

COMING UP!

January, 1982

Largest Lesbian/Gay Circulation in the Bay Area

FREE

Poppers' Maker Protests Article

W. Jay Freezer, president of Pharmex, Ltd., the San Francisco company that manufactures Rush and other poppers, has sent a letter to *Coming Up!* protesting the article "Popper's" an ugly side of gay business" by Arthur Evans, published in the January, 1981 issue.

Freezer's letter demands a retraction of the article by Evans and threatens a law suit. "I feel confident that we can obtain a judgment at least sufficient to remove your unethical publication from the streets. The reprinting of this sort of garbage injures the victims of your libel, misinforms those of the public gullible enough to believe it, and is a contemptible abuse of the right of press."

Freezer's letter claims the article was "irresponsible and libelous" and that Evans misquoted and misinterpreted "the content of numerous documents." He accuses Evans of making libelous charges of duplicity against the authors of *Isobutyl Nitrite* (a study funded by Pharmex, Ltd.) and of misrepresenting the level of nitrosamines (a cancer-caused formed by nitrites) in poppers. Freezer also denies the existence of an Italian medical study referred to by Evans as stating nitrites are mutagens, and says "there is no basis in fact" for accusing popper makers of "criminal fraud."

In response, Arthur Evans states that he based his interpretation of the medical evidence on his assessment of the manufacturer-funded study and his comments on nitrosamines. Evans is shocked that Freezer denied the existence of the Italian study "since Freezer himself recently stated on a radio show that he had read an English-language abstract of it," and Freezer gave a copy to Hank Wilson, of the Committee to Monitor the Cumulative Effects of Poppers.

As Freezer states in his own article, representatives of Pharmex, Ltd., reached a court settlement in July of 1979 with the California Department of Health, "whereby [they] would continue to push poppers free of any regulation, testing or control if Rush were not advertised as a drug or sold to minors."

Pharmex was able to reach that settlement, among others, by claiming in sworn affidavits that poppers were not oral odorizers. It was this arrangement that Evans labeled "criminal fraud" in his November article.

Evans concedes that the phrase "criminal fraud" is open to misinterpretation. "I did not mean to suggest that Freezer's claim of criminal fraud as technically defined in state and local law," says Evans. "My intent was to point out that Freezer has repeatedly claimed – in print, on the radio, and even in sworn affidavits – that butyl nitrite is primarily sold as an oral consumer product (a room odorizer)."

Butyl nitrite is not like glue," Evans adds. "It is not a consumer product that somehow becomes an oral consumer oral odorant. In reality, butyl nitrite has no other use than as an inhalant drug. Any claim to the contrary is false, as every Gay person knows."

Evans charges that "on the basis of these (continued on page 8)



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Black/woman loving/feminist

A Journey, A Vision

by Andrea Canaan

I came to the Bay Area from New Orleans with few illusions about the lesbian, black, lesbian and feminist and still survive; but I did come, in a sense, to save my life.

In New Orleans I was surrounded by a very close knit black community that is economically poor yet bountiful in the support systems a black non-lesbian woman and her child needed. While I was becoming a lesbian I lived in a small, poor, mostly white, lesbian community that provided support a lesbian and feminist perspective.

These two communities represent the essence of my black feminism, woman-loving and social activism. They are the people I come from and continue to become.

In a broader sense the New Orleans communities also represent a microcosm of Africa's present economic and social state. An increasing population of black and third world people, who have learned the tricks and illusions, and our reliance on promises has been stripped away. Racial tension is mounting with the rise of open and brutal oppression by landlords, police and Reaganomics. What is left is an angry, near-extinct, black, lesbian yellow and red fire.

The white lesbian community of New Orleans works against its isolation from the larger community while living on the battle-front of social change. They do the primary work around healing, rape, battering and child abuse, forming survival networks for the increasing oppression ahead. Meanwhile they are raising children, facing their own and other's racism, sexism, homophobia and heterosexism, while suffering from the exhaustion, isolation and lack of renewal that comes from so few doing so much and living so close together.

I didn't leave New Orleans for lack of work to do or loving support or challenge. I didn't leave because I could not be black or lesbian or feminist. I left because I could not be black, lesbian and feminist and still survive. I needed to renew myself and to recycle the skills I had learned and gained from the front lines before going back to battle.

So I came to the Bay Area. What I have found here is a kind of soft feminism that has many sources. Some of the factors are: the sheer number of "out" lesbians, the relatively high tolerance of our presence, the number of bookstores, workshops, support groups, and collectives, etc. Insulated by relative or perceived safety, a sense of safety in numbers, and a history of liberal activism, I still see burning crosses, swastikas, Jerry Falwell on TV, gay baiting and killing, woman beating, and I've been called nigger.

I believe we're often lulled into thinking we live in a kind of woman utopia with a few minor

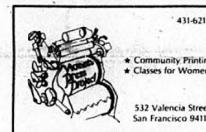
(continued on page 8)

Alice sponsors Low-cost Pet Day

Been putting off taking your cat or dog to the vet for those important inoculations because of the cost? Well, friend, here's your chance to do it for a mere five bucks!

That's right, just five dollars per injection per animal.

It's Alice's 10th Annual Pet Inoculation Day. Just bring your animal, leashed or boxed, to St. John's Episcopal Church, 1661-15th Street, San Francisco (between Mission and Valencia Streets) 10am-5pm, Saturday, January 23rd. Keep your furry friends healthy and save yourself some worry and expense. Preventive medicine is best for pets as well as people!



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Photo by Carla Weber



Arina Isaacson performs on stilts in her one-woman experiential theater piece combining elements of storytelling, improvisational movement, stilwalking, puppetry, and music. The Voice from the Mirror/A Fairy Tale is based on a story by Susan Griffin from her book Woman and Nature. Isaacson's piece features music composed by her accompanist, Alivel percussionist Carolyn Brandy. Check our main calendar listing for Saturday, Jan 16 to get all the details.

Lesbians of Color, Disabled Gay Men, Incest Victims, Writers Block, Bodywork, & Gay Men's Support

New Groups Forming at Operation Concern

Operation Concern, San Francisco's lesbian and gay counseling agency offers a variety of new support groups starting mid-January.

Lesbians of Color will find a group to share their commonalities and differences as third world lesbians and explore their relationship to the white lesbian community. The emphasis will be on using each other as resources for coping with the particular life issues faced as lesbians of color.

A lesbian Bodywork and Stress Reduction group will focus on simple exercises using movement and breath to release physical-muscular tension as well as share emotions that these exercises bring up. The group will focus on ways to incorporate this work into their daily lives.

These two groups will be facilitated by Rani Eversley. Call Operation Concern by January 15th for the necessary details on how to join.

A Therapy & Support Group for Disabled

Gay Men facilitated by Sam Picciotto, will work to create a safe environment where physically disabled gay men can explore their commonalities and their personalities. Some of the group's objectives are to explore disability and its effect on lives & relationships, to develop a positive gay and physically disabled identity, to learn assertiveness and communication skills, and to learn to cope with physical, attitudinal, and social barriers. Sign language can be arranged. Call O.C. as soon as possible to find out about joining.

THE HOLLYWOOD MUSICAL

A 75-film, nine-week tribute - continues through February 18 - to the Hollywood musical, 1929-1971, emphasizing the Golden Age of the Thirties and Forties.



This Week's Schedule:
CAN CAN & SWEET CHARITY 12/30 / AN AMERICAN IN PARIS & GIGI 12/31/1 / BELLS ARE RINGING & BOY FRIEND 1/3-1/4 / DANCING LADY & BORN TO DANCE 1/5 / SOUND OF MUSIC 1/6

Other Highlights include:
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POETRY

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9-23 9-24, 10-25, 11-26, 12-27, 13-28, 14-29, 15-30, 16-31, 17-18, 19-20, 21-22, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28, 29-30

Men's Hepatitis Project

a new vaccine

With hepatitis sweeping San Francisco's gay community in epidemic proportions, it's good news that a major medical breakthrough has resulted in a new vaccine to protect against infection from the hepatitis B virus. And since producing the vaccine requires blood plasma from active carriers, the city's gay community may be a crucial element in meeting world-wide demand for the vaccine.

A group of gay medical and health professionals, including Dr. Patrick J. McGrath, James N. Mercer, and Alan French, and other concerned gay community activists have responded to the situation by starting The Resource Foundation, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation, which has launched The Men's Hepatitis Project, dedicated to ending this epidemic. The project's programs include screening all gay men in San Francisco for

hepatitis free of charge, and aiding in the production and distribution of the hepatitis B vaccine, which will be available by mid-1982. A third major program centers on psychological, social, family, and occupational support services for chronic sufferers of hepatitis B.

The Resource Foundation is beginning an extensive public awareness campaign that focuses on hepatitis B and the vaccine. For example, in about five percent of all hepatitis cases, many victims are never aware that they have the disease, or that they have failed to recover completely from an infection of which they were aware. Those people remain active carriers, spreading the infection to their families, friends, and sexual partners, often for many years. Many of these active carriers, although showing no outward signs of illness, can eventually die prematurely of cirrhosis or liver cancer.

The Resource Foundation conducts blood test screenings free of charge to determine who is immune to hepatitis B, who needs to be vaccinated, and to provide those who are eligible to donate plasma to produce the vaccine. They are located at 130 Church Street, San Francisco, or can be reached at 863-0650.

Women's Float Committee Kickoff

The Bay Area Women's Float Committee wants to win again! For each of past three years, the Committee's float entry in the Annual Bay to Breakers Day Parade has won a coveted Cobie Car Award - and in 1982, they intend to make it a fourth.

The kickoff meeting for the 1982 Committee is on January 12th at Amelita's (647 Valencia, SF) from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Highlights from the last three parades and slides of the construction process will be shown.

The float committee is directed by a committee made up of women from all over the Bay Area with numerous skills — carpentry, welding, painting, design, fabric work. Broken fingernails, glued hands, stubbed toes and sawdust in the hair are not uncommon to the workers, but it's all worth it when the prize comes.

If you are interested in helping, come to the kickoff meeting 12th or call Chris Simpson, 922-9840.

Correction

Tim Wolfe was quoted in Sue Zemel's article on the Nuclear Weapons Freeze as saying that "several gay men have told him that they support nuclear war." The quote should have read "several gay men have told him that they support nuclear power."

Apologies to Sue and Tim for our production mistake.



Lesbian survivors of incest will find support, strength, and a safe place to share in the Lesbian Incest Victims Therapy Group, facilitated by Rachel Wahba and Ralle Greenberg. The 12-week group will be on Thursdays, from 6:30-8pm and starts February 4th.

The fees for all these groups will be on a sliding scale basis. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. All groups are wheelchair accessible. Call the group's facilitators at Operation Concern (563-0202) as soon as possible to reserve your space!

ARTISTS' ALERT!

DONATION OF LOGO DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION SOLICITS THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREEZE COMMITTEE OF SAN FRANCISCO. LOGO DESIGN OF THE COMMITTEE SHOULD INCLUDE "INTERNATIONAL LESBIAN/GAY FREEDOM DAY SAN FRANCISCO JUNE 27 1982" AND BE ONE OR TWO COLOR FOR USE ON BUTTON, T-SHIRT, BILLBOARD, BANNER, AND LETTERHEAD. DEADLINE IS 5 PM SUNDAY JANUARY 10 AT THE WOMEN'S BUILDING. WHERE ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED TO DISCUSSION & ONE CHOSEN BY THE COMMITTEE. INFO AT 861-7594

COMING UP!

2120 Market, Room 104
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Coming Up! features news and photographs of many events that are not necessarily gay- or lesbian-identified, which we feel are of interest to the gay and lesbian communities, and recognized as important. We work that many straight-identified groups are doing that could be of interest to the widely diverse gay and lesbian communities. *Coming Up!* also recognizes that many straight-identified people attend or participate in gay or lesbian-identified events. Therefore, publication of the names, photographs, or likenesses of any person, organization, event or business in *Coming Up!* cannot be taken as any indication of the sexual orientation of that person, organization, event or business.

