

## 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 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' you are lining the pockets of people who vehemently oppose us," says Robin Nichols, a lesbian/feminist activist from San Jose. Nichols, a member of 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 American 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 Chicano Employment Committee had a lawsuit pending against Great American 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.

Photo: (S) Kim Corcoran

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## 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 October 21 this year, and the costumed balls 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 about the premises. One of the most popular street spectators will be treated to a free show by Naomi Murdoch, who announces her 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 TGSF 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, uninvited 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 \$3,000 plus numerous trophies. Entrants last year included 12 large groups, 35 pairs and over 100

## DRAG FADES AWAY

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

Pat Corpo, 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 into gender-fuck 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)

## HOLISTIC HYPNOSIS

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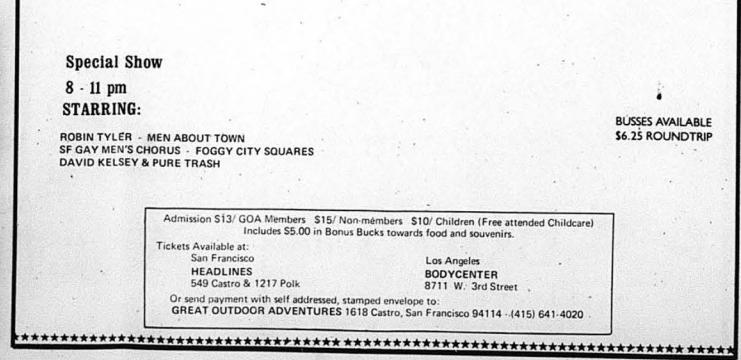
240 - 6th Street  
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864-3825

## Marriott's at GREAT AMERICA

Saturday, October 10

3 til 8 PM "Mix In" with general public

8 til 11 PM - PRIVATE



## SF International Film Festival

San Francisco's International Film Festival goes into its 25th annual season on October 9th. Here come 15 days and nights (not to mention the occasional morning or wee hour) of a mind-boggling worldwide selection of 56 features from 26 countries.

Bring your extra pair of contact lenses and seat pads from both the Marriot and the 16th through 18th at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, and October 19th through 24th at the Castro Theatre. They overlap a little this year, but not much. Tickets for tributes and all evening programs are \$5 General and \$4 Members, available at both theaters, the downtown Center Box Office at 325 Mason (752-3100), and the Castro Box Office at 1600 Market (752-3100).

The Press Festival Benefit, Thursday October 8th at the Castro, Rich and Famous, offers an in-person bonus for its \$8 ticket, in the presence of George Cukor and Candace Bergen. Opening night also carries a special price tag for its premiere of *Raggedy Man*, directed by Jack Fier (*Days of Heaven*, *Coal Miner's Daughter*), featuring Ray Spacek. Call the Festival's Special Events office, 346-2537 for more information on this and the Gala at the Fairmont Hotel.

At press time, the gayest highlights of the Film Festival look to be worth staying up late for: *Sharing the Secret* (quality made-for-Cameraphone film, *Coal Miner's Daughter* produced 3-day film festival on the beach-site death of post-director Pier Paolo Pasolini, and *Yevushchenko*, and Spain's *The Deputy*. All midnight at the Castro on the 16th, 17th and 22nd, respectively. October 14th, the 9:30 p.m. feature at the Palace is *Celeste* (from W. Germany), on the last few months in Proust's life.

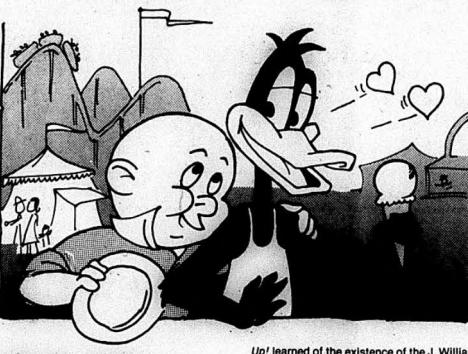
Look for *The Man of Iron*, Welles's sequel to *Man of War*; *Sweden's Children's Island*; *She Dances Alone* (USA-made, with Kyra Nijinsky and Bud Cort), *Ghana's Love Brewed... in the African Pot*; Poland's new version of *War of the Worlds*; and Hong Kong's *Father and Son*, already screened and highly recommended.

Pick up a schedule at the nearest Film Festival theater. You'll miss some good 'uds, no matter what — but your movie calendar is definitely full for the month of October.

The New Directors series, an annual special event of the S.F. International Film Festival, will run 12th through 18th, 4 p.m. at the Palace. It's a retrospective also at the Palace, 11 a.m. — the 15th through the 15th. Admission is FREE to these and all daytime features at both theaters.

— Patti Kimmel

ILLUSTRATION BY BILL HARRIS



## Mammoths . . .

(continued from front page)

Nichols charges that the Marriott corporation contributed money to Anti-Bryant, and to John Briggs' campaign against gay/lesbian schoolteachers in 1978. She also points out that Mormon-led organizations were responsible for defeating the Gay Rights Measures A & B in San Clara County and in San Jose last year. On the Mormon and fundamentalist groups, Nichols maintains that the Palo Alto Gay Rights Ordinance, which will appear on the ballot this November.

Research done by several feminist organizations shows that millions of Mormon dollars go into right-wing causes each year. According to lesbian-activist Glenn McElhiney, who visited the Mormon City for an ERA demonstration, the Mormon Church contributes money to Jerry Falwell, as well as to local chapters of the Moral Majority located throughout the country.

The Mormon Church is clearly anti-choice, anti-abortion and anti-ERA," Glennie states.

For example, when Florida voted on the ERA in 1974, the Mormon Church and its groups collected \$17,000 in Central California alone, and used this money to pay off legislators.

A great deal of Mormon power is in corporate holdings. The Church owns 17% of the Transamerica Corporation, and has interests in numerous fast-food chains, grocery store chains, such as "Pep's," Save-A-Lot, and in car dealerships. Members of the Mormon Church also tithe, giving 10% of their income back to the Church. According to Glennie, the Church collects about \$500,000 every day from tithe.

Arya Levy, producer of "Gay Night," and the director of GOA, a San Francisco based social organization for lesbians and gay men, insists that "the Mormon Church does not contribute money to the Gay Rights."

"Great America is not Mormon — Dick Marriott (one of the corporation's major stockholders) is," says Levy. "An amusement park can't give money to the Mormon Church, nor to any other political organization."

Levy argues that if the people of Santa Clara County believe that the Marriott Corporation is wrong, they should focus their boycott efforts on the list of Marriott-owned products instead of on GOA's event.

In addition to owning two Great America Theme Parks, the Marriott Corporation has numerous restaurants and hotel franchises across the country. There are over 200 restaurants, including "Big Boy" coffee shops, Roy Rogers fastfood chains, and Farrell's ice cream parlors. The corporation provides food services for airlines, schools, and health-care facilities. Marriott also holds interests in three cruise ships.

