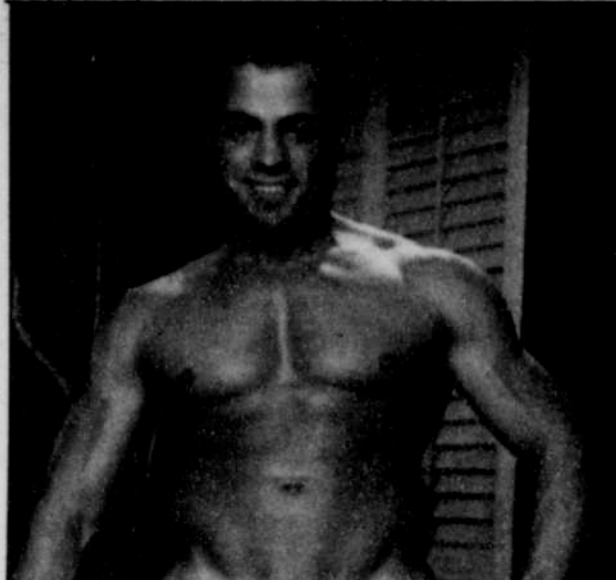




Porn star Tyler Saint celebrates Steam's fifth anniversary Feb. 16.

will also read from his forthcoming book, *Samuel Joseph for President*. (6-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)



The **Portland Gay Men's Chorus** presents *Movie Madness*, a high-spirited and rollicking evening of song, dance and costumes celebrating music from the movies, at Newmark Theatre. The program will include songs from film favorites such as *Fame*, *Bless the Beasts and the Children*, *Footloose* and Irving Berlin's *Top Hat* as well as two new arrangements by resident composer Robert Seeley: "Lovestruck," a medley of great love songs, and "Disney Fantasy," a tour de force of Disney classics. (8 pm. 1111 SW Broadway. \$20-\$30 from 503-226-2588.)

Women Who Rock and Next Tier Productions present a tribute to living Americana/folk/rock legend **Lucinda Williams** with an impressive lineup of Portland's top voices (including lesbian musician Renee Plant) at Fez Ballroom. (8 pm. 316 NW 11th Ave. \$10.)

Church of Girl presents **International Indie Music Video Night** at Someday Lounge featuring the U.S. premiere of *Street Angel with a Cowboy Mouth*, a 36-minute film documenting the first European tour by Berlin queer electronic duo Rhythm King and Her Friends, followed by dancing with DJ Boy & Pals. Proceeds benefit Siren Nation, an emerging non-profit organization supporting women in the arts. (10 pm. 125 NW Fifth Ave. \$5.)

SUN • MARCH 2

Darcelle XV Showplace presents **Divas & Desserts** featuring Darcelle's world-famous show, a scrumptious dessert buffet and a raffle of fabulous prizes! Proceeds benefit Camp Starlight. (7 pm. 208 NW Third Ave. \$25 donation from 503-223-5907 or araffaele-burns@cascadeaids.org.)

C.C. Slaughters throws a CD release party for *The Warner Bros. Years: Hits, Remixes & Rarities* by **Ashford and Simpson**. (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St.)

Bac'untry Bruthers performs at Sam Bond's Garage in Eugene. (9 pm. 407 Blair Blvd.)

MON • MARCH 3

The **Bisexual Community Forum** hosts a casual discussion group every first Monday at 3 Friends Coffeehouse. (7:30 pm. 201 SE 12th Ave. 503-285-4848.)

TUE • MARCH 4

Elder Resource Alliance takes a bus ride to Dulin's Café in Vancouver, Wash., then explores Old Towne Antique Market, which houses more than 75 vendors, Zephyr Vintage Books and Bumblebee Coffee and Tea. (11 am-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave. RSVP to 503-224-2640, ext. 152.)

