



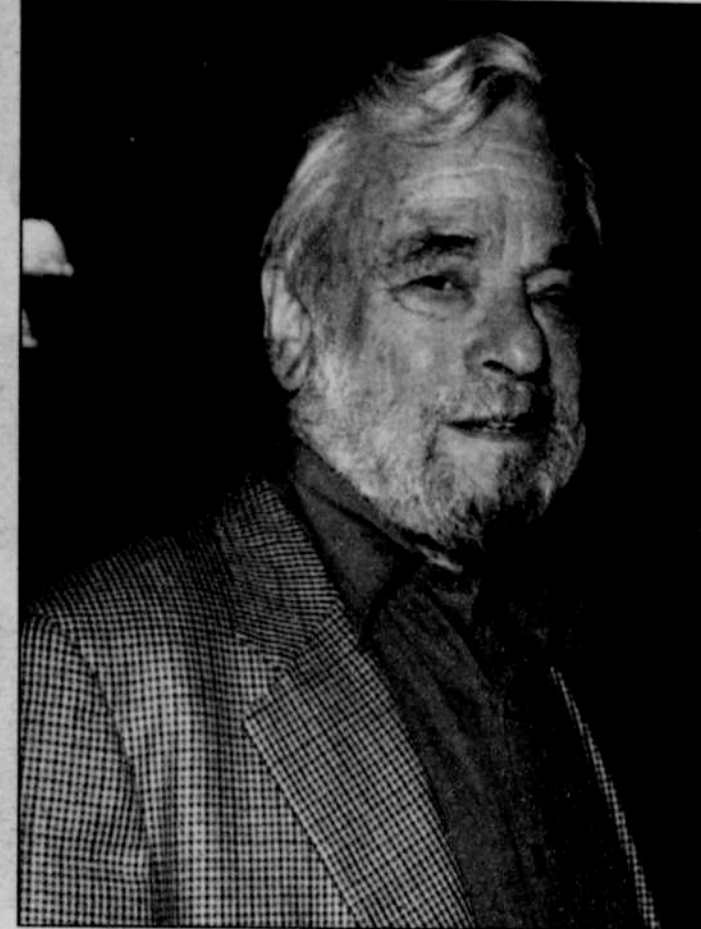
Queer artist Stephen Scott Smith participates in Woolley at Wonder's final exhibit, *Alphabet Soup: Labeling, Identity, Stigma, Pride*. Don't miss the opening and closing parties March 8 and 21!



Blue Door Productions presents The 3rd Floor in *That's Entertainment? A History of Comedy* through March 22.



A "choir queer" is *Made into a pro wrestler* March 8 on MTV.



Tony, Pulitzer, Oscar and Grammy winner Stephen Sondheim speaks with columnist Frank Rich on March 11 at the Schnitz.



Queer artist Mike Fox's stenciled spray paintings are on display this month at Berhati's.



DJs B.J. and Copy of Do 'n' Dudes throw a mean monthly dance party with electronic leg-end E*Rock at Brax. (10 pm. 320 SE Second Ave. \$3.)

SUN • MARCH 9

Weather permitting, *The Adventure Group* goes for an easy mountain bike ride in Forest Park. Meet at the west end of Northwest Thurman Street. (10 am. Laurent 503-227-2914.)

Compete for prize packages during *Sister Strip Poker* at C.C. Slaughters. (Yes, you do get your clothes back at the end of the game!) Proceeds benefit the Portland Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Grant Fund. (4 pm. 219 NW Davis St. \$20.)

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

MON • MARCH 10

Queer artists Todd Haynes, Ramsey McPhillips and David Weissman host a reception for U.S. Senate candidate *Steve Novick* featuring nosh and cocktails at Elizabeth Leach Gallery. (5-7:30 pm. 417 NW Ninth Ave.)

TUE • MARCH 11

University of Vermont associate professor *Valerie Rohy*, author of *Impossible Women: Lesbian Figures and American Literature and American Local Color Writing, 1880-1920*, presents "In the Queer Archive: Alison Bechdel's Fun Home" in Room 19 of Reed College's biology building. (4:15 pm. 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd.)

In Other Words presents the *Bitch Magazine Pop-Culture Debate Club*. This quarter's topic is "Britney Spears: Who's to Blame?" (7 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Aura 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. 1022 W Burnside St. www.salon-qpxd.com.)

Portland Arts & Lectures presents *Sweeney Todd* lyricist and composer *Stephen Sondheim* in conversation with *New York Times* columnist *Frank Rich* at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (7:30 pm. 1111 SW Broadway. \$10-\$26 from www.literary-arts.org.)