Despite Levy's claim that Marriott and the Mormon Church are not connected, Coming

Up! learned of the existence of the J. Willard Marriott Foundation, which lists its assets at \$3 million. This non-profit foundation reports that it contributes money to community-service groups, health-care facilities, and to Church organizations.

Levy told Coming Up! that he believes that the Santa Clara County group's opposition to his organization's event is mainly a case of "sour grapes." According to Levy, a recent gay fundraiser held at Africaf U.S.A. was not successful. Santa Clara organizers had hoped it would be, and therefore a small group of people present the support "Gay Night" has thus far received.

"There is also a lot of anti-San Francisco sentiment behind their protest," Levy observes, "which has to do with our community's failure to give money to their political cause."

Nichols and other members of the Lambda Association who met with Levy last month, complained that he did not contact a single gay organization in the Peninsula prior to signing a contract with the Marriott corporation.

"Had he done so, we would have informed him of our position, and explained to him that it is not acceptable for him to bring the Mormon forces down here who look away our gay rights," says Nichols. She went on to accuse Levy and his group of "carpetbagging."

"This event was planned in San Francisco as a fundraiser for GOA," she says. "Gay Night" costs \$15 per person, and they've projected that 15,000 to 16,000 people will attend, which means that in one night \$200,000 is going to go to the Marriott Corporation and to GOA. But where are they when it comes time to raise money for struggling groups such as the Palo Alto Coalition for Equal Rights (PACER), who has a tremendous campaign budget to wage against the Moral Majority?

Levy countered this charge by noting that he intends to contribute some of the profits from "Gay Night" to three gay organizations, one of whom will be located in the Peninsula. He would not disclose the names of the organizations, nor the amount of money he intends to contribute.

According to Levy, the staff of Great America has been exceptionally supportive and cooperative. Although he was initially turned down when he tried to schedule his event, Levy persisted, fighting for the right to hold a gay event at the park. About twenty gay groups have unsuccessfully tried to secure Great America since their 1979 event.

"There was support from an executive order from Corporate Headquarters in Washington, D.C., barring gay events from the park because of problems that occurred at 'Gay Night' in 1979," Levy explained. These same problems were related to complaints of "lewd" behavior taking place in the amusement park restrooms.

Levy protested Marriott's policy, and after speaking with lawyers from local Great America executives, he received permission from the Washington, D.C. office to hold "Gay Night" at the park.

"We are 100% behind this event," says Peter Hume, San Francisco Sales Representative for Great America. He also states that out that his company has a non-discrimination policy which protects gay personnel. Hume echoed Levy's opinion that "if the Marriott family contributes money to the Moral Majority, that's their business, not

corporate policy." He told Coming Up! that working with Levy and his group has been a pleasant experience, and that the group has been well-organized and quite professional. Hume doesn't anticipate problems with Saturday's picket because he believes that only a small minority of gay people will be involved. It's a shame that gay people can't support one another," he concluded.

Coming Up! contacted Robin Tyler, one of the evening show headliners to ask her how she felt about the boycott. Tyler says that at the time she signed her contract to perform she was unaware that Marriott had Mormon executives and that a boycott of Great America had been going on. She will appear on Saturday night to honor her contractual commitment.

Levy emphasized that "Gay Night," which could be one of the largest gatherings of gay people in history, is primarily a social event, not a political event. Because the park will be open to the general public from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Levy stresses that it will be a great opportunity for gays and straights to mix, in a relaxed fun setting.

Members of the Lambda Association offered a different perspective on the event. "Going to Marriott's Great America is political," drinking. One person during the Anita Bryant campaign was political," says Rosalie Nichols. "As one of our Lambda members remarked, 'it's one thing to be non-political, but it's another to be politically irresponsible.' And that's what we see that GOA is doing. They're going to support the people who are opposing us, but with it comes the idea of telling us that they're a strictly social organization."

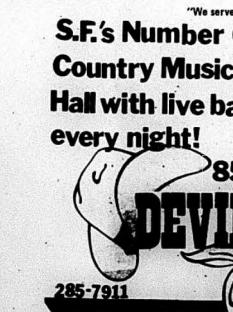
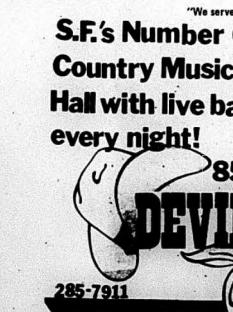
The Lambda Association will provide car-pools to Great America on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. People should meet at the parking lot across from the Metropolitan Community Church, 160 Virginia, in downtown San Jose, or at the main gate of Great America.

"We're going to amuse ourselves, and have a great time," Levy concludes. Busses will be leaving from the corner of Castro and Market every hour beginning at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

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## Astrological Forecast

For the month of October, 1981

by George Hurd

Halloween falls on a Saturday this year. Though not specifically an astrological event, it is a community event of special significance. The Christian implications reflect the eve of All Saints' Day, commemorating all saints and martyrs who have not been given special feast days.

But Halloween is much more of a secular celebration derived from the Druidic rituals of the Day of Saman, Lord of Death, who gathered up the souls of the wicked who had died during the previous year. The harvest theme stems from both Druidic tradition and the Roman festivals honoring Pomona, Goddess of Fruit.

The moon will be in Sagittarius in its crescent phase, characterized by self-assertiveness in carrying out inner urges. Energies are high for the evening, but not chaotic; connections and interactions with others are spontaneous, but not superficial, as the sun is in Scorpio and an active Pluto adds depth and mystery.

Aries: This month starts on a highly creative note transfiguring everything you do — especially with others — with a special sensitivity. By mid-month a reaction sets in that causes restlessness and a feeling of being restricted by obligations assumed earlier. A need to reassess yourself and your independence could lead to an impulsive break occurring earlier.

Taurus: Smooth and comfortable developments characterize your working day; support from co-workers makes time on the job quite pleasant. But off the job the excitement of a new project begins during the first week of October eases through the month and could find you dreaming unrealistic dreams with every intent of realizing them.

Gemini: Everything seems to get put on hold for most of the month; all those new interests require some re-evaluation. Timing is the key, and you will need to be patient. Try to do things one at a time, consider the possibilities and pay attention to follow through and your game will improve considerably. This uncharacteristic attitude provides a release from the holding pattern by the end of the month.

Cancer: Home and family interactions are positive and self-affirming, creating a basis of support and confidence that could launch you into new career directions at mid-month. A sense of security colors your month and finds you ready to play as the month closes and your spirit of adventure is stimulated. This could be one of the most productive periods for you in quite some time.

Leo: Whether it's the start of a new school year or a renewed interest in the details of your daily life, the pick-up takes as activities and interactions increase. Even with this acceleration, you are able to integrate new and old patterns in a productive and coherent way — things just seem to come together.