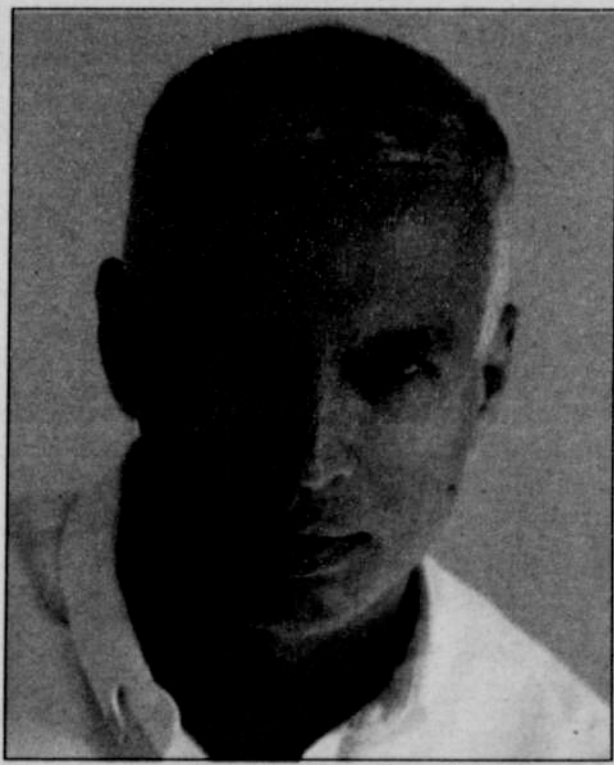
Enjoy a social evening of board, card and interactive games during **Game Night** every first Tuesday at Q Center. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

WED • MARCH 5

See what **Elder Resource Alliance** is up to during its monthly business meeting at Friendly House. (2:30-4:30 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

THU • MARCH 6

Contributor Shanna Germain reads at Powell's on Hawthorne from *Best Lesbian Erotica 2008*, which journeys into the world of lesbian sex with uncommon, edgy stories that push lust and desire to new heights. (7:30 pm. 3723 SE Hawthorne Blvd.)



Manil Suri reads Feb. 26 at Powell's Books.

Nicky Click and Scream Club perform during **Queer Bait**, a weekly dance party hosted by Splendor and the Gender Fluids at Crush. (9 pm. 1400 SE Morrison St. \$3.)

Rotture presents **Mutation**, "a freetek dance party experiment of the Pan-Zen Conspiracy Nett-Wyrk" featuring queer DJ Try My Cabbage. (9 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$5 donation.)

FRI • MARCH 7

Out Dancing's **intermediate nightclub two-step** class starts tonight and continues every Friday in March at Ankeny Street Studio. **Beginning country two-step** class follows. (6:15-7:15 pm nightclub [\$32 for month], 7:15-8:15 pm country [\$24 for month]. 975 SE Sandy Blvd. 503-236-5129. www.outdancing.info.)

Sundance Channel presents the U.S. television premiere of the photography documentary **Black White + Gray: A Portrait of Sam Wagstaff and Robert Mapplethorpe**. (8:30 pm.)

SAT • MARCH 8

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.)

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.)

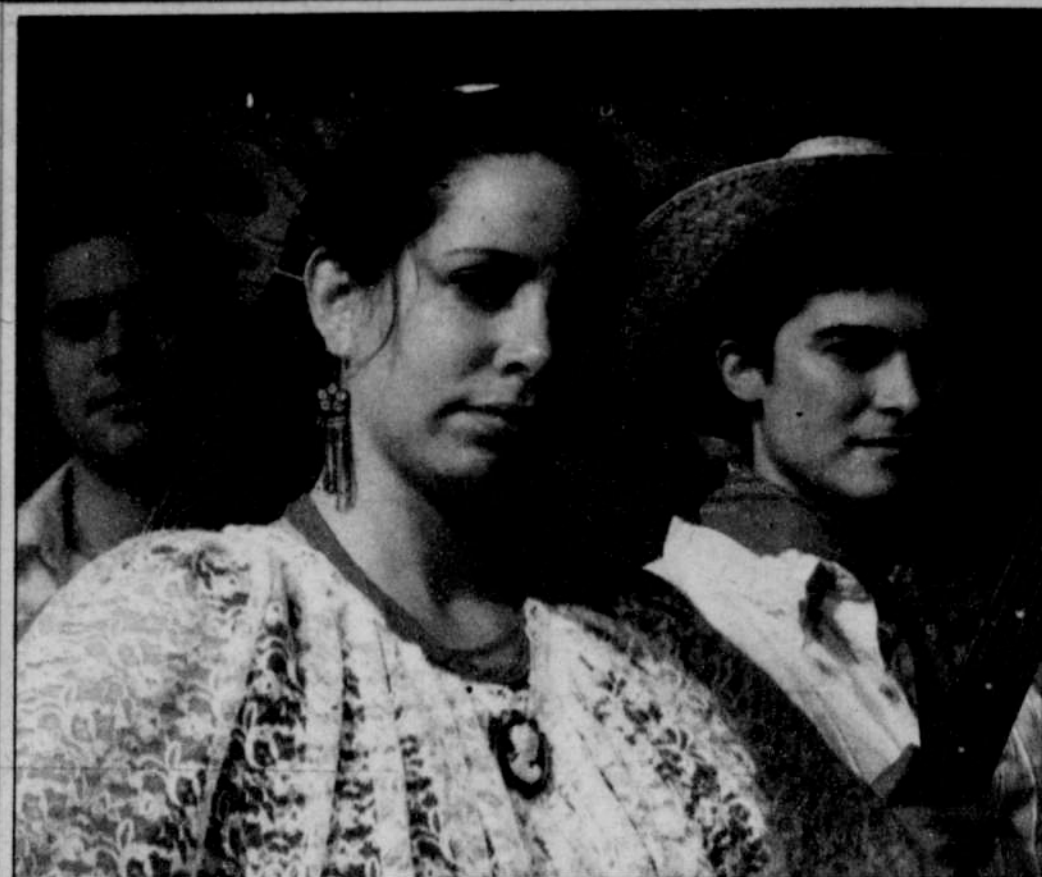
Celebrate good times! Embers presents **L4L PDX** for lesbians 35 and older every second Saturday. Dance to '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s music in a nonsmoking environment. (5-9 pm. 110 NW Broadway. \$5.)

