

## SECOND ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!

• Women's Music Festival • 'Hotel of Follies' • Film Festival • Calendar •

# COMING UP!

October, 1981

Largest Lesbian/Gay Circulation in the Bay Area

FREE

### Controversy

## Gay Night At Marriott's

By Sue Zemel

On Saturday, October 10, thousands of gay men, lesbians, and their families and friends will eat cotton candy, ride the rollercoaster, and enjoy an evening of entertainment featuring Robin Tyler, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, and others. However, "Gay Night," at Marriott's Great American amusement park, presented by Great Outdoor Adventures (GOA), may not be the wholesome and festive occasion that on the surface it appears to be.

According to an angry group of gay and feminist activists in Santa Clara County, Marriott is a Mormon-owned corporation which contributes large sums of money to anti-gay and anti-woman causes.

By attending "Gay Night" we are lining the pockets of people who vehemently oppose us," says Rosalie Nichols, a lesbian/feminist activist from San Jose. The Lambda Association, a political organization of Santa Clara lesbians and gay men, has organized a picket of GOA that will take place outside the main gate of the amusement park on Saturday.

Nichols, a Lambda Association Director, told *Coming Up!* that an informal boycott of Marriott's Great America has been in effect since 1979, when a similar gay event was produced at the park by Fun Productions, out of Los Angeles.

The Susan B. Anthony Democratic Club, a predominantly gay and feminist group in Santa Clara County, launched this boycott after its members learned that the Chicago Employment Committee had a lawsuit pending against Great America for racial discrimination. The lawsuit is still pending before the California Fair Employment Practices Commission.

(continued on page 2)



Costumes galore! All at the Beaux Arts Ball as outlined in our accompanying story. For more Halloween Happenings check out the special listings on the calendar page.

### From Drag Show to "Cocktail Party"

## A New Beaux Arts Ball

by George Mendenhall

San Francisco's annual Beaux Arts Ball will be held on Halloween this year, and the costumed gala will feature disco dancing to live music alongside the lavish display of sequins and show biz that has come to be the hallmark of this drag affair.

This and future balls will be known as "San Francisco's most outrageous cocktail party," according to B.A.R. publisher Bob Ross, who chairs the Tavern Guild event.

The Beaux Arts Ball, held in major hotels and at Civic Center Auditorium in recent years, will now be at California Hall. And while the main parade of costumes will be on the first floor, a disco band will play for dancing in the basement.

\$10 admission includes the show and disco, with numerous bars scattered around the premises. Outside, in the foyer, street spectators will be treated to a free show as Naomi Murdoch announces the new arrivals.

The decline of interest in male drag and the rise of Halloween night mob chaos on Polk and Castro streets prompted the Tavern Guild of San Francisco to revamp its plans for the upcoming October 31 festivities. This is one of the few years that the TGSP has permitted the ball to be held on Halloween night, because bar owners in the past have feared the event will draw business away from their establishments.

Bar owners now draw Halloween crowds without setting up the traditional mini-stages and parading drags around inside. In fact, unruly spectator crowds have destroyed this aspect of what was once called "The Bitches' Christmas."

Ross explains the switch to California Hall by saying he expects a smaller attendance than last year's 2200, but promises plenty of excitement for guests.

Prizes for costumes this year total \$3,500 plus numerous trophies. Entrants last year included 12 large groups, 35 pairs and over 100

singles. The audience itself will include costumed members, although everything from starched tuxedos to faded Levi's are acceptable. There's always plenty for gawkers to enjoy and one of them will take home a \$500 cash door prize.

### DRAG FADES AWAY

It was drag that got the attention in the '60s and '70s when balls included the now-defunct Valentine, Cottillion, Emperor Coronation and New Year's Eve balls.

Pat Campano, who created many of the award-winning gowns of the past, is now the costumer at Marriott's Great America. He told *Coming Up!*, "Well, some people are now into gender-luck drag (where the male wears a beard and mixes conventional dress with drag). Others just stopped spending thousands of dollars to keep the gowns elaborate."

"Drag is very unappreciated today," according to the popular drag entertainer Michelle (Castro merchant Mike Gerry). "The spectators are not interested in seeing the fabulous gowns like they used to. People are just into other things, and I think that's just fine. There are lots of new freedoms to enjoy."

(continued on page 6)

## Gay Men Who Care For Each Other

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## 3rd Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, October 21st 5pm-9pm

Hors d'oeuvres

Entertainment by Tropical Nights

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## Quit your job.

Or at least think about your career goals.

Ever think about being a police officer? It's a vital, challenging career.

Lesbians and gay men seeking SFPD hiring information can get it from the **Gay Outreach Program**, a volunteer community group, at 415-775-1000.

Maybe we can give you something to think about.

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## Special Show

8 - 11 pm

STARRING:

ROBIN TYLER - MEN ABOUT TOWN  
SF GAY MEN'S CHORUS - FOGGY CITY SQUARES  
DAVID KELSEY & PURE TRASH

Admission \$13/ GOA Members \$15/ Non-members \$10/ Children (Free attended Childcare)  
Includes \$5.00 in Bonus Bucks towards food and souvenirs.

Tickets Available at:  
San Francisco  
HEADLINES  
549 Castro & 1217 Polk

Los Angeles  
BODYCENTER  
8711 W. 3rd Street

Or send payment with self addressed, stamped envelope to:  
GREAT OUTDOOR ADVENTURES 1618 Castro, San Francisco 94114 - (415) 641-4020

## Marriott's at GREAT AMERICA

Saturday, October 10

3 til 8 PM "Mix In" with general public

8 til 11 PM - PRIVATE

BUSSES AVAILABLE  
\$6.25 ROUNDTRIP

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Distribution: 23,000 copies monthly.

Typesetting: Terrific Graphics. Photowork: Jeff Brody Media Services. Printed at Howard Quinn Co., a union shop.

GOLDEN GATE PERFORMING ARTS  
PRESENTS

Fall '81  
*A Season of Note*

**S.S.A.!**

**THE  
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OF LIFE**

an evening with the  
**SAN FRANCISCO  
LESBIAN & GAY MEN'S  
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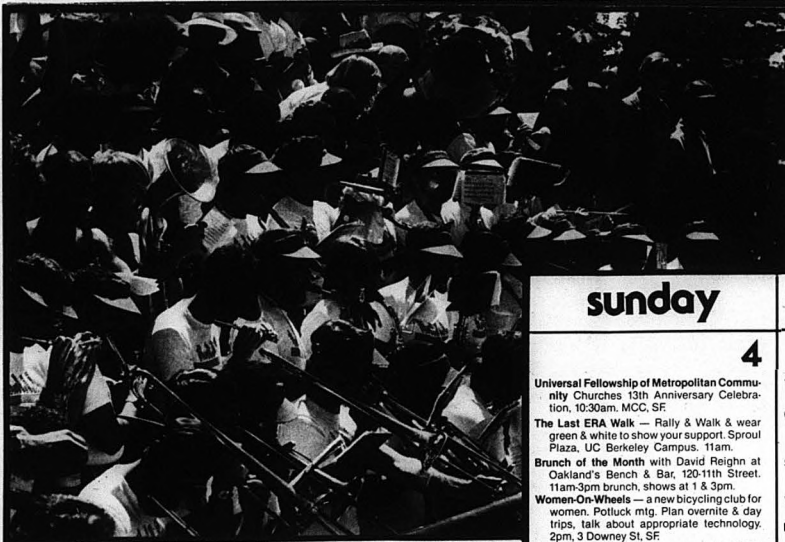
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# COMING UP!

# OCTO



## Jubilee at Davies

### Starring Walter Hawkins & Choir and the SF Gay Fr Marching Band, Twirling Troupe

See October 11 & 15

## sunday

4

**Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches** 13th Anniversary Celebration, 10:30am. MCC, SF.

**The Last ERA Walk** — Rally & Walk & wear green & white to show your support. Sproul Plaza, UC Berkeley Campus. 11am.

**Brunch of the Month** with David Reighn at Oakland's Bench & Bar, 120-11th Street. 11am-3pm brunch, shows at 1 & 3pm.

**Women On Wheels** — a new bicycling club for women. Potluck mtg. Plan overnight & day trips, talk about appropriate technology. 2pm, 3 Downey St. SF.