Scorpio: That drive you have to understand what makes things work the way they do is directed on the social level this month. Plans being made now include the goals of others which tend to coincide with your own. Timing gets a bit out of whack, but support and encouragement are at hand as a new creative project takes form. Prepare for applause during the middle of the month.

Sagittarius: Although a retrograde Mercury disrupts things a bit, there's quite a lot happening on the social level this month. Plans being made now include the goals of others which tend to coincide with your own. Timing gets a bit out of whack, but support and encouragement are at hand as a new creative project takes form. Prepare for applause during the middle of the month.

Capricorn: Activity on the professional side of your life flows smoothly leading to recognition and a possible increase in responsibilities. Be sure to wrap up any left-over chores before taking on the new ones offered. Giving some attention to those at home around the middle of the month prevents unnecessary competition for your time and energies. Having achieved this much, look to new goals at month-end.

Aquarius: Opportunities for experiencing whole new areas present themselves, whether on the job or in your personal life. Through that both you and your friends will be in a better position to expand your horizons with new friends. Contacts with people who travel in different circles than you normally do provide additional stimulation. A sudden impulse to effect a radical change career-wise around mid-month should be carefully reconsidered.

Pisces: Everyone comes through for you this month; support you've been looking for — and some you haven't — provides the means for moving ahead with your plans. An opportunity at work early in the month gives you a chance to demonstrate your special creative abilities. Be aware of a tendency to coast and let others do it for you.

The sun moves into Scorpio on Friday, October 23, at 5:14 AM; the full moon is in Aries on Tuesday, October 13, at 5:50 AM; the new moon is in Scorpio on Tuesday, October 27, at 1:14 PM; Mercury is retrograde from October 6th through October 27th.

## COMING UP!

2120 Market, Room 104  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
(415) 864-0565/431-7243

Coming Up! is published by Coming Up, Inc., a California non-profit public benefit corporation, as a community service.

### Calendar Listings

Performers, clubs, individuals or groups who want to list events in the calendar should mail notices to us so that they reach us before the 18th of the month preceding publication. We can not take listings by phone. Listings are free.

### Staff & Contributors

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## On Stage . . . October

Lush nostalgia, boogie, and a capella new wave music; plus comedy from screwball to topical to black humor comes to us with *The Distractions* on their return to San Francisco. On Stage . . . October 10-11, 1981. Box office: 10/28. Wed thru Fri 8:30pm, Sat 8 & 10:30pm. Preview \$5 (55) 10/21-10/24, 8:30pm. \$7.50 Fri/Sat, \$6.50 Wed/Thurs. Reservations: 392-6213.

Growing up/growing old in a mining town — three generations of women — passing on the rites of their heritage. *Rites of Passage* by Cam Hubert sponsored by The People's Theatre Company. 10/18-19, 8pm. \$8. Sat 10pm. \$10. Fri/Sat \$6. Thurs/Sun \$5. Fort Mason, Bldg B, San Francisco. Reservations: 776-8999.

The Bedini Theatre Project's latest offering is *Terrance McNally's comedy, Where Has Tommy Flowers Gone?*, a series of vaudeville musical vignettes. 10/18-19, 8pm. \$8. Box office: of Marquette, who attempt to insult and/or offend just about everyone. 10/24-11/8, Fri/Sat 8pm, Sun 7:30pm. 3946 Balboa St., SF Reservations: 221-0070.

The Festival of Women Playwrights with One Act Theatre Company opens in two series. Series A features the winners of One Act's national playwriting contest for women. The Autobiography of a Kid, by Linda Lavin, is a glimpse into the lives of two elderly women; *Fits and Starts* by Grace McKeaney depicts a very funny surrealistic struggle between mother & daughter; *Desecration*, by Irene O'Donnell, is a series of kid-gloves, 20th century pianist by two genteel old ladies. Series B starts off with Leslie Brode's *Emma Rottstein*, set during WW II — a rebellious young Jewish girl encounters a boy she meets at a soldier's dance. *Night in the Woods* depicts a series of offbeat romantic comedy set in a North Beach cafe; and Julie Bosvao has created a zany romp in an elegant French restaurant with *Scholar*. *Last Supper* is a Victorian comedy, written by Constance Cox, based on a story by Oscar Wilde. Fri/Sat thru 10/17, 8:30pm. \$5. Reservations: 421-6162.

The Royal Court Theatre company, London, England, presents a Victorian comedy, *Long-Suffering*, by Oscar Wilde. Reservations: 861-6150.

SFW Productions, a new theatre group whose purpose is to promote the creative and performing arts of Blacks and other people of color and to present plays that express the Black experience. *Brother Jero* is a new musical production featuring two one act plays: *Trials of Brother Jero* by Nigerian playwright Wole Soyinka and *Companions of Fire*, by Al Wadud. Thurs-Sat 8pm. Sun 4pm, all matins. Lorraine Hilleberry Theatre, 2940 16th St., SF Thurs/Sun, \$6 Fri/Sat. Reservations: 864-5594.

The Urban Theatre Company presents *The World of Eve* by Eve Ensler and Helen Mills' new musical *Street Drunks*. An Inner City Review for a limited run at the Old Spaghetti Factory. Open 10/15, Thurs-Mon. Thurs-Sun, \$8 Fri/Sat. Reservations: 864-5594.

The Eureka Theatre Company presents *The Jail Diary of Albie Sachs*, by the award-winning international playwright, Athol Fugard. The story of a black South African lawyer detained in isolation as one of the first white victims of the notorious 90-Day Law, established to stop the anti-apartheid movement. Preview, 10/9, 10 & 11pm. Sat 10am, Sun, 10am-11am, 8pm, 2299 Market, SF. Ticket info: 963-1333.

The One Act Theatre Company presents three plays produced by the Playwright's Theater: Thomas Eklund's upbeat comedy *Tell Her Ten Minutes*, *Last Call* — the internal conflicts of two gay men, then a reprieve from their physical appearances, by Daniel Curzon; and *Care and Feeding* by Daniel Springer, the powerful drama of an old man's existence in a run-down rooming house. 430 Mason/Gaary, San Francisco. Open 10/15-16, Thurs-Sat 8pm. \$4.50. Reservations: 421-6162.

Cooking at Pergola Theatre is the Original American Production of *Bat-Scap* — a zany musical comedy — recreating the Marx Brothers live on stage, with music, puns and gags galore. Fri-Sat all month: 1028 Geary, SF. Ticket info: 441-5407.

For suburban sleaze, torrid romance, teen-age rebellion, fabulistic interior design, pink collar crime & much more, join Les Nichelettes, San Francisco's wacky women's theater company. Open 10/15-16, 8pm. *It's a Piece of Cake, Sing Something Else* — the Ditz Gilt Story. Three days only: Oct 15-17, 8:30pm, \$5. Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave, Berkeley. Reservations: 548-7234.

