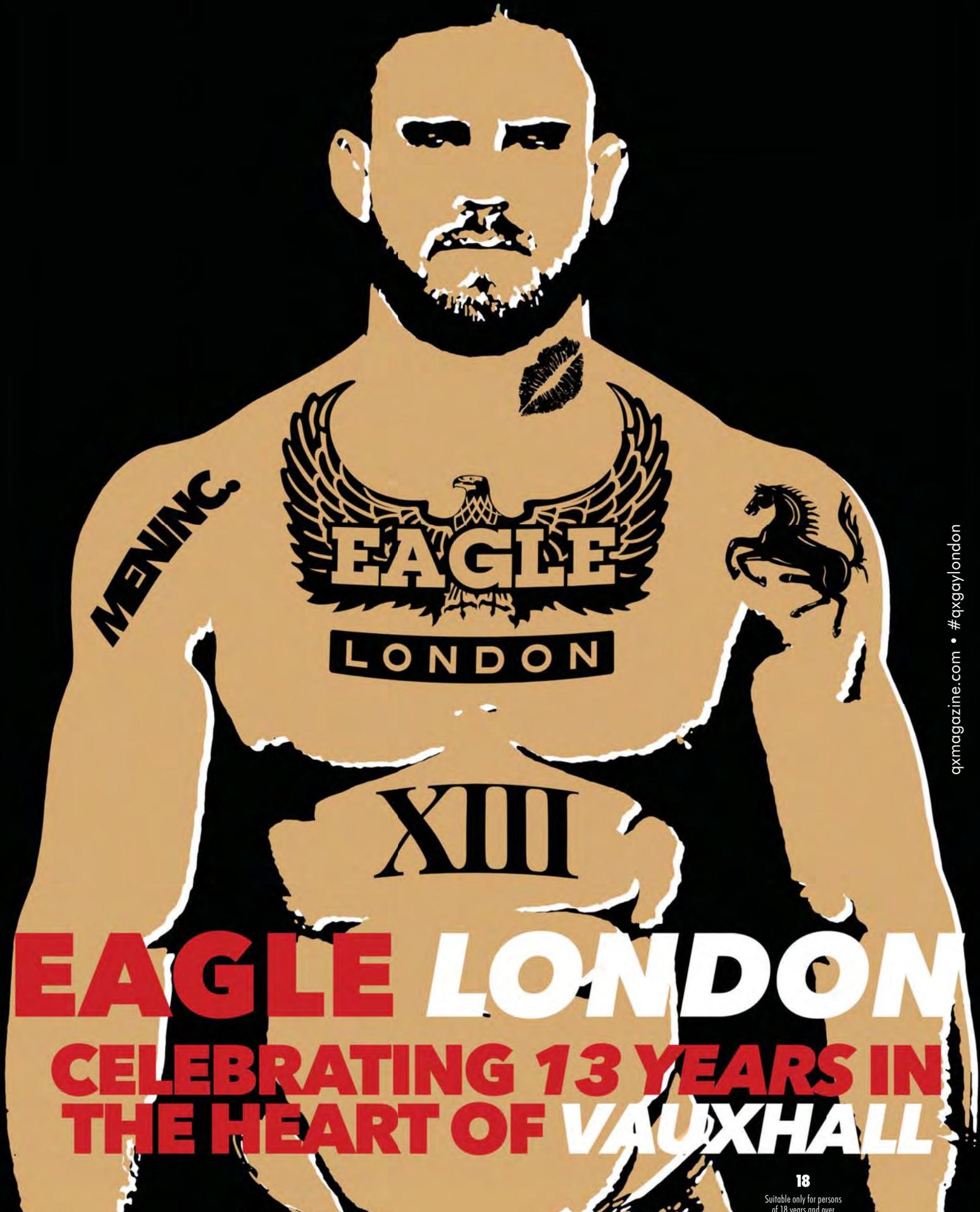


clubs • bars • cabaret • life

qx

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EAGLE LONDON

CELEBRATING 13 YEARS IN THE HEART OF VAUXHALL

18
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The Informer.



Thailand may introduce LGBTI prisons

In a move that raises several interesting and potentially problematic issues, Thailand are piloting a plan to bring in separate prisons for LGBTI people. The argument is that, while it is a form of segregation, it will cause less conflict between inmates, and ultimately make prison safer for LGBTI people. 4500 of Thailand's 300,000 prisoners identify as LGBTI, and they are allegedly in favour of this program. "There are people that discriminate against gay people," said gay prisoner Chawalit Chankiew "If I happen to sleep next to someone who hates gay people, I wouldn't know it unless they show it. What if they hurt me one day?" The program will have a trial run at a prison near Bangkok later this year.

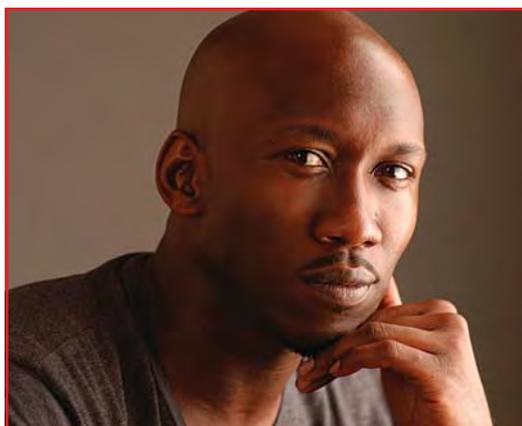
LGBTQ art festival opens at National Trust Property in Hackney

Remember when you used to trail around dusty National Trust country houses on school trips? Making bored notes about lords and ladies who died hundreds of years ago, leaving nothing in their wake but a few cracked chamberpots? Well, now, courtesy of the Trust's Pride & Prejudice program, marking the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalization of homosexuality, you can have an altogether different National Trust experience. Throughout February, they're putting on a variety of exhibitions and art experiences at the gleefully unorthodox Sutton House. This includes a photographic exhibition of Munroe Bergdorf by photographer Sarah Moore; a sound installation in the Garderobe, Hackney's oldest toilet; and 55 drawings by community group The Recycled Teenagers. The launch night is at 7:30pm on Thursday 9th February, at Sutton House, 2-4 Homerton High Street, E9 6JQ.



SEX = POWER = FREEDOM, the glamorous, NSFW coffee table book from Andrew Christian

Underwear tycoon Andrew Christian has released a gorgeously sexy, unavoidably eye-catching book of sensual portraits and salacious scenes. Stuffed with never-before-seen shots, SEX = POWER = FREEDOM is a defiant and unflinching portrait of modern gay life. It came about via an Indiegogo campaign, with 900 contributors donating over \$105,000. A silver edition of the book will be available at andrewchristian.com from early February, but we've got a special GOLD collectors' edition, signed by Andrew Christian himself. For the chance to get your hands on it, tweet us a pic of yourself in a pair of Andrew Christian underwear! SAUCY! @QXMagazine



Muslim Moonlight actor Mahershala Ali wins SAG Award

At the Screen Actors Guild Awards on Sunday, Mahershala Ali was awarded Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor for his performance in visceral, critically acclaimed gay drama Moonlight. In a moving and eloquent speech, he addressed the events that unfolded in America over the weekend, and spoke of his identity as a Muslim man: "My mother is an ordained minister. I'm a Muslim. She didn't do backflips when I called her to tell her I converted 17 yrs ago. But I tell you now, you put things to the side and I'm able to see her and she's able to see me. We love each other. The love has grown. And that stuff is minutia. It's not that important." Moonlight is out now.

EDITOR
DYLAN JONES
dylan@qxmagazine.com

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
JOE HOLYOAKE
joe@qxmagazine.com

NEW BUSINESS SALES EXECUTIVE
STEVE GREGORY
020 7240 0055
steve@qxmagazine.com

SENIOR DESIGNER
JANNE ÖIJER
janne@qxmagazine.com

DESIGNER
SUREN GUNPATH
design@qxmagazine.com

CLASSIFIEDS / ESCORTS
020 7240 0055
escorts@qxmagazine.com

DIRECTOR
CHRIS COLMAN
020 7240 0055
chris@qxmagazine.com

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COVER:XXX

**MARK AMES
PRESENTS**



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4th FEBRUARY**

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Eagle London Turns 13!



Vauxhall blokey boozier Eagle puts on some of the best parties in London, with the cruisey vibes of Men Inc. every Friday, the legendary disco sensation of Horse Meat Disco every Sunday night, and eclectic monthlies like Debbie and A Night of House meaning there's always something on to grab you by the gooch and drag you to the dance floor.

And guess what, they turn a hormone-ridden 13 next week, and rather than going all LEAVE ME ALONE GOD NO ONE UNDERSTANDS ME, they're inviting everyone in for a mega celebration! We caught up with the owner, Mark Oakley (pictured), to see how they're celebrating, plus to have a look at the past, present and future of Eagle London!

MARK OAKLEY

Hey Mark! So Eagle London is turning 13 years old next week. How are you going to be celebrating?

Hey QX! Men Inc, Eagle Saturdays and Horse Meat Disco will be putting on a party every night over our birthday weekend to celebrate our 13 years here in Vauxhall. We want to thank all our customers for their ongoing support over the years, so will be sharing the Eagle love all weekend.

How much has Eagle, and Vauxhall in general, changed since you opened? What did you have on the first night there 13 years ago?

Vauxhall has gone through considerable evolution in attraction and development to the LGBT community in recent years. Many venues have closed, but we are excited about the new vibe in the area and looking forward to the next 13 years. When myself and my business partners Ian Cullen and the late, great Paul Wilde had our first night at the venue, it was called Chunkies...large trays of roast chicken and doughnuts. Needless to say there were no doughnuts left at the end of the night! We were instantly excited and have never looked back. And then of course Horse Meat Disco arrived, to this day a Sunday night Vauxhall institution.

How have people reacted to the refurb earlier last year?

The response has been amazing. We've invested a considerable amount of money, time and love into refurbishing the venue, so we're thrilled that our customers are appreciating it. We have one of the best sound systems in London and Vauxhall's only private beer garden, creating a cool contemporary space for our customers to enjoy.

Are there any new nights or events planned for 2017?

We've launched the New Year with 'Debbie' once a month on the first Saturdays. The last party was rammed and we're really looking forward to Debbie doing Eagle again this Saturday 4th February. Our 'Night Of House' monthlies are going from strength to strength, and we've some great guests lined up. We're also pleased to announce that on the 18th February we're launching ATHENA, a new monthly fun-packed 80s night of pop, disco and hi-nrg from our friends at Pop Horror. So loads to look forward to!

What do you think the next 13 years have in store?

It's our ambition to continue setting trends, and to continue to be a beacon of light and hope on the LGBT map of London. We hope the current turmoil around the world settles and that people can learn to live together in peace.

Have you been to all the other Eagles worldwide?

I've visited most and have formed partnerships with both Amsterdam and Sao Pãulo, who also host our Men Inc. party every Friday night. I've probably been to most, and have close relationships with NYC, LA and Houston. We also regularly welcome international visitors to Eagle London from around the world.

How does it feel to be a teenager?

Now we've entered our terrible teens, we're looking forward to never growing up and experimenting with a new eye shadow every day.

Thanks for speaking with us!

You're welcome!

Men Inc. is on Friday 3rd February, 9pm-4am, £5 After 10pm

Debbie is on Saturday 4th February, 9pm-4am, £6

Horse Meat Disco is on Sunday 5th February, 8pm-3am, £6 Before 10pm, £8 After

Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, SE11 5QY.



9-Late

Debbie

Saturday
4 February



**TILL 10PM EVERY NIGHT
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MUSLIMBAN

London scene figures from Muslim backgrounds tell us why we must stand together against persecution

Last weekend, in a terrifying and discriminatory move against liberalism, multiculturalism, and general 21st century morals, Donald Trump introduced what has been dubbed the #MUSLIMBAN by news outlets and social media networks.

Any citizens from the Muslim majority countries of Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Libya, Somalia and Somalia have been barred from entering the US for ninety days. Dual nationals are included in this ban.

Muslims with legally obtained Green Cards, and full rights residencies in the US, were detained at airports across the country over the weekend, with some being held in handcuffs

for almost 24 hours. This was 100% illegal, and exhibited fascist prejudice in its most extreme form.

Since then, a petition against Trump visiting the UK has reached over a million signatures, and a protest attended by tens of thousands including Shappi Khorsandi, Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, was held outside 10 Downing Street.

As London and the world react to the potentially generation-defining actions of the world's most dangerous new power, we hear from scene figures of Muslim and Middle-Eastern backgrounds, to get their take on this jaw-dropping sequence of events.



GLAMROU Performer and Writer

What does Donald Trump's Muslim Ban represent?

So many barbaric ideologies, but what I hate is the hierarchy it sets up where the West is seen as the "progressive" alternative to the regressive Middle-East, the so called "home of extremism". It's pure hypocrisy, as the Muslim Ban is extremism at its purest. It clouds the reality that Arabs and Muslims are also progressive too – in fact, the ones I know are the most forward thinking people there are. I think we culturally need to start celebrating Arab and Muslim people in the West who do progressive work (Desiree Akhavan, Aziz Ansari, Zaha Hadid, Dr Michael DeBakey, Asghar Farhadi), and start representing them properly in film and TV to dissuade from all the reductive assumptions that have allowed Islamophobia to grow.

What did being raised Muslim mean to you?

I'd be lying if I said that it hasn't brought me some pain, because growing up gay and gender-queer in a conservative Muslim climate was not easy. However, the Muslim household I grew up in was full of love, generosity, patience and kindness, and in terms of the behaviour from my Muslim family, everything they do is from love, not from hate (which cannot be

said for the behaviour of white supremacists). The idea of Muslims being seen as extremists devastates me, when Muslims are some of the most docile people I know.

Have you ever experienced persecution?

Besides the daily emotional labour of being Arab and Queer – yes. As a Middle-Eastern performer in the UK, I've been called in to audition for over 20 terrorists, which has done very damaging things to my self worth. Also, I was detained at the age of 13 in an American airport for suspected links to terrorism for four hours. It was one of the most humiliating ordeals of my life, and following it, I remember feeling ashamed to be Arab for a long time.

Why is it important for us to stand up and fight against this?

2016 can be summed up by isolationism and in-fighting. The Left attacked itself, queer communities became too self-critical, and the political vacuum has allowed Fascism to spread like a virus. Now is a time for us to show that an issue affecting one human affects us all, and collective action must be taken. No more separatism.



Amir Ashour Activist, Founder of iraqueer.org

Have you or anyone you know been affected by Trump's ban? What impact has this had?

Both me and many others I know have been directly impacted by this decision. Running IraQueer means all the international advocacy efforts are done in New York by talking to governments and UN agencies. Limiting our access to the international community will be a major blow to our work in leading the queer movement in Iraq, especially because any idea of leading advocacy efforts inside Iraq are next to impossible. In addition to that, the US has been one of the major world powers that advocates for human rights of LGBT+ individuals and played crucial roles in many countries including Iraq, which means the global queer movement will be facing some set backs

should these measures continue being enforced. I also know many students and human rights activists who are not able to go to school and attend conference and trainings that are crucial for their work.