**Chivers** — all women's salsa band at El Rio Garden Cabaret, 3158A Mission, SF. 4-8pm.

**Blackberr, Danica, Lichi, Barbara Dane** & more at La Pena, Berkeley for a multi-cultural folk festival. 8pm, \$3.

**Foodsexual** comedian Carol Roberts comes out of the refrigerator at Fanny's Cabaret, 4230 18th St. SF. 9:30 & 11pm, \$3.

**The Gay Life** with Randy Alfred every Sunday, 11pm on KSFN FM 95. See **Alternative Airwaves**, page 7 for complete schedule this month.

11

**Lesbian Co-counselors** — a Gay & Proud Workshop for experienced co-counselors. 10am-5pm. Call 826-8434 by 10/7 for info.

**Golden Gate Metropolitan Comm Church** workshops every Sun 11am, Rm 200, Call Hall, 625 Polk, SF.

**We All Have Our Reasons** — a film premiere plus entertainment by Avotcja & Brown Bag Readers Theatre. 1pm, Roxy Theatre, 16th & Valencia, SF.

**Women's Tear Gas Class** with Judith Fine. 1-4pm, Ollie's, Oakland. Please preregister: 845-9615, \$25/\$12.50 disabled.

**Country dancin' with Western Electric** band, every Sun, 2-6pm, at The Mint, 1942 Market, SF. No cover.

**Keyboard virtuoso Gayle Marie** in Ollie's front lounge, 3-6pm, No cover.

**July Grahn, Paula Gunn Allen, and Pat Parker** read their poetry & prose. 3:30pm, \$3.50. For Women's Studies & Politics of Interconnection Conference. McKenna Theatre, SF State Univ. 19th & Holloway.

**Metropolitan Community Church of the East** Bay workshops Sundays, 6pm, Oakland.

**Jubilee at Davies Hall** — The Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps plus Tap Troupe teams up with Walter Hawkins & the Love Center Choir at Davies Hall, 70m & Thurs 8pm. Benefits the Pride center. Tix: Symphony Hall Box Office, BAASS, and all major outlets.

**Music of the Romantic Era** with Die Mannerstimm — a chamber chorus of men's voices. 8pm, \$4 adv (mail to 1418 Collingwood, SF 94114) \$5 door. Starr King Room, Unitarian Ctr, Franklin/Gearry, SF.

**Bulldog Baths 3rd Anniversary Bash!** Free beer, with fun, games and show-and-tell for cash prizes (judges include Big Max and Mr. Drummer). 132 Turk, SF.

18

**Farallon Island Trip:** Great Outdoor Adventures has chartered a boat to visit these fantastic islands 40 miles off the coast. \$23 members/\$27 non-members. Info: 541-4020.

**SF Lesbian & Gay Speaker's Bureau** training session at Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. 10am-4:30pm. ROC (48 hr notice) 285-9651.

**A Cheap Affair** — SF's gay vide Barbara Coast recreated, 1-7pm at Call Hall, Polk & Turk, SF. Live c&w bands, plus gaming for prizes (proceeds benefit the SF Gay Men's Chorus). Limited tix in advance (\$10) at the Pilsner Inn, 225 Church at Market, SF.

**"Improving Our Health & Preventing Dis-Ease"** is the topic for G40 + mtg, a social group for gay men over 40. 2pm, 1668 Bush, SF. Info: 552-1697.

**Salsa, Samba, Funk & Jazz** with Tropical Nights at El Rio, 3158A Mission St. SF. 4-8pm.

**Great Highway** plays Rainbow Cattle Co. 199 Valencia, SF. 6-10pm.

**Dixieland!** David Kelsey & Pure Trash, every Sun, 8:30pm, at the New Bell Saloon, 1203 Polk, SF. No cover.

**Terry Garthwaite, Dick Ostot & the Golden Age Jazz Band** — feature Tucki Bailey, The Tap Dancing Miz Behavin' Mams, 9pm, \$4 adv/\$5 door, Ollie's of Oakland.

25

**Don't sit home alone!** Have Sunday Brunch with OPTIONS for Women Over Forty. \$2. 11am-1pm. SF Women's Bldg. For women of all ages.

**Softball:** Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence v. SF Gay Men's Chorus... 1pm, Gough & Hayes (SF). Fundraiser for 1992 Gay Olympics. \$23. More info: 668-2802.

**Valerie Miller** returns to The Pines! Light opera, 4:30pm at 1093 Pine St. SF. Info: 885-9871.

## monday

5

**Amazon Kung Fu** — serious training for women in the art of Kajukenbo Kung Fu. \$30, 1-3pm. SF Women's Bldg every Mon.

**Celebrate the First Anniversary** of Oakland's Bench & Bar, 120-11th St all week long. Something different, every day! 444-2266 has details.

**Stonewall Demo Club** gen'l membership mtg. Guest speaker SF Fire Chief Andy Casper. 7pm, SF Women's Bldg.

**Women's Coffeehouse** at Great Outdoor Adventures. 7:30-10pm, 1618 Castro St. SF.

**Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous** — Groups every Monday 7:15-7:45pm beginners, 8-9:15pm regular mtg. All Saints Church, 1350 Waller, SF. Info: 982-4473, WA.

12

**October 12, 1991** — SFPD begins training rookie cops how to act & dress as homosexuals, so they can close the city's gay bars by catching patrons in the unlawful act of kissing and other lewd behavior.

**African Movement** with Marian Olikier — everyone & all levels welcome. 6-7pm, \$3.50/less. SF Women's Bldg.

**Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights** gen'l membership mtg. 7pm, Ballroom of Hotel San Francisco, 8th & Market.

**Alice B. Toklas Memorial Demo Club** membership mtg. SF Women's Bldg. 7:30pm. Vote endorsements for ballot measures in November.

**Learn to converse in Spanish** — beginning class emphasizes basic vocabulary you need to travel & discuss current political issues. Mondays, starts tonite, 7:30-9:30pm, East Bay Socialist School, 6225 Shattuck, Oakland. ROC: 848-6978, \$10-\$15.

**Poetry with Avotcja & Randy Johnson** at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia, SF. 8pm, donation for poets requested.

**Ink Spots** — famed quartet at the Push Room Tues-Sun thru 10/18. Hotel York, 940 Sutter, SF. Tix: 885-6800.

19

**Dan White Verdict Night** defendants go on trial today — Peter Plate on 3 felony counts & one misdemeanor and David Waddle on 2 felony counts. Each felony carries more time than each of Dan White's "involuntary manslaughter." The trial will be in Superior Court, Dept 22, Hall of Justice, 8th & Bryant, SF. A picket line forms outside at 9am.

**The Weston McGowan Show** plus undiscovers talents, Mondays in October. 5:30-8:30pm at Trinity Place, 25 Trinity, SF.

**Overcoming Shyness Workshop** for Gay Men — 5 wk course starts tonite with Ira Rudolph, Ph.D. & Dave Cooperberg, MA. Info: 474-7759.

**Lesbian Only Space** — Lesbian separatists gather to create a space in the East Bay due to open by Spring Equinox. Mtgs alternate Mondays. Info: 534-5007.

26

**Substance abuse counseling** for gay men & lesbians. 18th Street Services, 4131-18th St. SF. Info: 863-8111.

**Lesbian Rap Group** — meet new friends & share old ones. 7:30pm, SF Women's Bldg. Info & CC: 864-0876.

**Kim Anno, Robert Gluck & Canyon Sam** read poetry & prose at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia, SF. 8pm.

27

**Older Women's League Mtg.** 5:30pm OPTIONS office, SF Women's Bldg. Brown bag supper. For women of all ages.

**Renee June & Sydney Taylor** read their poetry which deals powerfully with women's emotions, art & day-to-day life. 7pm, free. For women. ROC by 10/25. ICI Woman's Place, Oakland.