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 20th of the month preceding publication. We can not take listings by phone. Listings are free.

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Special thanks to: Jim Conners, Loree Cook, Walter Ems, Gary Ferguson, Valerie Holm, Dr. Gerry Kelley, Penny Kimmel, John Kyper, Richard Sternberg, and Tom Vigil.

Advertising Representatives: Roland Schembra and Kim Corcoran. Rates cards on request.

Distribution: 23,000 copies monthly.

Typesetting: Terrific Graphics. Photography: Jeff Bloody Meds. Services: Printed at Howard Quinn Co., a union shop.

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1981 - a missed opportunity

by Shawn P. Kelly

The political leaders of San Francisco's lesbian and gay communities must be asking themselves, in this winter of their discontent, "What went wrong in 1981?"

1981, those leaders told their political followers, was the year when the city would make progress according to well-conceived plans. For the first time since 1977, there would be no elections, no initiative battles, no heart-stopping, wallet-sapping campaigns. They told us that 1981 would be the year to begin to enact an agenda, not just a time to hold their own.

By those standards, the year was a dream that never came true. Lesbian and gay leaders spent their energies combatting the ignorance and intransigence of our city officials over issues that they neither anticipated nor desired to dwell on. And in those few cases that they did select to fight, the successes were modest and the defeats were crushing.

If last year's events contain any lesson, it may be that it's not wise to wait for a relatively small amount of time and energy in just putting out the fires of ignorance and homophobia that continually ignite. Three such cases come to mind: the *Chronicle's* depiction of a safety meeting chaired by Coronado Boyd Stephens as an "S&M workshop," and Mayor Feinstein's knee-jerk denunciation of the meeting and her own mistaken suggestion to Fire Chief Andrew Cawley that the summer's Polson Street fire that there could be bodies chained to beds in incinerated slave quarters, and his assistant chief's subsequent assertion that gays are more prone to commit arson out of revenge than are straight people; and, thirdly, the astounding asseveration by City Attorney George Agnost that the city's gay rights law is unconstitutional, even though Agnost himself had drafted City attorney at the time of the law's passage, and is expressly charged with upholding that same law.

To a greater or lesser degree, each of the three episodes was settled and corrected by gay pressure. The gay press exposed the

Chronicle's fabrication of the S&M story. Fire department officials backed off their homophobic statements. Pressure from all corners of the gay and lesbian communities forced City Attorney Agnost to withdraw his assertion in court, if not his personal opinion, that the city's gay rights law was invalid.

But success and energy expended in order merely to remain in the same place! All three incidents form a disturbing pattern: the great degree to which lesbians and gays are held hostage to the ignorance, the hysteria, and the reactionary aspirations of our public officials and the mainstream press. In the end, gay and lesbian leaders must be aware that many of the false notions put forth over the past year may resurface some day as commonly accepted fact.

claiming that enough change has yet occurred. But the transformation does stand as a real achievement of tough political bargaining.

But that success and other quiet changes that have happened over the last year are overshadowed by the monumental failure of the campaign to reform the Police Department's Internal Affairs Bureau. For the first time, police and gay and lesbian leaders joined together to form a unified coalition of moderate and progressive groups in a battle for fundamental civic reform. And they lost, hands down.

There is no confusion as to the reason for the proposal's failure: the intractable opposition of Mayor Feinstein. Try as she might to portray the proposal as a leftist fringe attack by her increasingly bitter opponent Super

Perhaps the next time there is breathing room, gay and lesbian leaders will have the friends... and the power to begin to make real progress.

Of course, not all of the energies of gay political leaders were spent on these controversies. They were able to take the lead on two current issues, one of which they half-won, the other of which they soundly lost.

Probably the most significant success last year came with changes in District Attorney Arlo Smith's office. Charges that gay employees of his office were being harassed and discriminated against and Smith's failure in over a year in office to appoint any openly gay or lesbian attorneys led to a series of gay and lesbian lawsuits between Smith and gay leaders. Meaningful gay participation in segments of city government has become a political priority of gay leaders, and the District Attorney's office was one of the least integrated departments in the city.

After receiving much public and private criticism, Smith responded and appointed several gay and lesbian attorneys and investigators. Today, a working task force exists to track and prosecute anti-gay assaults. Barriers are being broken down, though no one is

visitor Harry Britt, Feinstein in fact chose to oppose the opinion of virtually every gay political group from the left wing to the right, not to mention much of the city's mainstream power structure.

Not only did Feinstein merely stop the changes, but she looked the other way as her police department sought its revenge openly against innocent lesbians and gays in the brutal and widely condemned sweeps on Polk Street at summer's end. Only the paranoid would accuse Feinstein of ordering the arrests and massing of police officers, but none but the naive could doubt those motives in some of the police officers who conducted the raids. Even though over 90% of the arrests have been thrown out, the campaign had its chilling effect, and gays and lesbians are reminded of just how vulnerable we are.

Whether or not Britt's proposal came just a year or two too early, it is unlikely to be able to gather his forces with such concerted effort in 1982, another election year. With each election there is a chance for change, and perhaps the next time there is breathing room, gay and lesbian leaders will have the friends and the supporters and the power to begin to make real progress.



International Week of Solidarity with El Salvador — a full week of activities from January 18th to 22nd sponsored by the U.S. Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES). Participation from the broadest possible cross-section of labor, religious, Third World, student, women's gay and community organizations is urged to protest U.S. involvement in El Salvador and other South American countries, and urge taxes for social needs, not genocide & increased militarization. The week's activities will culminate on Saturday, January 23, with a march from San Francisco with floats, bands and a symbolic representation of the 32,000 people killed in the struggle. There will be a lesbian & gay and women's contingent — for more information and contingent location, and complete details on the week's activities, call 654-7260 or 851-0425.

Emergency Meeting Berkeley Women's Center

For the past several months, the Berkeley Women's Center has waged a battle for its life.

The Center lost all City of Berkeley funding, its primary source of operating expenses at a high level, and as of December 31, the money left from previous funding was used up. Emergency funding has been requested from the City of Berkeley, and it will be the City Council meeting agenda Tuesday, January 12th at 8pm. It's vitally important to the Women's Center that many women as possible attend.

Currently, one paid half-time staff person remains at the Center. She has recruited volunteers to staff the desk and answer phones so she can concentrate her energy on programming and fundraising. Programming is a top priority, so that lots of energy and use will

insure continued success.

Because of the loss of income, the Center has moved. The Berkeley Women's Health Collective has acquired a house in their building at 18th and Ellsworth of January 1st. After a brief closing to get cleaned up, all Women's Center services will resume.

There are many ways you can help Women's Center survive — make a tax deductible contribution, throw a fundraiser or volunteer some time, serve on the Board of Directors, or use the Center. Most importantly, attend the January 12 Council meeting at Berkeley City Hall and show your support for Berkeley Women's Center.

—Staff of S.F. Women's Centers/
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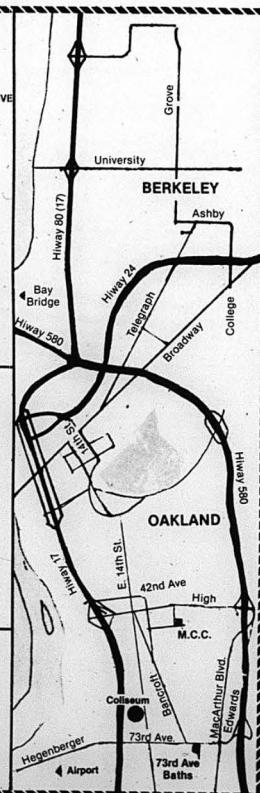
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COMING UP!



A Celebration of Survival — From Mother to Daughter and Back Again: a piano recital with Henia Goodman, survivor of the Holocaust, and Dovida, her daughter; with special guests Silvia Kohan and E. March Dickerow. The exclusive San Francisco engagement benefits Generation to Generation, a non-profit organization for survivors of the holocaust; and The Holocaust Research Library. Saturday, January 16, 8pm at Herbst Theater Performing Arts Center. Tickets \$8.50 at Symphony Box Office, 431-5400. Free childcare, wheelchair accessible, and ASL interpreted.

Letters

Faith in our community

Enclosed is a poem I wrote last summer. Unfortunately, I think it continues to have some meaning. It's my faith in our community, not my cynicism, that was the impetus to write it and other poems. . .

TO THE MEN OF CASTROLAND

Tight, prescribed butch faces,
Hard and shallow smiles.
Tan, pumped-up bodies.
Sidewalk idols — many symbols of
liberation.

Fraying ropes of masculinity.
Of hard-sell and cocks galore.

Confine us to cruel, constricting ways:
Hold us back, leave little room to be
our different selves.

Those ropes once tightly bound
our closet doors.

Then we, announcing who we are,
Shredded those ropes to shreds of string.

Now Castro images give us stricter
standards

Of what it means to be a man.

Our limited expressions of masculinity.
Leave me as self-conscious with my fellow
faggots.

As with those tortured expectations of early,
perpetual years.

The heart and freedom are sadly lacking
among us.

And my soul cries out to meet a queer.

Gary F. Walsh

"Queers against Gays"

Arthur Evans:

You are one of the few people who direct the real questions and point the accusative finger in the right direction — congratulations!

One of your articles concerning alienation in the consumer-made "gay culture" caused me to spraypaint "Queers against Gays". Gay is not now a favorite word for me, but it's a word I do not regret.

Even our own small press we have helped make it safe for white middle-class gays to live here instead of just visit. But now we are drowning in this silly and cruel consumer life they have brought with them and now equate it with being a homosexual.

The issues are now redrawn and must be faced: do we accept the reality of our sexual minority? That reality of life is death and they must change along with "Gay Culture".

You are a veteran of revolt — let's not make the same mistakes — no "new leaders". I hope you have the strength to direct with being a "director."

Name withheld

Mirror of our Collective Inanity

Dear Arthur:

Your articles in *Coming Up!* have stimulated my interest in joining an organization such as yours. I am a gay man who wants to maintain its commitment to the goals outlined in the last paragraph of your article. I have had clerical and legal experience and would like to put that to good use . . .

In closing, there have been some vicious attacks upon you lately in the press for your espousal of views which are unpopular in the mainstream Gay community, probably because you are a gay man. I hope that you will continue to be the gadfly, the mirror of our collective inanity, and that you will know that there are many in the community that feel as you do. Thanks for the effort.

Sincerely,
Sam Broyles

What's Wrong With This Picture?

Alcohol is known to be a dangerous drug. Just look up the statistics on alcohol — related traffic deaths and violent crime. And those are only the more extreme kinds of damage related to alcohol. Many people drink to excess and damage their health. The effects of alcohol on the body's systems and many more suffer physically and emotionally and affect many people around them. Except to heart patients and those who must avoid all drugs (for various reasons), poppers are mostly suspected, at this point, of some possible dangers. I am not sure of the common claims of Arthur Evans and Hank Wilson.

Rates of alcoholism in the Lesbian and gay communities are at least twice the rate in the general population, due to a combination of the multi-faceted oppression by homophobes, society, and the central, almost inescapable place of bars in gay social life (actually a result of the oppression of gay people and society). Each of us must constantly make decisions regarding our health and pay attention to the well-being of our partners. What this would do, of course, is make them more expensive and actually make chemical impurity more likely. That's what happens when you make a drug illegal. But I don't hear them calling for a ban on alcohol sales. (Nor am I calling for a ban on alcohol sales.) I am calling for a ban on alcohol mainly upon their treatment of employees, their disregard for safety and health codes, and their particular methods of pushing alcohol. Evans even says that we need the bars along with other gay businesses. Could it be that Evans and Wilson enjoy a few drinks from time to time but don't care for poppers? All the more reason for us to be a gay society, double standards about "Noche" is OK, as well as cigarettes, caffeine and all sorts of hazardous prescription drugs. Marijuana, poppers, mescaline, morphine, etc. are not OK.

