

QX
GAY LONDON

Suitable only for persons of 18 years and over.



Charli QX



There's a proper riot grrrl vibe to the new album 'Sucker'. Very Courtney Love/Smashing Pumpkins/Veruca Salt, which is a departure from your previous album's (True Romance) sound. What made you go in that direction?

It was very natural. I'd just been making some punk songs with my friend and his band Snuffed by the Yakuza in Sweden and it was just sort of a more pop but natural evolution from that. I wanted to do something raw.

There's a video on your YouTube from when you set up a phone called the 'Angel Phone' for your fans, the 'Angels', to get in touch with you.

What was the weirdest message you got on that? Aside from the delightful "what that mouth do though...?"

It was actually that one. I was so surprised. I thought I was going to get loads of abuse and hate and stuff because generally when you do things like that there are always crazy people who exploit it - but honestly, everybody was adorable.

We saw your performance of 'Need Ur Love' on David Letterman, standing atop a grand piano in a pair of huge glittery wedges and a silk slip. We've tried it ourselves a few times after a big night out and ended up going arse-over-tit onto the floor. Any mishaps in rehearsals?

So many! [Laughs] My legs were actually totally bruised for the performance and it hurt so much because I'd been constantly falling over for the past week.

Will we be seeing something similar at G-A-Y on the 24th? You could burst out of a drum or... Pop out of a tuba?

[Laughs] Maybe! I wanted to bring some strippers along - who knows...

You have Rose McGowan, star of 90's classics like Doom Generation, Scream & Jawbreaker, featured in your video for 'Break the Rules'. You're a 90's kid, so was that a massive coup for you?

Yeah, I asked her on the day and she just showed up and did it. She was cool. It was nice of her.

Rita Ora is on your latest UK single, 'Doing It'. How did that come about?

I played her the song ages ago and she kind

Ahead of her debut gig at London's palace of pop, G-A-Y @ Heaven this weekend, Dom Top caught up with the current Angel of Pop, Charli XCX, for a chat about strippers, Sucker and breaking all the rules...

of fell in love with it - she wanted to sing it herself! It never really dawned on me that we could do it together, until we started hanging out and I just got her vibe and her personality. **Your track 'Fancy' with Iggy Azalea was pretty much the song of the summer and we're still 'kvelling' over the Clueless-inspired vid. Which other teen flicks would you wanna remake in music video form? We vote Cruel Intentions!**

Definitely The Craft! That would be my all-time favourite.

You've got a track on your album Sucker called 'London Queen', the title of which pretty much describes everyone working at QX. Where does the city's reigning monarch (you) like to party?

It's mainly house parties. I kind of just let the night take me wherever it wants to go. I always have a

good time at G-A-Y, too. The R'n'B room is my favourite.

Can we make 'London Queen' our new QX Gay London theme tune? Pleeese? Say yes and we'll get you a drink after your show at G-A-Y! What's your tipples?

Vodka! Or champagne! Or both!

Finally, what's your favourite way to 'Break the Rules' (groan)?

Hahaha, ummmm... In school I used to flirt with teachers.

That was fun.

Charli XCX hits G-A-Y @ Heaven (Under the Arches, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 6NG) on Saturday 24th January, 11pm-5am. £3 entry wristbands available at G-A-Y Bar.

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Redefining **Q**ueer

By Cliff Joannou

Queer as Folk helped change the media's perception of gay men. When it hit the screens in 1999 Parliament was debating equalising the age of consent. (Yes, it wasn't that long ago that we were treated different to straight people in that regard.) This week, sixteen years later and after huge advances in gay rights, writer **RUSSELLT DAVIES** returns to Channel 4 with **CUCUMBER** and **BANANA**, two new dramas that pull tight focus on the modern lives of gay men in contemporary Britain. And once more they feature razor-sharp writing, brilliantly observed characters and devilish comedy...



People still refer to Queer As Folk today as such a seminal programme. Why was the time right for you to return to gay drama?

I've been planning to write this much earlier, maybe five or six years after Queer as Folk. Then Dr Who came completely out of the blue and lasted much longer than I ever thought and became this ridiculous, mad roller-coaster that never stopped. The longer time has passed, the more time I've had to think about it, the more time for [lead character] Henry to settle into my head and invent new stuff. I'm surprised I left this material alone for so long.

There's terrific interaction between the young and the old characters in the series...

It was a natural thing to do. You're looking at a culture that's very youth based. Gay magazines, gay literature and conversations inevitably revolve around youth. I don't know why that is. Maybe because for men of my generation at least part of their youth was spent in the closet, so we look back with a certain amount of fascination and regret, and joy also, at who we were. We do look at young men and consider how different their lives are, for good and for bad. Plus, there's a whole other argument that we live in a popular culture that is quite sexually-charged and therefore

that puts beauty, prettiness, ageing at the forefront of the agenda. That's just part of the world we live in.

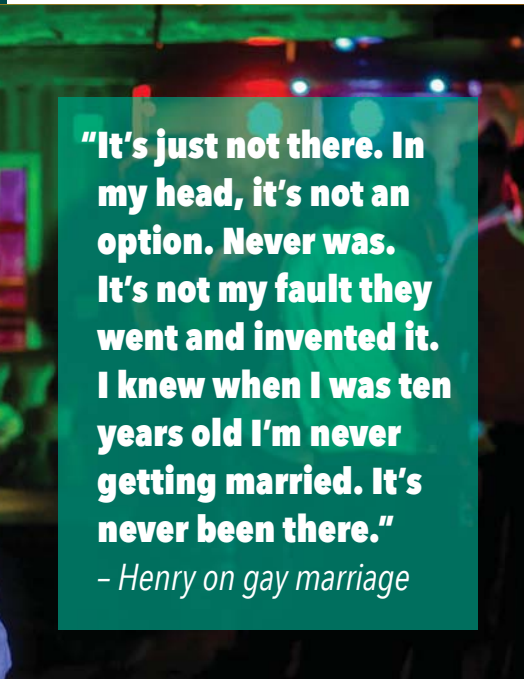
I agree. They aren't necessarily exclusive gay issues. Ageism is also a problem for older women...

I think they're problems of the West. Sometimes we see these things as problems, but they're just life. You will hear gay men of my age saying we're not welcome in the clubs, there's no culture for us and we're too old to go clubbing.

But at the same time, the gay scene is the kind of place where if you saw an older guy or an older woman even in a bar or club you wouldn't think twice, because we are more accepting of diversity and going against the grain.


Absolutely. That's very true actually, good point. The inclusiveness to the gay society is about slightly escaping the straight world. That's my favourite thing, to stand there in a club on Canal Street and watch those people who have been bank clerks or teachers all week - and a lot of them are still in the closet in some shape or form - and they go out on a Friday night and take their top off and dance there until four in the morning. There's something beautiful about that, and it's not limited by age. But it's not particularly a gay thing, it's the tensions between men and boys, women and girls, and society in the West really.