Gay author *Brian Kurth* reads from *Test-Drive Your Dream Job* at Powell's. Kurth, the creator of *Vocation Vacations*, helps anyone and everyone find out if a new career is right for them through research, mentoring and firsthand experience. His book offers success stories and a step-by-step plan to identify, explore and experience your dream career. (7:30 pm. 1005 W Burnside St.)

WED • MARCH 12

The *Portland Area Business Association* holds its monthly meeting at MacTarnahan's Taproom with a presentation by Holocaust survivors Les and Eva Aigner on "The Importance of Acceptance and the Consequences of Intolerance." (11:30 am-1 pm. 2730 NW 31st Ave. \$18-\$25 from www.paba.com.)

Townshend's Alberta Street Teahouse hosts the *Bisexual Women's Discussion Group*. (7 pm. 2223 NE Alberta St. RSVP to pdxbiwomen@gmail.com.)

THU • MARCH 13

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.)

Gerding Theater at the Armory hosts Equity Foundation's eighth annual *Investments in Dignity* benefit featuring a reception, an auction, awards and entertainment by drag personality Poison Waters, acoustic band Sneakin' Out and standup comedian Carl Wolfson. This year's theme is "Celebrities Among Us." (5:30 pm. 128 NW 11th Ave. \$65 from 503-231-5759.)

In Other Words presents a reading by lesbian poets *Elizabeth Bradfield* and *Nickole Brown*. According to *Books!ut*, Bradfield's debut, *Interpretive Work*, "asserts the trained eye of a naturalist to reveal the mirrored and unrecorded likeness of the botanical, animal and human worlds." Brown's debut, *Sister*, is a novel-in-poems that begins with a teen giving birth to a baby girl—the narrator—during a tornado; in some ways, that tornado never ends. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

Broadway Books presents a reading by 29th Street Writers, a group that has been meeting for more than two decades and that loves to explore the pleasure, power and limits of language. (7 pm. 1714 NE Broadway.)

The Men's Wellness Center presents an informational session on *Celebrating the Body Erotic*, the Body Electric's interactive workshop designed to connect men to their deepest centers of pleasure. Discover how to give and receive more fully using breath, touch and movement. Scholarship money is available for the March 28-29 class. (7-8:30 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

QDoc: Portland Queer Documentary Film Festival screens *Ruthie and Connie*, an intimate film about two deeply complex Jewish grandmothers who met in 1959 and fell in love in 1974, at Q Center. (7:30 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Rothco 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 • MARCH 14

The *Adventure Group* meets for dinner followed by the Professional Bullriders Rodeo at the Rose Quarter. (6 pm dinner, 8 pm show. RSVP to Jim at 503-284-4156.)

Hollywood Theatre presents the Portland premiere of *Julius & Outlaws*. Proceeds benefit Basic Rights Oregon. (7 pm. 4122 NE Sandy Blvd. \$10.)

Confluence: Willamette Valley LGBT Chorus presents *Generations of Peace*—featuring "The Declaration," an excerpt from the Declaration of Independence originally recorded by The Fifth Dimension; "Concord" by gay composer Benjamin Britten; and "Shir L'Shalom," a Hebrew anthem of peace—at Bethel Lutheran Church. Repeats March 15 at Chemeketa Community College in Salem and March 16 at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis. (7:30 pm Friday, 1244 NE 39th Ave. 7:30 pm Saturday, 4000 Lancaster Drive NE. 4 pm Sunday, 2490 NW Circle Blvd. \$12-\$15 from www.confluencechorus.org.)

Mr. Oregon State Leather 2007 Ben Brown Jr. hosts *Leathermen's Cigar Social*, an event for men in the leather/leather community featuring raffle prizes, every second Friday at Gail's Dirty Duck. Proceeds benefit Central City Concern and Blackout Leather Productions. (9 pm-midnight. 439 NW Third Ave. \$10 beer or soda bust.)

SAT • MARCH 15

Weather permitting, *The Adventure Group* takes a moderate hike on Shellrock Mountain. Meet outside Starbucks at Hollywood Jeff Meyer. (9 am. 3030 NE Weidner St. Jeff 503-234-4800.)

Q-LAND/Manifest presents a free introductory men's yoga class to transform the edge of who you think you are through powerful stretching and breathing. Repeats March 22. (9:30-11 am. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

The Human Rights Campaign presents *Implementing the Oregon Equality Act: A Workshop for Employers and Employees* at Jupiter Hotel. Lunch will be served. (10 am-5 pm. 800 E Burnside St. RSVP to 503-381-9478 or brandasmith3304@hotmail.com.)