Anyone who uses any kind of drug knows (or should know) that there is always a possibility of an adverse reaction. We do not live in this world. Each of us must constantly make decisions weighing risk and benefit. Sometimes the nature of the risk is known, other times, it is not known. With drugs, dependency, and sometimes, addiction are possible. Anyone can lose control of their drug use. Drug use is a social disease. It does not mean that drug or drugs in a pleasurable and harmless way. Drug abuse recovery services and, again, factual drug education are the best way to combat drug dependency and drug addiction. Outlawing drugs is definitely in the straight repressive tradition of placing arbitrary restrictions on people's lives.

Evans seems to believe that gay culture "Gay business owners should not sell products that may be a grave threat to our health." How about cigarettes, or meat full of nitrates, just to name a couple? What, I wonder, will Arthur Evans take on next? He passed up a really easy chance to go after capitalism itself in this series. He does lament that gay businesses "ape" the straight business establishment. He does not really attack gay business men (yes, mostly men) to behave any differently from straight ones while working within the present economic system? Would they survive if they drastically changed their business practices? Perhaps the crowning jewel and comic relief of the series is to be found in the last sentence: "I am not a muscular body. Could I possibly be so jealous that prompts him to remark twice about 'over-developed bodies'?"

I am not opposed to someone doing responsible research on the possible long-term ef-

fects of popper usage on the body. I think that it may also be valuable to have a non-judgmental evaluation of whatever research has already been done, no matter who has done it. I would be more than skeptical of the findings of any research that is funded by companies hoping to sell poppers. I can understand that Hank Wilson, Evans, and other poppers opponents would not accept the validity of research done by a drug company, at least until it could be substantiated by independent research. But there are a lot of questions that have not been asked by anyone (at least in print).

Even our own small press we have helped make it safe for white middle-class gays to live here instead of just visit. But now we are drowning in this silly and cruel consumer life they have brought with them and now equate it with being a homosexual.

The issues are now redrawn and must be faced: do we accept the reality of our sexual minority? That reality of life is death and they must change along with "Gay Culture".

You are a veteran of revolt — let's not make the same mistakes — no "new leaders". I hope you have the strength to direct with being a "director."

Social change — not charity

In your December issue, you ran an article about a program called "The Christmas Present," which — despite the fact that it is being run by a non-profit organization — is the "Year of the Disabled" — seems to be little more than the old custom of giving charity boxes to the "deserving poor." It seems that we who are disabled are expected to play the role of Dickens' Tiny Tim while rich socialites like Charlotte Mallard give us Christmas baskets.

Let's forget about charity and fight together for social change — including employment rights for the disabled so that we can afford to buy our own food and wheelchair accessible grocery stores.

Sincerely yours,
Anne Fingar

— a point well-taken. There are so many things that we take for granted. I was struck when I read the press release of "The Christmas Present" by the simple fact that something as basic as grocery shopping is inaccessible to many disabled people, and ran it to help foster that awareness. But you're right — if all the time, energy and money we spent being "charitable" during the holiday season were spread around the world to help those in the basic rights of disabled, institutionalized elderly, prisoners, or any people without money or privilege, we'd all be the better for it. — Ed.

To Arthur Evans

Many things you said in your *Coming Up!* article "Drinking" and in other pieces of yours I've read have hit home with me. The hostility of straights is not the only problem gay people have to deal with. There are other problems within our own community that must receive attention. There should be no place for sacred cows in our religion. No gay institution, business, or custom should be above criticism. In my own small way . . . I've tried to carry out that philosophy.

Gary Pedler

Doing Battle

So Merrill Levy opposes Arthur Evans' promotion of "class war" (December Letters). The last two notes who expressed a desire to attend the society's classes to live compatibly sides-by-side were (1) Ronald Reagan and (2) the wealthy El Salvadoran exile located in Palo Alto.

It's sweet of you to appeal to our pacifist instincts, but guess what, Merrill, honey — there already is a class war going on. Then that's not the only profits by exploiting that's not. But that's not a class war — as long as you're comfortable, eh?

Fortunately, most of us who aren't so comf' aren't ignorant enough to buy that line, gay or straight. The fight for gay rights is nothing if it means the right for gays to oppress others in any way, and if it means inighting within the gay community, so be it. Thank you, Arthur, for doing battle.

Charlie Samson

Gay Renewal

Arthur:

I read your interesting article, "Drinking: a gay way of life." I feel moved in a similar way to contribute actively in an organization to "open wide the windows of gay life" and therefore for the quality of *all* life. I have no past active political involvement but could bring to Gay Renewal an eager awareness.

Sincerely,
Richard Eckenbo

(continued on page 5)

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 Mission Street, Room 104, San Francisco, 94114, Attention: Letters. Our deadline is the 18th of the month preceding publication.

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Tougher rent control in SF

You may have thought San Francisco's rent control ordinance really meant your rent couldn't be raised more than 7%, except for repairs and improvements. Not true. The largest loophole in current San Francisco rent control is the vacancy clause which allows a landlord to raise the rent without restriction whenever a new tenant moves in, and some landlords have been defining a change of roommates as a vacancy.

On January 19 the Planning, Housing, and Development Committee, chaired by Harry Britt, will hear testimony from the public on the workability of the current rent control ordinance, which is due to expire in April, and will consider ways to increase the effectiveness of the law.

Some of the proposals are as follows:

Supervisor Kennedy has proposed to make the landlord take the initiative in rent control by notifying the rent board of any increase. Supervisor Britt's proposals would: 1) define vacancy as all tenants of a unit moving out, 2) prevent landlords from making unilateral changes in the terms of a lease (for example suddenly deciding that you can't have pets, when you already have them); 3) better protect tenants against retaliatory eviction: the landlord would have to prove "just cause" to the rent board and show that an eviction is not retaliation, instead of leaving the burden of proof to the tenant, 4) require owners who evict a tenant in order to move in, to prove that they really intend to move in, and would expect to move in within 6 months, to own occupied buildings with only two additional units, 5) set standards for capital improvement rent increases so that decisions are not up to the individual hearing officers and 6) permit tenants who could show economic hardship (such as being on welfare) not to pay for capital improvements, although this would still be somewhat arbitrary.

How the board sits on controversial issues is always a question of power politics — to whom the individual supervisors are beholden — and many feel that the public hearings are just a forum for letting off steam. Nevertheless, it will be important for those supervisors sitting on the fence to hear from San Franciscans who have had first-hand experience with the rent board.

What follows is the experience of one San Francisco renter, Naphatil Offen, and his trip through the bureaucratic maze that led to his eviction:

My own experience with the rent board has been disheartening and I intend to testify. Last year Jon Koubra and Gene Henry, who own the building I live in for seven years instituted a new policy on vacancy. They decided that if a tenant changes a roommate, a vacancy has occurred, allowing them to increase the rent without limit. It made no difference to them how long the tenant had been in the building or how recently there had been a roommate change.

One of my neighbors had his rent raised from \$400 to \$500 to \$550 over a period of six months, because his roommates moved out. I accompanied him to a rent board hearing where Hearing Officer Ed Conne appeared enforcement of the new tenants and their demands through hostile to the landlords.

We argued that it was unfair to penalize the roommate who remains, and that the landlord is in no way inconvenienced by the change. There is no need to paint, advertise or show the apartment — in fact, no justification what-

soever for considering a vacancy to have occurred. We conceded that the landlords had a right to approve of a new roommate, but our landlords had made it clear in writing that they would not approve of a new roommate "roommate" without the rent increase. On the other hand, they would be perfectly willing to agree to anyone provided the higher rent be paid. So the landlords' right to approve their tenants was not at issue. At issue was the definition of "vacancy" and whether or not the landlord had the right to unilaterally define it. We argued that the landlords were violating the spirit of the rent control ordinance. Yet Conne found for the landlords.

The rent board has never honored a wrongful eviction claim.

When my rent was increased more than 7% annually, I filed a claim of my own against the landlords with the rent board. Koubra and Henry claimed their utility expenses increased and that I was responsible for the increase. After researching their claim, I discovered they were not legally entitled to the whole increase and the rent board upheld my complaint. But the board did not extend the reduction to my neighbors who had received the exact same increase. The rent board said they had no jurisdiction over the others unless they file their own claims. My neighbors may have been afraid to challenge the landlords because of what was happening to me. Shortly after I sought relief from the board, I received a notice of intent to evict.

I then formally complained to the rent board that my landlords were retaliating against me for challenging their increase. The rent board took the following action. They interviewed my neighbor and in a private session, then notified me that they intended to take action. In the case, I was never interviewed. Ultimately the eviction case landed in Municipal Court with a jury spanning three weeks. At that time my landlords testified that the rent board refused to intervene on my behalf. I later learned that, in history, the rent board had never honored a wrongful eviction claim. Again, there was no jurisdiction.

They try to find forums for landlords, even though the lawyers presented a strong case for retaliatory eviction. I spoke with several jurors in the weeks following the trial and asked them if they didn't believe that the landlords were retaliating. They said it wasn't a question of not believing us. They felt that the landlords owned the building, and if they no longer wanted an apartment for everyone, including me, they would not be served by a company. They were not told that if they decided they wanted to I would have to pay all the legal costs for both sides. So while they played Solomon, I ended up with a \$4000 legal debt! I am appealing the verdict.

There are many of us who feel that the rent control ordinance, as it now stands, favors landlords unfairly. When I matched the board uses for compiling statistics indicates they are more concerned with being perceived as fair to tenants, than actually giving tenants a fair shake. If the board rules that a landlord

can raise the rent only \$90 instead of \$100, the statistical victory goes to the tenant because the landlord was stopped from obtaining the 10% boost. So the board is forced by information that the board decides in favor of the tenant more often than the landlord.

The board must be given jurisdiction to give tenants relief in the many areas it now claims it lacks. A tenant must feel free to have a dispute arbitrated without fear of retaliation. The board must be able to protect the tenant from a costly, draining legal battle in municipal court. The next go-round of the ordinance must close the vacancy decontrol loophole if the law is to be more than a gimmick to ap-

pease the swelling tenants' movement. There should be a limit on the unit, regardless of who's living there. As it is, a unit that costs \$450 today will be \$631 in five years, if the 7% increases in effect. And, of course, the boost is ever-increasing because it compounds annually. Enough is enough, and sometimes it's too much.

Low-cost self defense

by Roland Schembari

Ever walk down the street at night and think someone was following you but you couldn't look behind to make sure? or been mugged or physically assaulted and you were unable to defend yourself?

The Women's Protection Program, now in its seventh year of serving the Bay Area, offers a series of classes, workshops, and speakers on self defense for women and men in San Francisco, Alameda, Marin, and Sonoma Counties.

"We teach basic street fighting techniques that will enable you to get away from an attacker," says Instructor Trisha Brinkman. "Grabs, holds, hair pulls, chokes that can be used from a sitting or standing position. It's a series of 10 weekly classes that can be from two to eight hours to teach you to incapacitate an attacker, but rather a practical 30-hour class that will enable you to avoid or escape dangerous situations successfully."

"There's also an emphasis on combatting what Trisha calls 'our socialization to be nice,' this being especially true for women. WPO teaches women how to avoid a situation, a self defense and fighting dirty, stamping, kicking, gouging) is an acceptable defense. Assertiveness techniques are taught, how to say no, and how to deal with verbal as well as physical attacks, including the more subtle abuses that often happen in the workplace.