Since Brexit and Trump came into power, have you experienced any persecution or prejudice?

I have not faced any difficulties because of Brexit. Maybe mainly because it's still not fully enforced. But the current Muslim ban is a clear discrimination against us. Even though I personally don't identify as Muslim, me and everyone who has Iraqi heritage are now labeled as a source of terrorism which is not only unacceptable, but also hypocritical since most of the terrorism in Iraq has started because of the efforts of US/UK leaders who wanted to

"liberated" Iraq while I personally have spent my entire adult life fighting for human rights for all kinds of groups. Who's the terrorist here?

What can we do to challenge Trump and the Muslim ban?

We have to organise, resist, and fight back. I have so much anger and disappointment right now, and that will be my drive as long as those legalized terrorists are in power. I will love Americans more, I will love Muslims more, I will fight and stand up for refugees, I will be extreme in my dedication for human rights. We must all come together. We all need to leave our small differences aside and work together. Trump and similar extremists are not only a threat towards a certain group. They will come for more groups, and we must stop them in the beginning before they gain more power. ▶

The Nightbus Performer

Photo: Victor Hensel-Coe

What does Donald Trump's Muslim Ban represent?

I think that's the point really – it doesn't represent anyone or any train of thought because nobody will freely admit the prejudice they carry towards the unknown. We're all too familiar with the 'I'm not racist but...' brigade, and here is an example of that being complicit in the banning of entire populations in the name of safety. From an external perspective, it conjurs exactly what you'd expect – intolerance, racist points of view, hatred, bigotry and so forth. The tenets of leftist action. Am I shocked? No. Brown people have been persecuted for the same reasons in my lifetime from that fateful day in September 2001, Muslim or not. This is just another string to the bow of oppression. Only difference is that the perpetrator pissed off some white people too.

What does being Muslim mean to you?

I am Muslim for a number of reasons, one of which is the political and social impact of being. It came with reluctance, as I had never really connected with my faith in the way expected of most boys raised as such, and I was happy to wholly reject it and take up my role as a coconut (brown on the outside, white on the inside) in the West. But the past year or so has taught me how important it is to be visible and heard, as a queer person and also as a Muslim. Other Muslims will obviously tell me I'm a non-believer because my actions and lifestyle sits so opposing to their interpretation of their faith, but I'm happy to bear the brunt of such questioning when ultimately through being visible, the future may not look so dim for others.

Have you ever experienced persecution?

Fuck no. My life is cushy and sheltered. I choose to be visible and vocal but I could just sit back and do nothing about it too. The real victims are those who have no voice or platform, or are forced to scream to be noticed because of

the system which controls them. I can't ever imagine living through that and even in light of Trump and Brexit, I still never will because it will never get that bad.

Why is it important for us to stand up and fight against this?

I honestly don't know. Outside of the London microcosm, people deal with these news stories by escaping to Walford and Weatherfield. The vast majority of people don't want to engage with resistance and protest since activism is demonised by the media and seen as pitiful and anarchic. I think EVERYONE should be involved, particularly this magazine's readership, because you are next. It's not a threat. It's a promise. You will be ostracised and othered and stripped of your rights until the world is homogenous and we all comply. As for how you get involved, you don't need a picket or a megaphone; it can be as simple as writing an email to your MP to raise concerns for the State visit, or donating to international advocacy groups providing legal support in the 7 affected countries. Every single thing, no matter how small or how insignificant a step it appears, will make a difference. And for those of you unconcerned because of the string of homophobic attacks carried out in East London by Muslims in the past few years, I give you this: Homophobia is a western concept. It was devised through Abrahamic scripture, sure, but the message was spread through colonialism as an addendum to whitewashing of entire countries and people (along with knives and forks and all that good old British stuff). Therefore, the perceived homophobia in pockets of Muslim communities descends from the very same fathers of the society you feel so at home in. I implore you to look beyond the 'us vs them' rhetoric, engage with a better understanding of what true oppression and marginalisation is, and see where and how you can help.



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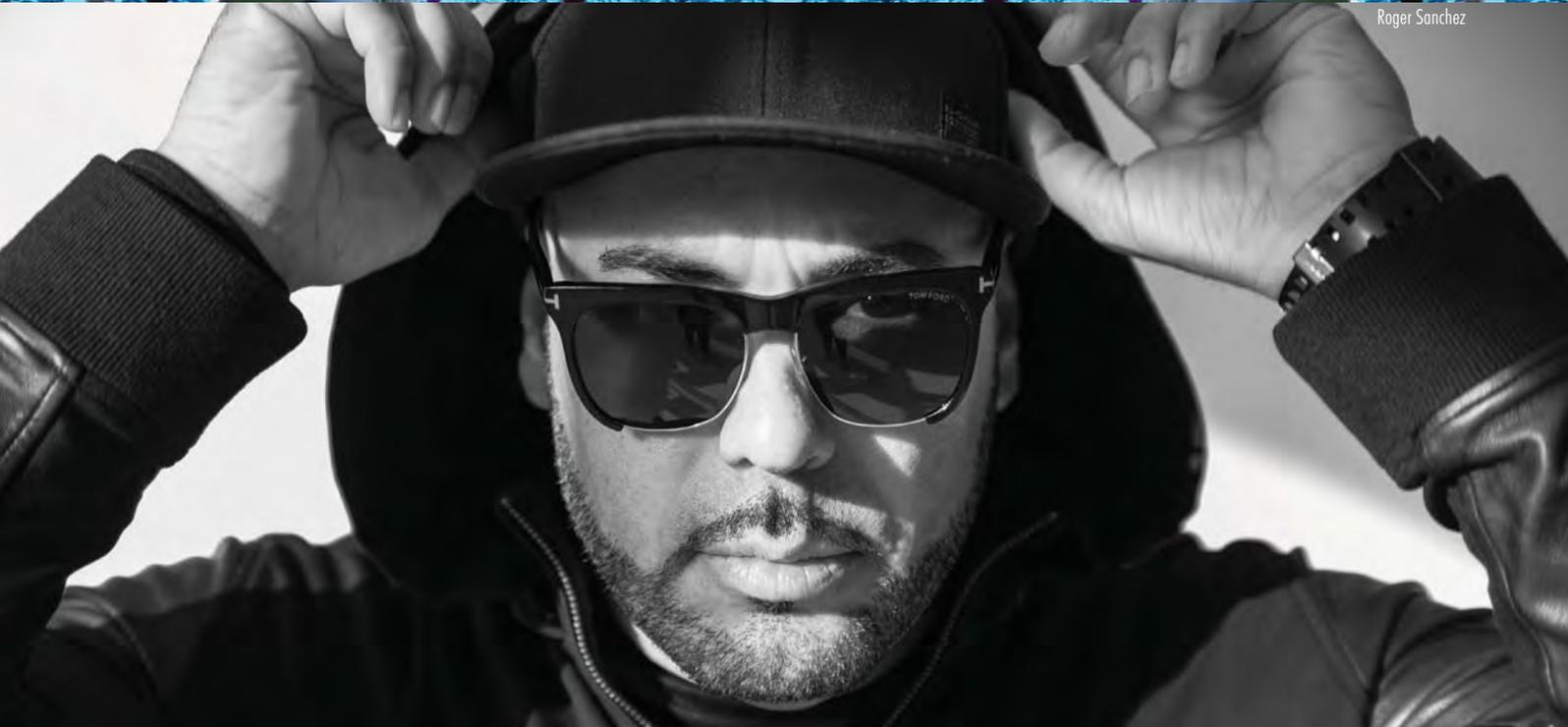
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*Percentage change between 2011-2015 in new STI diagnoses in men who have sex with men (MSM) diagnosed in GUM clinics; London residents. Source: Public Health England.



Roger Sanchez



Clubbing leviathans Beyond have got loads planned for this February! The sedate, depressing, grey month of January is finally over, and it's time to dive back into your social lives with GUSTO and ABANDON! Both very good words aren't they, especially GUSTO. Anyway, what better way to have a hedonism renaissance, than with big glowstick-touting partystarters, Beyond!

Kick things off with BEYOND – THE TRIP, this Sunday morning at 4am. Yeah, Sunday MORNING. Well we said it would be debauched! They're kitting out Vauxhall venue Fire in the finest psychedelic, kaleidoscopic glissade of colour and light, to give you the trip of your lives! And we're not talking about a trip to the zoo, or a trip over a curb. We're talking about a TRIP trip. Undulating colours, ululating shapes, ribcage-shaking beats, the works! They've also guest special guest DJ Roger Sanchez, alongside Beyond staple Gonzalo.

Then the week after on Saturday 11th February, it's Matinée: The Game! Fresh from the shell-strewn shores of Ibiza, Matinée is always a frenetic fiesta of fun and this month will be NO DIFFERENT. As the name suggests, this is a gamer-themed edition, so put on your best Mario braces or, if you fancy it, your prettiest Princess Peach dress! This one's got DJ turns from Matinée superstar Phil Romano, as well as Steve Pitron, Zach Burns, Michel Mizrahi and more.

Then the next day it's back to business as usual with a premier league pedigree edition of the classic club night where it all started, simply BEYOND – an unapologetic Sunday morning party with hot shirtless boys. And that's what it's all about isn't it!

BEYOND



**Beyond The Trip is on Sunday 5th February,
4am – midday.
Fire, South Lambeth Road, SW8 1RT.**

**Matinée The Game is on Saturday 11th February,
11pm – 6am.
Fire, South Lambeth Road, SW8 1RT.**

Tickets available at orangenation.co.uk



SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY
4AM - SUPER-LATE AT FIRE

BEYOND

The Trip

AT  fire

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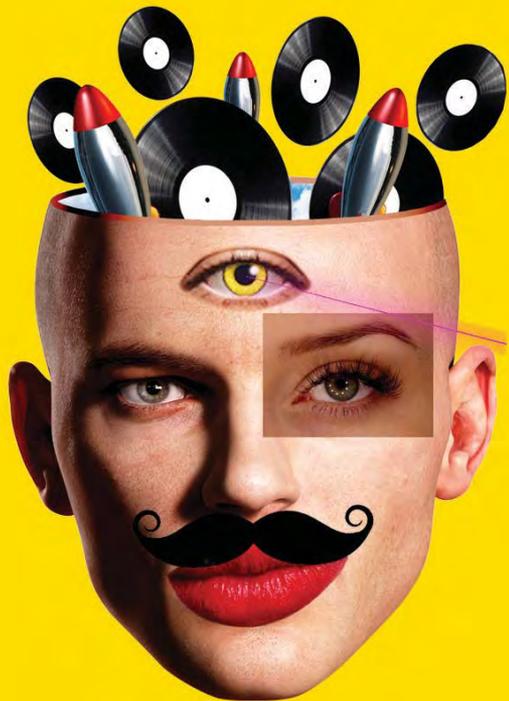
BLOCHHEADS

Friday 3rd February

Blocheads

It may not look much from the outside (unless you especially like Turkish supermarkets, which we actually kinda do), but down the stairs is a sexy, sweaty mess of a disco basement. **Blocheads** is the resident Friday night, where you can dance and flirt and swish until the Saturday morning. **Stevie B**, **Guy Williams**, and **Hifi Sean** spin the best in house, disco and techno. And by the way, Hifi Sean's latest single is being played regularly on BBC Radio 2. We love the idea of an old biddy quite enjoying it when it comes on the radio as she drives to Morrison's and then deciding to pop down to East Bloc to sample a bit more. It may happen.

East Bloc, 217 City Road, EC1V 1JN, 11pm-6am, £5 Before 1am, £10 After.



La.Ga.Sta

Friday 3rd February

La.Ga.Sta presents Jacques Renault

Pump no.4 please! La.Ga.Sta, or Last Gas Station, is a music blog at the forefront of new music; she knows what she likes and you should have a listen. They have a monthly night at hub of creative decadence Dalston Superstore, where they get to show off this eclectic taste. They're back this Friday night, with a bevy of DJs, including **Jacques Renault** of Let's Play House, all the way from Brooklyn (which is pretty much New York's Dalston, right?), as well as more familiar faces **Wes Baggaley**, **Jeffrey Hinton**, **Daniel T**, **Dreadful** and **Vangelis**.

Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB, 9pm-3am, Free Before 11pm, £7 After.

Debbie

Saturday 4th February

Debbie Does Eagle

Debbie's packed up her removal van, bid farewell to Dalston and found herself a new home at Eagle every first Saturday of the month! It's a thrillingly simple premise; DJs **Sina Sparrow** and **Xander Bernhard** will play only female-fronted pop, rock and disco, from Hole to Little Mix, and 50% of ABBA. Just the AA bit. Debbie brings all the indie queeros to the yard, you know the sort, all moustaches, tight-fitting band T-shirts and flailing arms. It's always a scream and the music's dead on point.

Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, SE11 5QY, 9pm-4am.





Saturday 4th February

XXL Bears

Every Saturday, XXL is always brimming with the most ursine of men, but this week, it's going to even bearier somehow. Don't ask us how. It's not our place to know. Actually, it is really. Well, there's going to be more barrelling chests, beards and jockstraps than you can shake a stick at. And by stick, we obviously mean dick. Team that with the labyrinth of cavernous dance floors, filled with the biggest, bolshiest beats, and, well, you've got an ideal Saturday night on your hands. It's bear hunt time and we're going to catch a big one.

Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, South Bank, SE1 9UF, 10pm-7am, £10 Members, £15 Guests.



Mariah & Friendz

Saturday 4th February

Mariah & Friendz: Heartbreaker

We're getting ever closer to Valentine's Day, but don't worry if you're a mascara-smeared, unlovable minion-meme sharer, Mariah and Friendz have your back! They're putting on another one of their parties at the achingly retro Bethnal Green Working Men's Club and it's an anti-love shindig. A whole host of performers, including **Baby Lane**, **Miss Cairo**, and **Cybil War**, will be paying tribute to the Queen of minimalism and discreet tastefulness herself, Mariah Carey, plus **Bitchcakes** will spin the evening out with some tear-drenched ballads, before you leave all alone to go home and a weep over some cheerios.

Bethnal Green Working Men's Club, 42-46 Pollard Row, Bethnal Green, E2 6NB, 9pm-2am, £9 adv, £10 OTD.



Saturday 4th February

Pink Lemonade

Well, what's this? Only a spanking brand new clubbing cocktail being shaken and strained up Dalston way. For their launch, they've invited a stellar gang of DJs serving you up some refreshing musical variety. Spice of life, innit! You've got WUT? Club's **Attack Attack Attack**, scene stalwart **Terry Vietheer**, and one of the popstars behind Daddy Issues, **Dom Top**, all pouring you their distinct style. Quench your thirst at Tippy this Saturday.

Pink Lemonade is on Saturday 4th February at Tippy, 20 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XN, 10pm-3am.



Attack Attack Attack



R & She

Saturday 4th February

R&She Aaliyah Special

The three horsemen of R&She ride triumphantly back into East Bloc this Saturday and they're bringing accomplices. Joining **QBoy, Neil Prince & David Oh** and their impeccable taste in R&B Queenz, are **Frau DJs**, an all female DJ collective who know their fair share about making you bounce. This time round it's an Aaliyah special, so they'll be whacking on the crazy amount of bangers she managed to pack into her tragically short life. Age ain't nothing but a number (though you probably will need ID to get in).

