



History Image Gallery presents beautiful, historic woodcut prints from the Japanese Ukiyo-e artistic tradition through July 31.

July 15 at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. (8 pm. 1037 SW Broadway. \$45.25-\$62.25 from box office or Ticketmaster.)

TUE • JULY 15

Queer writer Ariel Gore teaches the teleclass **Lit Star Training** Tuesdays through Aug. 26. Students working on—or intending to work on—fiction, memoir or creative nonfiction will learn how to make time to write, produce new material with weekly deadlines and improve their craft with practice and critique. (5:30-6:30 pm. \$250 from www.arielgore.com.)

The Adventure Group takes an easy urban bike ride on the quiet street and trails of Portland. Meet at the drinking fountain on the Eastbank Esplanade. (6 pm. 8 SE Madison St. Laurent 503-880-8900.)

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.)

WED • JULY 16

Doug Fir Lounge presents a co-headlining evening with fearless female provocateurs **Bitch & the Exciting Conclusion** and **Ferron**. The opening act is **Myshkin's Ruby Warblers**. (9 pm. 830 E Burnside St. \$15 at the door, \$13 in advance from TicketsWest.)

THU • JULY 17

Poet and spiritual teacher **Daniel Skach-Mills** reads from *The Tao of Now* in the teahouse at Portland

Classical Chinese Garden. (2:30 pm. 239 NW Everett St.)

The Adventure Group takes an urban walk on the Sellwood riverfront and Johnson Creek. Meet at the south end of Southeast Oaks Park Way. (6 pm. 400 SE Spokane St. Evan 503-701-7922.)

Magnetic Men invites you to watch the documentary *Sicko* on the new high-definition, flat-screen television at the Men's Wellness Center. Followed by a discussion about our health care system and issues related to gay men, whether HIV-positive or not. (7-9 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

FRI • JULY 18

The **Feminist Film Society** screens the often-imitated suspense thriller *Les Diaboliques* at In Other Words. (6:30 pm. 8 NE Killingsworth St.)

The Men's Wellness Center presents **Chicos Latinos Bingo**. Join us for scrumptious snacks, sassy back-talk from Miss Mylar, out-of-this-world prizes and oodles of super friendly Latino guys. Everyone welcome! (7-8:30 pm. 928 SW Stark St.)

SAT • JULY 19

Asher Loverdi and Caught in Candy's Mickey Polizatto present **Saturday Morning Cartoons** at The Waypost. This month's theme is "Under the Sea." (2 pm. 3120 N Williams Ave.)

Hot Flash presents **Stardust**, a ladies dance for women 21 to 101 featuring DJ Lauren playing swing, Latin and music from the '40s through the '70s at Boxxes. (5-9 pm. 1035 SW Stark St. \$8.)

BearBust at the Eagle Portland. (9 pm-midnight. 835 N Lombard St. \$8 members, \$10 nonmembers.)



From left, Patsy, Edina and Saffron are *Absolutely Fabulous*.

Patsy and Edina: The Definitive Collection

About 15 years after *Absolutely Fabulous* debuted in the United Kingdom comes *Absolutely Fabulous—Absolutely Everything*, an aptly named boxed set of every gay man's favorite British ladies, Patsy and Edina.

We first met Patsy Stone (Joanna Lumley) and Edina Monsoon (Jennifer Saunders) in the United States back in 1992, when Comedy Central picked up this British Broadcasting Corp. comedy. For those unfamiliar with the plot, Edina (born Edwina, but she dropped the "w" in favor of a more "modern" spelling) is a 40-something publicist with a taste for all things designer and fabulous (not to mention drugs, booze and pills). Her best friend and partner in crime is Patsy, a fashion editor who acts as the bad influence and plays on Edina's insecurities, escalating each situation to a hilarious fever pitch.

The real heart of the show is in the role-reversing relationship between Edina and her daughter, Saffron (Julia Sawalha), an intelligent, level-headed (yet equally entertaining) counterpart to the exaggerated situations Patsy and Edina constantly find themselves in. Full of outrageous characters and never-dull plot lines, *Ab Fab* follows Patsy and

Edina on a trek to New York in search of a door handle, an Aspen ski trip gone awry, Edina's on-going quest for a model's body and, in the final series, the birth of her grandchild (whom she deems "the Chanel of babies" after discovering the father is black). While in any other show characters with these traits would seem unredeemable, the clever writing and plots make them lovable and definitely laughable.

After countless DVD releases, and even a release of the "complete" series in 2001, this new nine-disc set compiles all five seasons with every special, outtake and blooper associated with the show. The set comes packaged in a silver quilted book (not unlike Edina's black bomber jacket worn in the first season), and the DVDs are housed in cardboard sleeves with descriptions of the contents. Beautifully designed and thoughtfully compiled, this set acts as a wonderful love letter to longtime fans of the show and is a must-have collection for any fan of cutting-edge, smart and irreverent comedies.

—Blake Martinez

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