"It's just not there. In my head, it's not an option. Never was. It's not my fault they went and invented it. I knew when I was ten years old I'm never getting married. It's never been there."

— Henry on gay marriage



"The inclusiveness to the gay society is about slightly escaping the straight world."

You mentioned Henry before. If I'm honest, I didn't expect a middle-aged man to be such a perfectly suitable focal point of a new gay drama.

Yes, he's the engine of this entire thing. It's a great cast, and wonderful characters but it's all about Henry all the way through to the very last line of the very last episode.

The characters are written so well that you don't see them as stereotypes, they're just people finding their way through life.

I thought Henry and Lance could easily be a straight couple facing the same problems of a comfortable, unexciting relationship that's trundled along for a decade and lost its passion.

Oh, absolutely, until you get to the very specific gay stuff about Henry's fear of penetration and the whole thing about erections because it's the one thing he's scared of. The series develops into discussing gay shame, gay panic. It's an area of gay life that's not spoken about, the stuff we run away from.

I love what Henry says about gay marriage to Lance in that first episode.

At the same time, he's a crafty bugger. He's wriggling out of that madly. He's very good in an argument. He's like a shrapnel bomb. Everything he says is to get out of that situation with Lance, so don't believe everything he says.

Is Henry afraid of what his real desires call out for?


Yes, he's fascinated by sex, obsessed by sex and scared by sex at the same time. Nothing particularly gay about that. I think you'll find many straight men who share that. That's why the series was named after erections. It's not a cheap joke on my part, it's literally what the drama is about. It's real, it's genuinely about the thing we don't talk about, erections and cock, apart from as a joke.

Is Henry the gay equivalent of the frustrated housewife?

Well, slightly yes. But at the same time he's very honest and does things that none of us would ever dream of doing, packing his life up. I describe him as a fire starter, everything's calm and he just starts the fire.

What are your views on monogamy in relationships? In Cucumber you write about this relationship between Lance and Henry, which has been long but very tedious for them.

My views are not spectacular in any way. It's marvellous if you want to be monogamous, but equally honest if you want an open one. I like Henry's honesty in that he doesn't sneak off and have affairs. I think Lance is much more complicated



in his definition of monogamy and open relationships. Henry talks about people he fancies who he sends texts to and might have lunch with but nothing happens, but it's like a miniature affair without anything happening. And it's very true of life, you might have people on your phone that you give two kisses to instead of one. The shades of relationships are infinite. It doesn't mean affairs. It's nothing to do with monogamy or polygamy, it's to do with existing in the world in which there's more than one person you fancy. I love my boyfriend deeply and I'm so glad we can say to each other when we fancy other people, like when we're watching television and we say, 'Oh he's gorgeous, isn't he?' I've seen couples that can't do that.

Does the concept of gay marriage appeal to you?

I think it's marvellous that it exists. I had a civil partnership with my boyfriend. I'm not particularly interested in turning that into a marriage, because it doesn't mean much to me. I think it's excellent that the battle has been won. The principle is perfect, but it's like Henry in Cucumber who never grew up with marriage as an option. It's absolutely admirable that it's been won, and it's an evolution in our society, but not one that I'll be dancing in the street for.

Tell us about Freddie Fox's character, who is depicted as this very open, and liberal person.

There are slow reveals of character with him. Freddie is bisexual to start with, he's out to his parents, he's enormously confident sexually. But perhaps too confident. In episode three there's a reveal about his past, about the first man he had sex with, how that happened. They're not big twists like a soap opera, it's the finding out of people's lives; the smaller these details are, the better. With Freddie there's a boy that's out and confident. Society would tell us that men like that don't have problems, but that's not true of anyone, everyone has problems. I want to look at someone whose life should be perfect, but isn't. He creates problems for himself, is haunted by things he should have done. He's slightly fallen off the shelf, should have been to university, he got too drunk, he's in a shit job and caught in the zero hours contract world. He's not young-young, he's not 16, he's 24, so it's that generation.

I love the idea that Henry crashes into these young guys' lives...

It's great. Imagine these two hedonists, and Freddie finds suddenly there's this fifty year old man living with them. It's enormously funny. So, it becomes the source of their friendship and it's not a simple friendship, it's one-step forward two steps back.

*Cucumber is Thursdays on Channel 4.
Banana follows on E4.*

#Truvadawhore

Continuing our discussion on gay men's relationship to shame and sexuality, **Greg Mitchell** talks about his experience of being on PrEP, the controversial new HIV prevention treatment...

I'm Greg Mitchell and I'm a Truvadawhore. I take one pill a day (Truvada) and that stops me getting HIV. It's called PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis). However, some in the gay community think taking PrEP makes me a bad person: irresponsible, a slut, a whore.

I'm a product of the pre-AIDS generation. I remember a time when there was no HIV. Somehow I survived the worst of the AIDS epidemic and I'm still HIV negative. How I got here is no doubt down

to a little judgement and a lot of luck. Statistically I should be a statistic.

Back in the 80s the fear of AIDS stopped me having sex completely for quite a while. But eventually I started again. I used condoms and I hated them. Sex could still be good, but it wasn't the same.

However, with the advances in HIV treatment, I'll admit my adherence to safer sex started to falter. At first it was just what they call 'dipping': when you put it in for a few minutes, and think: 'that doesn't count'. Then there were other occasions when I wouldn't use a condom at all. There would be discussion, 'risk assessment', and I would decide to take the risk.

I was finding it harder and harder to use condoms. I'd lose my erection. I'd become so fixated on the business of getting the packet open, and the bloody thing on. I was beginning to give up the idea of penetrative sex altogether. So PrEP seemed like a miracle, and it's changed my sex life.

Because it has removed anxiety. I know I can't get HIV. I know I can't pass it on. That is a liberating feeling. Short of a vaccine, I thought it the most important advance in HIV research since the discovery of anti-retroviral treatments. My family and my straight friends agreed, so I was astonished to find that many in the gay community were less enthusiastic. Why?

Ultimately I think some of the negative reactions come down to shame. Gay sex, any gay sex, has long been about shame. It wasn't that long ago that it became decriminalised here (in fact it was still illegal when I was growing up), and in 81 countries around the world it is still

"Because PrEP can eliminate the difference between negative and positive. We can become a community that is no longer split by our HIV status."

against the law. In the 1980s it became even more shameful as we discovered it was one of the transmission routes for a deadly disease.

Before that time condoms were for preventing babies. No gay man would ever consider using one, but, as our brothers started to die around us, we realised it was either put a rubber on it or become another statistic.

