St. \$39 at the door, \$34 in advance from www.causeit.org.)

Connect—a collective that addresses the isolation and alienation within activism, social work and general interpersonal relationships—presents a **Relational Cultural Theory Workshop** at In Other Words. (2 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Q Center presents **Daddies and Papas Potluck**, a monthly group for gay, bi and trans men raising children to hang out with their kids and other dads, enjoy a dinner and have some fun. (5-7 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Logan Lynn performs with **Dahlia, New Agency and Assemble the Empire** at East End. (8 pm. 203 SE Grand Ave. \$6.)

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

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.)

The Future Is Now

Seth Gottes is a Portlander who has a high opinion of, and even higher ambitions for, the richness of the Rose City's cultural soil for nurturing homegrown talent. He's organizing the **Future Arts Festival**, which will take place Feb. 7 at Holocene. The multimedia cavalcade of local artists—something akin to a one-night rendition of Andy Warhol's vibrant, decadent Factory—is intended, according to Gottes, to "show the public that Portland has a cutting-edge and visionary artistic community."

Gottes, himself no stranger to spinning vinyl (he also goes by the name DJ Girlfriends), has put together the festival as a fund-raiser for the **Portland DJ Extravaganza** in July at Pioneer Courthouse Square. But soundscapes by some of the city's choicest record-spinners, including queer faves DJ Linoleum and DJ Automaton, will be only the beginning at the festival, whose lineup foregrounds some of Portland's best live musicians, dancers, fashion designers and visual artists. Included on the bill are the scintillating routines of the lesbian burlesque troupe **Rose City Sirens**; visual works by queer artists like

GO OUT Chicago cabaret artist **Amy Armstrong** performs an "adult" themed concert at Melody Ballroom. Proceeds benefit Camp Starlight. (8:30 pm. 615 SE Alder St. \$25 from amyfreddy@comcast.net.)

Bac'untry Bruthers—an all-queer female jug/dRagtime band from Ester, Alaska—performs at Kay's Bar. (9:30 pm. 6903 SE Milwaukie Ave.)

Rotture presents **Sick** featuring DJs Jimme Jamma, Megadeth and Burn. (10 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$3.)

SUN • FEB. 17

Q Center presents **Parenting and Pregnant Lesbians of Portland**, a time when families can come together, play together and get support on issues unique to lesbian parenting or impregnation. (2-4 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Children's Trust Fund of Oregon and Hasbro present the second in a series of **GLBT Play-a-Thons** at Fox & Hounds to raise money and awareness for child abuse prevention programs across the state. Contestants will participate in six different game stations (Jenga, Outburst, Twister, Connect Four, Pictionary and Scrabble) with prizes for the top three teams and a championship round in April! Registration fee includes two drink tickets and appetizers. (3-5 pm. 217 NW Second Ave. \$20 from 503-222-7346 or www.ctfo.org.)

Q Center hosts **Tranz Guys**—a group for trans men and intersex, genderqueer and questioning people who were assigned female at birth—every third Sunday. (6 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Embers presents the 25th annual **Valentines from Hell**. This year's theme is "An Evening of Madness and Mayhem: Remembering Mame." Proceeds benefit the Pride of the Rose Scholarship Fund. (8 pm. 110 NW Broadway. \$5.)



Alec Mapa helps Calpurnia Addams find Mr. Right in *Transamerican Love Story* premiering Feb. 11 on Logo.



Jessie Foxx and the Rose City Sirens will perform during the Future Arts Festival on Feb. 7 at Holocene.

Wesley Younie, Sarah Gottesdiener and Olivia Edith and installation creator Kjerstin Rossi; the extraordinary fashions of lesbian designer Nicole Eatman, creator of the Luxury Jones line of clothing; and the polysexual outrageousness of sexed-up sensation **Fleshtone**, a sort of musical cooperative notorious for its live shows—expect plenty of costumes, choreography and general hotness.

Gottes describes the festival as "queer dominant," meaning that more than half of the performers, artists and other participants are queer-identified. It has as its ideology the same that Gottes has brought to other queer-dominated events he has organized, such as last year's Thin Pink Line dance party. At that time, he articulated in these pages his appreciation of what he sees as Portland's pansexuality and gender-blurring: "[In Portland], gender is a choice. It's about pronouns and exploration and the way people feel." With the Future Arts Festival, the audience will have the opportunity to see that worldview expressed across, appropriately, a wide diversity of media.

—Christopher McQuain

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