The classes emphasize direct self-defense,

as opposed to maze instruction, and the use of other physical aids against attack. Trisha says they are options to be considered, but in her opinion, "they're potentially dangerous because people acquire a false sense of security from them. An attacker may be angered rather than deterred, or if the person is drunk or high, especially on PCP, the chemicals may have no effect."

"To use pepper spray chemicals must be readily available for use, and since most attacks are from behind, that's not always possible," she adds. "I know one woman, who while fumbling for her canister, wound up spraying herself. People considering this option should be aware of its shortcomings — there are lots of pros and cons. I think hands are more valuable — they're always with you."

Workshops are much shorter, concentrating on crime prevention, verbal and non-verbal assertiveness, self defense, and other social and physical defense techniques.

Special classes for girls in three age groups, ranging from 7 to 17 years, are offered. These classes include aspects of the adult groups and are tailored specifically to age and size. Home, street, and school safety; information about child sexual abuse; and the use of family members as adults and peers for support are features of these classes.

Details on the classes, workshops, and speakers programs, and a quarterly schedule are available by writing Women's Protection Program, P.O. Box 392, San Rafael, CA 94915, or calling 453-2181. Costs average around \$30 for the 30-hour course, with fees as low as \$10 and as high as \$45. Financial assistance in the form of scholarships is available and supported by tax deductible donations to the Program.

"We've taught over 6500 Bay Area residents the last six years, and we're proud of it," concludes Trisha Brinkman. Why don't you do yourself a favor, and join them.



A scene from Carlos Saura's *Blood Wedding* — a film that joins the power of Garcia Lorca's story with the beauty and energy of Spanish dance. A special preview in celebration of the Epiphany to benefit Theatre Flamenco of San Francisco will be held Tuesday, January 5. The film's regular engagement opens Friday, January 8 at SF's Gateway Cinema. See main calendar listing for Tuesday, January 5 for details.

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Letters (cont.)

(continued from page 4)

curable diseases, starving, and dying. Viva La Raza!

I am expected to approve such vulgar displays of insensitivity because young north-american latinos, who call themselves La Raza like them. How do you like La Raza? My research shows that "race, clan, breed..." It also says that "caballo de raza" means a "thoroughbred" horse. Do people who call themselves Raza imply that they are a thoroughbred people? When latins people shout "Viva La Raza!", what are they saying is "Long Live The Raza"? I think of what would happen if latinos raised clenched fists and shout "Long Live The Raza". Or maybe it is OK for latinos to use racist slogans, but it's not OK for anyone to use racist slogans. What a bunch of crap.

I once talked to a latino man who was a mental health counselor in the Mission. He said that most of the problems he works with are caused by three things: the triangulated morality of the Roman Catholic Church, the psychopath behavior caused by the nuclear family and its extension, the government. At last, a sign of intelligent life. When I read the GALA article, I came across social-service bureaucrats talking about how they've assimilated latinos and gamed into a culture permeated with Roman Catholic morality. It's OK to be gay as long as you can't be gay and have the nuclear family (isn't it a shame she doesn't have a husband? let's be nice to her), and government (when we overthrow this one we'll get another one, keep your fingers crossed). Come on, GALA, this is just like anglo gays pretending they're "all american boys," and it's just as much of a joke.

The more I think of these social-control mechanisms swing in a direction unfavorable to homosexuality, as they always do, they're going to turn on you most viciously. Maybe when the come for you, you'll be at a "Night on the Latafundia" party. No doubt you will be appropriately dressed, a north-american costume. Come prepared.

Tim Speck

New & Brilliant

As one who never cared too much for the "Court of the Crimson Fountain" (Valliant), this observer's taste in public art is not exactly "revolutionary."

But Robert Arneson's fascinating "new-Romanesque" bust of George Moscone strikes one as a *now & future classic*, with a pedestal inscribed with highly stylized "grafitti" transcending the genre and creatively reflecting the results with Moscone's head resides on top of it! An adaptation of the inscriptions on Roman Columns — 2,000 years ago.

Does all this ruckus remind you of Einstein's remark that for every one genuinely new & brilliant idea a million mediocre minds will instantly rise up to denounce it? (Well, why else were George Moscone and Harvey Milk shot in the head, thus bringing Fellini to power?)

Arneson's sculpture was the one genuinely new & brilliant work of Public Art to see the light of artificial day in the entire new convention center just opened in SF.

Hello, Albert Einstein! Hello, Robert Arneson.

Reed Vernon

Unbound Feet Three

In last month's *Coming Up!*, we replied to a letter that attacked *Unbound Feet Three*. In that letter we issued a challenge to Genny Lim to have her respond to our article to participate in a community debate to clarify the issues that provoked the split of the original six-member collective, *Unbound Feet*.

Lim, and Sam did not reply to our challenge. They are not concerned with resolving the conflict, opting for personal solutions instead of political struggle through open, democratic discussion, which is a freedom we must have if we are to have a revolution in women and as Asian Americans...

Let it be remembered that Lim, and Sam have in their possession over \$2,600.

some of which has been used for their own purposes; money earned by all six of us.

We thank our supporters for signing the petition, attending our readings and events and understanding the necessity for expressing our political ideas as Asian American feminists.

UNBOUND FEET THREE
Kitty Tsui, Nellie Wong, Merle Woo

Mccloskey & the NABC

Dana Bergen's letter in response to my article in November's *Coming Up!* concerns at least one serious factual fact: the times that Congressman Pete McCloskey spoke to the National Association of Business Councils' convention he had not made any statement on record about the Family Protection Act. Nor did he speak about that horrendous piece of proposed legislation to the NABC convention where his remarks were most supportive of the bill. McCloskey's unfortunate remarks on the Family Protection Act were made a week after the NABC convention at a conference sponsored by the Coalition for Human Rights. I have since used the line of communication resulting from the Congressman's NABC appearance to urge him to look more closely at the Family Protection Act and the potentially dire consequences of its provisions.

Very truly yours,
Arthur S. Lazere
President-Elect, NABC

Thanks Coming Up!

Thanks for doing good things that were needed to be done — for providing journalism and good form and saying what is going on. Keep it up.

Arthur Morris



LEATHER FOREVER

Marriage causes dating problems

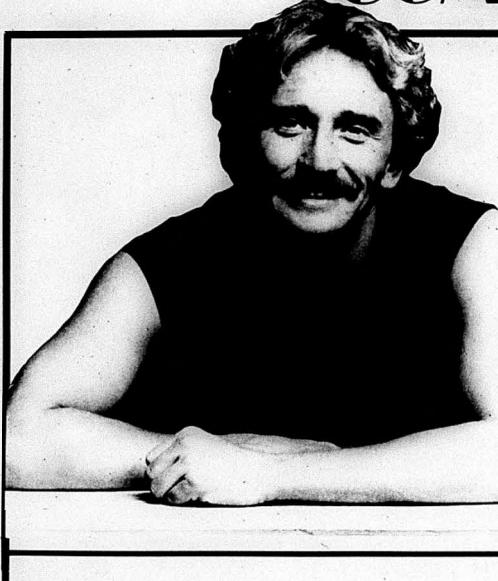
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COMING UP!

JAN



Terry Hutchison 'Street Dreams' - Jan 7

Mainstream Exiles Petition Dance & Cultural Event

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- Singer Ron Romanovsky
- Common Threads Women's Theatre

MC'd by Kim "Busted at Diablo" Vaeth

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See Thurs Jan 14

DANCE CRAZE

Jan 6



sunday

3
Konstantin Berlandt talks about the gay media at G40+ - a social group for gay men over 40. 1668 Bush St., San Francisco Chamber Orchestra in concert at Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley, 3pm, free.

4
Bogart & Bacall — To Have & Have Not and Key Largo, a cartoon, Bacall to Arms, UC Theatre, Berkeley, info: 843-6287.

5
Kevin Ross & Trio at the Pines & Co., 1093 Pine at Jones, SF 4:30pm, free!

6
The Lawyers play Rainbow Cattle Company, 199 Valencia St, SF 5:30pm.

7
After Palo Alto What? — attorney Matt Coles, author of SF Gay Rights law & the Palo Alto Initiative, talks next about where our movement should go next. Unitarian Univ Caucas, SF 9:30am.

8
Sexually Transmitted Diseases, and diseases unique to the gay community, subtopics include: AIDS, STDs, etc. 1pm, KOF 171, 1093 Pine, SF 9:30am.

9
Ron Silliman reads new selections from *The Alphabet*, a work in progress. 3pm, \$3.54 Natoma, SF.

10
Mutual Disagreements for a softcover day with Gayle Marie 3:30pm, Orpheum, Oakland. No cover.

11
Winter in Yosemite spend today at the Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite Valley with Great Outdoors Adventures. Call 641-0200 for details.

12
Sunday afternoon recital with the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra featuring Leonid Gesin, violinist, and Emilia Makovoz, pianist, 4pm, Little Theatre of the Legion of Honor.

13
The Art of the Facade — a slide-lecture with Gray Brechin, Architectural Historian, chronicles the development of architecture in SF from the Gold Rush to the present, esp. some major bizarre manifestations & gaudily-named buildings, from the Metreon to 1968 Bush. SF Spots by Gay Academic Union, Shit-Kickin' SF with the Rounders at Rainbow Cattle Co., 199 Valencia, SF 9:30pm.

14
An Evening with Harry Carter — a film study of the jazz lifestyle of this famed jazz legend. 10pm, KQED Chan 9.

15
The Pacific Center — reps from this haven of help & support for thousands of East Bay Lesbians & Gays talk about the services they offer, & problems of funding in an era of Reaganomics. Unitarian Univ Caucas, 9:30am.

16
G40+ — a social group for gay men over 40 — topics of special interest, refreshments & social, 2pm, 1668 Bush St, SF.

17
Soft, sensual sounds of flauteau Fundi, 3:45pm, no cover, 1093 Pine at Jones, SF 5:30pm.

18
Nepeta Mero after lunch at The Pines, 1093 Pine (at Jones), SF 4:30pm, free.

19
This Bridge Called My Back — readings from contributors plus discussions about issues raised in the book. For women & men & women over 40 — women, 7:30pm, free, RCC, Old Wharf Theater, SF.

20
The Jayne Gang plays music at Rainbow Cattle Co., 199 Valencia, SF 5:30pm.

21
An Evening of Jewish Music & Culture features Luba Dvora, Daniel Lav, Lila Hirschorn, Tay, Barbara Stark & Adam Heilbrun, 8pm, \$3, La Pena, Berkeley.

22
Reclaiming the Goddess: An Introduction to Magic Rituals — a forum with Stanton, author of *The Spiral of Power*, on the rise of the Goddess, and magic as a movement for cultural & political change, 8pm, \$2.50 SS. RCC: 863-0356, SF Women's Bldg.

23
El Salvador: Another Vietnam double-bill with Women in Arms. UC Theatre, Berkeley, Box Office: 844-3324.

24
Avin Light & A Memorial Exhibition — works of wood & paper that reflect this artist's emotional & spiritual attachment to nature. SF Museum of Modern Art thru March.

25
El Salvador: Another Vietnam double-bill with Women in Arms. UC Theatre, Berkeley, Box Office: 844-3324.

26
Lesbian & Gay Video Festival sponsored by FrameLine — 2 hr program by local & national artists. 8pm, Cable Chan 25.

27
The Golden Gate Business Assoc — GGBA Vice Pres Robert Gross tells the dramatic story of the high-octane business boom. 9:30am, Unitarian Univ Caucas, SF.

28
Bill Berkson reads from *Dante Diary* & other new works, 3pm, \$3.54 Natoma, SF.

29
Patty Wolfe & Friends at The Pines, 1093 Pine/ Jones, SF 4:30pm, free.

30
It's country with *The County line* at Rainbow Cattle Co., 199 Valencia, SF 5:30pm.

31
Slaryanks a capella men's slavic chorus — 8pm, \$35/50 students, st. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2381 Telegraph, Oakland. Call 652-1100.