**Harvey Milk Gay Demo Club** Gen'l mtg 7:30pm, SF Women's Bldg.

**Last Grave at Dimbaza** — a powerful film or apartheid in So. Africa plus *Land of Promise* — a So. African Embassy film which explains government policy or "separate development". 7:30pm, \$3. La Pena, Berkeley.



## MUSICA!

### para Antologia Lesbiana Latino Americana

10/17

## White Night Trials



Start October 19



TRINITY PLACE

COCKTAILS 11AM - 8PM, LUNCH 11:30 - 3:30, CABARET MON THURS 5:30 - 8:30  
25 TRINITY PLACE, NEAR SUTTER & MONTGOMERY, RESERVATIONS 415-431-9122

fall!!!

the Love Ctr  
Freedom Day  
Corps & Tap

wednesday

7

Comedy for Lunch! This month: NOON  
Five people answer the same tantalizing  
show up for the same appointment. Every  
Wed. Curtain 12-10, show ends 12:50. \$3.  
One Act Theatre, 4300 Mason, SF.  
San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Men's Community  
Chorus auditioning new women  
members. Christmas concert season  
rehearsals starting. 7-9:30pm every Wed.  
All Saints Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller,  
SF. Info: 527-4462 (Robin).  
Lucia — a film on the roles of women in 3  
distinct periods of Cuban history. 7:30pm,  
\$2.50. La Pena, Berkeley.  
The Bible & Homosexuality — 8 wk course  
with Rev. Michael England starts tonight at  
Metropolitan Community Church, 7:45pm.  
Z Budapest teaches: Seances — communica-  
tion with the world of the discarnate. Info:  
444-7724.

We Were One Man — powerful film on gay  
love & survival plus *Un Chant D'Amour* and  
loads. Roxie Cinema, SF. Today & tmw.  
Yom Kippur Services (Kol Nidre) with Shari  
Zahav, gay/lesbian Jewish congregation.  
8pm at Jewish Community Ctr, 3200  
California St, SF.  
Pig Bag — English rock at the I-Beam, 1748  
Haight, SF.

Women's Personal Problem Solving Group —  
a safe place to work on self esteem & self  
assertion. 1-3pm, Weds, OPTIONS office,  
SF Women's Bldg. For all women over 40.  
Ongoing Gay Men's Group — support &  
therapy Weds. 7-9pm, 1000 Divisadero,  
sliding fee, call 431-3220 or 849-9198.  
Women's letter-writing nite & soup kitchen.  
7pm, free. RCC by 1012. ICI Women's  
Place, Oakland. Write those letters of  
praise & protest you never manage to send!

Women Over Forty Experimental Theater —  
sing, dance, get into the act! 7pm Thurs-  
days in OPTIONS office, SF Women's Bldg.  
Applied Meditation Support Group for women  
intuitive problem solving, energy circles.  
7:30-10pm every Wed. Info: 861-6538  
Socialism & Lesbian Feminism — explore  
connections between social practice &  
political consciousness. For women only  
(of whatever sexual practice). 10 wk course  
starts tonight. \$10-\$15, one time turned away  
for lack of funds. 7:30pm, RCC: 849-6978.  
East Bay Socialist School, 6025 Shattuck.  
The Distractions amaze and delight every  
Wednesday this month at No. Beach's  
funkiest club. The Savoy Tivoli, 1438 Grant  
Ave., SF. Info: 382-7074.  
Gay Anyone? Vi Clark is the "jazz singer" at  
Fanny's Cabaret, 4200-18th St, SF.  
Wednesdays in October.

21  
Celebrate El Rio's Third Anniversary — party  
to the sounds of Tropical Nights. 5-9pm  
3158A Mission, SF.

Pam Brooks sings from 5:30-8:30pm every  
Wed. at Trinity place, the financial district  
SF Women's Bldg. \$10.00 cover.  
Bisexual Women's Rap Group. 7:30pm, Pacific  
Ctr, Berkeley.

Gay Men's Substance Dependence Group,  
Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Advance notice required:  
841-6224.

Films on Women Artists — Frida Kahlo,  
Mexican painter & Elizabeth Catlett, Cuban  
American sculptor & printmaker. \$2.50, CC,  
SF Women's Bldg.

Veronica Cruise & Johnny West pander to  
everyone's desires in an evening of  
"Rhythm & Sizzle." Tonite & Fri, 9:30pm,  
\$2. Sauto Baths Starline Cabaret, 1015  
Folsom, SF.

Snakes, News & Spiders: Symbols to feel.  
Taught by Alisa Galt of the Coven of the  
Laughing Goddess. Info: 444-7724.

28  
Fundamentals of Contracts & Techniques for  
Negotiations — for artists of all media.  
Learn the dangers that befall unwary  
artists. Spots by Bay Area Lawyers for the  
Arts. 5:15-7:10pm, FI Mason, Bldg, SF.

"Women of Color & Vision" panel discussion  
plus film featuring two by Native  
American, Asian, Chicana, Black Women  
Artists. Carol Less Sanchez, Stephanie  
Lowe, Patricia Rodriguez & Elaine S.  
Crossley, moderators. 7:30pm, SF, RCC. SF  
Women's Bldg.

Transvestite & transsexual rap group, 1st &  
3rd Wed ea month. Pacific Ctr, Berkeley.  
7:30pm.

"Abusive Images of Women in Mass Media &  
Pornography" — see the WAVPM slide  
show at La Pena, Berkeley. \$1-\$3.50. WA  
Gourmet Vegetarian Cooking — learn celli-  
cally simple entrees to astound your  
meat-eating friends. 8pm, \$1.50. Network  
Coffeehouse, 1329-7th Ave, SF.

thursday

1

Function/Anfi Function, a show by 12 clay  
artists. Opens today. Ruby, O'Burns  
Gallery, 552A Noe St, SF. 10-10 Mon-Fri, 104  
Sat thru Oct.

Protest Reaganism — picket Vice President  
George Bush at the Hyatt Union Square  
(Stockton & Post), 3pm. Spons by President  
1st Coalition Against Reaganomics.

Past Lives & Reincarnation — a talk with  
Carol Newhouse, plus guided trancework.  
\$2 (no one turned away for lack of funds).  
7:30, RCC 24th notice, Old Wives Tales, SF.

Planning for SF Women's Action in November  
based on Women's Pentagon Action.  
Content Women's Action: 731-1220.

Dreamland Benefit Disco dancing w/djelay,  
to raise money for the SF Gay Men's  
Chorus. 9pm, \$5, at 715 Harrison, SF.

8

Rites of Passage — 3 generations of women  
grow up/old in a mining town. Thurs-  
Sat all month at People's Theatre, Fort  
Mason Bldg B, SF. Info: Res: 776-8999.

Yom Kippur: Zohar & Ne'ilah services, 10am &  
5:30pm with Shari Zahav, lesbian/gay  
Jewish congregation. Jewish Community  
Ctr, 3200 California St, SF.

Lesbian Writer's Block Group starts tonight.  
8 wk course at Operation Concern. 6pm-  
7:30pm, Complete Info: 563-0202.

C&W in the financial district? Country &  
Western dancing downstairs at Trinity  
place with Shari Zahav, 8-10:30pm, 25 Trinity,  
Western swing (7-10pm) followed by disco, at  
Oakland's Ben & Bar, 120-11th St.

Black & White Men Together — raps every  
Thurs. 7:30-10pm, free. All Saints Episcopal  
Church, 1350 Waller, SF. WA.

Chocolate Waters performs her poetry &  
satirical prose at Old Wives Tales, SF.  
7:30pm, RCC 24th notice, Free.

Great Outdoor Adventures Coffeehouse: learn  
about this growing group in a convivial  
atmosphere. 7:30-10pm, 1618 Castro St, SF.  
Coffeehouses this month: 10/8, 12, 20 & 28.  
641-4020 has complete details.