## COMING UP!

## Theatre

by Penni Kimmel

### 'Hotel of Follies' at Project Artaud

And what of 'little theater' in San Francisco? This month's search turned up the Angels of Light original production of *Hotel of Follies* . . . theater it is, 'little' it ain't.

Hotel of Follies is a housewife's dream at the Project Artaud Theatre like three hyperactive octopi. It's a musical, a mystery, a melodrama and an eye-catching, toe-tapping, subtle, tasteful, flamboyant evening of delight. It's set in New York City's once-fashionable Reunion Hotel where the master of a secret agent is uncovered by the renowned detective, Ms. Britt Manchester . . . with little help from the resident rat and a ghost or two.

Hotel is this year's result of the efforts of a ten-year old theater collective that has become an annual thespian gestalt. It would take too long to single out (double out?) the multiple credits for costumes (flashy and fitting, courtesy of Beaver D. Bauer) the gaudy sets and inane, megalomaniacal caricatures, designed by Rodney Price and Brian Muirhead, the eminently hummable music (no less than 19 numbers, most of them the product of "Scrubby" Koldewyn's fertile fingers — where are the Cocktails of yesterday?) and lyrics to match (most of them by Janice Sukalits, who did the original "boot"), the gaudy dancing, choreography of Rodney Price and Madeline Bloom . . . whew! And nearly all of the above double as performers, part of the even larger cast.

When a theater collective works — and this one does — there is a unique rapport with the audience that would exist even without the trappings. In this case, if you can't have the obvious pleasure of being part of the company, come along. All the way through December 22nd, every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Project Artaud Theater, 450 Florida Street (near 17th St. — park on the RR tracks and a Southern Pacific Railroad car will wipe you out), \$6 adults and \$3 children. 863-7213 for reservation/ticket information.

### 'Pretzels' at SF YWCA

A little production, *Pretzels*, featuring the Union Stage Company, is current through October 18th at the YWCA Theater, 220 Golden Gate (at Leavenworth), Fridays and Saturdays at 8, Sundays at 7.

*Pretzels* is presented as a satirical, musical revue la *"Saturday Night Live"* and it will be a treat for the TV fan: like being in the studio audience without having to put up with the off-



A scene from the Angels of Light new production *Hotel of Follies*

camera commercial hype. Not surprisingly, the scriptwriters are TV-household words: Jane Curtin (of "Saturday . . .") etc., Fred Grandy ("Love Boat's" Gopher), and Judy Kuhn (of *Manhattan*, *Play It Again Sam*). They wrote *Pretzels* for its premiere production at NYC's Phoenix Theatre in 1974 . . . and it might take you back a mite further than that.

There are some more memorable sketches in *Pretzels* that are good enough not to give you tube-deja vu; Ann Chase's comedic talents stand out in monologue and ensemble.

Advance ticket reservations may be made by calling 648-9166.



Dorothy Corson Winter  
Financial Management  
544 Bryant Street  
San Francisco, CA 94107  
777-9737

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### CELEBRATING OUR 1st ANNIVERSARY October 2nd and 3rd

Chevere, Champagne & Midnite Buffet

4130 TELEGRAPH AVENUE / OAKLAND / 653-6017

# JUBILEE

**Love Center Choir**  
Walter Hawkins, Director  
with the  
**Hawkins Family  
Singers**

Sunday, 7:00 pm  
**11 October 1981**  
Thursday, 8:00 pm  
**15 October 1981**

**Louise M. Davies  
Symphony Hall**

**The San Francisco  
Gay Freedom Day  
Marching Band and  
Twirling Corps**  
Jon Sims, Musical Director

**Tickets:**  
**\$6, \$10, \$13, \$25**

Available at Symphony Hall  
Box Office, and all major  
outlets. Telephone orders are  
accepted with major credit  
cards at 431-5407; mail orders  
by check with self-addressed  
stamped envelope sent to:  
Symphony Box Office, Davies  
Hall, San Francisco 94102  
Call for seat availability.

**GOLDEN GATE PERFORMANCE ARTS  
PRESENTS**

*fall in a  
Season of note*

**SING!**

**THE  
RHYTHM  
OF LIFE**

*an evening with the*

**SAN FRANCISCO  
LESBIAN & GAY MEN'S  
COMMUNITY CHORUS**

**Robin Kay, Conductor**  
Friday,  
**OCTOBER 2 / 8 PM**  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
CORNER OF BUSH & COACH STREETS  
ACCOMPANIED BY MEMBERS OF THE  
Berkeley Symphony Orchestra

*Performing works  
of Barber, Bach & Brahms  
with selections from  
James C. Scott's  
Arrangements*

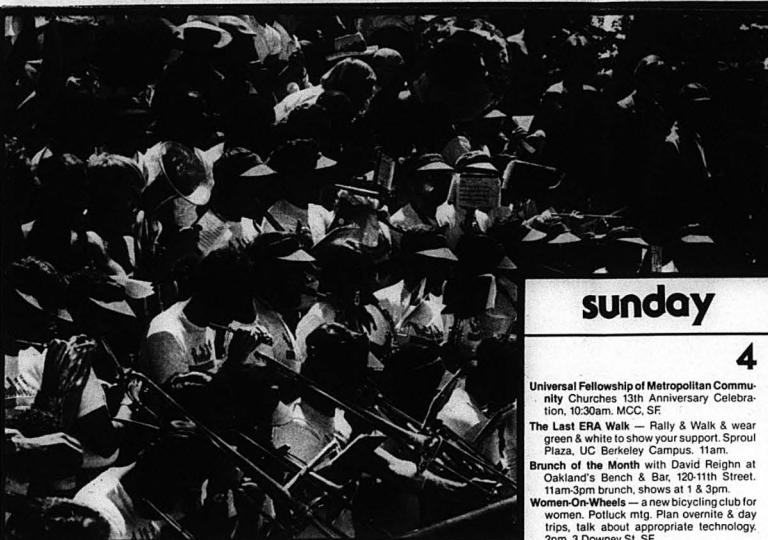
**The Vocal Minority  
And  
The Chamber Chorus**

**Tickets: \$6**  
Unreserved Seating  
Available at: Heath's Pub & Grill,  
Snickers & Sushi, and the  
American Legion, 10th & Dear

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# COMING UP!