And that's when condom-free sex became shameful. We even coined a new word for it, a loaded word that carried with it a sense of risk. Barebacking. New treatments meant that HIV was no longer deemed a death sentence. Still, I'll wager most of the people indulging in occasional condom-free sex end up feeling guilty for ages afterwards, hoping against hope that when they next test they will be okay. But that probably starts a pattern. Once you get away with unsafe sex once, you try again and again, until one day you go for that test and it comes back positive.

I am also convinced that many of those who condemn the use of PrEP are under the misapprehension that those gay men testing positive are just the *dirty gay guys*,

the ones who go to weekend sex parties and take lots of drugs, and no doubt there is an undercurrent of feeling that they deserve it. Good gay guys subscribe to the hetero-norm, they meet the man of their dreams and settle down in a monogamous relationship, whilst the bad ones have multiple partners and go to cruise bars and sex clubs.

But many of these 'good gays', the ones with boyfriends, the ones who think they are in monogamous relationships, are still testing positive. In fact more than half of all new HIV cases come from the primary partner. Maybe some of these good gays are not that good after all; maybe we should stop condemning people who choose a different lifestyle from our own; maybe we should all stop being so damn judgemental. Because PrEP can eliminate the difference between negative and positive. We can become a community that is no longer split by our HIV status.

Quite the opposite of being irresponsible, PrEP is taking responsibility for my own health and the health of those with whom I have sex. If that makes me a Truvadawhore, then so be it.



© Miles Elliot

Greg Mitchell is giving a speech about PrEP to the 'European AIDS Treatment Group' - meeting on new developments in prevention' this weekend in Brussels.

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Joiners Arms



Familyyy Fierce at The Black Cap

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ONE UP, ONE DOWN

By Patrick Cash

LONDON'S GAY SCENE has had a high and a comedown last week with news of its venues statuses. On the light side, QX danced with delight that the Joiners Arms has been awarded its Community Asset Value status at the eleventh hour from Tower Hamlets Council. The pub can now be potentially saved by the community, should they raise enough money to purchase the venue. Below is what community activist group 'Friends of The Joiners' had to say about the matter.

From the 'Friends of The Joiners' Press Release:

On Thursday 15 January 2015, Friends of the Joiners Arms the campaign group seeking to save and evolve the LGBTQIA pub The Joiners Arms on Hackney Road, London received confirmation from Tower Hamlets Council that their application for Asset of Community Value (ACV) status had been approved. Crucially, now that this status has been secured, Friends of the Joiners Arms have the right to bid on the property if it goes up for sale and the status may impact decisions around future planning applications for the building.

The LGBTQIA community of London and its allies have huge ambitions for The Joiners Arms. Campaigners have been meeting regularly to refine ideas for what can be achieved in this invaluable space, and connections have been made to likeminded groups, organisations and campaigns to construct what an LGBTQIA Community Centre could do to best serve the local community. Friends of the Joiners are committed to a centre which is cooperatively and democratically run, expanding its services and activities and becoming a hub to fight for minority rights and against poverty and gentrification.

As far as campaigners understand, The Joiners is currently en route to demolition, with plans to develop the land into another high-end, soulless apartment block – likely to be out of financial reach to many local residents. It filled punters and locals with sadness that on Sunday 11th January 2015 The Joiners Arms closed its doors to the public for the last time, and on 15th January 2015, The Joiners' management vacated the property for good.

Friends of the Joiners will do everything in their power to prevent The Joiners Arms from becoming yet another victim of rapid, heart-breaking and ruthless gentrification of London, particularly

in the East End. As the campaign to save and evolve The Joiners is at a crucial junctures. Friends of the Joiners encourages more people to sign their petition, follow them on Twitter (@joinersliveson) and to email thejoinersliveson@gmail.com to get involved with the campaign.

But although there was a ray of sunshine's optimism in Hackney, the weighing scales were balanced out by a stormcloud gathering in Camden. In a piece for Not Television, roving cabaret reporter and all-round protector of the gay scene Ben Walters writes that:

'Camden Council has announced its intention to approve planning permission to turn the first, second and third floor of the building into three flats, resulting in the loss of the first-floor Shufflewick Bar and a reduction in the ground-floor area of eight square metres.'

As we were going to press news came in that The Yard in Soho was also battling the encroaching hand of the property developers. We will bring you news of this as it develops.

You win some, you might lose some, but you always gotta fight the battle.

"Although there was a ray of sunshine's optimism in Hackney, the weighing scales were balanced out by a stormcloud gathering in Camden."

The Black Cap is at 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY.

Ben Walters' website on the London cabaret scene is: www.nottelevision.net

Follow 'Friends of the Joiners' on Twitter @joinersliveson or email them for more information: thejoinersliveson@gmail.com

