



Takekimi Tsuruta's "Americana" May 29. Rocksbox presents *This Is a Low* by Keith Boadwee—an internationally known queer artist obsessed with identity, humor, the body, scatology and the abject—May 24-June 22.

Transsexual porn sensation Hot Wendy Williams presides over the seventh annual Masturbate-a-Thon on May 31.



Learn simple, relaxing and stress-relieving techniques from one another during the **Men's Healing Touch Exchange** presented by Q-LAND/Manifest. (7-10 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.qland.org/calendar.)

WED • MAY 21

Elder Resource Alliance takes an urban trek to Borders. Meet in the cafe for a "coffee talk," then browse for books and music. (1-3 pm. 708 SW Third Ave.)

Josh Kilmer-Purcell reads from *Candy Everybody Wants* with best-selling author **James Frey** (*A Million Little Pieces*) at Bagdad Theater. Admission includes a copy of Frey's *Bright Shiny Morning*. (7 pm. 3702 SE Hawthorne Blvd. \$27 from Ticketmaster.)

THU • MAY 22

Challenged by running a business? Looking for an intentional space to build your network and support you in your entrepreneurial adventures? Q Center presents **Small Biz Group Coaching** every second and fourth Thursday. (9:30-11:30 am. 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. Followed by a free introductory **men's yin yoga class** to help you relax and strengthen deep inside your body through holding poses and sustained collaboration of the breath, body and mind. (6-7:30 pm kundalini,

7:45-9:15 pm yin. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.qland.org/calendar.)

Unity Project of Oregon and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays screen the documentary *For the Bible Tells Me So* at Q Center. (7:30-9:30 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

C.C. Slaughters throws a CD release party for *The Truth* by **Cherish** with music by DJ Alex Hollywood. (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St. \$4.)

FRI • MAY 23

Keshet hosts a potluck and Shabbat 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.)

Discover the healing power of harmonic vibrations through improvisational singing and music making with the **Men's Harmony Group** presented by Q-LAND/Manifest. (6:30-8:30 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.qland.org/calendar.)



Looking for something fun and social before or instead of the bars? Bring over your favorite game for **Gayme Night** at the Men's Wellness Center. They'll provide the snacks, you provide the fun! (7-8:30 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

Portland State University Queers and Allies present the queer prom **A Midsummer Night's Dream** featuring DJ Camacho at Q Center. (8 pm-midnight. 69 SE Taylor St. \$5 from Ticketmaster.)

Mock Crest Tavern presents the acoustic insanity of **Sneakin' Out**. (9 pm-midnight. 3435 N Lombard St.)

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 • MAY 24

Authors, poets and songwriters (including award-winning humorist Marc Acito) tell **True Stories** at Mississippi Studios. (7:30 pm. 3939 N Mississippi Ave. \$15 at the door, \$12 in advance from 503-288-3895.)

Hey, what's your vice? Holocene presents **Double Down**, the fab queer party where the player

Andrea Gibson: Poet for the Generations

Poetry has been the voice of many queer writers, artists who have spoken for the souls of people underrepresented in the main culture—sometimes for the whole culture.

Whitman created an earth-shaking poetic voice; Sartre spoke out for solitude through metaphor; Ginsberg released a *Howl* still echoing in the world, while Chrystos gave power to the Native-American woman's voice, anger and sorrow.

Andrea Gibson's poetry has that kind of power—a voice that renews the depth and meaning of her predecessors, reaching inside you and wrenching out complacency, while touching the heart with moments of incredible tenderness.

Gibson is part of that generation of poets who have brought slam poetry to the foreground: speaking anger, passion and metaphor into a new mix of performance and protest. Slam is not the expression of all of today's poets, but it is for today, and for the ears of the people.



In her first book, *Pole Dancing to Gospel Hymns*, Gibson speaks with a combination of validity and earthiness that gives free rein to the emotions. If the book's title makes you shudder, get over it. Read the first page of the first poem, then the second. By the time you get to that poem's third page, you'll keep reading if you have the least bit of passion in you.

Whether or not you're a fan of slam, the authenticity of Gibson's voice to the queer experience, the daughter's experience, the weariness of people sick of war, will fill the emptiness of a society asking—no, crying—for meaning in a world too focused on the artificial. Anyone who remembers comforting a loved one, sitting beside a dying parent or just searching for meaning—in the stars, in lives not valued enough, not lived long enough—will read Gibson's poetry and find a kindred voice: a poet for the generations.

Gibson will be in Eugene for the Out/Loud queer women's music festival May 16 and in Portland for two performances May 17 at Mississippi Studios.

—Patricia L. MacAodha

always wins, every fourth Saturday. (8 pm. 1001 SE Morrison St. \$5.)

DJ Alex Hollywood spins tunes during the **C.C. Slaughters Birthday Bash**. (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St.)