## White Night Trials



Start October 19



COCKTAILS 1AM, 9PM, LUNCH 11:30-3:30, CABARET 10PM-THURS 5:30-8:30  
23 TRINITY PLACE, NEAR SUTTER & MONTGOMERY RESERVATIONS 415-433-4322

# OCTOBER

## Jubilee at Davies

**Starring Walter Hawkins & Choir and the SF Gay Freedom 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, 1pm**

**Brunch at La Fete with David Wright at 9am, 120-11th & 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**

**Chevere — all women's salsa band at El Rio Garden Cabaret, 3158A Mission, SF 4:30pm.**

**Blackberry, Danica, Lichi, Barbara, Diane & more at La Fete, Berkeley for a multi-cultural festival, 1pm**

**Foodcourt comedian Carl Roberts comes out of the refrigerator at Fanny's Cabaret, 2430 18th St, SF 9:30 & 11pm, \$3.**

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

**monday**

**5**

**Amazon Kung Fu — serious training for women in the art of Kali/Kempo Kung Fu, 9:30-1:30pm, 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, Galleria 1000, SF Fire Chief Andy Casper, 7pm, SF Women's Bldg.**

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

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

**12**

**\*\*\*\*\* October 12, 1981 — SFPD begins training**

**\*\*\*\*\* rookie cops how to act & dress as homo-sexuals, so they can close the city's gay bars by claiming they are unlawful**

**\*\*\*\*\* & closing and other lawd boy stuff.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**African Movement with Marian Oliker — everyone & all levels welcome, 6:30pm, \$7.50/class, 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 members only, 7pm, 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 Cultural School, 6025 Shadeland, Rockridge POC: 849-2778 \$10-15.**

**Poetry with Avotica & Randy Johnson at Modern Times Bookstore, 965 Valencia, SF, 8pm, donation for poets requested.**

**Ink Spots — famed quartet at the Plush Room Tues-Sun 7-10:15pm. Hotel York, 940 Sutter, SF Tix: 858-6800.**

**19**

**Dan White Verdict Night defendants go on trial today — Peter Pauls on 3 felonies, one 3rd degree, one misdemeanor and David White on 2 felonies count. Each felon 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.B.A.S. and all major outlets.**

**Musical of the Month — with Dig Mannerheim — a chamber chorus of men's voices, 8pm, \$4 adv (mail to 1418 Collingwood, SF 94114) \$5 door. Starr King Room, Unitarian Ctr, Franklin/Geary, SF.**

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

**18**

**Farallon Island Trip: Great Outdoor Adventures has chartered a boat to visit these fantastic islands 40 miles offshore for \$23 members/23 non-members. Info: 841-4026**

**SF Lesbian & Gay Speaker's Bureau's presentation at Pacific Ctr, Berkeley, 10am-4:30pm, RCC (48 hr notice) 265-9651.**

**"A Cheap Affair" — SF's gay olde Barbary Coast recreated, 1-7pm at Calif Hall, Turk & SF, Live & Local bands, plus dancing for prizes, \$10. Call 415-362-5500. (SF Gay Men's Chorus) Limited tix in advance (\$10) at the Pilmer Inn, 225 Church at Market, SF.**

**"Improving Our Health & Preventing Disease" is the topic for G40+ mtg, a social group for gay men over 40, 2pm, 1668 Bush, SF Info: 552-1997.**

**Salsa, Samba, Funk & Jazz with Tropical Nights at El Rio, 3158A Mission St, SF 4:30pm.**

**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 Ootol & the Golden Age Jazz Band, feature Tucki Bailey, The Tap Dancers, Miss Behavin', Mams, 9pm, \$4 adv/\$3 door. Ollie's of Sausalito.**

**25**

**Don't sit home alone! Have Sunday Brunch with OPTIONS for Women Over Forty, \$2. 11am-2pm, 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 1982 Gay Olympics. \$2-\$3. More info: 668-2802.**

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

**tuesday**

**6**

**Eduardo Roca & Nelson Dominguez — Cuban artists exhibit in SF for the first time in over 20 yrs. Tues-Fri 1-4pm, Sat 11-5pm. Galeria Museo, Mission Cultural Ctr, 2668 Mission, SF.**

**Greetings from Washington plus Witches & Faggots, Dykes & Poofters — double-bill of gay pride at the Roxie, 3117-16th, SF 7:10 & 8:45.**

**Gay Men's Open Rap, Tuesdays at Pacific Ctr, 7pm.**

**Lebian Drop-In rap, ea Tues at Pacific Ctr, 7pm.**

**Full moon in Aries, 5:30 am.**

**Chanteuse Lynda Bergen entertains Tuesdays thru Oct at Trinity Place, 25 Trinity, SF.**

**Chorus singers come out! The Anything Goes Chorus, a group singing class for anyone who wants to let their voice out. \$25/4 classes, Tuesdays, SF 6:30pm; Weds, Berkeley, 8pm, Info: 654-8415.**

**Peking Opera of China with a full company of 70 spectacular acrobats opens today at the War Memorial Opera House, 1pm thru 10:25pm. Complete info dia TELETEL.**

**International Solidarity with Native Americans — a forum on the Internat'l Treaty Conf. in Geneva, plus 8pm at the 70th Anniversary of the UN, 1pm thru 11:30pm.**

**KALX, 90.7FM — a radio station for women.**

**Radio Free Women, 9:30pm, every Tues on KALX, 90.7FM.**

**Three Witches — dramatization of Chinua Achebe's classic African novel on traditional life in Nigeria & its first encounter with colonialism & Christianity, 11:30pm, Channel 9. Repeats nicely thru Fri at 11:30pm.**

**Support Group for Women with alcohol related problems, OPTIONS office, SF Women's Bldg. 5:30-6:30pm every Tues, Free.**

**Married Gay Men's Rap Group, Tuesdays 7:30pm at Pacific Ctr, Berk.**

**The Captain Trap — with Zimmer Bradley, reads from & talks about her work, 7pm free, RCC by 10/18. Women only, IC Woman's Place, Oakland.**

**Energy & Corporate Exploitation of India Land — guest speaker from Big Mountain, plus 100% update on Black Hills, 7:30pm, donation, La Plaza, Berkeley.**

**Women's Stories of Our Lives 5:30-7:30pm, Oliver's, Oakland.**

**Matri — Buddhist gay men, lesbians & friends; meet every Tues, 7:30pm, 47 Hartard, SF.**

**Dance Your Way Around the World to the folk dances of many cultures & countries. All levels of experience, Tuesdays 8:30-10:30pm, \$2. Brotherhood Way Jewish Comm. Ctr, 655 Brotherhood Way, SF.**

**Lesbian Clinic — gynecological & general medical clinic run by & for lesbians at Berkeley Women's Health Collective. Every Tues eve. Call 643-6194 for appt.**

**New moon in Scorpio, 1:14pm.**

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

**Renewal of the Psyche — a workshop for women which deals powerfully with women's emotions, art & day-to-day life, 7pm, For women, RCC 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 of a apartheid in So. Africa, Land o' Fire, 7pm, \$3. So. African Embassy film which explains government policy o' "separate development". 7:30pm, \$3, Berkeley, SF.**

**MUSICA!**

**para**

**Antologia Lesbiana**

**Latino Americana**

**10/17**

Hall!!!

the Love Ctr  
edom Day  
orps & Tap

## thursday

1

Function/Anti Function, a show by 12 clay artists open today. Ruby O'Burke's Gallery, 552A Noel St, SF 10-10 Mon-Fri, 10-6 Sat thru Oct.