East Bloc, 217 City Road, EC1V 1JN, 11pm-6am, £5 Before midnight, £8 After.

GAY GARAGE #4

Saturday 4th February

Gay Garage #4 with J-Cush

Garage music had a bit of a resurgence in 2016, shaking off the 'NO TRAINERS' and Babycakes image, even Craig David being granted an urban elder statesman role. So what better time for a gay garage event? UKGay are back for the fourth instalment of their popular Gay Garage nights, with **J-Cush** of Rinse FM leading the proceedings, joined by **Screens of Pleasure** and **Twice Shy**. You rarely hear garage on the gay scene, so don't miss this opportunity.

512 London at 512 Kingsland High Road, E8 4AE, 10pm-4am, £5 OTD, Ladies Free Till Midnight.



J-Cush

DUCKIE

Saturday 4th February

Duckie

Hey up Duckie! It's the long-running cabaret and clubbing night run by oddballs, for oddballs! They turned 21 in December, which means that there are revellers getting in who are YOUNGER than the actual night, which is... just... madness. When it started, there was a Conservative Government in power on these shores, a sex pest in the White House, and a trailer out for a new film called *Trainspotting*. SO MUCH HAS CHANGED. This week, **Lorraine Bowen** gets on her kazoo for some light entertainment and **The Reader's Wives** will be spinning some classics to see out the night.

Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11, 9pm-2am, £6



Lorraine Bowen



Saturday 4th February

Lady Olé presents Barbie Girl

You can brush my hair, undress me anywhere! But enough about our new uber-hot hairdresser (Hey Rodrigo!), we're here to talk about Lady Olé's latest night. Lady Olé are resisting the current trend of shunning the continent, by reaching out and revelling in British and Spanish kitsch culture. Anything tacky, camp, throwaway, fabulous, they love it. And who comes to mind when you think of that, only iconque polymath, Barbie. They want you to get dolled up for this night and who knows, you might meet your own smooth-croched hunk and live in a plastic palace forever. Queer cabaret legends **The Lipsinkers** will be doing a typically outrageous turn on stage. Come on Barbie, let's go party!

Nightclub Kolis, 1 Archway Close, Archway, N19 3TD, 11pm-4am.

BEYOND

Sunday 5th February

Beyond: The Trip

In the latest series of their sitcom, Steve Coogan and Rob Brydon head to the Vauxhall superclub to swap bon mots and impressions over some vodka red bulls. Nah, not really. Beyond are going super-psychedelic after-hours this week, dressing up Fire into a trippy extravaganza experience. Find yourself, and a man on the dance floor. They've got superstar DJ **Roger Sanchez**, who's a bit of a big deal. He's got a Wikipedia page and an actual Grammy award. As well as that, there's **D'Johnny** and **Miswhite** giving you hi-octane, hi-NRG, hi-top house and techno. Psychedelic man.

Fire, 39 Parry Street, SW8 1RT, 4am-12am, £11 adv.





WE Fake
28/01/17
The Coronet, 28 New Kent Road,
SE1 6TJ.

Words by Chris Jepson
Photos by LondonClubland.com

Whether it's all that sun, sangria or just downright sexiness we can't decide, but those cheeky Spaniards really know how to throw a party, and any time the WE Party crew deplanes in London is a cause for celebration. Last Saturday was just such an occasion as the full-on production and star of the sold-out Madrid New Year Festival WE FAKE did a Patsy and Edina and fell out of a cab at the Coronet in Elephant and Castle covered in more labels than an Arab princess at the Harrods sale. The stage set, a fabulous 'look-at-me' runway in the sky, was constructed of seriously the biggest LED screens we have ever seen with fantastic WE parody visuals of Versace, Gucci, Givenchy and Chanel, and was the playground of no less than 12 of the hottest, primed, preened and blinged up dancers on the planet. Main room anthems came from MisWhite, Steve Pitron and WE superstar Sr Edu, and the capacity crowd of A-grade, gym-card-carrying, top totty partied beneath a light and laser show like no other while CO2 cannons, pyros and confetti canons blasted them from all sides. WE-fucking-tastic.

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 HOW TO
 THROW A
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XXL Construction
28/01/17
Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, SE1 9UF

Photos by Joel Ryder

There's something sexy about a construction site isn't there. Maybe it's all that dust and all that drilling. Lots of iconic music videos have been filmed on construction sites. Work by Ciara, where she swings that plait around on a digger. Work From Home by Fifth Harmony, where they skip around and swing hammers and things. And this weekend it was WORK at XXL, where hundreds of dancing burly men and big butch bears were working HARD for their Saturday nights, putting in 200%. The hi-viz jackets were out in force, as were the good vibes, epic beats and sexy sensibilities. XXL's done it again!

**"HI-VIZ
 JACKETS
 WERE OUT
 IN FORCE,
 AS WERE
 THE GOOD
 VIBES"**





with friends this February



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Beyond: The WE Fake Afterparty
29/01/17
Fire, 6A South Lambeth Road,
SW8 1SP

Words by Chris Jepson
Photos by LondonClubland.com

No WE-ekend would be complete without a trip down to Beyond, and we completed our ON holy trinity by jumping in an Uber and heading to Fire, to the longest running afterhours in the capital. Beyond is at its best after a big circuit party, and judging from the packed main room, every A-gay had descended on Vauxhall for one last dance. Maestro Gonzalo delivered aural heaven to make the heart sing before handing over to Tony English for the most brilliant and uplifting set we have heard in ages. A performance from the gorgeous Abigail Bailey set the room alight and as always Ashley Swift styled the pec-perfect dancers to within an inch of their LED lives, while over in room 2 the Beyond Lab was rammed ad Dan Gereux, Sam Londt and Louis Chatten delivered cutting edge and underground beats to inspire. The Beyond family of Martin, Mikele et al ALWAYS deliver and we love them for it.



"EVERY A-GAY HAD DESCENDED ON VAUXHALL"





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TROUGH

TROUGH
28/01/17
The Vaults, Waterloo,
Leake Street, SE1 7NN

Words & Photos by Victor Hensel-Coe

Have you ever been to Berghain? Because if you have, you may have had more than a few flashbacks to it if you went to Trough on Saturday night. If you've ever been to Leake Street, London's longest graffiti tunnel, you'd have found Vaults, a series of arty austere arches which housed this balloon-stuffed night. Thrashing hard house and seething techno felt like the sonic recreation of the apocalypse, and saw numerous rounds of applause and people going mental on the dance floor throughout the evening. The most inconceivably hot men you met in your dreams were there, along with some twerking twinks and even a few raver girls to dance, snog and eventually destroy the massive balloon wall. All-in-all, an astounding first night for Sydney soirée which is bound to become a London Legend.



**"AN
ASTOUNDING
FIRST NIGHT"**



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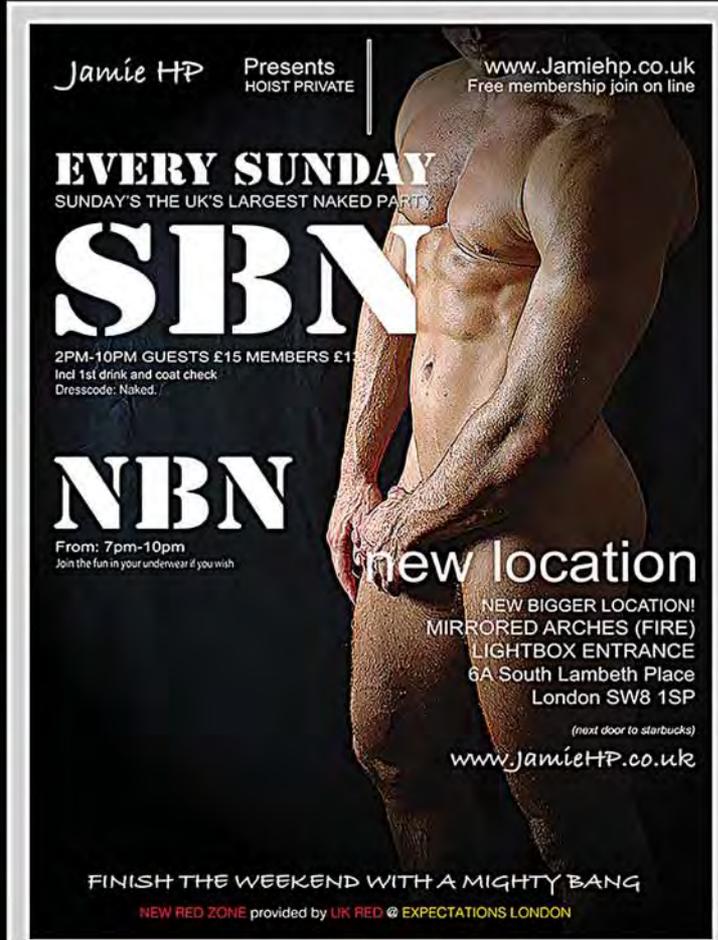
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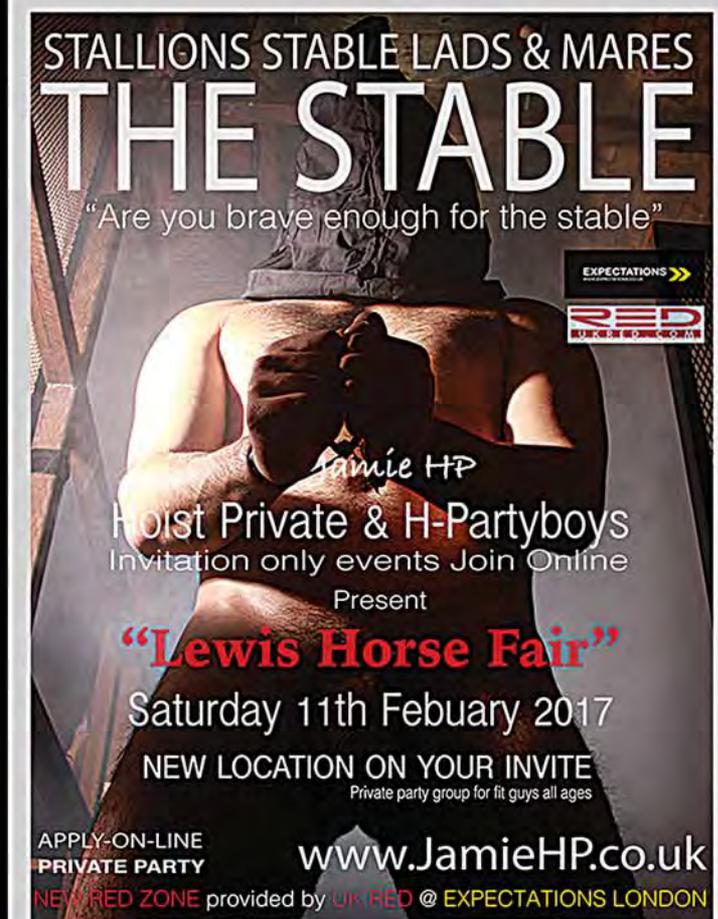
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HORSE MEAT DISCO

Horse Meat Disco
29/01/17
Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, SE11 5QY

Words & Photos
by Richard Holland

If it's Sunday night in Vauxhall, it can only mean one thing - Horse Meat Disco at Eagle. After a hard week's work, and an even harder weekend partying, what better way to wind down then strutting your stuff among the gorgeous guys gyrating around Eagle's dance floor. For the Chinese New Year event the sounds were ably provided by DJs Jim Stanton and Severino. We had great fun partying the night away, but with proceedings in full swing until 3am, we hope no-one had to be up early for work on Monday morning!



"SUNDAY NIGHT IN VAUXHALL CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING"



DISCOSÓDOMA

ANDY BLAKE

STATHIS

A MAN TO PET

DIET CLINIC

GIDEON

MARIA POLITI

TWANG



SAT 11.02.2017

DALSTON

9PM-5AM

SUPERSTORE

DOUCHEBAG

Douchebag
20/01/17
Dalston Superstore, 117
Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB

Words by Nicolas Chinardet
Photos by Zefrografica

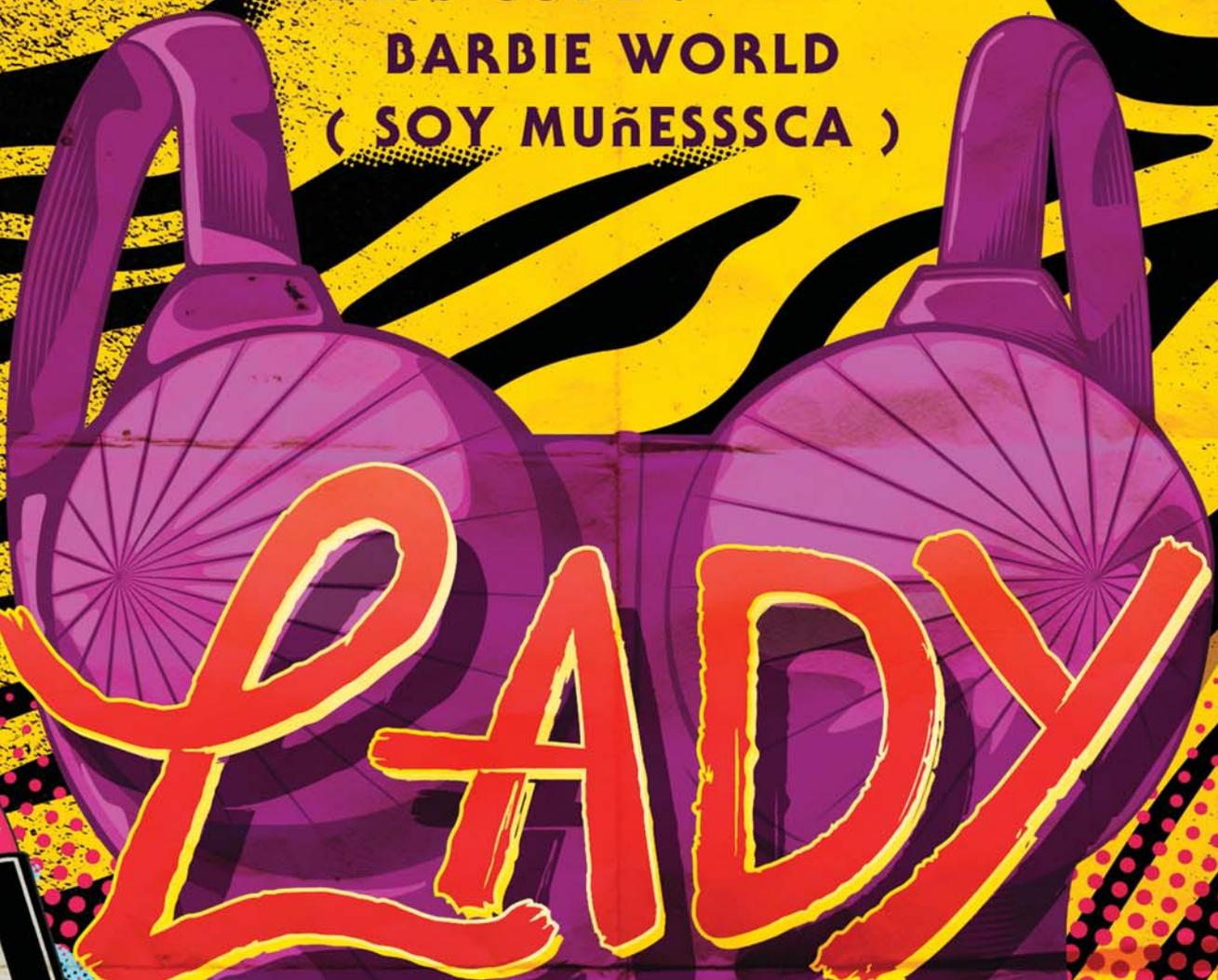
Gyrating high up above the crowd at the end of Dalston Superstore's bar, the lean gogo dancer slowly brought his arms down to his midriff, brushing the dirty blond fuzz on his chest along the way. The turquoise nail polish at the tips of his fingers clashed beautifully against the black of his tight black briefs. He slowly and ostensibly readjusted his package while gazing at the groups of friends and the couples (gay and straight) dancing below him or jostling for a drink. Some of them were looking at him, thirsty. The adulation, such as it was, felt good, although he'd rather be standing in a corner snogging that cute boy over there, with the mop of black hair and the tats. Thankfully the music was good. He gave Ruby Waters a glance. Her bright orange wig was almost completely hiding her garishly painted face as she yelled into the ear of fellow DJ Mikey XCX, while Missy's voice invaded the space. Downstairs, in the smoky darkness of the Lazerpit, the gogo knew, Laurence Del Rey was at the decks, bringing his audience to rhythmic completion in celebration of the launch of Ronika's latest album. Another successful edition of Douchebag, for sure. He sighed, threw his arms up, wriggled his hips and gave another twirl.