THE BLACKCAP
CAMDEN TOWN
Just B. Walters

Joiners Arms



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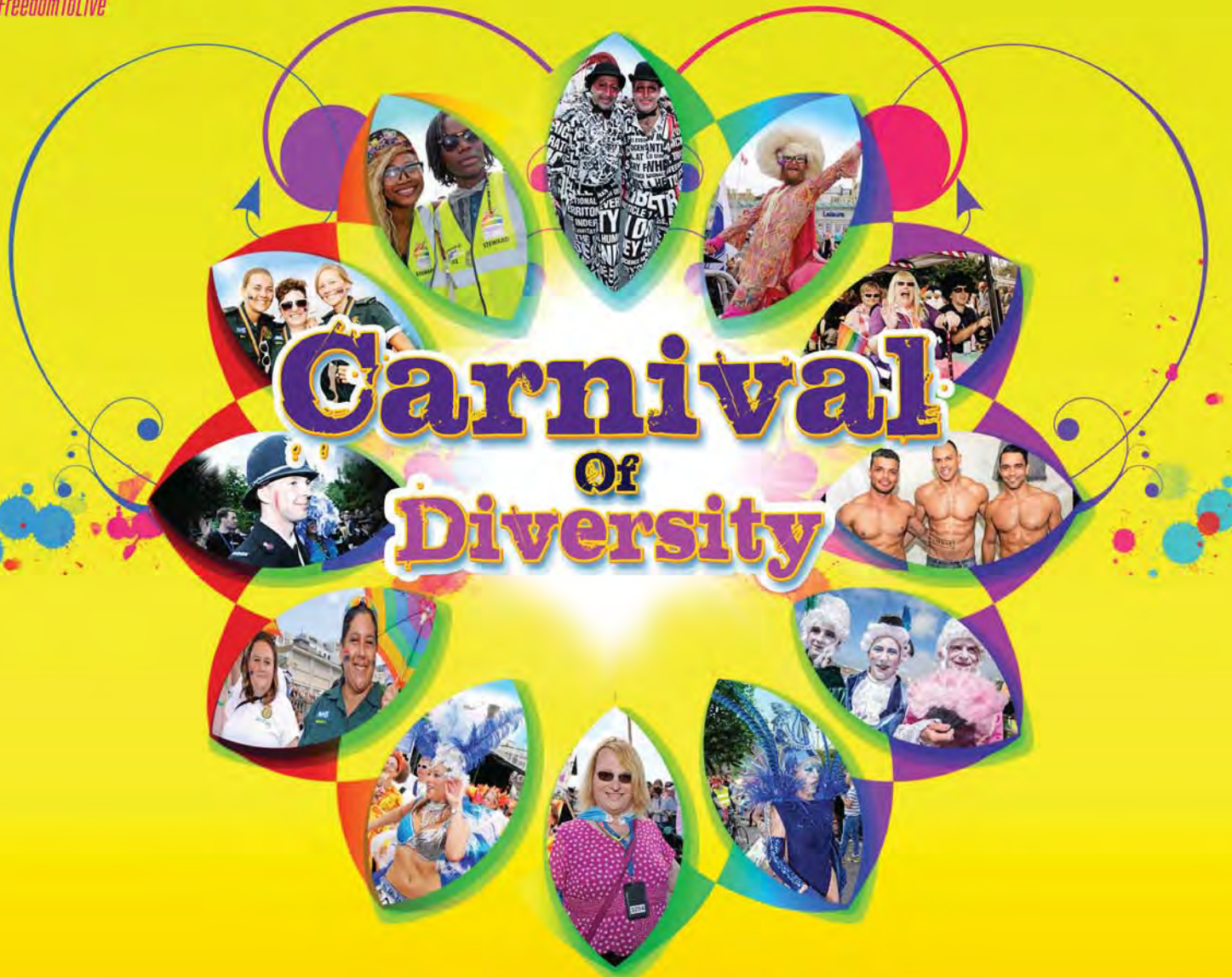
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East London is alight with the news that **Jonny Woo's** infamous 2004 contest (originally called "Tranny Lip-Syncing" and hosted at Bistroteque) has been updated, recalibrated and rebooted with a cast of celebrity judges and a giant cash prize. Clear a space for the next ten Wednesdays – it's LIPSYNC 1000! This is the tournament that previously discovered Spanky, A Man To Pet, Holestar and Dickie Beau! It's an intergalactic fairy fame machine. But it ain't just for drag queens. There are **HARDLY** any rules. Whip together a Turner Prize spinning look, choose a track and off you go! All sexes, races, ages and sizes welcome. Just be incredible, or failing that, amazingly bad!

The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS
 Wednesdays from 21st January.
 To enter email: info@theglory.co

BABY LAME: DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK

Cabaret monstrosity brings her inimitable brand of punk-horror-drag to Vault 2015



A fixture of London's alternative cabaret circuit, **Baby Lame** brings her hit show underground and into the capital's biggest arts festival. More messed up than *The Exorcist* combined with an episode of *Keeping Up With The Kardashians*, get ready for an explosion of trash-tastic song, interactive comedy, dance, film and furious balls-out performance.

Featuring exclusive behind the scenes documentary footage, **Don't Call it a Comeback** destroys the facade and exposes the insane world of failed child starlet Baby Lame and her monstrous Momager **Moan Crawful**, as they battle addictions, leaked sex tapes, lack of talent and Justin Bieber.

The Vaults, Leake Street, Waterloo, SE1 7NN
 Thursday 29th, Friday 30th & Saturday 31st January. 9.40pm, £9.50.
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TheMenWhoGotElectric

TheMenWhoFell2Earth are back with their first party of 2015, and they're inviting Manchester boys HomoElectric to man the main floor decks with them.



TheMenWhoFell2Earth meet HomoElectric

TheMenWhoFell2Earth: Where do we find HomoElectric in 2015?

HomoElectric: Running around the backstreets, no knickers on, open to offers.

Some clubs come and go, but that can also be part of their story - they're just a moment in time. How has HomoElectric stayed the course, and kept its appeal?

By keeping the bullshit to a minimum, keeping its attitude free and giving people a good time.

What's on heavy rotation on the turntables at HomoElectric towers?

We're loving The Black Madonna at the moment, great productions and her sets are devious, euphoric and eclectic.

Who do you always keep an ear out for?

Anything on Erol Alkan's Phantasy label. And anything Todd Terje is involved with is always a winner.

Tell anyone who doesn't already know about the sound of HomoElectric.

For the uninitiated, HomoElectric is a free-thinking no frills backstreet disco, for queers and nice homosapians. We love underground dance music, usually of black origin - namely soul, disco, house, garage, maybe a little techno. There are no rules at our parties, just don't be an idiot.

Where do you see our dance floors heading in 2015? Are the deep house hooligans going to move onto something else?

If I hear another pitched down deep house vocal I will kill myself. It's been done to death! The trend I predict for 2015 is 'no trend'. Abandon all genres and be open to various musical styles.

What is 2015 going to be the year of?

The selfie stick unfortunately, the narcissists are winning. We're doomed.

As we're doubling up with TheMenWhoFell2Earth on Saturday 24th, tell us your favourite double act.

Ashford & Simpson. Responsible for too many hit songs to mention, killer vocal harmonies and an unhealthy love of jackets with fringing.

What should you never go to a nightclub with?

A selfie stick.

What should you never go to a nightclub without?

Good manners, shoes you don't mind trashing, and a sense of humour.

"HomoElectric is a free-thinking no frills backstreet disco, for queers and nice homosapians."

HomoElectric meet TheMenWhoFell2Earth

HomoElectric: So, it's the first party of the new year for you guys. Which resolutions will you be breaking?

TheMenWhoFell2Earth: No discos. No poppers. Massive fail.

Imagine HomoElectric and TheMenWhoFell2Earth were people on a first date, what would that date involve?

It would probably be like the night we took Jamie Bull to the last ever Popstarz - Nando's, the best of intentions, some record playing, much dancing and a brutalising hangover (but no touching).

How are HomoElectric and TheMenWhoFell2Earth similar? What makes them kindred spirits?

I think we're both nicely left of centre and tend to trust our own instincts.

How many times have you actually watched the film 'The Man Who Fell To Earth'?

That's like asking you how many homosexuals you've electrocuted!

Homo Electric Top 3

1: 'Paradise' - Payfone

Cos you've always gotta have a new favourite and this little squechly disco number is it.

2: 'Kilometer' (Aeroplane Italo 84 remix) Sebastian Tellier

Probably the most danced to record in the club's history.

3: 'Reasons To Be Cheerful'

- Ian Dury and the Blockheads Classic!

TheMenWhoFell2Earth and guests HomoElectric are at East Bloc (217 City Road, EC1V 1JN) on Saturday 24th January, 10.30pm-06am.





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Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm – super late.