GO OUT Q Center presents **College Social Night**, an informal opportunity for queer students to meet each other and learn about volunteerism. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

DJs BJ and Copy of Do 'n' Dudes throw a mean monthly dance party with electronic legend **E*Rock** at Branx. (10 pm. 320 SE Second Ave. \$3.)

SUN • MARCH 9

Holocene presents **Pop Tart** for bois, dykes, ladies and the like every second Sunday. (7 pm-1 am. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)



From left, Stan Olmsted, Rebecca Martínez and Joaquin López explore Mexican-American identity in *Cuentos: Searching for My Story*.

Crossing Borders

Growing up in the suburbs of Portland, gay Mexican-American performer **Joaquin López** did his best to fit in with the mainstream white culture.

"I'm light-skinned," which makes it easier to assimilate," he says. But passing as white puts him in an awkward position from time to time. When López speaks Spanish on the job at the Northeast Portland taquería La Bonita, customers have been known to say, "You say it like you're one of them."

"I show them a picture of my family," he says, "and explain that Spanish is my first language."

Themes of ancestry, identity and assimilation figure prominently in *Cuentos: Searching for My Story*, a piece produced by Miracle Theatre Group and the multicultural artist ensemble ¡Viva La Cultura!

López acts, sings and plays guitar in the production along with Portland performers **Rebecca Martínez** and **Stan Olmsted**. He helped collaborate on the project when Martínez earned a Neighborhood Arts Project Grant from the Regional Arts & Culture Council. "We explore our quest for identity in Mexican-American culture in a lighthearted way," he explains.

The narrative for *Cuentos* emerged from a series of conversations between the artists. "Rebecca interviewed me about growing up Mexican American," López says. "She asked how it felt, what hurt the most."

Martínez, López and Olmsted drew on their musical backgrounds to select Mexican and Spanish folks songs for the show. In addition, López included several songs he learned while singing in a Catholic church choir as a child.

Cuentos features two songs by gay Spanish writer **Federico García Lorca**, although there is no queer content in the story. The show is bilingual with no subtitles, but López assures that all audience members will be able to comprehend the content.

López says he is happily settled in a relationship. When not working at La Bonita, he's quite musically inclined: He's writing a rock album, and he'd like to record an album of Spanish folk songs. He also teaches guitar at Sowelu Theater's summer arts camps.

Cuentos runs 3 p.m. Saturdays through Feb. 23 at 525 S.E. Stark St. Tickets are \$5-\$10 from 503-236-7253.

—Stephen Blair

eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out eating|out

Gino's
Restaurant & Bar
Where friends meet for good food
and wine in a relaxed atmosphere.
"Life is Good"
Sunday - Thursday 4-10 pm, Friday - Saturday 4-11 pm
8051 SE 13th Ave. at Spokane in Sellwood
503-233-4613

Come for the coffee...
Stay for the cupcakes

BLUE GARDENIA
COFFEE ROASTERS
3747 N. Mississippi • 503-460-2583

Quality Food • At Your Service
• Comfortable Atmosphere •
Everything's made from scratch
including the ketchup!
Breakfast and Lunch

2338 NE Alberta
503-288-8299
www.francisrestaurant.com