"ANOTHER
SUCCESSFUL
EDITION OF
DOUCHEBAG"



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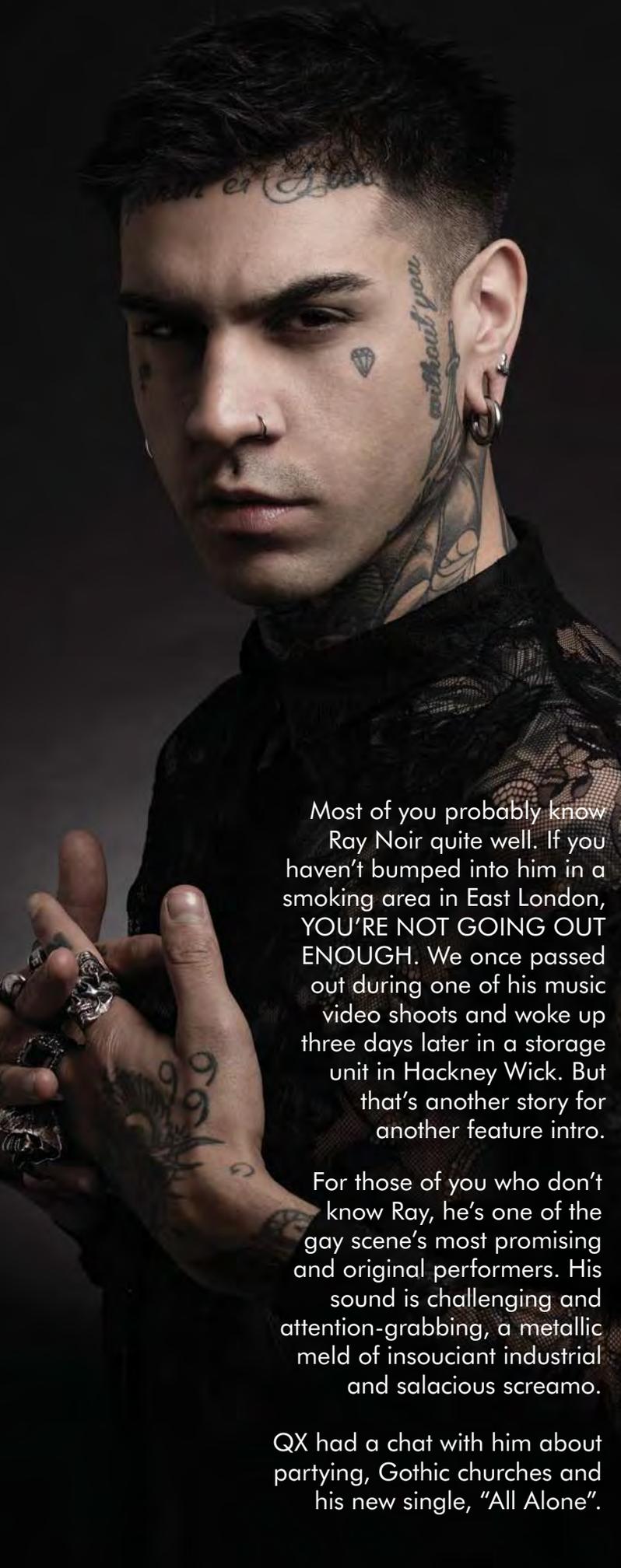
FEBRUARY
11pm-4am

RAY NOIR

We catch up with the Norwegian prince of darkness

Words by Dylan Jones

Photos by Simon Martner



Most of you probably know Ray Noir quite well. If you haven't bumped into him in a smoking area in East London, **YOU'RE NOT GOING OUT ENOUGH.** We once passed out during one of his music video shoots and woke up three days later in a storage unit in Hackney Wick. But that's another story for another feature intro.

For those of you who don't know Ray, he's one of the gay scene's most promising and original performers. His sound is challenging and attention-grabbing, a metallic meld of insouciant industrial and salacious screamo.

QX had a chat with him about partying, Gothic churches and his new single, "All Alone".

Hey Ray! So get us up to speed...what did you get up to last year?

I tried to party a little less and make some more music. I had a few gigs in Madrid, Tokyo, London and at Oslo Pride in front of 5000 people which was awesome. Other than that I haven't been doing much. I wanna go on a beach holiday without sun soon though, I feel I got to tanned this year.

What did you do for Christmas? Do you celebrate Christmas?

I don't believe in fairytales, so no I didn't celebrate Christmas. I just worked and planned my gig for Torture Garden I did for the Not the NYE ball.

Have there been any new musical acts recently who have inspired you?

I've been listening to shitloads of the latest Bring Me The Horizon record 'That's The Spirit!' It's such a great record. The latest Mortiis album 'The Great Deceiver' and Samantha Togni's single 'Queen Nemesis' is amazing! Super proud of her, you should all check her out!

We've had a lot of dance and pop in mainstream music over the last few years. Do you think rock and industrial are due a comeback?

I hope so, we need some more edge in the mainstream music again. Everything sounds the same these days, especially in the chart music. Don't get me wrong though, I do like a good pop song now and then.

What do you think of the London gay scene? Is it dying like everyone says?

I don't think it's dying, I think it's more vibrant than ever! It's just evolving like everything else, I guess it get's more mixed as well, like you have all these parties at The Egg now like Berlin Berlin where there's a tons of amazing gay people, but also straight people. I've always preferred to go to mixed parties anyway.

What's your fave place to go out?

I don't think I have a favourite at

the moment! I like a good house party and I have a weak spot for afterparties, haha

If money was no object and you could live ANYWHERE, in ANY kind of house, what would it be?

A big black Gothic church in Transylvania maybe?

When was your worst ever hangover?

Every time I only drink and don't do drugs!

You're from Norway.

What do you think makes Scandinavians so good at making music?

I think for Norway the biggest music export is Black Metal and dark electronic music. I think it has to do with the lack of day light half of the year and there aren't many people living there, so then you sit at home getting creative.

Sweden is really good at pop music though, dunno why? Haha

Tell us about your music!

What's going on with it?

You've got a new track out right?

I've got a new single out in February which is called 'All Alone' feat. Mariann Rosa. It's a bit different from my first single 'Double Trouble' a bit more moody but still with a dark dancy beat. I took some inspiration from Depeche Mode, The Sisters of Mercy and Peaches. I love catchy melodies! I feel like the chorus in this track is gonna stick in your head. I'm really happy to have Mariann Rosa singing on the track, as i've been a long time fan of her and her music. We also did a music video for 'All Alone' with support from fans through a kickstarter campaign I did. I actually tattooed some fans name on my body for their contribution to fund the video. I'm really happy with it and it's of course Directed by my favourite Cassandra Powell.

And what have you got in store for the future?

I'm working on new music.

I've just been in Studio with Frankmusik again. The song is called 'Bigger Than Life' And hopefully I will have an EP ready by the end of the year.

All Alone featuring Mariann Rosa is out on 3rd February

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Lady Bunny in Trans-Jester!

Lady Bunny is one of those few people where the word "legend" is actually pertinent. She was at the forefront of the in-your-face and revolutionary New York drag scene in the 80s, and ever since then she's been going strong with her brash, confrontational brand of humour.

Now she's coming to London's Soho Theatre to address the concept of gender. It's a much discussed, much lauded subject, and has possibly been one the most debated themes in queer culture over the last couple of years. With the transgender movement, and the introduction of the concept of being "genderqueer" many of us have massively changed the way we perceive gender.

But the dialogue has had its downfalls. Many have felt afraid to speak out on what they genuinely believe, or been confused about these seemingly endless new takes and definitions on the subject. Lady Bunny is here to break down those barriers, and say exactly what she thinks.

Featuring all-new parodies of Adele, Rent, and Bruno Mars, she expresses her unapologetic takes on the politics of gender, as well as a bunch of other stuff. Hold on to your wigs and double check your privileges, it's gonna be a bumpy ride!

Lady Bunny is at The Soho Theatre from Tuesday 14th February – Saturday 25th February at 9:30pm. 21 Dean Street, W1D 3NE. Tickets are available at sohotheatre.com.

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Mrs Moore

Old Ship

17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW

Hoist the mainsails, lower the mast (!) it's The Old Ship! Ye'd best start believin' in gay pubs, Miss Turner...YER IN ONE! *Uncorks pink prosecco with teeth*. Yes, one of Limehouse's best loved and most historic establishments is still in salty swing, with drinking booths galore, charmingly affable clientele, and more cabaret acts than you can shiver your timbers at! This Sunday, don't miss mealy-mouthed Mrs Moore! We love Mrs Moore, she's bloody mad, and we mean that as the highest compliment. We love mad people. We ARE mad people. She'll be on from 8pm.



Tasty Tim

Comptons

51 - 53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN

We always say this, but Comptons is one of our faves! Why do we say that? Because it IS. We're all about truth and honesty here at QX. We're not #FAKENEWS. Although we are overrated. Sad. The reasons we love Comptons, are as follows: they've got bar staff who we'd like to be ruined by on bare mattresses: they've got gorgery drinks: and they've got nice soft armchairs upstairs that you can sit on. Three wonderful factors. Can't argue with that can you! We also like the vibe! 80s gay cruise bar vibes! There's nothing quite like feeling someone's eyes on your back. Not literally, that'd be gross. Don't miss THURSDAY NIGHTS, when scene legend Tasty Tim is on the decks from 8pm.



Circa

62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN

Circa is the sparkling jewel in Soho's crown! Yes, Soho can afford to wear a CROWN these days. Hashtag gentrification, hashtag luxury flats, hashtag crossrail. Circa's great, they're the perfect place for salubrious post-work pints, or a gossip and a gin and tonic. Who DOESN'T love a gossip and a gin and tonic! We know Munroe Bergdorf does, and she DJs there every Friday, bringing her unapologetic bitch brand of glamour and sass to Circa's disco ball DJ booth! Yes! So pull on some Louboutins, strut down to Soho and get. Into. It.

Ku Kabaret

30 Lisle Street, Chinatown, WC2H 7BA

Our pals Ku have got lots of brand spanking new stuff going on at the moment, and just ONE of those brand spanking new things, is their weekly Sunday night Kabaret sesh! It's a sparkling extravaganza of drag and haute-camperie, to finish your weekend off in salacious style! Each week, host Jacqui Swallows oversees affairs, with some of the city's best drag and cabaret talent as guest stars. Then afterwards, fashion muse and lady of the night, Lady Lloyd, spins pop tracks from 10pm through to midnight. Camp dears!



Jacqui Swallows



Drag With No Name

West 5

Popes Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NT

Nestled down an unassuming side street in South Ealing, where yummy mummies weave back and forth with pushchairs, and estate agents whizz by in hybrid Volvos, there's a BIG CAMP HEDONISTIC GAY CLUB! Yes! More of this please. We need to challenge convention and dump a big dollop of campness right in the middle of suburban doldrum. That's what we need to do these days. West 5 is a great mix of cosy gay bar and big dance gay club, with an eclectic clientele of everyone from affluent fun bears to skinny young students. A great cross section of gay society actually. This Saturday they've got a drag queen called Drag With No Name performing. She wears a big insane Marge Simpson wig. Disruptive enough for ya?

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Old Ship
21/07/17
17 Barnes Street, E14 7NW

Photos by Joel Ryder

It was a bangin' night at the Old Ship, as outside wind and rain battered the portholes. But inside, there was a cosy sense of camaraderie, as we got the pints in and hunkered down for a night of susurrations, salaciousness and SANDRA! The self-proclaimed whore of Hampstead was on top (or rather bottom) form as always, being generally unpleasant to people, which of course we loved. Get down to the Old Ship, it's a wonderful raucous night out!

**"A NIGHT OF
SUSURRATIONS,
SALACIOUSNESS
AND SANDRA!"**



Av. de Estados Unidos, 37 - Playa del Inglés

basement

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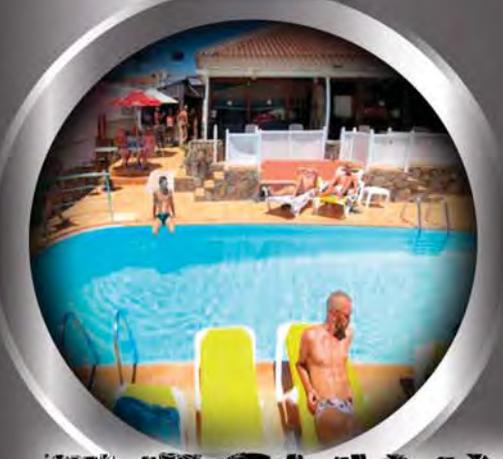
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KU
28/01/17
30 Lisle Street, WC2H 7BA

Photos by Joel Ryder

Ku's always a sparkingly good Saturday night, and this Saturday it was more lit (that's a millennial word) more LIT, than ever! The bar staff must have had a few Red Bulls because they were pirouetting around with even more flair and panache than usual. Touch by Little Mix came on, and at one point we thought they were gonna take off. Like those spinnny flying Sky dolls. You know the ones. We spotted loquacious playwright Pat Cash in the crowds, as well as Attitude editor Matt Cain. You can't swing an Urban Outfitters tote in this city without knocking over a media gay.