32
Fox & His Friends — Fassbinder's first gay film. Today & Imw, Red Victorian Theatre, 1659 Haight, SF Box office: 863-3994.

33
All That Jazz, *Carrie* & *Death of a Salesman* at the Strand, SF Box office: 552-5999.

34
Lar Lubowitch Dance Company — 2 nites only at Palace of Fine Arts. Tonite & Tues, 2/2, \$8-\$12 (\$2 off for students). Tix info: 666-2571.

35
Irish songs of struggle at La Pena, Berkeley. Call for details.

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Ain't I A Woman: Black Women and Feminism

with Bell Hooks • Jan 14

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Whales!

This is the season for the great whale migration down the California coast from the icy waters off Alaska to the warm lagoons of Baja. The next couple of months are the ideal time to sight them as they pass the Bay Area — most whale-watching trips are by boat, but a few are onshore.

Great Outdoors Adventures, the lesbian and gay social alternative, will be sponsoring a trip to them for information at 641-4020. If you can't make the GOA trip, here is a list of other whale trips being offered this winter in northern California. Reservations are required for all of them. The best ones have a naturalist on board to explain the action. On many boat trips you can adapt to see birds, dolphins, sea lions, otters and other special, pelagic birds. Be sure to dress warmly, carry your binoculars, and take seasick pills if you're prone to that malady.

Adventures International, 4421 Albatross St., Oakland; 531-6564. Sat & Sun thru 4/8; 8, 11 & 2pm, trips last 2 1/2 hrs. All adults. All trips accompanied by a naturalist.

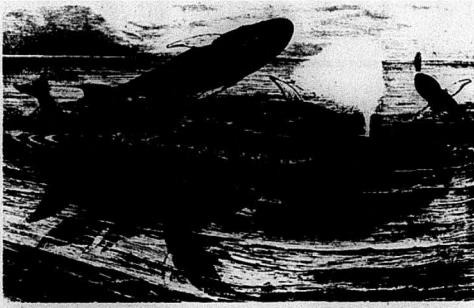
American Cetacean Society, PO Box 2365, San Rafael; 457-5534. Sat & Sun thru Jan 16 & 30, departing at 8am from Sausalito to the Point Reyes area. \$35. Naturalist on board.

Coyote Point Museum, San Mateo; 342-7755. Three whale-watching this season, all departing from Half Moon Bay, all accompanied by a naturalist. Jan 6, 11-3pm; 1/12, 4pm; 1/14, 4pm & 7pm; \$12. Feb 20, Aneu Point trip departs 9am. Also observes elephant seals.

Frank's Fishing Trips, 66 Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey; (408) 372-2203. Sailing for 1 1/2 hr; trips \$8 adults; \$5 children under 12. Operates thru whale season. Longer trips available.

Marin Adventures, Marin Community College, Kentfield; 455-5581. Offers half-day trips out of Half Moon Bay, \$22 on weekends, \$18 on weekdays. Jan 24, all-day shore observations at Point Reyes, \$12 per family. Jan 29, shore observation for disabled people, \$10.

Monterey Fishin' Trips, 39 Wharf #1, Monterey; (408) 372-3501. Two or three sailing days per whale season. Two-hour trips; \$25 children.



Oceanic Society, Ft Mason Ctr, Bldg E, SF; 474-3300. Sat & Sun 2-7pm, 7-8pm, 8-9pm, 9pm or 10pm. March, March. Sails from Pillar Point in Half Moon Bay. Naturalist on board. \$15 members/ \$20 nonmembers. Monthly audio-visual programs in the evenings, free to participants.

Pillar Point, PO Box 658, Half Moon Bay; 728-3377. Sat & Sun thru whale season, 2 1/2-hour trips departing 11am & 2pm. \$15/12 children under 12. \$12/10 children on Wed, Thurs & Fri 11am.

Point Reyes Field Seminars, Point Reyes National Seashore, CA; 633-1200. One-day onshore classes near Point Reyes Lighthouse, including indoor audio-visual program. \$21.

Roddy's Fishing Trips, 66 Old Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey; (408) 372-5577. Trips several times daily through whale season. Trips last 11 hours. \$8 adults; \$6 for children 12 & under. (Occasional longer trips available at higher prices).

Sam's Fishing Fleet, 64 Old Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey; (408) 372-5577. Three boats sail each Saturday and Sunday thru mid-February; 1 1/2 to 2 hours; \$25/child.

Shearwater Journeys, 362 Lee Street, Santa Cruz; (408) 425-0111. Offers 6-hour trips on Jan 9, 10, 16, 22, 23, 24 & 30. Sails at 8am from Fisherman's Wharf in Monterey. \$25 per person. Two naturalists on board.

Sierra Club, 6014 College Ave, Oakland; 658-7470. January 16, 23 and 30, 7-hour voyages to Point Reyes, departing 8am from St. Francis Yacht Harbor. \$39 includes wine. Naturalist on board.

Whale Center, 2929 Piedmont Ave, Oakland; 654-6222. Sat & Sun 9am-4pm, 2 1/2-hour trips from Half Moon Bay, depart 8:30am. \$16/30 non-members. Accompanied by a naturalist.

YMCAs Point Bonita Center, Bldg 981, Ft. Barry GNRA, Sausalito; 561-7656. Jan 3, 10 & 17, 8-hour trips from Fisherman's Wharf, SF \$33/31 youths & adults; includes lunch. Accompanied by a naturalist. Evening seminars & overnight packages available.

Whale-watching from shore: sometimes you can get great views of migrating gray whales from shore, especially in areas of calm water and clear sky. A famous viewing spot is the lighthouse at Point Reyes. On Thursdays through Mondays, National Park Service interpreters are stationed at the lighthouse and the visitor centers at the top of the hill to answer questions. For information phone 653-1029.

Up at McKerricher State Beach in Mendocino, state park rangers conduct whale-watching programs on Saturdays and Sundays; 1 to 2 hours and 10am to 1pm. Phone 542-0504. Other programs and sightings are Point Lobos State Reserve near Carmel and Davenport north of Santa Cruz.

—Information courtesy of California State Automobile Association

Insist that the resources of this nation and this world (including women's communities and women's organizations) are not equally available to all women. Women's education and development first, it is a battle for equality of political and social freedom, not a battle of the sexes. It is not racist, classist, not closed, but it is facing how we've internalized these abberations from the dominant culture.

Although we are of the same gender, and sometimes even the same race and culture, we must reassess our mutual dependency, cross-victimization in order to meet and work together. While we have much in common, we have much to overcome. We are diverse as raindrops upon a windshield, as alike as a ray of sun.

Because we are so close, we can be the death as well as the life of each other. Let us acknowledge our differences, our differences and forgive our power together and separately. In order to build coalitions with lesbian and straight women, non-feminist women, men and movements which complement our survival.

Our choices are to develop isolated, comfortable communities and be rounded up and killed anyway, or keep a safe homeplace to possible, and spend our lives carefully choosing when, where and with whom to light.

Andrea Canaan is Executive Director of Berkeley's Pacific Center, and a poet and writer. Her essay "Brownness" is in This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color, Perverse, 1981.

Poppers...

(continued from front page)

false claims, Freezer was able to convince the California Department of Health to let him sell butyl nitrite legally. In my opinion, doing so was fraudulent, but whether Freezer can or will be indicted for these actions remains to be seen."

On December 4, when Freezer first contacted *Coming Up!* to protest the article, *Coming Up!* offered him equal editorial space to present his own views on Poppers. Freezer refused the offer.

At press time, Arthur Evans received another letter from Freezer concentrating on the results of the Italian Medical Journal study and the findings of the Isobutyl Nitrite report. Evans is seeking clarification from Freezer on his comments on these two studies.

Give a Whistle!
Get Help, Give Help
FAST!

Inflation-fighter Perm—
\$30 complete
Cut and b/o—
Men and Women
Men's short cut—\$10

760 Market at Grant
Rm. 401-6, Phelan Bldg.
362-5198
Tues-Sat



Astrological Forecast

by Marcia Guiding Star

The new year is a time to make resolutions for change, but this year New Year's Day isn't the time to do it. If you make your New Year's resolutions on January 1st between 2pm and 10:30pm prepared for a twist of fate. Because of a Moon Void of Course (a time when the moon is not in relationship to any of the other planets) decisions made at this time could have a tendency to be broken, delayed and/or not work out for the coming year.

The astrological forecast for San Francisco in January 1982 is full of a continuing trend toward violence and unrest. The city's natural spontaneous, individualistic, pioneering and friendly flavor (it has five planets in Aries in its birth chart) will be affected by the planet Pluto, which will cause upheaval and ruthlessness in City Hall and a continuing trend toward street violence. It would be wise to be extra cautious when leaving public places of entertainment.

During the month of January city government could escape into undeliberated or narrow solutions to our problems. The naturalistic and spontaneous City Hall this month will be very serious, narrow-minded and conservative. Negotiations will be difficult. We need to watch them very carefully and not let their depressing mental attitudes affect our consciousness. On a more positive note, a transiting Jupiter brings an abundance of spiritual force to overcome and balance out the stressful aspects. January may bring new ethical and practical solutions to San Francisco's problems.

Jupiter in Scorpio

During the coming year Jupiter will be in Scorpio. The signs that will be most influenced by this transit will be Taurus, Leo and Aquarius.

If you are a Scorpio or have planets in Scorpio, you will have a tendency to expand your horizons, emotional or physical energy, and also have a tendency to deepen your relationship. Scorpio may also form new business relationships which could be profitable if you choose your associates carefully.

If you have planets in Taurus, the keyword for Jupiter in Scorpio is freedom. But it will be up to you to let go of your fixed ideas, opinions, and open yourself to new growth opportunities.

If you have planets in Leo or Aquarius, the general tendency will be to feel very powerful. This could be channeled towards your own self-aggrandizement, or this extra energy and resourcefulness could be directed toward the growth and betterment of the world.

Uranus in Sagittarius

Last November Uranus began its seven year journey through Sagittarius. During this phase of the Uranian cycle the signs most af-

fected by the planet will be Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces. Those of you who have personal planets (Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars) in these signs can look forward to many sudden, unpredictable changes in your lives.

Retrograde Planets

In the months to come Mercury, Saturn, Pluto and Venus will all be going retrograde (an apparent backward motion through the sky).

On December 31 Venus went retrograde, giving us all the opportunity to look more closely at our values and what we truly want from ourselves and others. This makes January a time for turning inward to heal from the excessive socializing of December, and a time for emotional cleansing and introspection. It will be an especially productive period for artistic projects.

We can use the potential to come out of this healing period with changed values that will let us attract and build healing and growth-oriented relationships.

As the year progresses and more planets go retrograde, it is important to remember that this is a time for introspection, healing and working on projects started before January first. The sun may be shining on San Francisco, but winter is still the season for turning inward.

Marcia Guiding Star is a practicing feminist astrologer in San Francisco and is available for consultations. She is also starting an organization for women who are practicing healers. You can call 661-1698 for more information. George Hurd is on vacation this month. He will be back next month with his regular column.

Congratulations to Barbara Bochinski!