**24/01/15:
THEMENWHOFELL2EARTH**

Double your pleasure and set the tone for the rest of the year! For their first party of 2015, **TheMenWhoFell2Earth** have

invited the legendary **Homo Electric** to East Bloc for a very special encounter. Bringing the noise all the way from Manchester are two of their finest, **Luke Unabomber** and **Jamie Bull**. They'll be serving you January blues busting action all night long.

East Bloc, 217 City Road, London, EC1V 1JN.
10:30pm-6am. £6
b4 12:30! £10
after.

Jamie Bull



**24/01/15: LEGION PLEASURE
PRINCIPAL**

Enter the deep, dark world of Legion and immerse yourself in the heady mix of pulsing techno that surrounds you in Dalston's most pandemonium filled basement club. Brought to you by the fantastic **Ursula Snakes**. Only foolish mortals would miss this!

Vogue Fabrics, 10pm-late. £5 all night



Ursula Snakes



G-A-Y

**24/01/15:
G-A-Y
presents
CHARLI XCX**

Music's big rulebreaker and 'London Queen' Charli XCX, purveyor of fine pop hits like 'Fancy' launches her highly-anticipated new album *Sucker* at G-A-Y this Saturday. This is a big one, boys and girls. Our favourite Boom Clapper is hot property and you ain't gonna get another chance to see her for a while when she heads back to the US of A, so don't be a sucker, don't miss Charli XCX!

Heaven, Under the Arches,
Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2H
6NG. 10.30pm-5am. £4 wristbands from
G-A-Y Bar.



QBoy

**DALSTON
Superstore**

25/01/15: PUT IT IN YOUR MOUTH

Open wide! The inimitable **QBoy** and **Neil Prince** are sliding into their new Sunday night home, to bring you the best in fun '90s, R'n'B and hip-hop, giving your Sunday a nice smooth landing and easing you into the week ahead, Dalston Superstore-stylee.

Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland Road, Dalston, E8
2PB. 9pm-2:30am.
Free entry.



Neil Prince

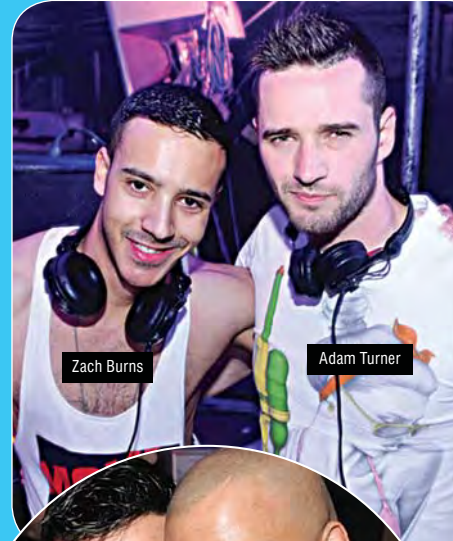


POPCORN

**26/01/15: POPCORN
- LAND OF OZ
'AUSTRALIA DAY'**

You can always expect four rooms of awesome music at Popcorn: progressive and tribal house on the main floor, hip-hop and R'n'B in Room 2, pop and guilty pleasures in Room 3 and deep/tech house in Room 4. On the 26th January, enjoy the Land of Oz 'Australia Day' party with a stellar array of power-pumping DJs including **Adam Turner**, **Jamie Hammond**, **Neroli**, **Jonathan Bestley**, **Trex**, **Nick Shepherdson**, **Zach Burns** and **Luke Donnington**.

Heaven, under the Arches,
Villiers Street, Charing Cross,
WC2N 6NG. 11pm-5.30am.
Free entry wristbands available
from G-A-Y Bar, valid until 1am.



Zach Burns

Adam Turner



Calvin

Jamie Hammond

26/01/15: POPCORN 'ONE' MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

POPCORN

ONE

Are you the ONE? The Monday nights monster, Popcorn, have got a brand new free membership scheme for every Monday night



at Heaven. ONE members will be treated to a host of exclusive facilities and offers including drink offers, free entry, q-jump, plus your own private main floor balcony bar and lounge. ONE launches at the end of January 2015 and membership is only available by referral from an existing member, so get social boys!

Heaven, Under the Arches, Villiers Street, Charing Cross, WC2H 6NG. 10.30pm-5.30am

30-31/01/15: G-A-Y Big Brother



Taking place on stage at Heaven on Friday 30th and Saturday 31st January, it's a live action and full-on queer Big Brother special at G-A-Y. The stage becomes the G-A-Y Big Brother House as 10 contestants compete to win £1,000. There will be tasks every hour as the audience watches on. After the hourly tasks someone will be evicted. Expect a night of full-on entertainment from the minute the doors open to the minute the winner is announced!

To be a contestant e-mail info@g-a-y.co.uk or text 07789 553 868.

Heaven (Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG) on Friday 30th and Saturday 31st January. Friday: FREE entry wrist bands available at G-A-Y Bar. Saturday: £2 entry wrist bands available at G-A-Y Bar



DJ
OF THE WEEK

D.RAMIREZ @MOTHERLOAD



D.RAMIREZ'S MOTHERLOAD TOP 10

1. 'Just The Way It Is' - Lisa Moorish
(Waifs and Strays 2014 Remix)

Old skool, jackin' house designed to make your booty shake.

2. 'Love Game' - D.Ramirez & Allusion

One of mine, so I'm seriously biased, but this goes off - I promise!

3. 'Work On Me' - Lewis Boardman

One for a late night, early morning session - pure groove!

4. 'D-MIL' - Midland & Bicep

A jackin' stonker, worthy of losing a few marbles to.

5. 'Dogfish' - Filsonik

Groove, groove, gruuuuuuuuue!

6. 'Ndiamu' - Lorca

Sexy tribal is back!

7. 'Always On' - Ozzi (Andy Lee Remix)

Sexy, deep, bass house to rattle your booty to early in the a.m.

8. 'Rendezvous' - Filthy Rich (Nathen Borrato Remix)

This track will slap you into submission!

9. 'Dusk' - Olivier Giacomotto

Some funky ass tech grooves and tight ass beats makes a tight-ass track, which never fails.

10. 'Call Me' - Dale Howard

I just love these funky, US house beats - takes me back to the good old days!

Tell us in one snappy sentence who D. Ramirez is...

D.Ramirez is the son of a Cuban Coal miner, now living it up in East London, loving life, passionate about his craft and enjoying every record he gets to play to everybody who wants to listen.

What are you looking forward to in 2015?

Travelling to Bali in April, working on and perfecting the Motherload project with Guy Williams, working on new D.Ramirez tracks, getting to see more of what London has to offer including the London summertime, and just generally living it up.

Your new night Motherload returns to East Bloc this week. What to expect?

The last one was off the hook! We had a packed house at East Bloc and the atmosphere was electric! We had the naked guy there in full nakedness along with some fully clothed people as a contrast and the music was deep and jacking all night, all the way till the end at 6.30am. It's amazing!