Tales of Brother Jerro and Companions of the  
Fire, black-themed theater continuing  
Thurs-Sat (8pm) and Sun (4pm) thru Nov. 1.  
Lorraine Hansbury Theatre, 2940-18th St,  
SF. \$4-85. Reservations: 864-5500.

Uhuru (Freedom) Cultural Celebrations —  
women's poetry, music, comedy, dance,  
Kung Fu. SF Women's Bldg. 8pm, \$2.50.

Phone the  
Gay Events Tape  
861-1100

for weekly updates  
on community happenings

15

The Jail Diary of Alice Sabes — a true story of  
South African oppression previews at  
Eureka Theatre. For complete info see On  
Stage, page 3 or call 863-7133.

OPTICS for Women: Body monthly mtg.  
6:30pm, SF Women's Bldg. Tonite: Yudit —  
a film about a woman & her life in New York.  
Ann Jones talks about *Women Who Kill*.  
7:30pm, free. Old Wives Tales, SF. RCC  
24th notice.

"Contemporary American Black Dance" — 10  
wk course starts tonight. 7:30-9:30pm, Thurs-  
days. \$60. Dancers Workshop. Info:  
771-2121.

Wallow in suburban sledge & torrid romance  
with Les Nickettes! I'd Rather Be Doing  
Something Else! The Didi Glitz Story. Thurs-  
day thru Sat, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640  
College, Berkeley. 8:30pm, \$5.

GOA Coffeehouse in Oakland! Call Great Out-  
door Adventures at 641-4020 for time and  
place.

San Francisco Moving Company performs  
traditional modern dance. Thurs-Sat  
thru 10/25. 8:30pm. The Performance Gallery,  
315-17th St, SF.

Australian artists Jane Kent & Anne March,  
forfeited of Women's Art Movement talk  
about WAM plus show slides on women  
artists in Australia. 9pm, Free. SF Women's  
Bldg.

22  
Yoga for energy & relaxation — stretch,  
breathe & relax with yoga. \$3.50/class.  
Thursdays. 7-8:30pm, SF Women's Bldg.

Survivors of Incest & other childhood sexual  
abuse. A workshop for women. \$2 (no one  
turned away for lack of funds). 7:30pm,  
RCC 24th notice, Old Wives Tales, SF.

Square Dance & Disco — at Trocadero  
Transfer, 420-4th St, SF. Every Thurs. C&W  
7-midnite, disco 12:30-5am.

29  
Pornography & Silence: Culture's Revenge  
Against Nature — Susan Griffin reads from  
& talks about her latest work. 7:30pm, RCC  
Concert, 7:30pm, SF Women's Bldg.  
Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. 7:30pm every Thursday.

South-Market Halloween Party at The  
Arena, 399-9th St, SF. Details: 863-3290.

friday

2

The Devil's Hand re-opened — newly re-  
modeled & over its fire damage — 6am. 853  
Valencia Street, SF.

Chevere & Champagne! Celebrate Ollie's First  
Anniversary. Tonite & tmw, 10-1:30am. \$5  
admission door.

Under 21 Lesbian Open Air. 4-6pm. Pacific  
Ctr, Berkeley.

Shabbat Services every Fri with Shari Zahav,  
Jewish lesbian/gay congregation, Jewish  
Comm. Ctr, 3200 Calif, SF. 8:15pm.

Sing! The Rhythm of Life — SF Lesbian & Gay  
Men's Community Chorus performs with  
members of the Berkeley Symphony  
Orchestra plus music by the Vocal Minority  
& the Chamber Chorus. WA, Sign. 56,  
8pm. Trinity Episcopal Church, Gough/  
Bush, SF.

Host of Follies — Angels of Light are back  
with this mystery-murder musical at the  
Project Arthouse Theatre, 450 Florida St, SF.  
Fri-Sun all month, 8:30pm. See review page  
3 and On Stage for complete details on all  
this month's theatre in the Bay Area.

Linda Lane & Western Electric Band, Thurs-  
Sat, 9pm, at SF's Frisco Saloon, 60th St,  
No cover.

Irish and Jazz vocals — piano & guitar with  
Carl Hermann at Artemis Cafe, SF. 9pm,  
\$2.50.

Masticale with foodsexual comedian Carol,  
Jewish lesbian/gay congregation, Jewish  
Comm. Ctr, 3200 Calif, SF. 8:15pm.

Festival of Women Playwrights Series with  
national contest winners open tonight at  
One Act Theatre, 430 Mason, SF. On Stage  
page 3 has complete details.

Camp at Pinnacles with Great Outdoors  
complete info: 626-2131. Today thru Sun.  
"Women of Color and Vision" — opening  
reception for this exhibit of third world  
women artists. 6:30pm, Vida Gallery, SF.  
Women's Bldg. Gallery hours: Wed-Fri,  
2-6pm; Sat 12-5pm.

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
8:30-10pm, SF Women's Bldg.

Pat Parker, Lynn Linder & others read their  
poetry plus music by Bay Area Women  
Artists. 7:30pm, \$4. Women's Bldg.

The Elephant Man double-bills with *Nostradamus*  
at the Castro Theatre. SF. Today thru Mon.

The Committee to Defend Reproductive  
Rights talks about its work on abortion,  
sterilization abuse, lesbian caution, Depro-  
viders & more. 8pm, 15th & Potrero SF.  
School, 29-29th St, SF. RCC (1 wk notice)  
221-3333/35.

Music & Poetry with Terry Garthwaite &  
Avotja, Ollie's, Oakland. Info: 853-4071.

It's official! The Grand Re-opening Party at  
the Devil's Hand, 853 Valencia St, SF. 8pm-2am.  
Santa Barbara Ballet Theatre premiere SF per-  
formance today & tmw, 8pm, Sun 2pm.

Victorian Theatre. 8:30pm, \$5.  
Follies Dance — thousands of your favorite  
tunes. 9pm, Women's Bldg, SF.

Chevere — hot Latin & Brazilian jazz by  
Chevere & his Orchestra. 10th & Potrero SF.  
School, 29-29th St, SF. RCC (1 wk notice)  
10pm, \$3. Tonite & 10/23.

Great Outdoors Backpacking at Salmon  
Creek. For complete info: 626-2131.

Cabaret plus Something for Everyone at the  
Strand. SF Showtimes: 552-5990.

The Land is Ours! U.S. tour of Nya Poku,  
Chad of the Pan African Congress of  
Azerbaijan (SOA), recently released from  
13 yrs imprisonment. 7:30pm, CC. 362  
Capp, SF. Spons by PAC & Prairie Fire.

Many Wines & Spirits Orchestra 40 piece  
ensemble includes Maiden Voyage Big  
Band, 8pm, \$8/14 youth, srs, disabled.  
Herbst Theatre, Van Ness/Grove, SF.

Real Flowers — new one act by Daniel Curzon  
plus Tell Her Ten Minutes & Care and  
Feeding open today at One Act Theatre,  
430 Mason, SF. 8pm, \$4.50. Thurs-Sat all  
month.

"Making Waves" — a premiere show of poetry  
with Unbound Feet Three. 8pm, \$4. RCC by  
10/23: 334-1853. La Pena, Berkeley.

Real Flowers — new one act by Daniel Curzon  
plus Tell Her Ten Minutes & Care and  
Feeding open today at One Act Theatre,  
430 Mason, SF. 8pm, \$4.50. Thurs-Sat all  
month.

23  
Diego Torres Amaya, virtuoso Flamenco  
guitarist direct from Spain performs at  
Mission Culture Ctr, 2868 Mission, SF.  
8pm, \$5 (BASS & TELETON).

The Death of Kachela — Kathakali-style  
Indian dance based on ancient Hindu epic.  
Kalanjali. Dance Company. Today & tmw  
8pm, Sun 2pm. \$20-40 children. Victorian  
Theatre, 16th & 18th St, SF.