Grand Prize Winner
of a one-week trip for two to Puerto Vallarta
in the
First Great Coming Up! Raffle

A very special thanks to —

Tom Ammiano, Carol Roberts, Jeff Brody, Karen Danish, Tede Matthews, Hank Wilson, Sue Zemel, and Ron Lanza & the folks at Valencia Rose

plus

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

Swingshift

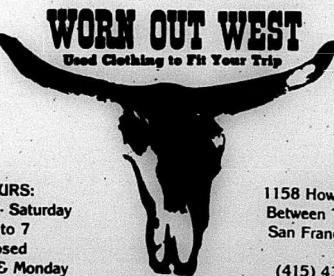
Cast & crew of "A Fine Romance"

Anaconda
Artemis Cafe
By George!
Celestial Arts
Chez Mollet
Brenda Dungan
Erie's Solano Club
Expose
Judith Fein
544 Natoma

Golden Gate Performing Arts
Great Outdoor Adventures
Limelight Books
Marc Bly
Modern Times Bookstore
New Bell Saloon
Olivia Records
Ollie's
Osentos
Paperback Traffic

73rd Avenue Baths
Shaklee
Star Magic
Surf Theatre
Sutro Bath House
Theatre Rhinoceros
Trinity Place
Victoria Theatre
Winter's Service Exchange
Women's Training Center

for their generous donations to the raffle.



HOURS:
Tuesday - Saturday
11 to 7
Closed
Sunday & Monday

1158 Howard Street
Between 7th & 8th
San Francisco, CA
(415) 431-6020

COMING UP!

JANUARY

sunday

Gay Men's Open Rap at Pacific Ctr, Berkeley, 7:30pm.

Champagne brunch at Artemis Cafe, 11am-2pm.

Run with the FrontRunners — non-competitive running for lesbians, gay men & simpaticos. 10am — call 346-0303 for details on weekly runs.

Dignity — Catholic Gay men, lesbians & friends meet at 6pm for positive worship in the Liturgy of the Eucharist at St. John of God, Fifth Ave & Irving St, S.F. 94107.

Metropolitan Community Church of the East Bay worships Sundays, 8pm, Oakland.

Country & Western in the afternoon at Rainbow Cabaret Company, 199 Valencia, SF 94108.

Dark of the Moon — live Sunday brunch with OPTIONS for Women Over Forty, 10am-1pm, SF Women's Bldg. Open to women of all ages.

Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church worships 10:30am, 301 Franklin, California Hall, 625 Polk, S.F.

Women's Yoga Jam — dance & free play from 6:30pm, 33 drop-in. Eight Street Studio, 2525 8th St, Berkeley. Info: 658-6336 (Syll).

Consciousness — raising and support group for women in the Feminist Center, 10am.

Affirmation: Gay & Lesbian Mapmakers — a support/social group for current or ex-mormons & friends, 8pm, Info: 841-0791.

David Kelsey & Pure Trash at the New Bell Saloon, 8:30am. No cover.

VD Testing, treatment, counseling & referral by & for gay men, 7:30pm, drop-in. Gay Men's Health Collective, Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave, Berkeley. Free & confidential. Info: 548-2570.

Samuels: Lesbian-feminist s/m support group encourages feminist members to write them for a date of their next orientation meeting: Box 17798, San Francisco, 94101, or call Ruby at 552-8988.

monday

Irish Music & Dance at the Starry Plough Irish Pub, 3101 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.

Oakland, Lesbian & Gay Rights Organization (OLGRO) meets 2nd & 4th Mon each month, 7:30pm at Ollie's in Oakland. Info: 547-5474.

Amazon Kung Fu in Kung Fu — classes in Kajikombu, Kung Fu at new studio, 5680 San Pablo. Info: 428-2008.

Creative Aerobics — a high energy workout utilizing dancing, running, jumping & rhythm, — have fun & get in shape. 6:30pm, \$3. Monday thru Thursday. No Cover. Studio, 235 Hickory St or Civic Ctr, S.F. Info: 566-4700.

Group for Gay Men at Pacific Center, Berkeley, 7:45pm.

New Wave at the Stud, 1535 Folsom, SF. Info: 865-6623.

Amazon Kung Fu — serious training for women in the art of Kajikombu Kung Fu. Develop

strength, confidence, good health & street sense. 1-3pm, \$30. SF Women's Bldg. Info: 428-2008.

Job Counseling for Women Over Forty — 10am-2pm by appointment only in OPTIONS Center, SF Women's Bldg. Info: 431-6405.

Job Listings for Women Over Forty — updated regularly available at the OPTIONS Center, SF Women's Bldg. 10am-5pm, SF Women's Bldg. Info: 386-0935.

African Movement taught by Marion Oliker — everyone & all levels welcome. \$30/class. 6-7pm, SF Women's Bldg. Info: 386-0935.

Practicing Yoga — for women of all ages, all skill levels at The Dojo for all ages & physical abilities 6-8pm, \$50/month. Sign arrangements can be made, call for details & other info: 530-9200. 1010 Market St, Oakland.

Lebanon Rap Group — meet now & share old ones. Facilitated by Midgett, 7:30-9:30pm, SF Women's Bldg. R.R.C. 864-3876.

Suit Dancin' — Dance of Universal Peace, 8-10pm, SF Women's Bldg.

Job Listings for Women Over 40 — every Mon thru Fri, 10am-5pm in the OPTIONS office, SF Women's Bldg.

Danceworks — total fitness program for women, Jamestown Community Ctr, 180 Fair Oaks, 6-7pm, Info: 563-7082.

Rhythm & Motion/Aerobic Dance Exercise — SF's best workout — have a great time while you get in shape in classes Mon-Sat 8:30 & 10:30am, and Tues-Fri 6-7pm. 2000 Polk, San Francisco. \$10. 10:30am for \$1.25child. \$3/class. \$2.50series card.

Alcohol counseling for women (alcoholic or co-dependent) & their families, Sponsored by Latino Family Health Center, 29-29th St, San Mon-Fri, time according to women's schedule & cost by ability to pay. Complete Info: 864-4600.

Musc & Movement Therapy — dance your feelings away. 10am-11pm. Discoteque Jazz, Rag with Shirley Anne, 5-20pm, \$15. SS, SF Women's Bldg. Info: 421-9935.

Commuter Comedy — unwind & skip that crowded bus ride — foodxeal Carol Roberts at Trinity Place, 22-23. Trinity Place (info: Sutter & Montague, 2nd fl, San Francisco, 94108).

Marxian after Marx — a class with Mike Pincus at SF Socialist School, 29-29th St. Complete Info: 221-3332/153. Starts 1/25.

Blasian Rap & Rap Group, 1st & 3rd Mon of each month, BitterSweet, 1757 Hayes St, SF. \$9. 929-9299.

Comedy open mike at the Valentine Rose Cafe — Carol Roberts & Tom Ammiano co-host, 8pm, \$2 cover & anything goes. Come on down & try out!

Women's Personal Problem Solving Group — advance notice required: 841-6405.

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Women's Personal Problem Solving Group — advance

cabaret checkerboard

by Gary Menger

Valencia Rose

Welcome to the newly opened Valencia Rose (18th & Valencia), and to the bright, sprightly revue now playing there on Thursday the 5th, Saturday evenings, and Sunday afternoons: "A Fine Romance." It shows a fast set of the music of Jerome Kern, exuberantly performed by Nathan Garry, Scott Phillips, Sandy Schleeter, Stephen Sloane and Gall Simpson, and imaginatively directed by Allen Sawyer.

A very palatable family-style dinner is served nightly, and gracious owner/host Ron Lanza is generally on hand to greet you at the door, offering a complimentary glass of wine. Beer and wine are available — dinner and show is a bargain at \$15.00 (show only: \$5.00).

There are slicker, more professional shows in town, but none that are nearly as much fun — a visit to Valencia Rose is highly recommended. Also recommended: a stop afterward at the Fickle Fox, just a block away, where the "open mic" policy assures some very pleasant entertainment surprises in the later evening.

Street Dreams

Terry Hutchison, most prominent newcomer on the cabaret scene this year, has taken another giant step by joining the cast of the gassy musical drama "Street Dreams" now packing in crowds at the Old Spaghetti Factory. Denise Kilbourne, a local favorite, is outstanding in the same show as "the bag lady." She has been replaced by Westla Whifford, who is already won the badge of admission. But don't force yourself to choose, because this is a show you'll want to see more than once anyway — hurry and catch it with Westla; go back & treat yourself a second time when Denise returns.

Other Goodies

"Berlin 1932" at Fanny's Cabaret (18th near Castro) on Sundays and Mondays, recreates the pre-war decadence of another place in another time, but the obvious parallels between then/here and San Francisco now are both interesting and frightening to contemplate. The cast is mostly local and is directed by Kenneth Vega (who is also musical director), and is strongly performed by four pros: Judith Corber, George Quirk, Sandra Rider and Jae Ross.

Last, and perhaps best, "By George," showing Friday thru Sunday at Savoy Tivoli in North Beach — a precise, polished, very professional treatment of the music of George Gershwin, featuring durable favorites Deborah Akhen, Craig Jessup, Lynn Eldredge

and Richard Roemer.

One Shots

This seems to be a season in cabaret more for musical shows than for single vocalists, but there are some solid exceptions providing an evening of solid entertainment: Pamela Brooks, at Our Cabaret (131 Grant) on Friday evenings; and Saturday evenings (and don't miss Sean Salgado, there on Fridays); cocktail-time performances by Samantha Samuels (Tues-

days) and Nepata Mero (Thursdays) at Trinity Place; Charles Pierce, returning January 19 to the Plush Room.

On Monday evenings the Plush Room presents musical performances by prominent entertainers such as Val Price, Linda Lavin and Westla Whifford (call for schedule: 885-6800), and on Sunday afternoons, the Pines & Co (corner of Pine and Jones) has lined up Kevin Ross, Nepata Mero, the Hal & David Show and Sean Salgado (885-9871).



Berlin 1932

Photo by George Post / 1981

On Stage...January

The Eve Merriam-Helen Miller photo musical *Street Dreams*, now featuring cabaret feminist Terry Hutchison — held over at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 478 Green St., SF. You can still see this hit, but hurry! 7 & 10:30pm, Sat-Sun, 8pm, Fri, Sun & Mon. Info & reservations: 441-6127.

Opening Jan 7, *The Black Repertory Groups* (10th & Franklin) presents a production that lies live across the hall from each other in New York, West Side, 1927 — the Barts, a West Indian Black family, ruled by a stiff, autocratic father, and an American Black family, an outspoken mother and son. As the story unfolds, a romance develops between the nephew and the Barton's daughter, the stage is set for an evening of good theatre. Thurs-Sun thru Feb 13. 1971 Alcatraz Ave., Berkeley. Reservations: 652-2120.



Imitations

The Bare Stage announces its production of two new West Coast plays: *Imitations*, by Nancy Larson, a compassionate portrayal of a street derelict; and *The Guardian* by Joel Eshman, a behind-the-scenes look at the relationships between aging playwrights and their envious "pay" guardian. Opens Jan 14, Thurs-Sun thru Feb 14, 8pm; \$5 Thurs & Sun; \$6 Fri & Sat (\$1 off all shows) for students, seniors & groups. Bare Stage, Dana/Durant (Trinity United Methodist), Berkeley. Reservations: 849-6793.

Peggy Batti by George Birnbaum is Theatre Rhinoceros' second offering in their new home at the Redstone Building 2940-16th St. Between Mission & So. Van Ness, San Francisco. Set on a WWII Navy destroyer in the North Atlantic, the play promises to be a wild ride. Performances: Thurs-Sun, Jan 7 and runs Thurs-Sun, 8:30pm. Feb 6. Matinees Sunday the 17th & 24th at 2:30pm. \$6 & \$7.50 discount for servicemen with current ID. Low priced price: Jan 3, 4 & 5. Reservations: 443-5014. On Saturday, January 20th, there will be a special 8pm presentation of the SF Lesbian & Gay History project's *Marching to a Different Drummer*, a slide show about gays in WWII presented by Alan Berube. Tickets \$3, a portion goes to further the work of the Project.

Black Woman's Bed, a performance by Ellen Shaffer, is a powerful, moving piece that gives an audience the camera-like feeling that they are suspended over a bed, watching a woman sleep and dream. Three nights only, Jan 15-17, 8:30pm, \$5. 2150 Folsom St. SF. Reservations: 845-3190.