Rotture presents **Sluts + Squares**, a monthly dance party featuring queer burlesque performers Burlesquire, Sahara Dunes and Baby Le'Strange; go-go dancers Violeta d'Posey, Johanna and Nova; and music by DJs Boy and Corban. (9 pm. 315 SE Third Ave. \$5.)



While Mr. Oregon State Leather 2007 Ben Brown Jr. is competing at International Mr. Leather in Chicago, the Portland Boys of Leather take over the **Fourth Saturday Party** at Eagle Portland for their first official event. Come in your best uniform, leather or gear for "Uniforms, Boots & Buzzcuts" featuring boot blacking by Shell and buzzcuts by several hot men, including Ryan, a former Marine! (9 pm-midnight. 835 N Lombard St.)

SUN • MAY 25

The Adventure Group takes a moderate hike to spectacular Ramona Falls and breathtaking Bald Mountain for views of Mount Hood. Meet outside Starbucks at Hollywood Fred Meyer. (9 am. 3030 NE Weidler St. Ron 503-284-3345.)

Meet at Q Center for an enjoyable ride around the city's finest pedal-friendly destinations with **Q Cycle**. Followed by coffee, nibbles and social downtime; bring a snack to share. (2-3:30 pm. 69 SE Taylor St.)

Darcelle XV Showcase presents the Oregon and Portland preliminary for the **Miss Latin Look International Pageant 2008**. (8 pm. 208 NW Third Ave.)



The Egyptian Club's **Wet T-Shirt Contest** features dancing, karaoke and \$100 cash or a Flip Ultra Camcorder for the winner. (The leftover prize will be given away in a drawing.) Compete, judge, ogle or bid to wet them down! (9 pm. 3701 SE Division St.)

C.C. Slaughters throws a CD release party for *No, Virginia* by **Dresden Dolls**. (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St.)

MON • MAY 26

Acoustic dyke duo **Terra** opens for **Mare Wakefield** at Alberta Street Pub. (8 pm. 1036 NE Alberta St. \$8.)

Learn presence, compassion and nonverbal communication by exchanging **breema healing touch** sequences with other fully clothed men. Free introductory class presented by Q-LAND/Manifest. (8:15-9:45 pm. RSVP to 503-223-8822 or www.qland.org/calendar.)

C.C. Slaughters promotes the highly anticipated movie **Sex and the City**. (9 pm. 219 NW Davis St.)

The Lipz Cabaret at Northbank in Vancouver, Wash. (9:30 pm. 106 W Sixth St. \$3.)

TUE • MAY 27

Armistead Maupin reads from *Michael Tolliver Lives* at Powell's at Cedar Hills Crossing in

Beaverton. Almost 20 years after ending *Tales of the City*, his groundbreaking saga of San Francisco life, the author revisits his all-too-human hero, letting the 55-year-old gardener tell his story in his own voice. (7 pm. 3415 SW Cedar Hills Blvd.)

Author **Tom Spanbauer** (*The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon*, *In the City of Shy Hunters*, *Now Is the Hour*) reads from his first novel, the newly reissued *Faraway Places*, at The Press Club. (7-8 pm. 2621 SE Clinton St.)

Dexter's Famous Spoken Mic gives writers "rock star status" by bringing beginners and more established readers together for inspirational rants and performances every last Tuesday at In Other Words. (7:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

WED • MAY 28

Loaves and Fishes Centers sponsors **Living Well with Chronic Conditions**—a six-week workshop for seniors or anyone with asthma, diabetes, heart disease, arthritis or any other chronic disease—Wednesdays through July 2 at Friendly House. (11 am-1:30 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave. To register call Barbara at 503-953-8163.)



Be with friends, have fun and win prizes during **Elder Resource Alliance Bingo Bonanza** at Friendly House. (2-4 pm. 1737 NW 26th Ave.)

How do you relate to money? Do you have it—or does it have you? Touchstone Coffee House hosts **Money 101**, a simple workshop exploring how your family history shapes your relationship to money—and how to win control of your finances back

who have the same issues, you talk, you play music, draw or even just scribble."

Djay conceived MARC with a friend in October 2006 and presented its first event, a "flesh art show" called **Naked Fashion**, in February 2007. The collective, based at North Portland's Liberty Hall until it secures a space of its own, is overseen by an 11-person board of directors and is in the process of becoming a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. This month it hosted **Finders Keepers**, a benefit for the School & Community Reuse Action Project (SCRAP) that featured music, workshops, stuffed animal-making and recycled fashions. A dance party called **Ricochet** is planned for May 18 at a location to be announced. (Keep abreast of MARC events at www.myspace.com/marcportland.)

Ron Gassaway, whose band Party Killer took part in the SCRAP benefit, doesn't doubt the collective's sincerity or altruistic intentions. "Djay takes her role as a promoter and organizer for MARC very seriously, and does so without a lot of ego," he says. "Which is something of an exception these days."

—Tony LeTigre