Motherload is at East Bloc (217 City Road, London, EC1V 1JN) on Friday 23rd January, 10:30pm-6am.

RAMSAY ST

LAND OF OZ

HELLO POSSUMS!

MONDAY 26TH JANUARY

11PM - 5.30AM

POPCORN

HOUSE | DANCE | RNB

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATION

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TREX NICK SHEPHERDSON ZACH BURNS LUKE DONNINGTON

HEAVEN FREE ENTRY ONLY WITH A WRISTBAND FROM G-A-Y BAR OR A STUDENT CARD. FREE ENTRY STRICTLY BEFORE 1AM. 18+. ID REQUIRED. LAST ENTRY 3.30AM. R.O.A.R
UNDER THE ARCHES | VILLIERS STREET | LONDON | WC2 | NEAREST TUBE: EMBANKMENT | WWW.POPCORN-HEAVEN.COM | GPS: WC2N 6NG



FITLADZ
 16/01/15
 Barcode, 69 Albert
 Embankment, Vauxhall,
 SE1 7TP

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY
MARK STOREY

WELL THERE WAS something in the air last week! The journey to one of our favourite club nights, Fitladz, was like doing a 'Tough Mudder' assault course. Three buses, one and a half hours, two drunks, one crazy woman and an upset QX photographer... I certainly thought that I'd skipped a few months and

it was Halloween again. What a relief to get into Barcode and relax and enjoy the happy house that Mister Jason Prince was dishing out. Crowd going mental as always, running amuck having a ball, it's always such a good buzz being there, a real family feel to the place, just what you need to get your party spirit pumping. The back room was packed and buzzing with hotties abound. After papping some pictures, it was shot time for a quick boogie and a cheeky sherry before this Cinders headed home to camera slumberland and editing. Until we meet again, sexy Fitladz!



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VOGUE FABRICS

HELMET CLUB @
VOGUE FABRICS
16/01/15

66 Stoke Newington
Road, Dalston, N16 7XB

WORDS BY
DOM TOP
PHOTOS BY
MARK STOREY

ON FRIDAY NIGHT we braved the cold, icy streets of East London and prepared ourselves for some heat, as we headed to Vogue Fabrics for exclusive access to the infamous Helmet Club. What is a Helmet Club you ask?

Well, a certain not-so-gentle man was kind enough to inform me that it is, quite simply: "A gathering or party where attendance is mostly, if not all, dudes..."

The Helmet Club mantra is pretty damn simple; blokes, boys and no bullshit. Oh, and obviously hardcore dance action, which is definitely what we got as we descended into Stoke Newington's naughtiest basement!

From the deep house and self-styled 'mermaid techno' of bearded Spanish sweetheart Greggo After All, to the delicious machismo disco of Richard Kahwagi, we got ourselves into one seriously sweaty rubdown. As the night drew to a close, we're pretty sure we saw some things on the dancefloor that we can't tell you about in the pages of this publication, but it definitely had us holding on to our helmets!

Then to finish us all off, hunk of spunk Wes Baggaley took us into the small hours, with the kind of beats the boys like to bump to with their buds. Fit.

Until next time boys! See you down there...



JAMES BAILLIE

NEIL SMITH

2DADSBOY

(DISCOSODOMA)

TUSK #1

ANT C

CHRIS CAMPLIN

LUKE SOLOMON

(CLASSIC REC)

DALSTON
Superstore

31.01.2015

HOSTED BY OUR GLAMDICULOUS ARKEM WALTON

GAY STAR TRAVEL EXPO

Summer comes early at the Gay Star Travel Expo 2015

Queer travel event featured packed political debates and killer performances from La Voix and London Gay Big Band...

The Gay Star Travel Expo returned to London's Heaven nightclub for the second time last Saturday – and the one-stop-travel-shop proved a huge success, with LGBTI travelers filling the venue throughout the day.

The event featured two packed afternoon debates, the first featuring political figures Lord Cashman, Baroness Barker and Crispin Blunt.

They debated the motion 'Global LGBTI rights: what is Britain's role?' The second debate featured human rights campaigner Peter Tatchell, Nigerian activist Bisi Alimi and Ugandan activist Edwin Sesenge.

They discussed the question: 'Are we winning or losing the fight for LGBTI rights worldwide?'

A highlight of the day was undoubtedly a series of rousing performances from former Britain's Got Talent finalists La Voix and the London Gay Big Band.

The fabulous La Voix also made for a hilariously acerbic host during the two fashion shows – featuring male models in nothing but their underwear.

Meanwhile, Andrew Hayden-Smith, star of E4's new gay drama Banana, also attended the expo along with gay men's mag Attitude (the handsome actor, along with the rest of Cucumber, Banana, Tofu cast, appears on the cover of this month's issue).

Fun and games on the day included a hot tub, a ski simulator and drinks samples from the likes of Barefoot Wines and ICB.

Meanwhile, attendees chatted with travel industry experts and authorities included Atlantic Pride, Visit Vienna, Austrian Airlines, Sun Resorts, City Cruises and GoCruise, plus the tourist boards of Gibraltar and Vienna.

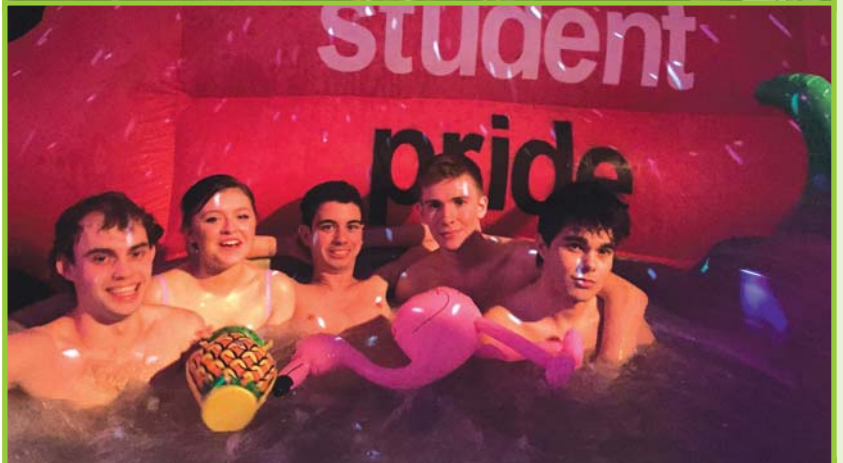
Other guests on the day included 56 Dean Street, Ombudsman, iON cameras and Gaydio.

Gay Star News editor Tris Reid-Smith was delighted with the Gay Star Travel Expo's success, saying: "It was great to meet so many of our readers at the expo, and all our exhibitors were pleased to get the opportunity to interact with LGBTI travelers face-to-face.