Four Jewish one-act plays with The Berkeley Jewish Theatre: *A Dollar by David Pinksi*, *The God of the Newby Rich Wool Merchant* by Pinksi, *The Wise Old Turk* by Der Tunkel, *Falls the Dew* by Hirshman. Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1444 Webster St., Berkeley, Sat, 8:30pm; plus Sun matinee 2:30pm. Preview Jan 7, premiere Jan 9, runs thru Feb 7. \$5. \$4.50 & children, \$4 preview. Reservations: 848-9237.

The Julian Theatre returns in January for a short re-engagement at The Julian Theatre, 453 De Haro, SF. Tues-Sun, Jan 5-10, 8pm. Absolutely the last chance to catch Jim Piddock's wonderful performance as goateepher John Michael Hayes as he departs on a national tour with this critically acclaimed show. Reservations: 647-6098.

The Julian Theatre opens its 1982 season with *A Full Length Portrait of America* by Paul D'Andrea, the 1981 winner of the Actors Theatre of Louisville Great American Play Contest — a tall tale about the saving of America from the Great Depression. Performances on 20 & 21, 8pm; opens Fri Jan 22. Thurs-Sun 8pm thru Feb 20. 453 De Haro, SF. Reservations: 647-6098.

The stars and authors of the hit show *Asparagus Valley*, Penn Jillette and Teller, have created a new magic show of bizarre proportions! *Mrs. Lonsberry's Seance of Horror* ... A Magic Show, a dark comedy, a macabre, weird & weirdly psychic spirit medium of the 20's. For chilling humor & weird frightening magical effects, many never before seen in a work of live theatre, don't miss this show. Fridays, Jan 15, 22 & 29, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College, Berkeley. \$6. Reservations: 540-2607.

A.C.T. brings a world premiere of William Hamilton's hilarious social spoof, *Happy Landings*, to the current repertory at the Geary

Theatre, 450 Geary, SF. Low-priced previews start Jan 6, show opens Jan 12. Tickets and information: 771-3880.

Savage — revolution, kidnapping and genocide in present-day Brazil, a new work by Christopher Hampton at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Low-priced previews Jan 14-17, Tues-Sun thru 2/14. Tickets and information: 845-4700, 2025 Addison, Berkeley.

That perennial favorite *The Fantasticks* opens January 22 at the Marin Community Playhouse, 27 Kensington Road, San Anselmo and runs thru Valentine's Day. \$5.50/\$4.50 srts & students. Phone 468-8555 for more info on this CAST! production.

Piano Bar uses the setting of a neighborhood bar, and the cast of characters who inhabit it, to explore the conflicts between men and women.

Written by C. Bernard Jackson, opens New Years Eve, Thurs-Sun 8pm. Sun 3pm, 5655 San Simeon St., 9th fl., Inn of the Cultural Center, Western Addition. Ctr./732 Fulton St., SF. Reservations: 563-1687.

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Eureka Theatre Company presents *Barrie Keef's A Mad World My Masters* — biting social satire on British class warfare, in a newly updated version, that rips apart aristocratic pretensions and working class complacency with a vengeance. Performances: Jan 14-16, open Jan 21, Thurs-Sun 8pm; Peoples Theatre, Bldg. B, Ft. Mason Ctr., SF thru February. Ticket info & reservations: 441-6842. Because of its popularity, it has been extended to October. Eureka Theatre is still seeking donations — contributions, offers of equipment and suggestions for a permanent home may be sent to: Eureka Theatre Company, Ft. Mason Ctr., Bldg. C, SF, CA 94123.

Actor's Art Theatre presents *Puntilla and His Hand Man*, Matti by Bertolt Brecht (his "only true comedy") based on a Finnish folk tale. It focuses on the exploit of a blind man who is friendly & compassionate — when he is drunk. \$7.50 srts & srs. Bldg. F, Ft. Mason Ctr., SF. Open Jan 13, runs Thurs-Sat 8:30pm, Sun 2pm thru Feb 7. Reservations: 441-2453.

A Fine Romance, the revue based on Jerome Kern's music, continues at Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., SF. Thurs-Sun, Reservations and Information: 552-4845.

Magic Theatre presents *Renaissance Radar* by Julia the Magician. Soon 3, it's "performing videotape" — a series of collages of contemporary California and New Italian Renaissance. Previews Wed-Sat, Jan 6-9; open Jan 13, plays Wed-Sun thru Feb 21. 8:30pm, \$8.50/\$6.50 srts & srs. Bldg. D, Ft. Mason Ctr., SF. Reservations: 441-8822.

A Trio of Fiction

by Penni Kimmel

Late in the Season

Felice Picano
Delacort Press, N.Y.: 1981. \$12.95

Picano pushes the bounds of the generic love novel further and further out (if they'd go any further, he'd be in *Crusoe*). *Late in the Season* takes stable, sensible all the way into a heterossexual relationship and leaves it there to work itself out. A deserted beach at seasons end, two neighbors, Felice and Jonathan, have come to the lonely, loveless town in London. Felice, a Locke, 18, trying out solitaire as a solution for the first time in her full, young, rich life. Picano tends to the precious in literary style, but his exploration of a problematical entanglement and its ramifications rings true. If the characters are a little out of range — just short of *Beautiful People* at times, their feelings aren't. nor is the plot — a good old fashioned predicament as unusual as separation would have us believe. The book raises somewhat more questions than it answers; in this case, that's all to the good.

Death Trick

Richard Stevenson
St. Martin's Press, N.Y.: 1981. \$10.95

The tough and caustic private eye with heart of gold is back in the generic as detective Don Strachey investigates the disappearance of a young, gay activist in Albany, N.Y. *Death*

Trick is tautly and intelligently plotted and written for the reader who likes the human and sexual moments. Unlike Hansen's *Brandstrater*, Strachey maintains only minimum distance between his personal life and the mystery he is trying to unravel. He identifies closely with the gay community and takes its enemies, within and without, as his own. High on dialogue, low on stereotypes, *Death Trick* is good reading with a challenging puzzle and a lot of interesting people you won't forget for a while. 'Til the next one.

Who Was That Masked Woman

Noretta Koerte
St. Martin's Press, N.Y.: 1981. \$6.95

Koerte's autobiographical novel is high on the best-seller lists — with good reason. It's chock full of vitamins to nourish the lazy brain with laughter, libido and the common, everyday growing-up coming-out-gone-on adventures of *Trotton*. *Gender* makes her think of her mother, a woman from the midwest schools, NY highlife, through Chicago dyke bar scenes (Pat Bondu couldn't get her somewhere along the way to the leafless groves of academe in Turkey and London. *Trotton* is an honestly self-centered, unaware womanchild, coming slowly, slowly to social and political knowledge, reaching and responding to the world in her own unique way. *Who Was That Masked Woman?* is the only one who thinks she has the mask on, the reader has even more fun, and not a few painful twinges, seeing beneath to one of the real heroines of our time: the survivor. Much of a must.

Tryouts for theatre and song

If you'd like to sing with a man's chamber choir, participate in lesbian-feminist theatre, or join a female chorus for a woman's orchestra, there may be a spot for you! This month three groups are holding auditions for a wide range of talents for their productions.

Dinner

Mannerstimmer

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Men's

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REDS

by Penni Kimmel

The invisible pages in U.S. history books are slowly being sketched back in by such as Alex Haley, John Steinbeck, Norman Mailer and Warren Beatty. *Warren Beatty's Reds*, Paramount Pictures' release, is produced, directed, written (with Trevor Griffiths) and co-starred by Beatty in a 200-minute-long complex extravaganza of America's long-buried radical labor movement. *Reds* plays like pure fiction, but it is, with an occasional unimportant aside, a well-told, if confusing, fact.

Reds focuses on the 1920s. It seems today romantic adventures of two minor figures of the time (1915-1921ish): Jack Reed (Beatty), a political journalist and activist, and Louise Bryant (Diane Keaton), a run-away dentist's wife from Portland and writer-feminist. Their work, ideals and love story are set against a thread through the bloody backdrop of the Russian Revolution and the Western world's hysterical reaction to its threat of pacifism and international cooperation among workers. Real people, all. Jack and Louise do their growing and changing rather coherently among the shifting matrices of such settings as the Greenwich Village Intelligentsia, Province town, Paris, Moscow, Berlin, where the harrased organizing meetings of the Bolsheviks (LWW) union, restructured Socialist organizations, early Red-baiting, Red-bashing Communists party development ... to World War I France across desolate Finnish steppes, inside Petrograd in the throes of revolution, with Moscow in the beginning strangling off its breath.

The casting is nearly as ambitious as the storyline (a coherent synopsis of which, considering the censorship of more than half a century, would run longer than the film, so will not be attempted here); the cast interaction is uncommonly good for the scope of the film, working in the shifting patterns of a constellation. Set in the habitual Hollywood vision of isolated, powerful political figures on a wide screen, Beatty and Keaton both manage to subdue their natural squeaky-clean good health/good looks when the script calls for it and Keaton is a special pleasure to watch sans Woody Allen mannerisms. The makers and shakers in *Reds* include Socialist editor Max Eastman (a lanky, believable Edward Hermann), Anarchist/explainer and defender of human rights, Emma Goldman (portrayed with startling veracity by Maureen

Musical Extravaganzas

Hurray for Hollywood!

A gourmet's delight of music and dance is being served at the Castro Theatre, Castro at Market, San Francisco, now through February 18th, as they continue their nine-week tribute to the great Hollywood Musicals. 75 titles spanning the period 1929-1971, with emphasis on the "Golden Age," are being shown, from familiar perennials that we never tire of savoring, to seldom seen and underrated films that will

also please the palate.

There will be a special focus on the works of Busby Berkeley, from his first musical *Whoopee*, through his elaborately staged musicals at Warner Brothers, and finally his achievements as a full-fledged director at MGM.

The menu lies below, a feast to please any lover of movie musicals. Enjoy!



Jan 1-2: *An American in Paris* — Gene Kelly & Leslie Caron in Minnelli's sumptuous celebration of the music of the Gershwin's (1951) and *Gigi* — Leslie Caron, Maurice Chevalier, lead the ideal cast for this light-headed Lerner & Loewe work.

Jan 3-4: Vincent Minnelli directs Judy Holliday as an amateur singer opposite Gene Kelly, who is involved in the life of her clients in *The Belles Are Ringing* (1960) and *The Boy Friend* — the Ann Russells' homage to Hollywood musicals, starring Sandy Duncan, Christopher Gable & Twinkie (1971).

Jan 5: *Dancing Lady* — Joan Crawford with Clark Gable, plus the screen debuts of Fred Astaire & Nelson Eddy (1933); and *Born to Dance* — Eleanor Powell's tap-dancing and Cole Porter's score distinguishing this sailor-meets-girl story (1936).

Jan 6: *The Sound of Music* — the magnificent Rodgers & Hammerstein musical (1959).

Jan 7-8: *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* — Marilyn Monroe & Jane Russell in this 1953 comedy and *The Gang's All Here* — the ultimate Busby Berkeley camp extravaganza with Carmen Miranda & Alice Faye (1943).

Jan 9: *Stormy Weather* — all-black musical revival of the 40's with Lena Horne, Fats Waller, Bill Robinson, Cab Calloway & such much more; and *Cabin in the Sky* — featuring some of the most vicious racial stereotypes of the American stage & screen, this legendary cast includes Ethel Waters, Lena Horne, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, and Rex Ingram (1943).

Jan 10-11: *Singin' in the Rain* — Gene Kelly's unsurpassed masterpiece (1952) plus *Give a Girl a Break* — an understated Stanley Donen musical with Debbie Reynolds & Bob Fosse, score by Ira Gershwin & Burton Lane (1953).