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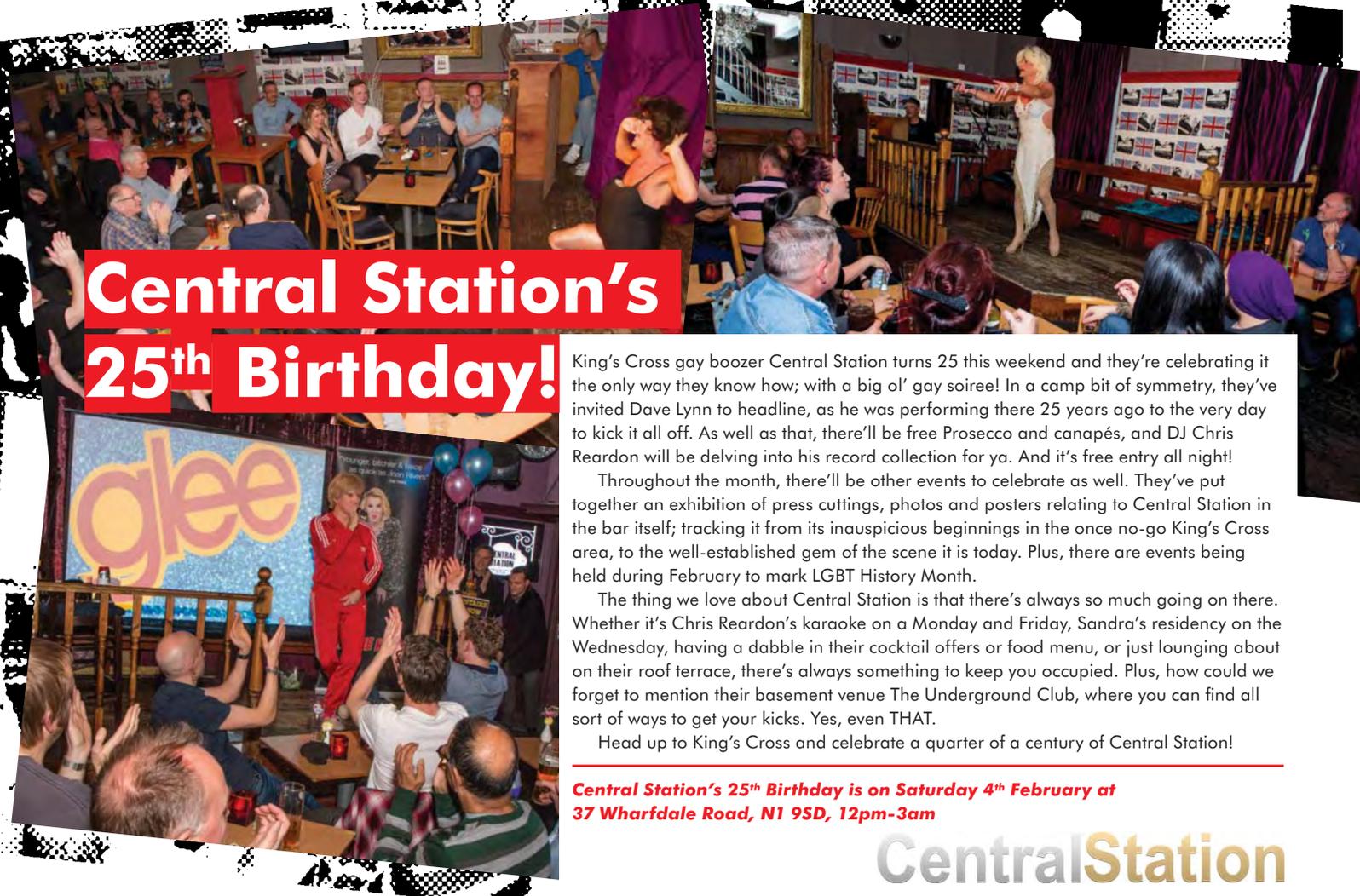
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Central Station's 25th Birthday!

King's Cross gay boozier Central Station turns 25 this weekend and they're celebrating it the only way they know how; with a big ol' gay soiree! In a camp bit of symmetry, they've invited Dave Lynn to headline, as he was performing there 25 years ago to the very day to kick it all off. As well as that, there'll be free Prosecco and canapés, and DJ Chris Reardon will be delving into his record collection for ya. And it's free entry all night!

Throughout the month, there'll be other events to celebrate as well. They've put together an exhibition of press cuttings, photos and posters relating to Central Station in the bar itself; tracking it from its inauspicious beginnings in the once no-go King's Cross area, to the well-established gem of the scene it is today. Plus, there are events being held during February to mark LGBT History Month.

The thing we love about Central Station is that there's always so much going on there. Whether it's Chris Reardon's karaoke on a Monday and Friday, Sandra's residency on the Wednesday, having a dabble in their cocktail offers or food menu, or just lounging about on their roof terrace, there's always something to keep you occupied. Plus, how could we forget to mention their basement venue The Underground Club, where you can find all sort of ways to get your kicks. Yes, even THAT.

Head up to King's Cross and celebrate a quarter of a century of Central Station!

**Central Station's 25th Birthday is on Saturday 4th February at
37 Wharfedale Road, N1 9SD, 12pm-3am**

CentralStation

10 Years of Macho Waxing!



East London salon, Macho Waxing, is celebrating keeping London's men smooth for 10 years this month. If you put all the pubes and armpit hair they've waxed off in the past decade altogether, there would be enough to fill up the lake in Victoria Park. #FACT

Eduardo Sarube (pictured), the man behind the wax, started the salon and says 'I would like to thank my friends and clients who have supported me. I still see clients who are coming to Macho Waxing from all that time ago, so a big thanks really!'

They're one of the only waxing salons in London that is run exclusively for men. They can target specific areas, with prices starting from as little as £10, or you can go the whole hog and get everything under your beard taken off. It's not as painful as you'd think, with oils and lotions used to treat the area to reduce inflammation. It's a much more relaxing experience than being at home bent double in front of the mirror with a tepid tub of Veet.

They're open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 9pm, so it's perfect if you need to pop in after work during the week. If you want to find out more or book an appointment, you can get in touch at ed@machowaxing.com or 07968290955.

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Saturday 4th FEBRUARY

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BIRTHDAY PARTY

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DAVE LYNN

ON THE DECKS

DJ CHRIS REARDON

LGBT history month. Central Station 25 years in the making
FREE EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS THROUGHOUT THE MONTH

TUES
7TH
8PM

LISA POWER MBE - The lost 80's

SUN
12TH
6PM

HALLIWELL & ORTON'S COLLECTION

Mark Aston, curator, Islington museum

TUES
14TH
8PM

RAY REYNOLDS DJ

DRAG through the ages

TUES
21ST
8PM

MISS BEA FLATT

TUES
28TH
8PM

ISLINGTON'S PRIDE

Alex Smith, Project Manager



Midweek Mini Cabaret Crawl!

Jason Reid shows that even on a Tuesday in January, there's still a glitteringly camp night out to be had on London's gay scene.

Any night can be a good night out if you hit the right venues and you're in good company. Personally, I'm a fan of spontaneity, which is probably why I'm perpetually skint. I'm forever making ridiculous and instantaneous spending decisions when really I should be saving up for a mortgage and all that boring, sensible adult stuff.

There's always something going on out there in cabaret land, be it 9pm on Tuesday or midnight on Saturday. Queens, kings and performance artists offer the escapism we all need (for the sake of our sanity) from time to time.

In the week that Donald Drumpf was due to be inaugurated and my consciousness seemed to be taken over by a never ending stream of

perplexing bullshit, I decided it was time for a night out. And yes, it was only Tuesday, but I needed escapism in the form of music and bright colours, and I needed it immediately, so I made my way from leafy west London and my wee pal Stephanie Von Clitz jumped on one of those dead reliable southern trains from Brighton and we headed OUT!



8:38pm
Bar Wotever, Royal Vauxhall Tavern

As I practically live at the RVT we thought it'd be a good place to start the night, and Tuesdays are London's only weekly queer variety night, founded by Ingo Cando. Bar Wotever defies norms and embraces difference - this is reflected in the clientele and the diverse nature of the acts that are booked to perform.

We arrived a tad early so I had a nose around to get a feel for the vibe - it was friendly and surprisingly busy for a Tuesday. Throughout January, Bar Wotever has been highlighting talented - and often underrepresented - artists of colour. Host

Travis Alabanza started the night off with a kick-ass lip-sync performance, which was followed by open mic. The crowd were engaged, and when I say that I mean there wasn't dozens of people tip-tapping away on their phones, practically all eyes were on the performers. Check out Bar Wotever in February when Virgin

Xtravaganzah will be the guest host for the month and they'll be paying special heed to LGBT History Month. Alas it was time for us to leave the loving atmosphere of the RVT and head 'up west' as they say in Eastenders.



9:38pm
Cookie Monstar, Molly Moggs

A few minutes on the ever reliable Victoria Line and we emerged out of Oxford Circus station and dived down the back streets of Soho. It was at this point we almost got lost - a drag queen and a notorious drag hag who's lived in London for fifteen years. I put it down to the lack of alcohol, so as soon as we got to the bar we rectified that: 'Two bottles of Desperado and two shots please, dear.'

Cookie was on good form, shimmering under the lights as she treated the gathering of tourists and queers to a medley of musical styles, sharp and pointed wit, and even choreography - which is hard to do on a stage that's no bigger than the average drag bag. Molly Moggs is another special place that often gets overlooked by drag snobs. It's a consistent venue with absolutely no attitude. People from all walks of life and corners of the world pop in for the free shows. It's perfect for people-watching too; I should know, I worked there for several years. I was MUCH younger.

10:22pm
Martha D'Arthur, Admiral Duncan

Our final stop of the night (I was determined not to have a late one, new leaf and all that) and it was like a who's who of the scene - on a Tuesday?!? Titti La Camp, Jimmy Smith (Brewers), The Duchess (George and Dragon), and even that Nancy Clench were all out in force to see Martha perform. It wasn't as busy as the previous bars but the atmosphere certainly made up for it, and landlady Oliver is always very welcoming.

Martha eased us into the week beautifully with her dulcet tones and delightful demeanour. Admiral Duncan is keeping pub cabaret alive on Old Compton Street and they put great effort into their nights, so pay them a visit!



Bar Wotever is every Tuesday at The Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY

Molly Moggs is open every night and has a rotation of acts throughout the week. 2 Old Compton Street, W1D 4TA

The Admiral Duncan is at 54 Old Compton Street, W1D 4UB

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It's Only The End Of The World

Xavier Dolan's thoughtful new film is a masterpiece in dysfunctional love.

You may know Xavier Dolan as the director of Adele's record-breaking Hello video (you'll be glad to know, a flip phone features here too!), but since his debut feature *I Killed My Mother* (*J'ai tué ma mère*) he has directed 6 films and acted in 12... and he's only 26!

This Cannes Grand Prix winner is a tour de force of France's acting heavyweights: Marion Cotillard, Vincent Cassel, Léa Seydoux, Gaspard Ulliel and Nathalie Baye. Louis, played by the incredibly handsome Gaspard Ulliel, is a renowned writer, who upon discovering he has a terminal illness, returns home after a 12 year absence. The reason for his departure from the family home is never explicitly stated, but as gay men, we can identify with how family life isn't always bliss. The ham fisted questioning, the inadvertent homophobia and a general air of misunderstanding can all be hard enough, never mind when you have to tell your family you might not make it to the end of the year.

The fact that the lead character is



gay, is introduced and dealt with in a very subtle way. It's not a screaming point of consternation, rather a rippling undercurrent. His almost estranged family are a motley crew: Natalie Baye (Mother – name never given), the matriarch, widowed with the tendency to retell the same stories ad nauseam. Léa Seydoux as Suzanne, the punky little sister ingénue. Vincent Cassel as Antoine, the mardy brother, eternally put upon by his nearest and dearest. Marion Cotillard as Catherine, the innocent, slightly simple, but somewhat astute wife to Antoine.

It's her outsider status that gives us glimmers of a breakthrough with Louis. He is the largest presence in this family: in absence, even more so. He is an enigmatic black hole. His family trundle along in his famous shadow. We will for him to tell his family, but dread the moment that he does.

This film is up close and personal. Tight shots flicking between characters' faces make you feel claustrophobic. There is a pressure cooker of asides and snarks, and seeing these close up and raw is difficult. Louis is stoic

and doe eyed in equal measure, using a careful and considered deployment of language. Louis' status as a writer means that the characters constantly second guess and correct themselves.

It all serves to create a tense yet utterly mesmerising play of events. Why this missed out on the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar Shortlist is a complete mystery. Shame on you Academy.

***It's Only The End Of The World* is in select UK cinemas from 24th February.**

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Disco, Blisters & A Comedown



Joe Holyoake's driving the pop buggy this week, and he's got SUMMINK TO SAY

Oh look, we can hear you say, another 10 years since... article. Well, yeah. There's going to be a lot of these, because a) mid-twenties journalists like reminiscing about the halcyon days when they didn't have to pay rent and could fit into a Topman XS and b) the state of the world in 2017, can you really blame us?

Anyway, we thought we'd latch onto the 10-year anniversary of the start of *Skins*. For a lot of people, it brings back sticky memories of out-of-control parties with hordes of teenagers stealing an absent parent's wedding dress. But, for a 12-year-old living in the countryside, this obviously wasn't the case. However, we did miraculously have broadband, MySpace and a copy of *NME* popping through the letterbox every Wednesday, so the music of the *Skins* era still managed to permeate out of London.

The one genre that goes fingerless-gloved hand-in-hand with *Skins* is Nu-Rave, a label that people actively avoided at the time, and one that no-one is going to be resurrecting anytime soon. But, we think that it's had a bit of a bad rap and that some of it still stands up a decade on. What's more, the whole ethos behind it of going out dancing and dressing up in ironic jewellery, well that could be applied to the London gay scene today, amiright?

So, with that in mind, here's some of the best *Skins*-era Nu-Rave.



Late Of The Pier — Bathroom Gurgle

Late Of The Pier only released one album (although their singer released an album with Soft Hair last year), but there were enough ideas on there alone for about another four or five. Bathroom Gurgle still sounds like three songs mangled together, with its madly operatic guitar, warped synths and indecipherable lyrics.



CSS — Off The Hook

Nu-Rave goes on holiday! CSS stood for Cansei de Ser Sexy (or 'Tired of Being Sexy' in English) and have a singer called Lovefoxxx. They're exactly the sort of camp spectacle we love at QX. Their debut album was full of scuzzy guitars and jarring translations, and *Off The Hook* is the sort of floor-filling banger that gets played at Douchebag.



Klaxons — Atlantis to Interzone

Klaxons' debut album 'Myths of the Near Future' was the *Thriller* of nu-rave, reaching out to the mainstream, winning the Mercury Prize, and selling by the neon bucketload. Atlantis to Interzone is the best song on there; all sirens, frantic verses with lyrics about futurist novels and the same 'DJ!' you could do on the Casio keyboard in music lessons at school. A sweaty mess.

