

## Samuel Thomas:

### A QUEER MUSIC FEST. WHY HERE AND NOW?

Thomas was incredulous that Portland didn't already have a major queer-focused music fest, especially as others along the West Coast are petering out. We're a music town but, "...it's like the one festival we didn't have. We have a ukulele festival, but not one for the queers."

### WHY THE MOVE FROM LAST YEAR'S VENUE: RED CAP GARAGE?

Backspace provided a spot where those under 21 could at least see half of the bands, and both venues had stages and sound systems appropriate to the fest.

### ANY LOCAL GETS?

Thomas gushed over *Magic Mouth*. "I got my dream local. I got *Magic Mouth* so I'm really happy." Thomas said he wouldn't turn down *Holcombe Waller* or *The Gossip*, though they are more "national" acts.

But Portland is good at combining the big and the small in shows and festivals that feel epic yet intimate. The Portland Queer Music Fest should be no different.

Samuel Thomas, organizer of the Portland Queer Music Festival