Protest Reaganism — picket Vice-President George Bush at the Hyatt Union Square (Stockton & Post), 3pm. Sponsored by October 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 24-hr notice. Old Wives Tales, SF.

Planned Parenthood's 25th in November — based on Women's Protection Action. Contact Women's Action: 731-1220.

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

8

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

Tom Kippur: Yizkor & Ne'ilah Service, 10am & 1pm, respectively. Thurs-Sat, Jewish/lay Jewish congregation, Jewish Community Center, 3200 California St, SF.

Lesbian Writers' Block Group starts tonite.

8 wk course at Operation Concern, 6pm-7:30pm. Complete info: 563-0205.

C&W in the Financial District: Country & Western dancing downstairs at Trinity Place every Thurs, 8:30-10pm, 25 Trinity.

Western swing 7:10pm followed by disco, at Oakley's, 2011 16th St, SF 10-11pm.

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

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

Great Outdoor Adventures Coffeehouse: learn about the outdoors, have a convivial atmosphere! 7:30-10pm, 1619 Castro St, SF. Coffeehouse this month: 10/8, 12, & 20. \$6. 461-4020 has complete details.

Trials of Brother Jerry and Companions of the Fire, black-themed theater, continuing Thurs-Sat (8pm) and Sun (4pm) thru Nov 1. Loraine Hansbury Theatre, 2940-16th St, SF. \$4-\$6. Reservations: 864-5500.

Uhrul (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

## friday

2

The Devil's Herd re-opens! — newly remodeled & over its fire damage — 6am-8:30 Valencia Street, SF.

Chorus & Champagne! Celebrate Ollie's First Anniversary, Tonite & fmw, 10-1:30am. \$5 under 21. Lesbian Open Rap, 4-6pm, Pacific Ctr, Berk.

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

Sing! The Rhythm of Life — SF Lesbian & Gay Community Chorus performs with members of the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra, plus music by the Vocal Minority & the Chamber Chorus. WA. Sign, \$6. 8pm. Trinity Episcopal Church, Gough/ Bush, SF.

Hotel of Fools — Angels of Light are back with this mystic/medieval/renaissance at the Palace of Mystery. Thurs-Sat, 8pm, 201 St, SF. Fri-Sun all month, 8:30pm. See review page 3 and On Stage for complete details on all this month's theater 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 Cat Hermann at Artemis Cafe, SF. 8pm. \$5.

Mastectomy with foodsexual comedian Carol Roberts at Suro Batho, 1510 Folsom, SF. 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$2.

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

9

Camp at Pinocles 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. 8-8pm, Vida Gallery, SF Women's Bldg. Gallery hours: Wed-Fri, 2-6pm; Sat 12-5pm.

Women's Alcohols Anonymous meeting every Fri, 7pm, SF Women's Bldg.

Pat Parker, Lynn Lonidier & others read their poetry plus music by Bay Area Women Artists. 7:30pm, \$4. Women's Bldg. SF Theatrical Co. 20th & Franklin, SF.

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Jazz on flute & piano with Liz Birch & Jane Hasty, Artemis, SF 9pm. \$3.

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## Letters

### "Womyn"?

In Shakespeare's time, spelling was so diverse that even his name was spelled variously: "Shakespear," "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. However, it's time to realize that words 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 "womyn" as "wimmin," "womyn," and "woman," all with the obvious purpose of forcing the "men" out of the word. It's time for women in left parties to 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 to struggle against Asian American Studies in their universities.

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

So far these separatists 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 Betty Tung to continue to struggle as a group in political activism and in performances. Another path would be the silencing of the important connection between art and politics and of the multi-issue feminist politics being upheld by Unbound Feet Three. The women of Unbound Feet Three have exhibited publicly a desire to go on with the political struggles and their art while maintaining originality and having a collective of Asian American women. They have shown a willingness to challenge the reformist politics of Asian American Studies at UC Berkeley when Asian American Studies remained on its agreement in the face of a militant multi-issue feminist politics. At a time when the right-wing is on the rise, attacking people of color, all women, gay men, and other minorities, it is essential to our survival that tactics and policies 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 University is a safe space. 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 that are not part of the system 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 is a space for the silencing of women in political struggles and is not from the people of the communities out of which mass movement organizations come.

Michèle 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 the community now, but there are hundreds of people in the gay community who are not drag."

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 image "is an attempt to identify with the mainstream culture which is both sexist and homophobic." Long-time activist and writer Phyllis Lyon agreed: "I do not understand how we can emulate the very type of person 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 evidently some men feel pressured socially into doing it."

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's to say that the community does not support the militancy expressed by that statement?). The issue can also be seen as sexism in anti-militancy. Can we so easily forget the dangers of McCarthyism, or of "McCarthy" attitudes? However, such attitudes do not seem to be limited to bourgeois structures such as the universities. If it is equally dangerous when leftists participating in mass movement organizations are baited for belonging to a party or other left group. To say that the women of Unbound Feet are "party-builders" 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 to struggle against Asian American Studies in their universities.

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Separatist gay male

### Thanks for Astrology

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

I have a subscription to *Yoga Life*, a monthly publication from Sivananda Gitananda, a friend in Pondicherry, South India. Swami finds great significance, to say the least, in the approaching满月 of all the other planets on one side of the Sun. Earth is in line on the opposite side of the Sun.

Perhaps you can elaborate on this phenomenon for your readers?

Very truly yours,

Carla S. Schick

Organizer, Women Writers Union

## Alternative Airwaves

The Gay Life with Randy Alfred  
Oct 4: Coming Out: Developmental Issues in the Coming-Out process for Lesbians & Gay Men" taped at the American Psychological Assoc. Convention in L.A.  
Oct 11: Business & Politics: Interviews with Arthur Lazear, President-elect of the Nat'l Assoc. of Business Councils, plus representatives of the Palo Alto Coalition for Equal Rights who are trying to pass a gay rights ordinance.  
Oct 18: The Politics of Love: A Report from the Battleground — 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, Sundays, 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**

KPPA 94.7FM, Wednesdays, 10pm  
A 14-16 minute topical short story, written & read by David Lamb, about a by-gone time when Jerry Ford was in the White House & Henry K. occupied a tasteful Georgetown home in the middle of the D.C. cruise by gay men. Because of marathon programming, this will be the only show this month.

**Women's Programming**  
KPPA 94.7FM, Sat & Sun, Oct 1 & 11  
Two complete days of women's programming during the KPPA marathon:

**Saturday, Oct 10:**

9:00 Music: from Michigan Women's Music Festival

10:30: Shamans & Jesters — women's healing rituals w/Luisa Teish, Budapest Starhawk, Leslie Mahler

11:00: Women's Music: from the West Coast Women's Music Festival

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: Women's Political Action — who is it really protecting?