"We owe a huge thanks to all of the exhibitors – and well done to the winners of the Eurovision competition, in association with Visit Vienna and Austrian Airlines, plus the iON camera winner – winners to be announced soon. Finally and most importantly, thanks to everyone who came along, threw themselves into it and made it such a fun, friendly day."



"Are we winning or losing the fight for LGBTI rights worldwide?"



SL

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The advertisement features a central cartoon illustration of a large, muscular bear with a beard and a dog tag necklace. To the left, two smartphones display the bearwww.com app interface. The top phone shows a home screen with icons for 'Around me', 'My profile', 'My contact list', 'My guestbook', 'Visitors', 'My searches', 'Events', and 'Facilities'. The bottom phone shows a 'Around me' screen with a grid of user avatars and their distances. A QR code is located in the top right corner. At the bottom, a logo for bearwww.com is displayed with the tagline 'the bear community' and a paw print icon.

Raising the Bar

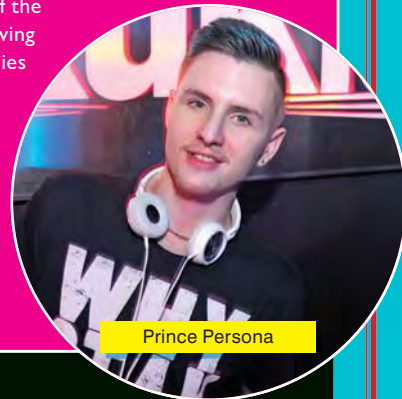


Kerol

KU BAR 30 Lisle Street, Chinatown, WC2H 7BA

Ku, Ku, Ku, no we're not talking to a baby, we're talking about hot-bodied boy babes! Everywhere at Ku every day of the week, topless showing off their Adonis bodies at the weekends...

And that's just behind the bar! Ku's one of our own personal favourite bars in all of London and it's always packed with a trendy, friendly crowd at the weekends, sampling the delights of DJs and VJs **Vicki Vivacious, Pablo, Kerol** and **Prince Persona**. Plus on a Sunday get a glass of Moët for just £6.50 and finish the weekend in style.



Prince Persona



Miss Jason

THE TWO BREWERS 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ

Shining star of Clapham, the masterful matriarch that is the famous Two Brewers, swings another dream of cabaret primetime entertainment into town this weekend. On Thursday 22nd January you can find **Miss Jason** on the stage, with entry free before 10pm (£3 after), and Friday 23rd sees **Lola Lasagne** tickling your humour buds with entry free before 10pm and £6 after. **The Power of 3** on Sunday 25th January rounds off the weekend with style, entry free before 8pm and £4 after!



Topping & Butch

WEST 5 56 Pope's Lane, Ealing, W5 4NB

West 5 is like a Catherine Wheel on Fireworks Night: fizzing and sparking with brilliance, and you can't keep your eyes off it in the night! This week you can treat yourself to the **AIM Student Night** on Thursday 22nd, and DJ **Stefan** with **Topping & Butch** on stage on Friday 23rd. And on Saturday 24th find DJ **Shaun** spinning on the decks and **Vanity Von Glow** in the Piano Lounge, open from 8pm.



Vanity Von Glow

THE OLD SHIP 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW

Everyone who attends the Old Ship always remarks on how much they enjoy its friendly, welcoming atmosphere, its array of fine wines like those Marie Antoniette may have sipped before her final execution, and fine ales that The Wurzels would be proud to drink, and ciders. Plus on the weekend you can find some cabaret stars to whet your whistle with singing, dancing and general camp-a-raderie! On Saturday 24th, get a fix of **Mandy Gap** on stage from 8.45pm.



Mandy Gap

THE QUEBEC 12 Old Quebec Street, W1H 7AF

The City of Quebec is like a fine sherry that gains vigour, vibes and a frisson of sexual excitement with age – as well as a pure pop music meltdown disco and fantastic cabaret on the weekends. That's one motherfucking good sherry, get it down you, lads! This weekend you can find the one and only **Lola Lasagne** treading the boards on Sunday 25th, who will have you laughing out into the January night and all the nightbus home.



Lola Lasagne



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TWO BREWERS

18/01/15

114 CLAPHAM HIGH STREET, SW4 7UJ

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY CHRIS JEPSON

SUNDAY NIGHTS AT the Two Brewers, south London's home of drag cabaret, have become legendary with no less than three top drag queens entertaining the masses every week. We popped along on a cold, wintery January evening to see the magic formula at work as, in true Shakespearian style, three witches came together to weave song, story telling and laughter in to a shimmering veil of entertainment. This evening's meat feast in the middle was the vocal acrobat La Voix with a musical theatre set chosen by the audience that included

Cabaret, Grease, Rocky Horror,

Les Mis and Wicked, and

like some of the best

Sunday spit roasts

we have been

to, she was top

and tailed by a

Brighton Belle.

Opening the

night was

the divine

Miss Jason

with her more

traditional

repertoire and

NAAFI humour

of double entendre.

Bringing up the rear was

the big talent, in a smaller more petite body since her diet, of Miss Lola Lasagne looking resplendently fresh as a blond. With a fluid assortment of characters appearing, depending on illness and other commitments, The Power Of Three is a guaranteed good night out with no two sets ever being the same, and it's all over by the pumpkin hour so there is (almost) no excuse not to be at work the next day.



"South London's home of drag cabaret."





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Halfway II Heaven

HALFWAY II HEAVEN

17/01/15

7 DUNCANNON STREET, WC2N 4JF

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY JOEL RYDER

IT'S NOT JUST all camp cabaret dear!

But Halfway II Heaven is a friendly, well-priced, venue for all comers to go and have a natta and a swolla. Regularly having DJs on,

spinning camp classics and chart hits

downstairs, with floor space to twerk your arse till it falls off, while knocking back a few shots.

Upstairs you have your classic British bar to gossip better than Perez Hilton

while flicking through your copy of QX Magazine and setting

the world to rights. My hat goes off to Ange and

Angel who run Halfway and

all their hard working

staff that make it such a great place

to go. Oh and don't forget the cabaret by the way, which

is some of the very best in London,

happening almost every evening of the week.



"A friendly, well-priced, venue for all comers to go and have a natta and a swolla."



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Saturday 24th Jan

MANDY GAP 10pm

DJ STEVIE TEE
'TIL MIDNIGHT

Davina Sparkle



Sunday 25th Jan

DJ STEVIE TEE
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ON STAGE AT 9.00pm

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Band of Scold!



We love a bit of **MYRA DUBOIS** here at QX Towers, probably because we're a bunch of sarcastic bitches and she reminds us of that one mad aunt with the questionable political views, and guess what, readers? She's back with a one off 'extravaganza' at the Royal Vauxhall Tavern, with a live band and everything! Dead fancy! We sent Jason Reid off for a chat with her ladyship this week...