Addie! High energy, powerhouse blues at  
Ollie's, Oakland. 10pm, \$4 ad/\$5 door.  
Belly dancing with Odalisque at SF's Artemis  
Cafe, 9pm, \$3.

saturday

3

Bernal Heights Street Festival — arts & crafts,  
food & entertainment plus info on commu-  
nity services. All day on Cortland Ave, SF.  
March Against the Human Life Amendment  
— 10:30am, assemble folk of Market St, SF.  
100 rally. Info: 527-4462.

Oktoberfest on Potrero — The White  
Swallows 4th anniversary boasts stars &  
prizes galore. — Oct 3 & 4, 1750 Polk, SF.  
Gay Youth Community Coalition gen'l mtg.  
12-4pm, Main Library, Larkin & McAllister,  
SF. Info: 552-6025.

To Sell the Truth — experience "Club Medley",  
"Ladies Against Women" & more with Plu-  
tonium Players, today & tmw, Ho Chi Minh  
Park, Derby/Hillside, Berkeley. 2pm, free.

Boot Camp (Literally) — An Exclusive Nite of  
Basic Training — 4-10pm at SF's Boot  
Camp, 1010 Bryant St. \$5. No membership  
required for this men-only event.

White Light — high energy music from New  
York. Artemis Cafe, SF. 9pm, \$3.50.

A Fiesta with Birdleg — danceable sounds  
benefit the Disabled American Freedom  
Rally. La Pena, Berkeley. 9pm.

4-Wheel Drive at Rainbowbow Cattle Co. 9pm-1am.  
199 Valencia St, SF.

Skills for the Activist — Women Against Violence  
in Pornography & Media Orientation  
& Training for Women's Workshops  
cover the many aspects of activism. 8am-  
5pm, breakfast included. \$3. RCC by 10/5:  
552-2709. Women's Bldg, SF.

Under 21 Lesbian Open Air, 4-6pm every  
Sat, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley.

Lake Tahoe Canoe Trip with Outdoor Women's  
School. Today & tmw. Info: 848-5189.

"Unlearning Racism" — a workshop for South-  
ern women led by Rickie Overmire-Marcuse.  
Complete info: 752-3540.

Bush Mama — a film on a Black woman in  
Watts who resists her people's genocidal  
destruction and Messaquoi My People  
slides with a statement by Black revolu-  
tionary Assata Shakur. CC. 8pm, \$3. SF  
Women's Bldg.

Gay Night at Great America — for complete  
info see story page 1 or call 641-4020.

Liz Estrada — Aristophanes' antiwar, feminist  
comedy with Teatro Latino. 8pm, \$4.  
Molokini Theatre, SF State Univ, 19th &  
Holloway, SF.

Jazz on Flute & piano with Liz Burch & Jan  
Hastay. Artemis, SF. 9pm, \$3.

27  
Tear Gas Certification Course: 10am-12:30pm,  
SF Women's Bldg. \$25/\$12.50 srs &  
disabled.

I Changed My Sex — is she Glen or Glenda?  
— the most shocking film of 1953 stars  
Bela Lugosi & plays every Sat this month at  
midnite at the Roxie Cinema, 16th &  
Valencia, SF.

The Caldron's 1st Anniversary Party! South-of-  
Market street festival, tonite, 955 Natoma, SF.  
Details: 863-6454.

Looking for a Relationship — a workshop for  
single gay men seeking "someone  
special." Limited openings, call 841-9198.

Curtain Up! — SFGGI Club's 8th Annual "A  
Date at Minsky's". 8pm (doors open 7pm),  
Calif Hall, Polk & Turk, SF. \$7 door.

Black Gay Cultural Group benefit to start a  
coffeehouse with performances by Avotja,  
Stan Roy and David Williams, plus showing  
of *Black Orpheus*, cinematic Carnival in  
Rio. 8pm, \$4. Dance Loft, Project Arthouse,  
401 Alameda, SF.

Antologia Lesbiana Latino Americana (Latin  
American Lesbian Anthology) —  
benefit women's salsa dance with  
SF Women's Bldg. 8:30pm, \$4. Ashkenazi  
1317 San Pablo, Berkeley. Wheelchair  
assistance. Info & carpool: 861-2346.

The Alberta Jackson Band — sensual sounds  
that move you on your feet. 10pm, \$3.50  
ad/\$4.50 door. Ollie's, Oakland.

24  
Pumpkin Festival in Half Moon Bay, Main  
Street. Great Pumpkin Parade plus pie-  
eating contest, entertainment, arts &  
crafts. 10:50pm.

Spot & Consciousness — a workshop with  
Dean Anderson of Optimal Spots Performance.  
10am-5pm. Holistic Life Institute,  
1627-10th Ave, SF. Info: 664-4900.

Poetry at the Grand Palace with Tade Matthews  
& Leslie Simon. 1672 Haight, SF. 8pm.

Address Directory



Mary Watkins with a 36 piece Jazz  
Orchestra appears the 16th & 17th at SF's  
Herbst Theatre for a live in concert record-  
ing session.

10

Artemis Cafe, 23rd & Valencia (1199 Valen-  
cia), San Francisco. 821-0232. WA.

The Beethoven, 1369 Solano Ave., Albany.  
527-1314. Feminist bar. WA.

Berkley Women's Center, 2955 Telegraph  
Avenue, Berkeley. 548-4343.

Eighteenth Street Services, 4131-18th  
Street, San Francisco. 863-5111.

Gay Community Center of Marin (now form-  
ing). Contact Gay Information Line: 457-3131.  
L.C.I. Woman's Place Bookstore, 4015  
Broadway, Oakland. 547-9920. Call to reserve  
childcare for events. WA.

La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck,  
Berkeley. 849-2568. WA.

Metropolitan Community Church, 150  
Eureka St., San Francisco. 863-4434.

Metropolitan Community Church — East  
Bay, 4866 Fairfax Ave., Oakland. 533-4848. WA.

Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia St., San  
Francisco. 821-4675. Call to reserve childcare  
for events. WA.

Ollie's, 4130 Telegraph Ave., Oakland.  
863-0022.

Operation Concern, 2485 Clay Street, San  
Francisco. 863-0202.

Pacific Center for Human Growth, 2712 Tel-  
eph Avenue, Berkeley. 548-8283. WA.

Unitarian Universalists Gay Caucus, First  
Unitarian Church, Franklin/Grove, San Fran-  
cisco. 778-4580.

Women's Building of the Bay Area, 3543-  
18th St., San Francisco. 431-1180. WA.

Calendar Key

WA: wheelchair access.  
CC: childcare available at event.  
RCC: call to reserve childcare for event.  
S: sign language interpreter.  
RS: reservations.  
SS: sliding scale.

11

ICL — A Woman's Place  
Halloween  
recreated goods • crafts •  
community information  
• food • games  
Sat. Oct. 31 and Sun. Nov. 1  
10 AM - 4 PM  
40th by Broadway, Oakland

ICL — A Woman's Place Bookstore  
Community Music Centers 609a  
Information Center 547-9920  
547-9920

October 31, 1993 — Led by Jose Saria,  
2,000 people gather at midnite to witness  
the closing of The Black Cat Cafe in SF by  
Casting "God Save Us Nellie Queens."

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Halloween Happenings!

Borderline — C&W party at Rainbow Cattle  
Co., 199 Valencia, SF.

Trocadero Transfer's fabulous annual "Black  
Party." Hotline: 495-0185. Located at 520-4th St,  
SF.

Bench & Bar hosts a private Halloween Party.  
Sunday, 8:30-11th St. in Oakland. \$50 for pre-  
best costume, plus many other prizes and sur-  
prises. "Dorothy Land" is the theme, and we're  
encouraged to dress as our favorites from the  
Land of Oz. \$15 advance/\$10 after 2am.  
Halloween nite. Details: 444-2266.

Faerie Halloween... High Holy Day & Beach  
party tonight with performance by Avotja.  
Info: 826-1338 or Harold (552-0331).

Hollywood Halloween at Deluxe — Emcee  
Sara & Mike. Midnite. Prizes for costume  
most-muscle. Muscle Man, and Hollywood  
Blonde look-alike. 10pm-1am, Haight at Ashbury,  
SF. No cover.