7:30: Music & Talk from the West Coast Women's Music Festival.

9:00: Blood Ties — a mythology of woman power.

**Sunday, October 11:**

11:00: Interview w/Meg Christian plus songs from her new album.

12:30: Women's Music from the Music Festival.

1:30: Construyendo la Patria Nuestra, Hacemos la Mujer Nuestra

2:00: **Prima Fer** — interview w/filmmaker Anne-Claire Poirier about this film on rape.

3:00: **Women's Political Action**

5:00: **What Next** — the phone lines open at 848-4422 to discuss what next: where do we go from here? Women's music & politics, our growing personal & collective power.

6:00: **Concert**: Mary Watkins, Linda Tillery & June Millington recorded live in SF.

**Special Programming**

KFAX AM101.3, Thurs & 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 possible 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!*, 210 Market 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 "the silence of many men in drag." Alexander maintains, "because they often portray women as negative stereotypes. They often pick women to portray who have been caught in roles that destroyed them — such as Judy Garland and Marilyn Monroe. Tortured women." Vasquez believes the female impersonators too often present women as negative stereotypes. Lyon says, "They present women as negative stereotypes too."

Connie O'Connor, president of Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, emphasized that some have become more politicized. She says, "Drag probably involves 1% of the community now, but there are hundreds of people in the gay community who are not drag."

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 image "is an attempt to identify with the mainstream culture which is both sexist and homophobic." Long-time activist and writer Phyllis Lyon agreed: "I do not understand how we can emulate the very type of person 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 evidently some men feel pressured socially into doing it."

### DES DRAG OFFEND?

Lesbian feminist groups like *Coming Up!* generally support drag. Priscilla Alcorn and Lyon 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 Bobb, former TGSF director and owner of Jule's Lingerie, said that drag does offend me. I also not offended by women wearing fly-in-front pants either." Bobb's best expressed a general feeling when she said, "It's DES DRAG OFFEND?

Halloween is THE night of the year to see the most extreme displays of drag phenomenon — drag. The outstanding drag will most likely be at the Tavern Guild's annual Bevans Ball. There will also be numerous non-drag costumes. The event benefits the community; the profit goes to the TGSF's foundation fund that will some day purchase a building for a Center of Community Center. There is now a \$10,000+ bid out already.

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

Bob Ross will join the ball's technical director, Walt Rutherford, on stage to assist Michael with the installations. Behind the scenes, the staff will be under the direction of Heidi Dowd with bar operation supervised by Mark Fries.

The outrageous cocktail party and disco, The Beaux Ball, will be on Halloween night, October 31, 7 pm on, California Hall, Polk and Turk streets, \$10 unreserved seating.

# Women's Music and Culture

(continued from back page)

Cantu, a festival participant, "As women's culture, more than anything else, we should know that not all of us have the same kind of type of experience that we are not all literate. I know as a Latina, Latinas' anger is out there, it's vocal, it's not written down."

So the women at that meeting felt they needed to talk to the white women at the festival, to find if there were other women at the festival, that they decided to draft a statement that in very broad terms said why they were upset, and would announce a meeting for the next day, Saturday, where women of color and other participants who may be feeling the same way.

The group decided to ask Carmen Vasquez, a Puerto Rican feminist from San Francisco, to read the statement at the main stage that night, since she was scheduled to perform with Neva, Robin and Torie to receive a gift from Chinese women cultural workers, an *aprilista*.

"I expected that there would be an announcement," said Carmen, "but I didn't know the problem with making an announcement?" — *Patricia*

What Carmen didn't expect was to be handed a statement. She showed the statement to Holly and they read it and then went into the presentation. When they were talking, Torie came up and read the statement. She felt it was inappropriate to read it on stage at the same time the festival got the *aprilistas*.

"I really believe that I was wrong and I was out of touch with the process that was happening at the festival," says Torie, since returning from Yosemite. "I was too busy doing my work and didn't realize how important it was to so many women that their statement be heard."

Robin came up to the three women and read the statement. "Immediately," she said absolutely no," says Carmen. "That there would be no such thing as a statement on the stage at any point tonight."

The statement was read and the group got up on stage and in Spanish told the audience everyone worked on the festival that we were all workers, Robin would be the one to speak. Then a statement that process had been made, we should be glad that we had a Day of Solidarity and salsa music. And then in English she announced that there would be a meeting at 1:00 the next day for the Latina women at the festival.

This announcement sent the group spinning. At that time, and their anger and frustration grew over being asked to make themselves heard. When Robin announced that the meeting at the hot dog stand was for all concerned women at the festival, not just Latina women. Additionally, there was a 2:00 meeting at the lodge already planned for women of color to gather at the festival.

At 10:30 the group met to plan the 1:00 meeting. They decided to share specific incidents as to what was happening at the festival. Then it was planned that the Latina women would have a 1:00 women of color meeting at the lodge to create their own festival. There they would share each other's music, poetry, and dance, celebrating each other's culture. That was only one day left of the festival, and still the decision had not been made for anything for them, so it was time to act and make a space for themselves. They decided to start wearing red armbands with the slogan of themselves as women dedicated to the struggle of themselves as women.

At 11:00 they met at the hot dog stand. Now there were 200 women who were coming together to talk about the issues around the festival. The red armband group shared their experiences with the larger group, and everyone began talking about what had been happening with them at the festival.

Women read the statement they had tried to get through to the festival, and described the struggle to try to get it read. At one point, Torie, who attended the meeting, spoke up. She said the reason they had not gone with the original statement early in the program was it would not take away from the Latina women of the *aprilistas*.

Women pointed out that it would not be the space of the *aprilistas* to address the issues of racism and classism at the festival.

Questions were raised about why there was no audience for the Latina women. Women asked up questions of money and the budget. Women wanted to know why tickets were so expensive, and felt there should be a public accounting of funds. Torie said funds could be opened to people.

The meeting was structured so that all the complaints the people were feeling could be aired first, and then there would be a discussion about dealing constructively with issues. But the discussion on the 200+ came and the women of color were supposed to meet in the kitchen. Quickly the decision was made to break into two groups, instead of going with the original plan of having a meeting at the kitchen. The Latina women would stay by the hot dog stand and talk about getting the issues out to other white women at the festival, and the women of color would go to the lodge to have their meeting. The two groups would have a 2:00 meeting in the lodge. The meeting dispersed with a growing sense of momentum but without any solid response to the issues.

The white women regrouped, and continued the discussion that had started at the 1:00 meeting. The anger and frustration with the festival process was taking shape and a torrent of criticisms and demands came. Women felt very solidly in support of themselves. They were then aware of frustration that their culture was not represented and their existence was invalidated by the festival. The women did not feel the festival could be run without the white women's input. Women pointed out that it would have to be a collective process for putting on the festival that was responsive to the entire community: all races and classes of people.