Noted as one of the nation's top five mixologists by *Food and Wine* in January 2006, Mint owner *Luis Breacon* signs her book *Hip Sip: Modern Cocktails to Raise Your Spirits* at SakaOne in Forest Grove. The tasting fee includes a flight of five sakes, three sakes and a tour. (1-3 pm. 820 Elm St. \$3.)

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

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation presents its second annual *Justice Within Reach* event featuring music by DJs Anjali and The Incredible Kid along with an amazing and rare display of political cartoons from more than 20 local and national artists, including Alison Bechdel, at Holocene. (7-11 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$25-\$50 sliding scale from 503-289-1517.)

Q Center joins forces with the Portland Lesbian & Gay Film Festival to bring you the best in queer cinema during *Queer Film School*. Tonight's selection is Portland gay filmmaker Gus Van Sant's *My Own Private Idaho*. (8 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Satori Men's Chorus presents *A Time for Peace* at The Old Church. (8 pm. 1422 SW 11th Ave. \$7-\$12 from 503-242-4244.)

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

Someday Lounge throws the final *Golden* dance party featuring Starfucker and DJs Copy, Linoleum and B.J. (10 pm. 125 NW Fifth Ave. \$5.)

SUN • MARCH 16

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 third in a series of *GLBT Play-a-Things* 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 *Trans 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.)

Q-LAND/Manifest presents *Beat the Blues*, a support group to find practical strategies for dealing with seasonal affective disorder and other depression that worsens in the winter. (6-8 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Blackbox presents *How Comes a Big Black Cloud, My Lover, World's Greatest Ghosts, Slimehead, Dirty Mittens and Almost Nearly*. Next door, *Someday Lounge* presents Alan Singley and Penta Machine, Swim Swim Spum, The Vonneguts, Palo Verde, Gregory Miles Harris and Oh Captain, My Captain. Proceeds benefit Basic Rights Oregon. (7 pm. 115 and 125 NW Fifth Ave. \$7-\$12 sliding scale.)

Burly Girl Productions presents *A Naughty Lil' Queer Cabaret* at Doug Fir Lounge. Proceeds benefit Basic Rights Oregon. (8 pm. 830 E Burnside St. \$20 from TicketsWest.)

MON • MARCH 17

Elder Resource Alliance hosts the first of a two-part presentation about diabetes at Friendly House. Fresh hot coffee and fanciful teas will be served. (2-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

Playfully explore the city by bike with other men during *Wanderlust* presented by Q-LAND/Manifest. Meet at Wild Oats. (6:30 pm. 3535 NE 15th Ave. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Q-LAND/Manifest presents a free introductory men's core strength yoga class to develop your spinal and abdominal muscles, flexibility and energy. (6:30-7:45 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Gather around the *Portland Polyamory Circle* for informal discussions of open relationships and commitment. (7 pm. Laury 503-285-4848.)

Grease your wheels during *Gay Skate Night* presented by Just Out at Oaks Park. (7-9 pm. 1 SE Spokane St. \$6 plus canned food items for Esther's Pantry.)

Interested in preserving local queer history? *Gay and Lesbian Archives of the Pacific Northwest* meets at Q Center. (7-9 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

'Diamond' Dunes Is Divine

Sahara Dunes knows something about wielding an umbrella as a phallic prop.

So when R & B starlet Rihanna's hit song of that same name (you know, the one from last summer: "ella ella ella, eh eh eh," etc.) comes on the radio, her cell phone blows up with texts from a dozen friends, all of them recalling Dunes' inimitable burlesque performance of the song.

So, did she ride the 'brella like a king dong, or didn't she? Dunes demures with a girlish laugh: "Not too naughty now!"

It's just this type of peek-a-boo sexuality that has audiences gaga over Dunes, one of Portland's hottest strip-off artists. To be fair, she doesn't strip so much as seduce in her self-proclaimed "neo-burlesque" performances, with what she calls an infectious combination of "quirky comedy, sensuality and lots of mouth-watering appeal."

The queer nurse-by-day—and nine-year Army ICU hospital veteran—started nursing her own entertaining addiction back in the late '90s, as a dancer and valet entertainment powerhouse. But after watching local

TUE • MARCH 18

Vault Martini Lounge presents the monthly queer social mixer *Q-T*. Enjoy a cocktail from a selection of 44 exotic libations or take advantage of exclusive drink specials benefiting Basic Rights Oregon. (6-8 pm. 226 NW 12th Ave.)

Q Center presents *Late Awakenings*, a group for women who came out later in life, every third Tuesday. (7 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

The *Independent Publishing Resource Center* celebrates its 10th anniversary with a reading by Nicole Georges, Greg Means and Shawn Granton. (7 pm. 917 SW Oak St. #218.)