Legendary Maxene Anderson joins David  
Kelsey & Pure Tush, 9pm at Hotel York's Plush  
club. 440 Sutter. SF. Forties costume fantasy  
features an Andrews Sisters look-alike contest.  
\$20 ad/\$25 door. Info: 885-8060.

Urbanside, 826 11th St. in Oakland. (opening its  
South-of-Market location). 11pm, 386-12th St.  
Details: 682-0980.

Reviving a tradition. The Mint recreates its  
Halloween evening of yore to from Beau Arts  
Ball. Info at 628-4726.

"most outrageous cocktail party...". Drag for  
drag on or weeks. Tickets available at all  
Tavern Guild bars.

Halloween flea market, crafts & fun fair —  
good selling arts & crafts, games & com-  
munity info plus more for two days outdoors by  
Women's Place Bookstore, Oakland. Booth  
rental & other info: 547-9920. Range Nov. 7 &  
8.

"Thank You San Francisco" — a free concert at  
Golden Gate Park. Bandshell to celebrate  
Community Music Centers 609a. Noon-Sun.  
3pm.

Halloween in Vallejo — Our Bar is having a par-  
ty! 832 Sonoma. Various 2pm on... Surprised  
Exotic Erotic Halloween Ball — cabaret, bur-  
lesque, runway strip, new wave & celebrities —  
all adult. Tickets fulfilled. \$10 adv (BASS)/\$12  
door. 8pm-2am. Longshoremen's Memorial  
Hall, 301 Beach, SF.

Saxello Halloween — Halloween dance with  
costumes & mer

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## Letters

### "Womyn?"

In Shakespeare's time, spelling was so diverse that even his name was spelled variously: "Shakespeare," "Shakspere," and so on. The same was true of common nouns, as anyone knows who's looked at 16th century manuscripts.

The standardization of spelling may be viewed by some as a wicked capitalist plot to enforce conformity. Nonetheless, it seems to me that ideas have little or nothing to do with the standard spelling of the words that convey them.

Thus, I am both amused and bemused, especially the latter, to find lesbians spelling "women" as "wimmin'." "Wimmin'" and "womyn'" all with the obvious purpose of forcing the "men" out of the word, which they apparently view as a kind of symbolic rape. Now, if they want to make themselves look foolish in the eyes of almost everyone who reads English literature, they are going about it in this right way.

Just as absurd is the spelling of "history" as "herstory," to take the masculine "his" out of "history," a word whose Greek root, "hister," has nothing whatever to do with gender.

So far these apparatuses have not come up with a new way to spell "woman," to take the "man" out of it (or "her"). Maybe "wummin'"? Let all such lesbians please be reminded that, after all, it took a man's "cooperation" to enable them to get here. And even with artificial insemination, it will continue to do so, indefinitely, whether they like it or not.

Separatist gay male

### In Defense of UNBOUND FEET THREE

The Women Writers Union is writing to support the continuation and struggles of Unbound Feet Three. We support the right and need for Nellie Wong, Merle Woo, and Kitty Tauli to work together as a group both in political activities and in performances. Any other path would be the silencing of the important connection between art and politics and the face of a militant multiracial feminist politics. At a time when the right-wing is on the rise, attacking people of color, all women, gay men and lesbians and working people it is essential to our survival that we have politics such as those presented by Asian American Studies against both Unbound Feet and the students be challenged at every step of the way for the sake of radical change. For ultimately reformism masks a conservatism that says "let things be as they are." Let us not be deceived by the illusion that Universities are exempt from "big business" status — the University is a corporation and departments struggle within the profit system that is inherently racist, sexist, heterosexist and class oppressive. Unbound Feet Three is standing by the statement read on February 6, 1981 which called for an end to the silencing of students, militants, and community people by the powerful few who seek security within the University system. The women who did not want to stand by this statement — Genny, Nancy and Canyon — succumbed to the pressures of the powerful. On the other hand, the women of Unbound Feet Three believe in and support the statement made on that night because they believe that their organization cannot separate their art from political struggles and from the people of the communities out of which mass movement organizations come.

**Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day**  
**1982 Parade**  
**Co-Chair Elections**  
**Sunday 8 November 1981**  
at Women's Building 3451 18th Street  
October Parade meeting attendance required for November officer eligibility.  
11 October 1981 Sunday 5 pm Women's Bldg.  
• Male and Female Co-Chairs  
• Paid salary for two months full-time work  
• Would prefer time rather than money  
**more information: 861-5404**

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The issue of the struggle between the original Unbound Feet and Asian American Studies is an issue of an attempt to censor women who are militant for the sake of a false unity within the so-called community (Who is to say that the community does not support the militancy expressed by that statement?). This attack can only be seen as sexist and anti-militancy. Can we so easily forget the dangers of McCarthyism, or of "McCarthyist" attitudes? However, such attitudes do not seem to be limited to bourgeois structures such as the universities. For it is equally dangerous when leftists participating in mass movement organizations are bailed for belonging to a party or other left group. To say the members of left parties are simply "party-building" or only giving a line, as though women in left parties do not personally believe in and stand by their politics, is another way of censoring and silencing leftists. But these were the claims made against Nellie Wong and Merle Woo when they wanted to continue the struggle against Asian American Studies. Such tactics have been used against leftists time and time again, and are inexcusable in mass movement organizations. A person who belongs to a left party need not stop speaking about the politics of the organizations to which they belong. After all, the right wing is trying to silence all left groups. Are the mass movement organizations going to the same thing?

So a division has occurred, and Nancy Hom, Genny Lim, and Canyon Sam have chosen to take the matter to lawyers and the courts. This is not a reasonable or militant solution to the problems for the courts are embedded within the very capitalist-patriarchal structure against which we fight everyday in our politics and lives. The courts cannot solve differences which are, at bottom, political.

As Nellie, Merle, and Kitty continue to struggle to raise money in order to speak out on political issues through their art and other political activities, we must support their coming together as Unbound Feet Three, following the multi-issue political principles originally established by Unbound Feet. The names and the work together as an organization is integral to the larger struggles that we face in the 1980's. In their first reading together they have already shown that they connect the issues of racism, sexism, heterosexism and class oppression; we need to hear from them again and again.

Sincerely yours,  
Carla S. Schick  
Organizer, Women Writers Union

### Thanks for Astrology

We find George Hurk's forecasts valuable & always like to mark the full and new moon on the calendar.

I have a subscription to *Yoga Life*, a monthly publication from Swami Gitananda, a friend in Pondicherry, South India. Swami finds great significance, to say the least, in the approach of the line up of eight other planets on one side of the Sun with Earth alone in the line on the opposite side of the Sun.

Perhaps you can elaborate on this phenomenon for your readers?

Very truly yours,  
Till Hillan

## Beaux Arts ...

(continued from page 1)

Michelle stresses that there is still plenty to see at a ball with spectacular groups now the main attraction. However, he laments that the day of the "glamour drags," who spent thousands on their gowns, is passing. Chair Ross agrees that drag itself is on the decline, with more varied costumes now getting the crowd's attention.

Ross adds that, "People have a change of priorities now. Our community is more diversified."

Connie O'Connor, president of Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, emphasized that some have become more politicized. She says, "Drag probably involves 1% of our community now, but there are hundreds of people in the gay political clubs."

Many of the older gay males who once wore drag or cheered it are now into full leather. Carmen Vasquez, director of the Women's Center, believes the move by males to a "butch" image may be partly a gay backlash — away from the drag image. She says that this presents another dilemma — the butch emphasis "is an attempt to identify with the mainstream culture which is both sexist and homophobic." Long-time activist and writer Phyllis Lyn agreed: "I do not understand how we can emulate the image of persons that is the hardest on us. It's silly to pretend to be tough or butch when you don't really feel that way. But eventually some men feel pressured socially into doing it."