With a lot of resentment around the use of "Women's Culture" in the festival title, "Women's Music and Cultural Festival"; because women did not feel that women's culture was being represented in the hierarchical structure of the organizing. The sentiment was that if Robin Tyler was going to run this festival her way and not collectives, she should be open to that and call it the "Women's Music and Cultural Festival" but if she continued to run it in the same manner and call it "Women's Music and Cultural Festival", it should be boycotted.

White women agreed to draw up the demands and write a formal statement, and to try to have it read from the main stage Saturday night. The women who were writing the statement were told to remember that the festival is a reflection of the community, and we are in. The event brings everything with it from the outside world, and it all gets intensified in this setting. And there was very special attention paid to dealing with the anti-semitism that was coming around because Robin, as a Latina, was white, women were committed to stopping and talking anything they heard anything anti-semitic being said.

## COMING UP!

internalized anti-semitism, the whole range of things that women deal with.

"We are still very much different and diverse and all of that. But I feel at one with 700, at one in struggle with 700 women," said Patricia.

A Puerto Rican woman whose name is not realized at the 1:00 meeting, "we have been meeting separately, women of color and white women, three hours — white women over there, women in the lodge — and we have both come up with the same thing."

"This is a testimony that this Mother Earth we are sharing has been speaking to all of us. We have come up with the same statement, and now there is a need for us to come together in a march in solidarity to the stage to make our statement."

The strength and power of Rosa Maria's words brought all women to their feet, and they marched forward, women of color, white women, women of many ages, older women, disabled women, disabled women — all women together marched singing, arm-in-arm, "Women Together, We Shall Not Be Moved."

"This is a moment that I feel that we are sharing and that is very important to stress to their white sisters that it was time for white women to look around and notice the absence of women of color in the festival and to take a look at what they were doing that was creating this situation and own their part of the responsibility for that. They felt they couldn't support another festival that was truly representative of the diversity of the women's community and didn't speak to women of color."

At the same time white women were having their meeting, women of color gathered at the lodge. For the first time, they were all in one place. It was special; it was sacred.

A lot of high energy was there at the gathering, women coming into the discussion and wanted to talk about what had happened to them, and also about how they all felt alienated and about nothing that spoke to them. How this was their third day on the land and they were finally getting together. That there was a real absence of women of color from the festival.

And in all of the excitement, everyone talked at once — voices were loud. Then, gently and powerfully, Andreea Cantrans brought the women of color together in a circle, all held hands and had their arms around each other and sang Sweet Honey's "Berry Woman."

It was very moving. After the song, while everyone was still swaying back and forth, the women of color stood up and began to sing their own names in introduction, and some proclaimed their heritage. It was a magical moment for the women of color to be with each other and to yell and eat and have fun.

Finally, the group sat down and began their work.

The women of color talked more about what was shared at the 1:00 meeting. Then Shasha and China came out of the kitchen to talk about what was shared in the meeting. They said that their crew worked together and came together along and there were no real big problem among themselves. There was nothing they couldn't handle. And then they told the gathering that they were accused of being anti-semitic at the festival because they had hired a woman of color staff.

China and Shasha expressed to the women of color that they wanted a signed contract for their work. They wanted to be paid for their work and when they were done with their work. They wanted the contract signed by 4:00 that day; and if it wasn't, they would strike. In the event of a strike, the only people who would eat would be the children.

They came to the women of color and asked them if they would support the kitchen workers in all of their efforts to try and get the contract signed. The women of color immediately supported the kitchen workers if they struck.

Robin was at a press conference, and unavailable to sign the contract, but the kitchen workers told Torie, the press person, that Robin's name was Torie and that she was authorized to sign Robin's name, and said she was authorized to sign.

Women of color realized that although the contract was signed, there was still a lot of work to be done. They wanted to be paid for their work upon completion. So the women of color decided to dinner that evening and use that time to let people know what was going on. Those who didn't serve them up were asked to pay for their meal.

"We did not support the kitchen workers in all of their efforts to try and get the contract signed. We were given the responsibility by a large group of women to say a particular thing, and we did not say that thing for them," said Robin.

"All in all, I feel awful."

On stage, Terry Hess of Abeni spoke first, and she about the white women's statement.

Andrea spoke next. She talked about not supporting any one person, but supporting all that were being asked to do with all of us. "We are not here to blame anyone," she said.

Rosa Maria spoke last. She said that those of us who marched to the concert did so out of love for our community, and that we were there to come singing. She told us of her daughter's death:

"I did not send my daughter to their first day of school in Santa Cruz. Instead, I brought them to this land, I brought them to this festival, and I told them, 'This is your first day of school.'

"And I hold every one of you women out there responsible for my daughter's education."

For a brief moment, the women who had marched to the concert stood and held a hand at peace that their voices had finally been heard.

Then Robin Tyler got up on stage.

For the next several minutes, Robin delivered an emotional tirade from the stage. She shouted that lesbian parents had to kill their children, "I will kill me," she pleaded. She talked about being a worker, and not being respected for that; that the women's movement always tries to kill its leaders. She talked about women not being paid for their work, and to make them pay for their work. "I want to make a buck," but so far she had not earned a cent off of it. She went on and on in an angry outburst that shocked, polarized, and angered.

"I couldn't believe it, I was furious. I felt really ripped off," says Terry Hess. "I felt like she had been dishonored with these women who had been really principles. She hadn't bothered to listen."

"I was never asked to be part of her inner circle anti-semitism," Terry continues. "I'm a Jewish woman, and that was very hard to hear. Her statements about 'I'm a Jew and I'm out to make a buck' being

Robin affected everyone in a thousand different ways. The women who had marched in felt really crazy. People shouted at Robin, people shouted at each other, and people had to get out of there and left for the bushes."

The women who stayed at the concert site formed a huge circle, and chanted in solidarity with the women who had left.

At the women's courts, hundreds of women gathered. Everyone felt very injured by what had just happened. Andreea and Rosa Maria stood in the center of the group and everybody talked for a while.

"Then, Andrea sang a song — 'This is the Way We Do, When There's Trouble in Our Home.' The words and melody helped sooth the hurt, and a healing process began.

"Everyone had to do something that I have never experienced women doing," said Andreea. "We gathered together to heal ourselves, to speak the truth about how we were feeling."

"We sang out loud and our cultural songs from all over the world, belly dancing, or Latin or Black or African, or you name it, and we did that to heal our souls."

Photo by Michael Lang



Lloyd performs at the Exotic Erotic Halloween Ball which promises to "fulfill all adult fantasies." Details in Halloween Happenings! listings on calendar page.

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HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

Rosh Hashanah:

Monday, September 28, 8 p.m.  
Tuesday, September 29, 10 a.m.  
(Shofar Service)

Yom Kippur:

Wednesday, October 7, 8 p.m.  
(Kol Nidre)  
Thursday, October 8, 9:30 p.m.  
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