Crystal Castles — Alice Practice

The Canadian band performed this song live on an episode of *Skins*, with Sid breaking down about his Dad's death to Tony in the middle of the crowd. This is another one that sounds uniquely abrasive today, a lurid vomit of computer sounds and thumping bass.





Hornet

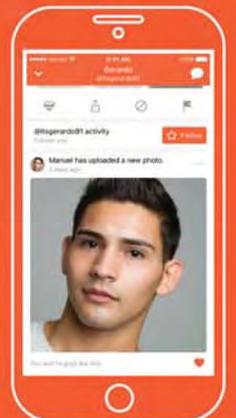


HOW GUYS CONNECT

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THE APP GENERATION

No matter what we pretend we like (yoga, Whole Foods, academia, Bjork) when it comes down to it, what most of us really like, is apps. Depressing as this factoid is, we each spend over 3000 hours a week on apps. That is unconfirmed, we pulled that figure out of thin air. But it's probably true.

And with Valentine's Day marching ever closer, DATING APPS are more pertinent than ever. So here's our pick of the best gay apps, dating or otherwise. Because this is 2017, and we're never going to beat the app. So if you can't beat 'em, join 'em!



Mister

This is a gay dating app that encourages users to BE THEMSELVES?! Imagine! Like, use your own picture and say your real age and everything. Weird. They've got a new "Mr Right" feature, that they say will help you find the perfect man! Aww.

mrxxp.com



Grindr

Pretty much the undisputed daddy of dating apps. We've all heard of Grindr haven't we! Even our mums have heard of Grindr by now. The cause of epic relationships, epic shags, emotional turmoil, 5am bus rides, AND THE REST. You do you Grindr. Ten points to Slytherin. grindr.com



XXL

The big beary weekly club night down by the Thames has its very own dating app! Yes! As well as meeting like-minded guys, download it to keep a-hairy-breast with all XXL-related goings-on, including DJ lineups, tickets and special one-off nights.

appxxl.com



Squirrt

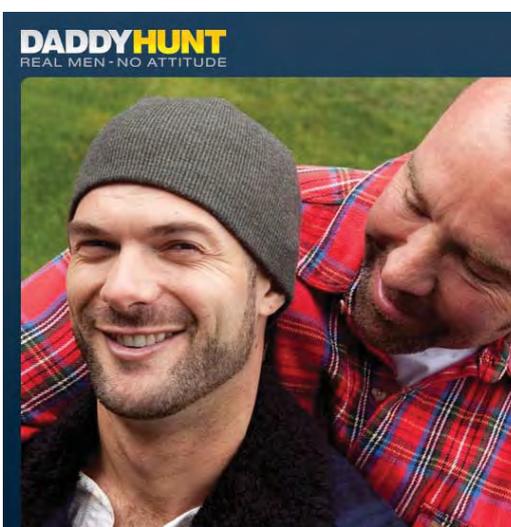
A cheekily unapologetic platform for sex and hooking up. They've got loads of extra features the others don't, including a live cam chatroom, erotic stories and gay porn videos! Ooooh!

www.squirrt.org

DaddyHunt

This, as the name suggests, is an app for daddies and their admirers! As we've said many times before, daddies are very IN right now. It's a craze that's sweeping the nation! Or at least, sweeping a few square miles between Bethnal Green and Vauxhall. It offers free membership to anyone who identifies as a "daddy" or a "hunter". Can't say fairer than that!

daddyhuntapp.com



Hornet

This slick dating app buzzed onto the scene a couple of years ago and has since given Grindr a bit of a run for its money. They've now just unveiled an update which includes Facebook-style social profiles, as well as a discover feature. Buzz over to the app store to find out more!

hornetapp.com

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Artsbitching

By Fraulein Sasha Selavie

X-Treme Attitude - The Countess Vs Lazarus!

Ever heard a peeled baby scream? That's the sound of Countess Alex Zapak, the dazzling doyenne of Cunt Rock! All raw, raging, Freudian passion, unhinged and unrestrained, furiously pissing on boundaries never even *imagined*, she's a primal scream princess personified!

Never heard of her? Even when she rode a horse down Portobello Road? Don't worry, you will – in spades! Native British, she's back from a ten-year performance art marathon in Manhattan, and, more recently, Berlin. Always singularly striking, tonight – holding furious, artistic court in Soho's Groucho Club – she's all clinging leather cat-suit and brunette bee-hive, a post-modern Emma Peel.

So, what exactly is Cunt Rock? Ah, get real – haven't you ever – just once – been tempted to razor off your ball-bag and dangle to expose the glorious treasures *within*? I have, but sadly, lacked the guts to keep on cutting. But who knows what sexual and emotional wonderlands waited if I'd just chopped deeper? But - quite obviously - Alex practices *unparalleled* penetration, and never stops until she fingers the seething vulva of female outrage!

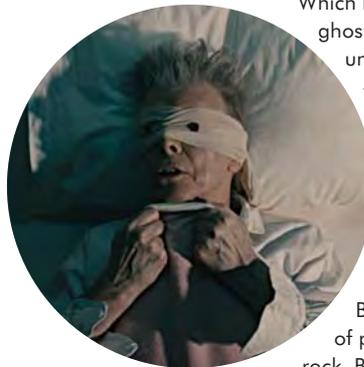
And the concrete result? Totally jaw-dropping. Over banked, live and video-feed projection screens, Alex howls her completely uncensored, shockingly confessional lyrics with the manic joy of a napalm victim screaming for instant Nirvana. Blithely unconcerned at the remote possibility of intrusive, objectifying male stares – a pathetic, occasional flaw in even uber-sensitive critics – she's a self-combusting, riveting firestorm.

Is she disturbing? Oh fuck, yeah – imagine your mother, sister or possible, transsexual self furiously wanking filthy linen in public, and you'll get why pompous, male critiques *shrivel* at appraising Alex's art.

Why? Are (straight men, mostly) that threatened by strong, pussy-soaked, Amazonian art? You bet, and blame peerless Aussie academic Germaine Greer if you must, certainly one of Alex's subliminal poster saints. Way back in 1971, Greer wrote her astonishing *Lady, Love your Cunt* piece in *Suck* magazine, simultaneously applauding creative, vaginal glory and demolishing lame adorations of cock-rock. Dripping in forensic, no-holds-barred genital detail, Greer's prose instantly invalidated male, jerk-off guitar solos, and paved a savage punk-rock pathway for snarling poet Patti Smith.

But Patti – bless her flaming, bisexual, sound and fury – barely sucks the nuclear butt of Alex's deviant outrage, her bullshit-shredding

weapons of crass destruction. 'I feel like I'm trippin', and I'm not even high', Alex wrenchingly sings, soaring incomparably beyond easy comparisons, euphorically enwrapped in her own fierce, multi-disciplinarian myth. Sure, initially, Alex channelled divine, diva inspiration from fellow performance-art singularity Penny Arcade, but tonight, who cares? With just one, utterly out-there performance, Alex, irresistibly, has seduced every potent presence of her past, and fucked them, forcibly, into a new, inconceivable future. And guess what? That performing future – so bright it's *breathhtakingly* blinding - has a name, and right now, this vanishing, sacred second, it's the Countess Alex Zapak. Long may she reign!



Which brings us, tragically, to the poxy ghosts of the ill-conceived past, and one unbelievably dreary show in particular – Bowie's narcoleptic swan-song, *Lazarus*. Look, truly, I'm the last one to knock a multisexual, bewilderingly brilliant musical chameleon – the stellar Mozart of glam-rock – but even geniuses have off days!

What was our Davey thinking? Back in '76, in the tsunami collision of punk bile and icy, arthouse rock, Bowie's *Man Who Fell To Earth* created a puzzlingly unique cinematic icon.

An autistic empath, a living paradox and contradiction, Bowie's character – Thomas Jerome Newton – radiated shocking otherness from his morgue-glazed eyes. Where's that magic gone? *Lazarus* is a bog-standard exercise in sub-Kafka alienation, so conceptually thin it's embarrassing, with no incandescent muse distinguishing the story, acting or delivery! Featuring a West End Wendy excruciatingly murdering 'Life on Mars', you have to ask, pleadingly, is this the real fruit of 40 years of Bowie creativity? OMG, no – somewhere, the *real* Lazarus must be hiding!

Countess Zapak@Matthew Glamorre's GenderAgenda February 11th

Comments or feedback? Email mistermadam@hotmail.com



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You know, I love it when people show the conviction of their dreams and aspirations and make things happen. Take stalwart of the New York scene **Lady Bunny**, who is coming to London to perform a riotous run of her now infamous show *Trans-Jester* at the Soho Theatre starting on 14th February. Lady Bunny is a bit of a trooper, spanning quite a few decades of drag performance, DJing and singing. Her legacy includes founding gay fest Wigstock, proving she's as relevant now as she's ever been. Now that's something to be proud of!

Back again this month at **Dalston Superstore** is club night **LaGaSta**, with **Jacques Renault** (Let's Play House). I DJed there last month, what



a great night! Get down there on Friday 3rd February when DJs **Jeffrey Hinton** and **Wes Baggaley** join **Daniel T** and **A Man To Pet** & **Joseph Wilson** host.

Things are hotting up for **Pink Lemonade** at **Tipsy**, a new night on Saturday 4th. 10pm - 3am, with DJs **Attack Attack Attack**, **Terry Vietheer** and **Dom Top**, as well as superstar host **Smiley Virus**.

Club 512 on Kingsland Road is where **Gay Garage #4** with **J-Cush** is happening on 4th February. This is going to get jammed by the look of their Facebook event page. Join J-Cush, **Screens Of Pleasure** and **Twice Shy** for a real get down, 10pm - 2am!

I love a pub quiz! Over at the **Retro Bar** they're having their **First Retro Quiz Of The Year** on Tuesday 7th. Hosted by **Lola Lasagna** and DJ **Heidi Heelz**.

Get a team of up to 4 friends together and sit yourselves down at 8pm for an 8.30 start.

Now here's something to get excited about... **Lipsync 1000** is back on Wednesday 15th February at **The Glory!** OMG we can barely contain ourselves for this annual series of 8 heats with an actual prize of £1000. Either enter by emailing jonny@theglory.co or just get down there for an experience like no other...may the fierce be with you!



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M U S T S & M A Y B E S

WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY
CLUBS & EVENTS

XXL at Pulse: 1 Invicta Plaza, Southwark, SE1 9UF. 9pm-3am. £5 guests, Free for Members. Midweek grizzly fun for bears and their admirers.

Uncontrollable Urge at Dalston Superstore: 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-2:30am. Free. Superstore's late-night midweek dose of sleaze! Eccentric electronica and weirdo-disco!

Eagle Bar at Eagle London 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY, 8pm-2am, Free Before Midnight, £3 After Cruise, booze and tunes with £2.50 drinks until 10pm.

Bombshell at Muse: 23 Frith Street, W1D 4RR. 10pm - 3am. Unapologetically insane night for TV/TS girls and their pals! With DJs Lady Lloyd and Silver Summers. LOCK UP YOUR SOULS.
Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street: 30 Lisle St, WC2H 7BA. 10pm-3am. FREE. The party continues 'til late in the Ku basement.

BARS & CABARET

The Glory: 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5pm - midnight. Free entry. Cosy drinks, chilled music and alternative vibes in East London's cabaret mecca.

The Genesis Xtravaganzah at Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 8pm-Midnight. Tickets £8 adv/ £10 OTD QX Covergirl and descendant of the lord above, Virgin Xtravaganzah, presents her latest variety show.

The Light Lounge: 1 Newport Place, WC2H 7JR. 5pm-11:30pm. Enjoy the Ku Group's newest venue; a boutique cocktail bar. 2-4-1

cocktails 5-8pm all week.

Duke Of Wellington: 77 Wardour Street, W1D 6QA. 12pm - 12am. Free entry. Irresistibly popular central London gay boozier. It's the weekly quiz with Martha D'Arthur and Topsy Redfern on rotation.

Wednesday Naughties at Central Station: 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10pm. Cabaret then DJs 'til late, starring Sandra Circa: 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town.

Comptons of Soho: 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-11.30pm. Super social pub downstairs, chilled club lounge upstairs.

The Old Ship: 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. Quiz from 9.30pm. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

Two Brewers: 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. Bar open 4pm-2am. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after.

Popular South London cabaret/club spot, with Kara Van-Park's Quiz Night

The Voice of The Village at The Village: 81 Wardour Street, W1V 3TG, 5pm-1am. Karaoke with the outrageous Robyn Banks from 9pm. Win a £50 bar tab.

West 5: Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Open from 8pm. FREE. Ealing's hugely popular club, bar and cabaret spot.

Admiral Duncan: 54 Old Compton Street, W1D 4UB Infamous cabaret pub in the heart of Soho. TONIGHT: Wanked Wednesdays with LoUis Cyfer

Freedom Bar: 60-66 Wardour Street, Soho, W1F 0TA, 4pm-3am, Free. Swanky, sexy cocktail destination in the heart of Soho. Girl Group The Fabulettes on at 11pm

Halfway 2 Heaven 7 Duncannon Street, WC2N 4JF Notorious cabaret haunt just off Trafalgar Square TONIGHT: Open The Box with Martha D'Arthur.

THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY
CLUBS & EVENTS

Eagle Bar at Eagle London at 349 Kennington Lane SE11 5QY. 8pm-3am. Free until midnight, £3 after. Cruise, booze and tunes, with £2.50 drinks until 10pm

Mouth to Mouth at Dalston Superstore: 117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB. 9pm - 2:30am. Free entry. Anthropocene Queens giving you trance dance and ritual grooves. Transcend.

FUCKING GOOD TIME at Klub: 30 Lisle St, WC2H 7BA. 10pm-3am, £3 b4 12am, £5 after. A sexy fun night with good music from the SexShooters, cheap booze, bar sluts and people ready to leave their shit at the door for a fucking good time!

Hard-Up Thursdays at Sweatbox: 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. Under 25s FREE all day, £16 others. Start the weekend early and relieve the pressure with this discounted day for under 25s (ID required) at Soho's only gay sauna.

G-A-Y Porn Idol at G-A-Y Heaven: Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10pm - 5am. Amateur strip night with £100 prize money, To enter email info@g-a-y.co.uk

BARS & CABARET

Cocktails & Dreams at West 5: Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Open from 8pm. Drinks and dancing at Ealing's premier gay establishment!

New Bloomsbury Set: 76 Marchmont Street, WC1N 1AG. 4pm - 11:30pm. Gorgeous cocktail bar in the heart of Central London. Happy hour 4-8pm daily.

Play Date at The Glory: 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5pm - midnight. Queer cabaret/ comedy in the basement, ft. Joe Lycett, Desiree Burch & Glamrou La Denim.

Karaoke @ Halfway 2 Heaven: 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF - Take the mic and holler along to a classic, with Kevin Walsh

Comptons of Soho: 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-11.30pm. Thursdays at Comptons only mean one thing - Tasty Tim's takeover! From 8:30pm.

Circa: 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1. 4pm-4am. Thursdays are the new Fridays at Soho's intimate bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town.