**DOES DRAG OFFEND?**  
Lesbian feminists surveyed by *Coming Up!* generally support drag. Priscilla Alexander and Lynn both said that most drags have a wonderful joy in what they are doing and an appreciation of fabrics. Vasquez contributed, "I want the same freedom to move about in a suit as a man should have in drag." Roberta Bobba, former TGSS director and owner of *Gay's Liquid*, says, "Men in drag do not offend me. I am also not offended by women wearing fly-in-front pants either." Bobba best expressed a general feeling when she said, "I

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## Alternative Airwaves

**The Gay Life** with Randy Alfred  
KSAN 95FM, Sundays, 11pm  
Oct 4: Comedy Out: "Developmental Issues in the Coming-Out process for Lesbians & Gay Men" taped at the American Psychological Association Convention in San Francisco  
Oct 11: **Business & Politics:** Interviews with Arthur Lazere, President-elect of the Nat'l Assoc. of Business Councils, plus representatives of the Palo Alto Coalition for Equal Rights which is trying to pass a gay rights ordinance.  
Oct 18: **The Enemies of Love:** A report from the *Batman* — a talk with lesbian therapist Betty Berzon at the Assoc. of Gay Psychologists.  
Oct 25: **History:** A taped visit to the Nat'l Gay Archives in LA, features Jim Kepner.

**Radio Free Women**  
KALX 90.7FM, Tuesdays, 9:30pm  
An hour of women's programming — music, interviews, politics plus a weekly calendar.  
Program ideas welcome call 642-1111.

**Fruit Punch, Gay Men's Radio**  
KPFA 94FM, Wednesdays, 10pm  
Oct 14: **Gay Men's Place** an original short story, written & read by David Lambie, about a bygone time when Jerry Ford was in the White House & Men's Place was a successful Georgetown home in the middle of the D.C. cruise block for gay men. Because of marathon programming, this will be the only show this month.

**Women's Programming**  
KPFA 94FM, Sat & Sun, 10 & 11  
Two complete days of women's programming during the KPFA marathon:  
9:00: **Music from Michigan Women's Music Festival**  
10:30: **Stammans & Jesters** — women's healing rituals w/Luise Teish, Budapest Starhawk, Lesli Mahler.

11:30: **Healing music**  
12:30: **Leftovers** — women's theatre troupe on ups & downs of compulsive eating.  
2:00: **Lesbians in the Workplace**  
3:00: **Women's music from the Caribbean**  
5:00: **More music from Michigan Festival**  
6:30: **The Family Protection Act** — who is it really protecting?

7:30: **Music & Talk from the West Coast Women's Music Festival**  
9:30: **Blood Ties** — a mythology of women power  
Sunday, October 11  
11:00: **Interview w/Mag Chetlain** plus songs from her new album.  
12:30: **West Coast Women's Music Festival**  
1:30: **Construyendo la Patria Nueva, Hacemos la Nueva Patria**

2:00: **Primal Fear** — Interview w/William Anne-Claire Portier about this film on rape.  
3:00: **Yoga & Self Healing**  
5:00: **West Coast Women's Music Festival**  
6:30: **What Next** — the phone lines open at 648-4425 to discuss what next: where do we take our developing culture & politics, our growing personal & collective force.

8:00: **Concert:** Mary Watkins, Linda Tillery & June Millington recorded live in SF

**Special Programming**  
KPFA 94FM, Fri, Oct 1 & 2  
Public Affairs radio talks to three gay & lesbian youth about their lives and community organizations. Features members of Gay Youth Community Coalition.

**Letter Info**

If you'd like to write to us, please try to send a typed, double-spaced letter if possible. Keep it as short and concise as you can since we publish letters space permitting and reserve the right to edit for length. All letters must be signed, but we will withhold your name if you wish.

Mail your letters to *Coming Up!*, 2120 Mark Street, Room 104, San Francisco, CA 94114. Attention: Letters. Our deadline is the 18th of the month preceding publication.

hope that I am thinking about other things rather than what clothes people are wearing. The only aspect of drag today that disturbs feminists is female impersonator entertainers. They always make me uncomfortable," Alexander maintains, "because they often portray women as people who are not like us. They often pick women to portray who have been caught in roles that destroyed them — such as Judy Garland and Marilyn Monroe. They are not like us. Vasquez believes the female impersonators too often present women as psychotic. Lyn says, "They present women as the very stereotype that we are attempting to eliminate."

Costume Consumer encourages men who wish to get into drag to do so from time to time because "it is healthy. To have unfulfilled desires is frustrating." Bobba believes "drag is just pure fun" while Michelle explains, "Getting into drag is strictly show for me, helping people have a good time. I have no hang up about wanting to be a woman."

Tede Matthews (from the film, *Wish Is Out*) says, "On one level clothing is very superficial because we're all born naked and everything anyone wears at any time is drag. And drag — what you wear — is how you want people to react to you, or how you want to react to yourself maybe too."

Halloween is The night of the year to see the best of what appears to be a fading phenomenon — drag. The outstanding drags will most likely be at the Tavern Club and the Beaux Arts Ball. There will also be numerous non-drag costumes. The event benefits the community; the profits go into the TGSS's foundation fund that will some day purchase a building for a Gay Community Center. There is now close to \$100,000 put away for the Center.

Guests at the ball might also discover some celebrities (Director John Schlesinger, Carol Channing have attended) and numerous politicians visiting the affair. Mayor Dianne Feinstein rarely misses the ball.

Bob Ross will join the ball's technical director, Vasily Rutherford, stage to assist Michelle with the presentations. Behind the scenes, the staff will be under the direction of Heidi Downard with bar operation supervised by Mark Friede.

The outrageous cocktail party and disco, The Beaux Arts Ball, will be on Halloween night, October 31, 7 pm on, California Hall, Polk and Tucker streets, 150 unreserved seating.



## Women's Music Festival

by Regina Gabrielle  
and Kim Corsaro

Whatever happened at the West Coast Women's Music and Cultural Festival this year? The festival was 4000 women gathered to hear spectacular nighttime concerts under the stars. Classical music in the dinner line. A sock hop with the Dyketones: not just a gang, but a band. Workshops on feminism in the '80s and Lesbian Rights in the Backlash led by Charlotte Bunch.

The Festival was Motherhouse Readers Theatre voicing women's feelings about our bodies and change in our lives. A Shabbat Dinner and Jewish cultural sharing. The powerful blues and gospel sounds of Somethin' Special. The kitchen churning out gallons of incredible lentil soup.

Yosemite brought women together to work long, hard hours to build a city in the woods: signs, wheelchair ramps, markers, two incredible stage areas, porta-toilets, dishwashing lines. Central Central, a healing center, walking talks, and more. A woman's big band from Hollywood played the main stage and guitar workshops were held in the woods. Katherine Brady brought to the surface the realities of being an incest survivor as she talked about her book *Father's Day*. Slideshowes and films on topics from Nicaragua to last years music festival were shown. The sounds of Abeni's Afro-Caribbean folkloric music reverberated through the lake area.

Carmen Vasquez told us of being Latina in the feminist community. Craftswomen and artisans sold their wares while women sunned and swam in the nearby lake. Holly Near blended her political involvements in song. There was a childcare wonderland — kids didn't want to go home.

Rina, Queen of the Trash, conquered our mountains of garbage. The bears visited Cabin 17 for a snack. Women set up workshops on Former Nun Lesbians, Swinging & Bluegrass Sharing, Artificial Insemination, Solar Energy & Appropriate Technology, Consulting the Tarot, and Women and Aikido.

Z Budapest performed a mass tryst for couples at the festival. The jazz set of Alivel sent excitement into the night air. Bernice Reagan profoundly spoke of "Coalition Politics and Turning the Century".

We learned of the struggles of Chile, Nicaragua, and El Salvador in a day proclaimed in Solidarity With Latin America. Carol McDonald sang rock 'n' roll. Sign language interpreters elegantly expressed the sounds of the festival.

Dovicia Ishatova and her mother Hania Goodman, holocaust survivor, sent a calm and stillness over everyone, then brought us to our feet for Jewish folkdancing. And Sweet Honey in the Rock cooked on "The Seven Day Kisa" like they've never cooked before.