Learn and practice the Rosen Method of body work during *Men Touching with Heart* presented by Q-LAND/Manifest. By releasing what has been held down by unconscious muscle tension, this process frees the client to experience new choices in life and a greater sense of well-being. (7-10 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

OPB presents the queer newsmagazine *In the Life*. This month's episode, "Voices of Sisterhood," celebrates Women's History Month with a collection of stories honoring the struggles, triumphs and art of queer women around the world. (11 pm.)

WED • MARCH 19

Friendly House hosts *Elder Resource Alliance Bingo Bonanza!* featuring fun with friends, prizes, snacks, fresh hot coffee and flavorful

teas. (2-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave. 50 cents a card.)

Q-LAND/Manifest presents a free introductory men's therapeutic yoga class to address back and neck pain, stress, excess weight, depression, insomnia and other chronic complaints. (6:30-8:30 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

THU • MARCH 20

Q Center hosts *Gender Queery* monthly meetings to discuss all subjects related to gender—trans roles, societal pressures, inclusion, etc. (6:30-8 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Q-LAND/Manifest presents a free introductory men's kundalini yoga class to open and balance your chakra energy and increase focus, centeredness and spiritual connection. (6:30-8 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.lovetribe.org/menspirit.)

Lucky Jane Blodsoe reads from *Biting the Apple* at Broadway Books. (7 pm. 1714 NE Broadway.)

FRI • MARCH 21

Elder Resource Alliance holds a social at Panda Express in Clackamas Town Center. (1-3 pm. 12000 SE 82nd Ave.)

Keshet hosts a Purim potluck and Shabbat welcome for 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 503-226-7079, ext. 14.)

In Other Words presents *Girl Movie Night* with a screening of *The Hand That Rocks the Cradle*, a 1992 thriller about a vengeful nanny out to destroy a naive woman and steal her family. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

No worries about the Ides of March here: Miss Myler is sure to bring you good luck in another rousing game of *Chicos Latinos Bingo* at the Men's Wellness Center. Fantastic prizes and a chance to meet some new people! (7-9 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

Gather around the piano and sing Broadway tunes with the group, belt out a Disney solo or come to listen during *Cabaret with a Q* at Q Center. Choose a song from the songbook or bring your own sheet music. (8-11 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)



Sahara Dunes presents *A Naughty Lil' Queer Cabaret* to benefit Basic Rights Oregon on March 16.

In a pop culture world where hypersexual antics reign, why the attraction to the restraint and sophistication of old-school burlesque? "There's no hip thrusting, no gyrating," Dunes says. She highlights the comedy of her art, what she calls the "Oops, did my skirt just fall again?" aspect. I point out the near-Spears reference ("Oops, I did it again!") in her quote. She laughs. "Britney, well...I'm just not gonna go there."

—Stephen Marc Beaudoin

Exhibit Spotlights 19th Century French Dancers, to the Dance Halls

French illustrator and painter Jean-Louis Forain (1852-1931) supposedly said he wanted his work to "tell everyday life stories, to show the absurdity of certain sorrows and the sadness in many joys."

His depictions of the Paris Opera Ballet dancers' backstage lives do exactly that. These works of art, on display through May 11 in Portland Art Museum's exhibit *The Dancer*, show Forain's fascination with, and disgust for, the social realities of the dancers' world.

In the 19th century, the Paris Opera was supported primarily by annual subscribers, or abonnés. These upper-class men were not only given the seats with the best view of the stage, but they were also allowed backstage to dally with the dancers, who were mostly from the lower class.

Forain, who was best known for his social satire and political cartoons, turned his sharp eye to examining the dynamics among the ballerinas, their mothers (many of the dancers were young teenagers) and the abonnés, whom he often depicted as hawk-nosed, predatory men with hands thrust into the pockets of their black suits, leaning in toward their ballerina of choice.

Despite their cutting commentary, Forain's dance-related works are less famous than those of the other two artists featured in *The Dancer*. A number of books have been written about the dance-specific art of *Edgar Degas* (1834-1917), who was Forain's mentor and a founding member of the Impressionist group.



Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec's lithographic posters are on display through May 11 at Portland Art Museum.

lerinas in motion.

Many of these figures were bronzed after his death, including "The Little Dancer, Aged Fourteen," which is one of several bronze casts on display in *The Dancer*.

The third artist featured is *Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec* (1864-1901), who became a celebrity for the color lithographic posters he created for star clients such as the Moulin Rouge and cancan dancer *Jane Avril*.

The Dancer also includes a series of lithographs in which Toulouse-Lautrec captured the colorful form of modern dancer *Loie Fuller*, an American lesbian who spent most of her life in Paris.

—Rebecca Ragain