Jan 12: *Roberta* — Fred Astaire & Ginger Rogers with Irene Dunne in this show that includes some of Jerome Kern's most ravishing music (1935), and *Funny Face* — Audrey Hepburn & Fred Astaire in

this elegant Gershwin musical with the Avordon look (1957).

Jan 13: *My Fair Lady* — Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn in this classically styled Lerner & Loewe's near-mystic *Pygmalion* (1964).

Jan 14-15: *The Harvey Girls* — Judy Garland, Angela Lansbury, Cyd Charisse, cauor in the saloons of the Old West (1945), and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* — Howard Keel and Jane Powell get a backwoods work-out (1954).

Jan 16: *Top Hat* (1935) and *Swingtime* (1936) — the ultimate celebration of the Astaire/Rogers' style. There is simply nothing comparable in the history of the film musical...

Jan 17-18: *Romeo and Juliet* come alive on the streets of New York in this film version of Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story* (1961) starring Natalie Wood, George Chakiris, Richard Beymer and Rita Moreno, and *Gypsy* — Rosalind Russell's magnificent Mama Rose from the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee & Alice Faye (1943).

Jan 19: *Whoopee* — Busby Berkeley's first, starring Eddie Cantor (1930), and *Sunny Side Up* — Dick Haymes and Charles Farrell in their first sound film (1929).

Jan 20: Two by Rodgers and Hammerstein — *The King and I* — featuring the incomparable Marni Nixon and Deborah Kerr the British schoolteacher and *Carousel*, starring Gordon MacRae as the swagging carnival roustabout with Shirley Jones as his wife.

Jan 21-22: James Cagney is *Yankee Doodle Dandy* as George M. Cohan (1942); and he's joined by Janie Blodell, Dick Powell, and Ruby Keeler in Busby Berkeley's *Footlight Parade* (1933).

Jan 23: Judy Garland, Hedy Lamarr, and Lana Turner are *Ziegfeld Girls* (1941); and Eleanor Powell becomes a star with the help of Jack Benny and Robert Taylor in *Broadway Melody of 1935* (1935).

Jan 24-25: *A Star Is Born* — Judy Garland in her great comeback film co-starring James Mason (1954); and *Love Me or Leave Me* — the story of Ruth Etting as performed by Doris Day featuring James Cagney as her racketeer lover.

Jan 26: Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in their first movie *Naughty Marietta* (1935); and perhaps their most famous *Rose Marie* (1936).

Jan 27: Israel's *ac2t* Chaim Topol is Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* (1971).

Jan 28-29: *It's Always Fair Weather* — the final Kelly/Douen co-directed musical has achieved cult status for its energetic dance routines, imaginative use of Cinerama, and Andrew Previn score (1955); and *Guys and Dolls* — the story of 1950s New York as performed by Doris Day featuring James Cagney as her racketeer lover.

Jan 30: *Jeannette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in their first movie *Naughty Marietta* (1935); and perhaps their most famous *Rose Marie* (1936).*

Jan 31: *Israel's ac2t* Chaim Topol is Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* (1971).

Jan 32: *Easter Parade* — Judy Garland and Fred Astaire team up for the first time in a sumptuous Arthur Freed production featuring 17 Irving Berlin tunes (1948); and a special revival of the *Belle of New York*, a neglected Astaire MGM vehicle full of wonderful special effects (1952).

Jan 33-34: *Funny Girl* is Barbara Streisand as Fanny Brice (1968) and *A Day in the Life* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 35-36: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Bernstein's exuberant Broadway smash, *On the Town* starring Frank Sinatra, Ann Miller, Vera-Ellen and Betty Garret (1948); and *Invitation to the Dance* — Gene Kelly's attempt to synthesize various dance forms, featuring an innovative live-action with animation section.

Feb 1: *Judy Garland, Mickey Rooney, June Allyson, Nancy Walker and the Tommy Dorsey Band in *Girl Crazy* (1943); plus Busby Berkeley's directorial debut and the first of many starring vehicles for Garland and Rooney, *Babes in Arms* (1939).*

Feb 2: *Camelot* — the Arthurian legend transferred from Broadway to Hollywood (1967).

Feb 4: Fred Astaire's best MGM musical *The Bandwaggon* — Gene Kelly's last MGM musical, *Les Girls* (1957).

Feb 6: *Summer Stock* — Garland's swansong at MGM co-starring Gene Kelly and *Me and My Gal*, Kelly's first Hollywood role, also with Garland under Busby Berkeley's direction (1942).

Feb 7-8: *The Wizard of Oz* — what can you say? Just see it again and again (1939); on the same bill with *The Picture*, Garland and Kelly at the top of their form in a fantasy spoof of swashbucklers (1948).

Feb 9: *The Merry Widow* — Lubitsch and Lehár are magical and ineffable as Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in this operetta classic (1934), plus the landmark early musical fantasy, *Love Me Tonight* (1933).

Feb 10: Marion Brando and Frank Sinatra in Frank Loesser's musical *Guys and Dolls* (1955) with *Pal Joey*, also starring Sinatra with co-stars Rita Hayworth and Kim Novak (1957).

Feb 11-12: *Kid Millions* — Eddie Cantor stars with Ethel Merman (who almost steals the film), Ann Sothern, George Murphy, and an early three-strip Technicolor finale in an ice cream factory (1934); then see an older Ethel Merman wow 'em in *Call Me Madam* (1953).

Feb 13: *Cover Girl* — Rita Hayworth is beautiful and Gene Kelly realizes his potential (1944) joined by You've Got to Know Your Rights — Astaire and Hayworth sing and dance to a melodic score by Jerome Kern (1942).

Feb 14-15: *A Triple Bill* — *42nd Street* (1933); *Gold Diggers of 1933* (1933); All three films mark the peak of Warner Brother's prolific period of musicals and the genius of Busby Berkeley's choreography.

Feb 16: Be sentimental with John Barrymore when he joins Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in *Maytime*, impeccably produced with a particularly haunting Sigmar Reimann score (1937) and the sensational *Shall We Dance* — the *King and Queen* classic *Show Boat* co-starring Irene Dunne and Allan Jones with legendary appearances by Paul Robeson and Helen Morgan (1936).

Feb 17: *Funny Girl* is Barbara Streisand as Fanny Brice (1968) and *A Day in the Life* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 18-19: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 20-21: *Guys and Dolls* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 22-23: *Camelot* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 24-25: *Invitation to the Dance* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 26-27: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 28-29: *Guys and Dolls* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 30-31: *Camelot* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 32-33: *Invitation to the Dance* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 34-35: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 36-37: *Guys and Dolls* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 38-39: *Camelot* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 40-41: *Invitation to the Dance* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 42-43: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 44-45: *Guys and Dolls* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 46-47: *Camelot* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 48-49: *Invitation to the Dance* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 50-51: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 52-53: *Guys and Dolls* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 54-55: *Camelot* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 56-57: *Invitation to the Dance* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 58-59: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 60-61: *Guys and Dolls* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 62-63: *Camelot* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 64-65: *Invitation to the Dance* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 66-67: *On Your Toes* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 68-69: *Guys and Dolls* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

Jan 70-71: *Camelot* — *Can You See* for ever she co-stars with Yves Montand (1970).

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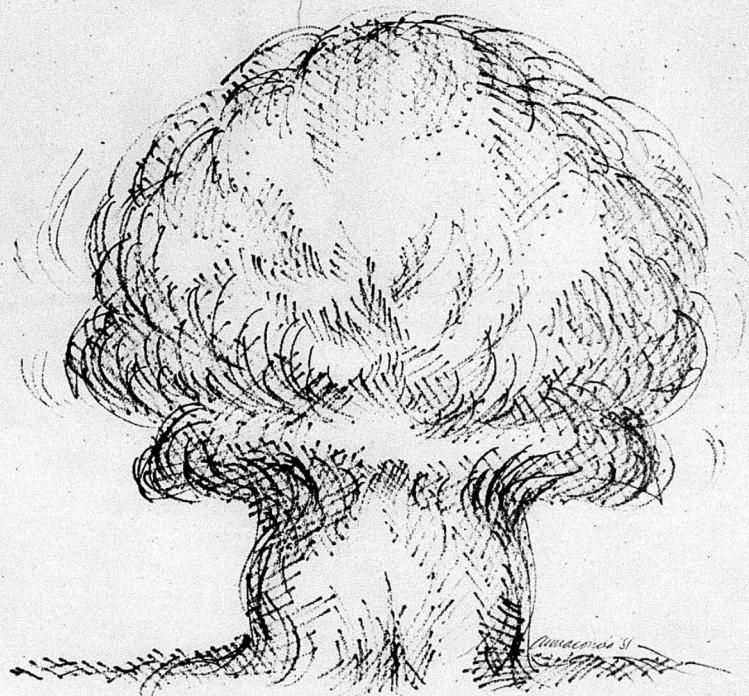
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On Hayfever In America



by Canyon Sam

This is hayfever season in America; swollen, itchy eyes; runny nose; congested nasal passages; irritability, sneezing attacks.

My particular sneezes my friend has theorized always come in twos, and when I sneeze once she waits expectantly, watches me out the sides of her eyes. "AHHH, there's another coming — they always come in twos!" before the next jolt shakes. Sneezes seize my whole body from the inside out, never mind they start as small tickles or minute irritations of the membranes, when they release they really rock out. Or, as my mother says, "You sneeze like a old man in Chinatown."

This is nuclear season in America. We don't have one main cause. There are many. The scientists, the Pentagon, the politicians. And the attacks if they strike will seize the whole earth from the inside out. Violent eruptions, swollen, itchy eyes, runny, congested noses, third degree burns, blindness, radiation sickness, leukemia, irritability, death. Don't know if they will come in twos ... (Hiroshima Nagasaki) ... anymore.

The doctor says we will all die in a nuclear war in twenty minutes. The earth, the living things, the people, the land. Twenty minutes time counted backwards and forwards is still the same. Ten plus ten, one after nineteen, ten less than thirty, one third of an hour. In twenty minutes time, the time it takes to take a long shit or a quick nap.

walk to the bank
wait for the 35 Eureka

meditate
write a paragraph
listen to one side of a favorite album
drive to your mother's house

drive to your mother's house

Twenty minutes time. We play the odds on when it will happen, experts differ: "by 1983," "by 1985," "by 1990 for sure," "By 2000," for dead certain?

An imperfect world — like a car you think is a dream until you start looking in the mirrors, and hearing strange noises and you get out and find dents and cracks of all sizes and shapes, and swatches of rust where it's been allowed to rot. So, you're riding along and riding along, the dream is no longer what it once was, but you know what it is now, an imperfect dream.

You see a reflection, you hear a voice calling, you hear many voices calling at you, shouting, crowds line "Hey, Man! Something's wrong with your car!" You pull over. Your dream car everything so groovy from the inside — padded upholstery, reclining seats, air and humidity controlled, stereophonic sound, dream cream wagon, chrome and silver polished to a gleam. "Hey girl, something's wrong with your car!" Pointing, pointing, pointing.

Hayfever is seasonal. It comes with the blooming of nature. It passes when the level of pollen in the air is at its lowest.

When will the level of war in the air drop off? The blooming of death recede? When Defense Department finish pollinating? and five-star generals get their fill?

This is hayfever season in America. And America's leading doctors say "Take Sudafed. Actated. Allerest. Contact." Put you on the drug train. Active Ingredients to make parchment out of your nasal passages, and make your brain feel like the inside of a new vacuum cleaner bag. This is nuclear season in America. And to hell with Lerners and their research. Make dried fruit out of your nasal passages.

Take Heart. It's Not Over.

Canyon Sam will be reading her poetry at the Mainstream Exiles Petition Dance & Cultural Event, Thursday, January 14. See you there!