But something else happened in Yosemite.

The festival became a place where a process could happen," says Torie Osborne, festival director. "That process could start and even have some negative attached to it, but become so principled and so powerful, and involve so many people, that it changed the face of that festival. That is what happened. Kate Millet and Holly Near and all these names that most of us had heard of this festival. What happened is what the participants did."

Festival participants started a process that culminated in a procession of 600 women singing "Women Together, We Shall Not Be Moved" and voting to the main stage to make statements concerning their feelings about racism and classism at the festival.

Robin Tyler's reactions on the stage to those statements that night aroused a myriad of emotions in that group of women who were women of many colors, classes and backgrounds and that group left the main stage area to share, talk, sing, dance, laugh and cry in a multi-cultural, multi-racial festival of their own.

There remains a lot of confusion in the women's community over what the events were surrounding the controversy at the festival. Things happened so fast in the four short days at Yosemite, that many women were left feeling bewildered, alienated, angry and upset; and many women who had just wanted a few days to relax in the woods with other women listening to music, felt attacked.

A lot of things had already gone down by the time festival participants started arriving on Thursday, September 10. While women got to the land and started setting up their tents a significant number of people were already feeling alienated by the festival process and wanting to make their voices heard.

"If you went to the festival without bringing your culture and your heritage and the colors of your skin and the colors of your heart, then you could have just piggied out — you could have just had a wonderful time," says Andrea Canaan, Executive



Director of Berkeley's Pacific Center, and a festival participant.

"In fact, large numbers of women there were women of color from all over the world having come from all kinds of heritages, while women from all over the world, all kinds of heritages; and all struggling from every conceivable kind of place around racism and classism and internalized homophobia."

And so, at noon on Friday, a small group of a half-dozen women met to share their feelings about the festival. Some of them had been friends and lovers in the city, some of them knew of each other, and some of them had never met. Over the next two days, they were to form strong bonds of friendship, and make commitments to work with each other around the issues that were raised at the festival. They wanted to express what they were feeling in a constructive, productive manner, and they agreed to meet later in the afternoon, when they could spend more time talking about what was bothering them.

When they gathered again around 4:00, their group had grown to 25 people. They were a diverse group of women: women of many colors, women of mixed heritage, while women, Jewish women, women of different class backgrounds. They began to talk.

They talked about their feelings coming to the

festival — how there had been no sliding scale to acknowledge their varying incomes, how those of them with money had felt abused when they applied for work exchange; how many of their friends were left in the city who had to work or go to school for two days — they couldn't afford the full festival price for just half the festival time. They talked about how there had been no transportation for many women to get to the festival. And they wondered about how much money was being made.

Performers talked about the troubles they had with their contracts, how similar groups were paid differently for doing the same things. Abeni, a group who plays Afro-Caribbean folkloric music, talked about how they had been told they would be paid, then wouldn't, then would, but not as much.

Many women talked about their feelings on seeing the festival program when they got to Yosemite, their rage and disappointment that nothing there spoke to the different races and cultures they came from; and they felt invisible and alienated because of it. They felt they had no festival.

And then they talked about Latin American Solidarity Day. It had been three workshops interspersed with three music sets at the open mic stage. That stage was located next to the lake, the recreation and merchants area of the festival, and while women tried to talk about the struggles going on in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Chile, women played, swam and sunned (as they were supposed to do in that area) and the workshops went largely unheard and unnoticed.

The group of women wanted to constructively criticize and open a dialogue with festival organizers, but the festival brochure told them that there would be no feedback during the festival, and to write down any criticisms and mail them in.

"I don't like being told you can't react to the situation in the present, that you have to write something down and submit it," says Celinda (continued on page 7)

## The Statements

### Women of Color Statement

We, women of color, attending the Second West Coast Women's Music Festival, stand united with our sisters demanding the following issues be addressed and resolved by a task force of line white and line third world women of color, who are representative of and accountable to the white, third world, and women of color women's community, meeting with the producer(s) of the West Coast Women's Music Festival.

- No provision for those who do not own expensive camping equipment in the form of community tents.
- No provision for women who have no money or means to get to the festival. (i.e. transportation, i.e. free admission).
- Festival staff non representative of the diverse milieu of the women's community in terms of cultural heritage, color and class.
- Lack of input by coordinators and consumers in policy making.
- Inequity with contracts, pay scales and treatment of performers and other contracted service.
- The disrespect for third world and women of color community representatives by the festival producers.
- No provision for a vehicle through which constructive criticism can be channelled at the festival.
- No provision for collective decision making and responsibility by the women's communities.

We demand apologies be made to the performers of Chevere, Abeni and Les Compagnons for their abusive treatment by the producer(s) and representatives thereof.

—Drafted by 200 Women of Color, Saturday, Sept. 12, 1981.

### White Women's Statement

While we recognize the enormous effort that has gone into putting on this festival we have some criticisms and we want to be engaged by the racism and classism of this festival and in the women's movement. We call on our white sisters to take responsibility for their role in these issues. We support the rage, demands, and right to be heard of women of color whose culture and experience has been denied by this festival content, leadership, and participants — that is all of us.

All of us need to know what has gone down.

As white women we are angered at the way the Day of Solidarity with Latin America was put in place. We were told that we were to be engaged and shuffled off to the side in the "playground" area. When women of color asked to read a statement at the concert last night? These security volunteers were used as a police force to attempt to silence women of color and prevent open criticism of racism. One Latina sister was escorted from the land without any of her possessions and not allowed to connect with her lover.

Classism and racism go hand in hand. For example: there is no sliding fee scale, no refund policy, no weekend rates to make the festival accessible to working class and poor women. We don't need to hear comments like "nothing's too good for the working class."

We call on festival coordinators to make the festival organizing a collective process with the power to be distributed collectively. Our demand is that every group have representation in the collective process. This includes all women of color, women of mixed heritage, older women, working class women, differently-abled women, and Jewish women. Unless this demand is met, we as white women will be unable to support the festival and some of us will call for a boycott on next year's event.

Our statement is in no way deals with all of the issues surrounding this festival. While there is a growing consciousness among us, we must actively confront these issues and we must give our active support to women of color. We must take responsibility to deal with these issues not only here at the festival, but in our daily lives; otherwise we are just going along with the racist and classist program.

To address these issues we will be having a meeting at 10:30 tomorrow morning at the basketball courts by the dinner lodge.

### Jewish Women's Statement

We as Jewish Women in solidarity with women of color stand strongly against the racism, classism, and anti-semitism in the festival, the women's community and the world. A group of Jewish women met this afternoon to address these problems, but we did not have time to fully discuss or come to an agreement on many critical issues. These issues include anti-semitism in the women's community, the ways Jews have been historically scapegoated; the connection between anti-semitism and racism; our own internalized anti-semitism; and how to move beyond defensiveness toward collective struggle against a common enemy in the patriarchy, capitalism, and the growing KKK and Nazi movements.

There are stereotypes that exist and feed anti-semitism. Robin Tyler is a Jewish sister, which should not be ignored. Because she is Jewish, issues of money, power and aggression have been discussed without careful consideration by some. Those stereotypes have led to a massive extermination of our people throughout history. In reality, we are diverse in our skin color, our class and our cultures; and thus, we have a stake in insuring the visibility of all women of color.

Important criticisms have been made about the classist nature of this festival's administration. We support and move toward a collectivized process for organizing next year's festival. As we struggle with these important issues, we must not allow anti-semitism to be used in the struggle against racism and classism in the same way some of our people have used the oppression of Jews to justify their own racism. We do not support such action, and we will continue to struggle against ours and others bigotry.

Those of us who are white Jews recognize our white skin privilege and are committed to fighting racism. We ask all women to educate themselves about anti-semitism and racism; we must commit ourselves to work against racism in all its forms. While we recognize the effort that went into the organization of this festival, we encourage women of all races to take personal responsibility to build and develop our own culture. Together, we must fight against all which divides us and interrupts our work and celebration as a united community.

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