City of Quebec: 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF, 12pm-3am. The newly refurbished venerable institution of the gay scene rocks out some pop classics for an evening of fun.

G-A-Y Bar: 30 Old Compton Street. 12pm-2am. Free entry. Popular pop music bar with non-stop hits on the screens and a fun, flirty atmosphere.

Candy at The Village: 81 Wardour Street, W1V 3TG, 9pm-2am. A night full of all things sweet and tasty! With Heidi Liscious on the decks, joined by gorgeous gogos.

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The Light Lounge: 1 Newport Place, WC2H 7JR. 5pm-11:30pm. Enjoy the Ku Group's newest venue; a boutique cocktail bar. 2-4-1 cocktails 5-8pm all week.

Two Brewers: 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. Bar open 6pm-2am. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Popular South London cabaret/club spot.

Admiral Duncan: 54 Old Compton Street, W1D 4UB Infamous cabaret pub in the heart of Soho, TONIGHT: STD Sandra's Thursday Dunky from 9.30pm

Diva Explosion at Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 8pm - midnight. £15. A night the biggest divas and their hits, inc Rozella, Tina Cousins, Urban Cookie Collective, and Happy Clappers.

Halfway 2 Heaven 7 Duncannon Street, WC2N 4JF Notorious cabaret haunt just off Trafalgar Square TONIGHT: Karaoke with Kevin Walsh

Fitladz at The Bloc: 18 Kentish Town Road, NW1 9NX. 9pm - 3am. Cruiseys lads and big beats at Camden's hottest new night!

La.Ga.Sta Presents Jacques Renault at Dalston Superstore: 117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB. 9pm - 3am. Free before 11pm, £7 after. Greek music blog's monthly party, with Brooklyn based Jacques Renault, Daniel T, Wes Baggaley and others.

The Lipsinkers at The Royal Vauxhall Tavern: 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-4am, Show 10pm. £8/£6 OTD, £5 After Show. Cabaret legends twirl through some of their faves.

Ku Klub Lisle Street: 30 Lisle St, WC2H 7BA. 8pm-5am. FREE b4 10:30pm, £5 after. Pop perfection and hot floor fillers as Ku's hot 3 spin the tunes in its downstairs basement club spot.

G-A-Y Camp Attack at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10pm - 4am The palace of pop welcomes you for an evening of campstastic dancing and twirling twinks



DJ Tareq:
Men Inc
@ The Eagle
London

Friday

bar in the heart of London. Happy hour 4-8pm daily.

Bridge Bar: 8 Voltaire Road, SW8 6DH, 4pm-12am. Free. Snug gay bar in a railway arch, offering cocktails, wines and light meals, plus outdoor seating.

Old Ship: 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-12am. Free. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse, with DJ Matty B.

Karaoke at Central Station: 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open from 6pm 'til 3am or later... FREE The super-friendly Kings Cross bar. DJs 'til late. Hosted by DJ Chris Reardon

Circa: 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-1am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot watches Munroe Bergdorf and friends werg the floor!

City of Quebec: 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12pm-3am. The newly refurbished venerable institution of the gay scene rocks out some pop classics for an evening of fun.

George and Dragon: 2 Blackheath Hill, SE10. 8pm-4am, free entry before 11pm. The friendly Greenwich local. THIS WEEK: Martha D'Arthur on stage at 11pm.

Ku Bar Soho: 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. Open till midnight. In the heart of Soho, Ku Bar stretches

across two floors for that perfect Soho warm-up drinking session and a little dance with downstairs DJs.

LolliPop Fridays at West 5: South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. 8pm - 3am. £3 entry before 11pm, £4 entry after. Special Friday night with £1 shots, £3 pints and DJs on rotation!

The Yard: 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 7PL. Open till 1am. FREE. Renowned as one of Soho's most unique and popular destination venues, with terrific outdoor space.

Admiral Duncan: 54 Old Compton Street, W1D 4UB Infamous cabaret pub in the heart of Soho.

The Two Brewers: 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. Bar open 6pm-2am. FREE b4 10pm, £7 after. Popular South London cabaret/club spot.

Halfway 2 Heaven 7 Duncannon Street, WC2N 4JF Notorious cabaret haunt just off Trafalgar Square. With performances from Martha D'Arthur at 8pm and Myra DuBois at 9pm.

Methie Dearest at Her Upstairs: 18 Kentish Town Road, NW1 9NX. 5pm - 3am. £5, Shows from 10pm. Meth launches her weekly foster home of a show with her newest cohort of begrudging drag children.

FRIDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

A:M Afterhours at Protocol: Protocol, 6A South Lambeth Place SW8 1RT, 11pm - 11am. £4 before 1am with flyer/ad. £8 after 'til 6am, £15 OTD. 12 hours of hard-hitting partying at London's most notorious after hours destination! With Nik Denton, Terry Bryan, Richard Jones and more.

Men Inc at Eagle London: 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 10pm - 5am, Free Before 10pm, £5 after. Super sexy Friday night with DJ Tareq.

Blocheads at East Bloc: 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 11pm-6am. £5 b4 midnight, £10 after. Blocheads is now on Friday nights weekly! This week with Hifi Sean, Stevie B, and Martyn Fitzgerald and a free shot for all customers!

BARS & CABARET

Super Friday at The Glory: 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 8pm - 2am. Two floor queer anthem party with drag shows from Rodent Decay and DJs Daisy Confused, Orange Gina and Fannar (meat)

Comptons of Soho: 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-midnight. Super social pub downstairs, chilled club lounge upstairs, Louis Chatten on from 9pm

The Light Lounge: 1 Newport Place, WC2H 7JR. 5pm-12am. Enjoy the Ku Group's newest venue; a boutique cocktail bar. 2-4-1 cocktails 5-8pm all week.

New Bloomsbury Set: 76 Marchmont Street, WC1N 1AG. 4pm-11:30pm. Gorgeous cocktail

BLOCHHEADS
FRIDAY 3RD FEB 11PM TO 6AM
 with DJs
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NICKI FRENCH
(TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE HEART, DID YOU EVER REALLY LOVE ME?, DON'T PLAY THAT SONG AGAIN, THE BOSS, THIS LOVE)

JACKIE RAWE
THE VOICE OF ALMIGHTY'S
DEJA VU FEATURING TASMINE
(I BELIEVE IN DREAMS, I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING, TO DESERVE YOU, AGAINST ALL ODDS, ALL THIS TIME)

DAVE SIMMONS
(BANG, G-A-Y, EUROFEST)

DON GRANT
(LA3, EUROFEST, G-A-Y)

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY
9pm Friday till 5am Saturday

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**SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY
CLUBS AND EVENTS**

XXL Bears at Pulse: 1 Invicta Plaza, Southwark, SE1 9UF. 10pm-7am. £15 guests, £10 members. A super-furry, super-charged club night for bears and their friends. This week, bears, bears and more bears!

R&She: Aaliyah Special at East Bloc: 217 City Road, EC1V 1JN. 11pm - 6am. £5 before 12, £8 after. David Oh, Neil Prince, QBoy and special guests Frau DJs play the best R&B queens, this week an Aaliyah special.

Debbie at The Eagle: 349 Kennington Lane, SE11 5QY. 9pm - 4am, Free Before 10pm, £6 After. Sina Sparrow + Xavier Bernhard play only female-fronted rock, pop and disco all night long!

Cult Culture at Dalston Superstore: 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm - 3am. Free b4 10pm, £6 after Bristol partystarters PLU return for a big gay disco blowout, with Jan Schulte, Ranks and many more!

HOME at The Bloc: 18 Kentish Town Road, NW1 9NX. 10pm - 3am. £5 entry. The sweetest 90s and 00s r&b, classic hip-hop and pop floor fillers. With DJ Stevie B.

Duckie at The Royal Vauxhall Tavern: 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-2am. £6. Duckie's flag ship rock 'n' roll honky tonk.

Glory Lates at The Glory: 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. Doors 5pm. Free before 10pm, £5 after. SHOW TIME at The Glory, with a late night party upstairs and a free cabaret show downstairs from 10pm. THIS WEEK: Bourgeois & Maurice

Savage at Metropolis: Strip Club, 235 Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9NN. 11pm-5am. £5. Weekly Saturday club night from the Sink The Pink crew.

G-A-Y at Heaven: Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10pm - 5am. £5 entry wristbands available from G-A-Y Bar, Free entry with wristband. Hefty hits and huge acts at the palace of pop, with latest act voted off X-Factor

Sweatbox: Foam Party at 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. Unwind and release some tension after a stressy week with the all the fun of the foam at Sweatbox's original weekly party.

Lady Olé at Kolis Club The Archway Tavern, 1 Archway Tavern, N19 3TD, 11pm-4am (Last Entry 2am), £10 - British and Spanish Kitsch culture club night, TONIGHT: Barbie Girl, with The Lipsinkers!

Gay Garage #4 at Bar 512, 512

**Glory Lates
@ The Glory**

Saturday



Kingsland Road, E8 4AE, 10pm-4am, £5 OTD, Ladies Free Until Midnight - Strictly the freshest UK garage old & new, dress to impress

Pink Lemonade at Topsy, 20 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XN, 10pm-3am - A brand new clubbing cocktail of musical genres, with Attack Attack Attack, Terry Vietheer and Dom Top.

BARS & CABARET

Bitch I'm Mzz Kimberley at Her Upstairs: 18 Kentish Town Road, NW1 9NX. 5pm - 3am. £5. The iconique Mzz Kimberley takes you on a trip, cabaret from 9pm.

Mariah & Friendz: Heartbreaker at Bethnal Green Working Men's Club 42-46 Pollard Row, E2 6NB, £8 adv, £10 Door (Loosely) Mariah themed, anti-love, Valentines cabaret party, with Missa Blue, Cybil War, Baby Lame and a host of others.

Old Ship: 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-12am. Free. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

Central Station's 25th Birthday Party: 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10pm, £5 After. King's Cross gay boozier turns 25! Prosecco, canapés, Dave Lynn and DJ Chris Reardon. Fill your boots.

West 5: Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Doors 8pm. DJ Gary C and Drag With No Name gay Bar at Ealing's premier gay bar.

Comptons of Soho: 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 5pm-10pm. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd, with James Bartlett DJing 9pm - midnight.

New Bloomsbury Set: 76 Marchmont Street, WC1N 1AG. 4pm-11:30pm. Gorgeous cocktail bar in the heart of Central London. Happy hour 4-8pm daily.

Bridge Bar: 8 Voltaire Road, SW8 6DH, 4pm-12am. Free. Snug gay bar in a railway arch, offering cocktails, wines and light meals, plus outdoor seating.

Circa: 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-1am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot watches Munroe Bergdorf and friends werq the floor! TONIGHT: Adam Turner, James John and Connor Bolton

City of Quebec: 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12pm-3am. The newly refurbished venerable institution of the gay scene rocks out some pop classics for an evening of fun.

G-A-Y Bar: 30 Old Compton Street. 12pm-2am. Free entry. Popular pop music bar with non-stop hits on the screens and a fun, flirty atmosphere.

George and Dragon: 2 Blackheath Hill, SE10. 8pm-4am, free entry before 11pm. The friendly Greenwich local. TONIGHT: Drag With No Name from 11pm.

Rose Garden's Swap Shop/Lipsync Saturday at Halfway 2 Heaven: 7 Duncannon St, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 3am. Mary Mac at 3pm, Rose Garden from 5pm, with Vixens after at 10pm.

Ku Bar Soho: 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. Open till 12am (3am last Friday of the month). Perfect for that Soho warm-up drinking session and cheeky dance with downstairs DJs.

The Light Lounge: 1 Newport Place, WC2H 7JR. 5pm-12am. Enjoy the Ku Group's newest venue; a boutique cocktail bar. 2-4-1 cocktails 5-8pm all week.

Two Brewers: 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 7pm-3am. Free b4 10, £6 after. Popular South London club/ cabaret venue.

House Party at The Village: 81 Wardour Street, W1V 3TG, 9pm-3am. Snap crackling pop upstairs with Heidi Liscious & Robyn Banks, plus chunked up deep tech club vibes in the basement.

The Yard: 57 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 7PL. Midday 'til Late. FREE. Renowned as one of Soho's most unique and popular destination venues, with terrific outdoor space.

Admiral Duncan: 54 Old Compton

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Street, W1D 4UB, 12pm-12am
Infamous cabaret pub in the heart of Soho with Strawberry Whip.

SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Beyond: The Trip at Fire: South Lambeth Road, SW8 1RT. 4am – 12pm., £14 concession b4 7am, £16 OTD. High-octane Saturday night clubbing experience from the Orange Nation crew, with superstar DJ Roger Sanchez

Horse Meat Disco at Eagle London: 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 8pm – 3am. £6 before 10pm, £8 after. Unbridled Sunday night fun! Disco delights and handsome stallions abound, with Luke Howard

Sunday Social at The Vauxhall Tavern: Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 3pm – 12am. £4 members/£5. Weekly Sunday fun at The Vauxhall Tavern, with cabaret and DJs on rotation. THIS WEEK: Charlie Hides

Last Resort at Dalston Superstore: 117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB. 9pm- 2.30am, free entry. A queer disco paradise for those not ready to say goodbye to the weekend!

Orange at Fire: South Lambeth Road, SW8 1RT. 11pm -7am. £7 b4 3am, £10 thereafter. £13 OTD. Orange gives you 100% fresh house. Rotation of superhot DJs every week, hosted by Glendora.

BARS & CABARET

Kabaret Priscilla Special at Ku Bar Lisle Street: 30 Lisle St, WC2H 7BA. 7pm-midnight, FREE. All new cabaret night hosted by Jacqui Swallows. This week an Australia

Day special, with performances by Vicky Vivacious and Vinegar Strokes!

New Bloomsbury Set: 76 Marchmont Street, WC1N 1AG. 4pm – 11:30pm. Gorgeous cocktail bar in the heart of central London. Happy hour 4pm – 8pm daily.

Circa: 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the most amazing DJ booth in town.

George and Dragon: 2 Blackheath Hill, SE10. 8pm-2am. FREE. The friendly Greenwich local, with CK onstage from 9:30pm.

Comptons of Soho: 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. Open 'til 10:30pm. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd, Gordon John on from 7.30pm

Old Ship: 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-12am. Cabaret: 8pm. Free. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse. TONIGHT: Mrs Moore

The Power of Three at Two Brewers: 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-2am. FREE b4 8pm, £4 after. Starring Miss Jason, Mary Mac and Sandra.

West 5 South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. From 8pm The popular West London club, bar and cabaret spot, with added Piano Lounge fun.

Admiral Duncan: 54 Old Compton Street, W1D 4UB Infamous cabaret pub in the heart of Soho. TONIGHT: Baga Chipz and special guest

Princess Julia Loves...at The Glory: 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. Doors 5pm, show 8pm. £15. The pop culture icon delivers her fave

tunes and chat for a lovely Sunday night sesh. With gay sketch troupe Sex Shells.

CK Sunday at Halfway 2 Heaven 7 Duncannon Street, WC2N 4JF Notorious Sunday cabaret night just off Trafalgar Square with Crystal D'Canter and Kelly Mild.

Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, King's Cross, N1 9SD, 8pm onwards, free entry, Cake academy with Victoria Sponge

MONDAY 6TH FEBRUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Hard-Up Mondays at Sweatbox: 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. Under 25s FREE all day, £16 others. Finding Mondays hard to handle? Relieve the pressure with this discounted day for under 25s (ID required) at Soho's only gay sauna.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street: 30 Lisle St, WC2H 7BA. 10pm-3am. FREE. DJs play the weekend out on a wave of hot pop.

The Big Bingo Show at Vauxhall Tavern: Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. 7pm – 12am. Free. Mad bingo with Timberlina!

BARS & CABARET

Comptons of Soho: 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 3pm-11.30pm. Bar £2.50 from 5pm, with happy hour prices on selected drinks with DJ Alex Eugenio from 8pm.

Celebrating 50 Years of Radical Queens with Stuart Feathers at The Glory: 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5pm – midnight. £5 Donation. Film screening, Q&A and Queer Social from Queer Tours of London, plus £5 martinis all night

Backing The Stars at Halfway 2 Heaven: 7 Duncannon St. WC2. 7.30pm. Karaoke with singer Kevin Walsh on hosting duties.

The Light Lounge: 1 Newport Place, WC2H 7JR. 5pm-11:30pm. Enjoy the Ku Group's newest venue; a boutique cocktail bar. 2-4-1 cocktails 5-8pm all week.

The Old Ship: 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW, open until midnight. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

Karaoke at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, King's Cross, N1 9SD, 8pm onwards, free entry, Come holler along to a classic at King's Cross stalwart Central Station

Kinky Kabaret at Freedom 60-66 Wardour St, London W1F 0TA. 10pm – 3am. Show 11pm. Free entry Every Monday, a variety of the kinkiest and most colourful

cabaret acts at Freedom
Admiral Duncan: 54 Old Compton Street, W1D 4UB Infamous cabaret pub in the heart of Soho, TONIGHT: Karaoke with Nancy Clench

Rock 'n' Roll Bingo at Two Brewers: 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-2am. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Mrs Moore calls the balls

TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Eagle Bar at Eagle London: 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY, 8pm-2am, Free Before Midnight, £3 After Cruise, booze and tunes with £2.50 drinks until 10pm

Disco Spritz at Dalston Superstore: 117 Kingsland High Street, E8 2PB, 9pm – 2:30pm. Free entry. A generous weeknight helping of disco, soul and funk from Chaka Khan't, Dance Armstrong, Basil and special guests.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street: 30 Lisle St, WC2H 7BA. 10pm-3am. FREE. DJs play the weekend out on a wave of hot pop.

BARS & CABARET

Bar Wotever at Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. Doors 7pm, tickets £6. Royal Queer Variety Show with live music, cabaret, talks, films and spoken word!

The Glory: 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5pm – midnight. Free entry. Cosy drinks, chilled music and alternative laid back vibes in East London's cabaret mecca.

Halfway 2 Heavens: 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 9pm. TONIGHT: Baga Chipz

Bridge Bar: 8 Voltaire Road, SW8 6DH, 4pm-12am. Free. Snug gay bar in a railway arch, offering cocktails, wines and light meals, plus outdoor seating. TONIGHT: Quiz night, try to win a £60 bar tab if you've got the smarts!
The Light Lounge: 1 Newport Place, WC2H 7JR. 5pm-11:30pm. Enjoy the Ku Group's newest venue; a boutique cocktail bar. 2-4-1 cocktails all night.

Quiz Night at The Old Ship: 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 9.30pm. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse.

Karaoke at Two Brewers: 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. Bar open 4pm-2am. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. Popular South London cabaret/club spot.

Admiral Duncan: 54 Old Compton Street, W1D 4UB Tuesday nights live with Martha D'Arthur.

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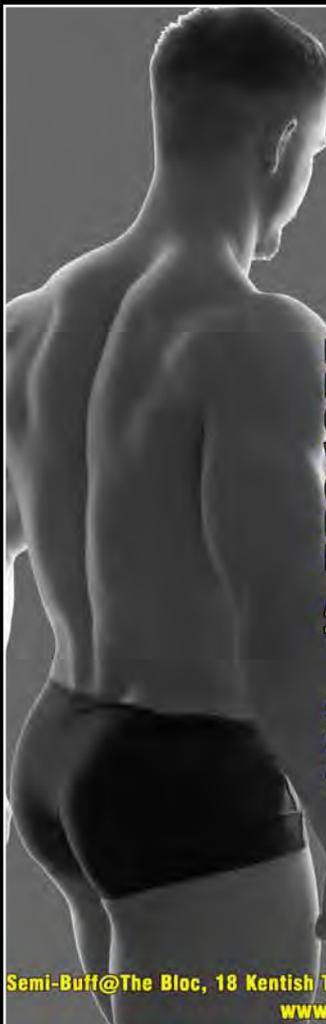
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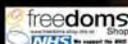
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£10.00 Non members
Membership not required for any event!
£9.00 Members

All prices include a FREE drink & Coatcheck!



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www.ma1.co.uk

30 seconds from Mile End Tube Free Parking Boris Bikes Bus 25, 205, 277, 323, 339, D6, D7

CLUB CP (Spanking/CP for men only) Tuesday* 7pm-11pm / £7 or £6
The Bunker@East Bloc, 217 City Rd, EC1V 1JN: www.clubcp.com

*CLOSED 1st TUESDAY OF THE MONTH! OVER 18'S ONLY. NO MEMBERSHIP NEEDED! MEN ONLY

GET YOUR ROCKS OFF

WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

The Backstreet: Buff at Wentworth Mews, London E3 4UA. 7pm-11pm, £9 members/£10 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party.

The Underground Club: Hard Cruz at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. 10pm – 1am, Free entry. Men only hard-up cruise night where you can get it on!

Vault: Cruise/Underwear at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. **Cruise**, 1pm-7pm, £8. Followed by **Underwear**, 7pm-1am, £8, free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get down to your underwear.

THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

The Underground Club: Pants/Spankz/Come To Daddy at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. **Pants**, 12pm-6pm, £4 or £2 b4 2pm, underwear fun. **Spankz**, 6pm-10pm, £5 b4 7pm & £7 after, CP night for rougher, tougher play. **Come To Daddy**, 10pm-2am, £6, for bears, daddies, big boys, chubs and chasers.

Vault: Cruise/Stripped at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. **Cruise**, 1-7pm, £8. Followed by **Stripped**, 7pm-1am, £8. Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get nude and rude. Strictly naked, except footwear.

Teds Place: TV/TS Party Night at 305a North End Rd, Fulham, W14 9NS. 7pm-midnight, £3. Free for TV/TS - Night for lovers of trans, drag and gay beauties. Something for everyone!

Pool Party: The Stable, 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA, 7.30pm-12pm: 150 guys come to play in the salubrious central London spa, apply online at h-partyboys.com for tickets

FRIDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

The Underground Club: Pants/City Boys at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. **Pants**, 12pm-6pm, £4 or £2 b4 2pm, underwear fun. Followed by **City Boys**– 7pm-midnight. Members £6, non-members £8. London's original long-running after-work suit & tie club. **Vault: Cruise** at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. 1pm-1am, £8. Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Horny cruise spot minutes from the West End.

Teds Place: Cruise & Dark Room 305a Northend Road, Fulham, W14 9NS – Cruise & Dark Room, 7pm-midnight, £3 – A horny night in the cruisey basement club in West London.

Twisted vs SBN at Protocol, 6 South Lambeth Place, SW8 1SP, 10pm-3am. Unleash your inner deviant at the naughtiest party in Vauxhall this weekend.

SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

The Underground Club: Pants/Shoot at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. **Pants**, 12pm-6pm, £4, underwear fun. **Shoot** 7pm-midnight. £6 members, £8 non-members – The original London sportswear fetish club.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. 1pm-1am. £8. Free drink, cloakroom, re-entry. Dark corners, catch a dirty movie, indulge your carnal side.

The Backstreet: MEAT RACK at Wentworth Mews, London E3 4UA. 10pm-3am, £5 members/£8 guests (Members free before 10:45) Brand new monthly night at The Backstreet, with dirty beats from DJ Rob C. For fans of leather, rubber, and general cruisey fetish fun.

Protocol: Boys & Sirs 6 South Lambeth Place, SW8 1SP. 2pm-7pm spanking and punishment daytime session.

SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

Teds Place: TV/ TS/ Chill Out at 305a North End Road, Fulham, W14 9NS. 7pm-2am, £3 b4 10pm, £5 after, A horny night in the cruisey basement club in West London.

The Underground Club: Streams Of Pleasure at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. 1pm-11pm. £8. Yellow fun for waterworks fans.

Vault: Underwear/Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. **Underwear**, 1-7pm, £8. **Cruise**, 7pm-1am, £8, free drink, cloakroom and re-entry, just pants b4 7pm, then cruise 'til late. Under 25's go free.

The Backstreet: MEGABUFF at Wentworth Mews, London E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm, £9 members/£10 guests (free drink/coat check). Extended session of the weekly naked cruise night. With video screens and pumping sounds.

SBN/NBN at Fire (Lightbox Entrance), 6a South Lambeth Place, SW8 1SP, Members £13, Guests £15 **SBN** 2pm-10pm – the UK's largest naked party **NBN** 7pm-10pm – Join the fun in your underwear later

MONDAY 6TH FEBRUARY

Teds Place: TV/TS Admirers & Gay at 305a North End Rd, Fulham, W14 9NS. 7pm-midnight, £3. Free for TV/TS - Night for lovers of trans, drag and gay beauties. Something for everyone!

The Underground Club: Pants/ Butt Naked/Hard Cruz at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. **Pants**, 12pm-6pm, £4 or £2 b4 2pm. **Butt Naked**, 6pm-10pm, £6, strip down and get off with like-minded guys. **Hard Cruz**, 10pm-1am, free entry, hard cruising for horny guz.

Vault: Cruise/ Stripped at Vault, 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. **Cruise**, 1-7pm, £8. **Stripped**, 7pm-1am, £8, free drink, cloakroom and re-entry, horny cruise session first, before naked time (except footwear).

TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

Teds Place: Underwear/Naked at 305s North End Rd, Fulham, W14 9NS. 7pm-midnight, £4, - A horny night in the cruisey basement club in West London.

The Locker Room Sauna: Cum In Your Pants at 8 Cleaver Street, SE11 4DP. 6pm – midnight. £15 entry. Night for guys in pants or if you want, naked!

The Underground Club: Pants/ S.O.P. at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. **Pants**, 12pm-6pm, £4 or £2 b4 2pm, the attitude-free afternoon cruise club. **Streams Of Pleasure**, 6pm-midnight, £8, yellow fun for waterworks fans.

Vault: Frat Party! at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EN. 1pm-1am. £8 after. Cruising session at this horny hot spot. Student Tuesdays; free entry before 7pm with student card.

Bunker Bar: Club CP at 217 City Road, EC1V 1JN, 7pm-11pm, £6 Members, £7 Non-Members – Get red raw at this spanking and CP party, with video rooms and dark areas

LONDON SAUNA GUIDE

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Vauxhall: Rail Arches 63-64, Albert Embankment SE1 7TP

12pm-8am Monday to Thursday, then 12pm-8am Monday. **£19 entry.**

Waterloo: 101 Lower Marsh, SE1 7AB. 24 hours all week. **£14 entry.**

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LOCKER ROOM

8 Cleaver St, SE11 4DP.

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11am-12am Monday to Thursday, 24 hours Friday – Sunday (closes midnight Sunday).

£13 entry, £20 weekend pass.

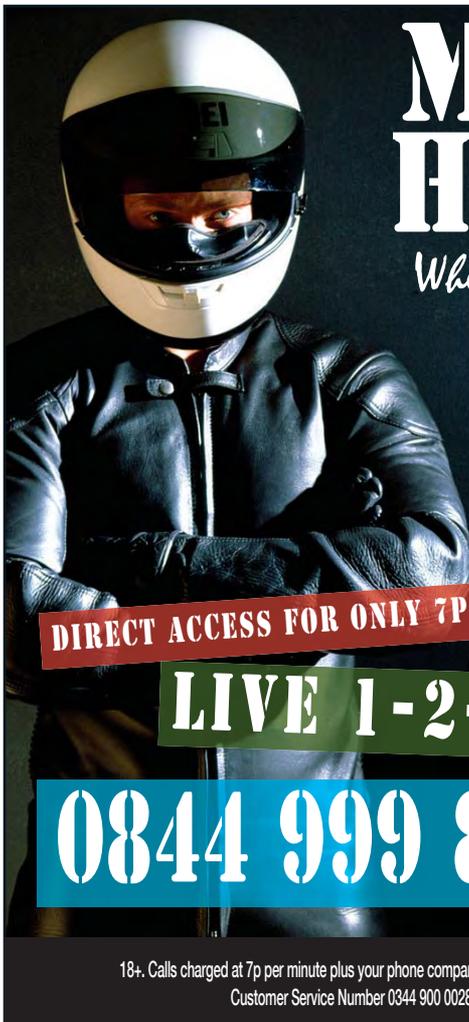
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Limehouse's Sailors Sauna is a cosy, sexy, salubrious port in the choppy waters of London's gay scene. www.sailorssauna.com

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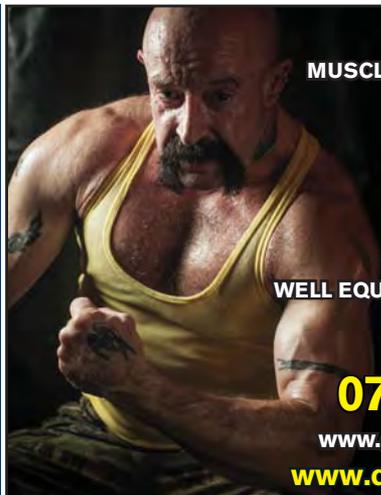
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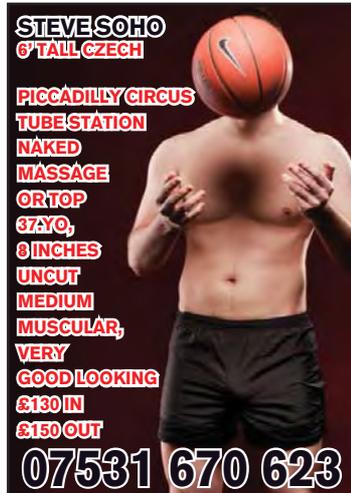
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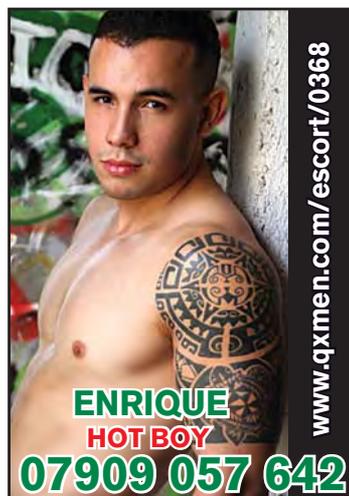
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