Tell us a bit about this upcoming 'Live and In Concert' show of yours, Myra. What should the punters expect?

It's no less than an extravaganza, Jason! Very basically, it's me and a band, but here's the story. Last August I played Camden's Roundhouse and I did one song with a full band for a variety night. It was exhilarating! Don't get me wrong, I understand the appeal of backing tracks. They're cheap, they don't answer back and they don't have a union. But you just can't get the same energy as you can with five artists live on stage.

Safe to say you're a big fan of keeping it live then?

Well, I've always done 'live' work, with my long-term collaborator Sarah Bodalbhai, who some of your readers will recognise as the Musical Director of the RVT Panto. She's played piano for me for seven years now, and I want to take the work we've done to the next level. We're throwing everything at this show. I'm having costumes made, I've had a logo designed and I've even, wait for it, REHEARSED!

And your band, The Spiders in Bras, who are they comprised of?

Well, there's the above mentioned Sarah on the keys, who read music classically at Cambridge but loves rock & roll and pop. On drums we have Dan Paton, who used to drum with quite a famous band! But before they were famous so I don't know if I'm allowed to tell people. There's Heidi Heelz who is all about the bass (I've no idea where she stands on 'treble'), who is also in a glam all-girl rock outfit called 'The Priscillas'. Finally, on saxophone we have 'Thomas' who is more of a fan than a colleague and only ended up in the band because he won a competition and that's all I shall say about him.

Curious name. What's the story behind that?

Well, in the 1970s there was an obscure indie artiste with a modest fan-base called "David Bowie". His band at the time were called The Spiders from Mars, and my Spiders are a tribute to his. I wanted to call them 'The Jobbing Musicians' so they all knew they were replaceable but I was told it 'didn't roll off the tongue'.

Now lady, as we began this interview I was under the impression that this was going to be your last big London show, having decided to leave us for Manchester BUT like a true Gemini you've changed your mind...

Well, this is awkward. I was leaving London, honestly I was! I had a little hankie tied round a stick and everything. But I wasn't even as far as Highgate Hill before voices in my head said "Turn Again Myra DuBois, Mayoress of London!" That's the press story. The truth of the matter is that I was offered a place in Clapham.

Why did you want to leave? Had you been falling out of love with London?

I had a little, and it's talked about in the show. It's just so depressing, reading about venue after venue being systemically shut down by greed-driven councils and property developers. It's also not the warmest of cities and as a Northerner I miss friendly strangers. I miss people in shops who say "Ta love" when giving you your change. London can be a hard-faced old bitch - but you get out of her what you put back in so I've resolved to stay.

You mentioned about venues closing. Do you think it's more difficult for cabaret performers to find work right now?

You make your own work in show-business, I'll say that much. No one's hiring you for their show? Put on your own. I wanted to put on a show with a full band that an audience would leave really feeling like they'd seen their ticket money spent on the stage. No one was hiring me to do that show, so I put my own on!

"We're throwing everything at this show. I'm having costumes made, I've had a logo designed and I've even, wait for it, REHEARSED!"



Myra DuBois
 'Live and In Concert with
 The Spiders in Bras' is at the RVT
 (372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall,
 SE11 5HY), doors 7.30pm,
 on Thursday 29th January.
 Tickets: myradubois.co.uk/concert

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REVOLTAGE

PRINCESS JULIA



Clubs, pubs and bars, what's your favourite way to have fun? Here at Revoltage we've been out and about just about everywhere and it's still only January! If you're feeling the urge for something completely different pop down to **The Glory** (281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS), on Wednesdays for the long awaited return of **Jonny Woo**'s Lipsync challenge, **Lypsinc 1000**.



Jonny Woo

I used to go to this years ago and had the most fun as Jonny gave us tips on the perfect lipsync. This time around there's a prize of £1,000 on the table for the worthy winner... Showtime 7.30, every Wednesday. 10 heats with celeb judges and special guests until the winner is crowned! www.theglory.co



Kev Clarke

Talking pubs, **The George & Dragon** (2 Hackney Road, E2 7NS) keeps up appearances with a night called **Men In Love** with Debbie Does own star **Sina Sparrow** with **Keve Clarke** and **Sam Fenn** on Friday 23rd. On Saturday 24th **Pink Triangle** is the brainchild

of **Matthew Smith** and **Julian Smith** (aka Jacqui Potato).

They'll be playing a selection of popular and alternative music that will make you think, dance and drink! 8 till midnight and then on to **TheMenWhoFell2Earth** at **East Bloc** (217 City Road, EC1V 1JN) who have special guests **Jamie Bull** and **Luke Unabomber** from Manchester's **Homo Electric** playing a legendary set, whoop! On till 6am... Saturday 24th!



Jamie Bull

Sink The Pink are back this month at **The Bethnal Green Working Men's Club** (42 Pollard Row, E2 7NB) also on Saturday 24th. With a theme of **Wags and Slags** join the dress up gang for a major night of slutty disco action from 9pm till 2.30am. In the main room shows and DJs are **JVP**, **JoshYouAre** and **Joan Oh** playing all the Sink The Pink anthems.



JoshYouAre

YEARS & YEARS

'Years and Years' have been named Number One Best New Band In The World Times Five by Radio 1, or something to that effect. Listen to their spectacular cover of Haim's 'Don't Save Me' in the Live Lounge and it's seemingly apparent why: a gorgeous song is re-rendered gorgeous again by the band's stripped-back percussive pop, and frontman Olly Alexander's starlit vocals.

Whispering voices have murmured that Alexander is allegedly a MASSIVE RAVING GAY but given that most of the promo videos feature him staring lustfully at girls, QX wouldn't want to waylay into this debate, lest the sweating PR team have a collective cardiac arrest.

But music-wise, do the band's original songs give solid pillars to their heaven-based hype? In two words: not always. As ever, these words are only one reviewer's opinions and I merely write my subjective reactions to music. Yet to my ear, the sound of new single 'King' verges on crass Europop,

with synths-done-a-million-times-before and a fairly bored, generic chorus. 'Desire' follows much the same Boots-own brand Night Nurse formula.

'Real' is the first track where the aural lace gets a bit spikier and more intriguing around the edges. Twinned with a video where Alexander appears to



be torn between a boy and a girl on the dancefloor of a club – oh, the shock – the music is a darkly opalescent collation of moods. 'Take Shelter' has a similarly experimental bent to its beats, like pistons infused with tribal dance, topped off with a tropical cocktail umbrella.

Ultra-chic Parisian label Kitsuné rarely makes mistakes

with its artists though. Delve deeper into Y&Y's YouTube box, and there are flashing ultra-violet gems of true, pure talent to be found and coveted. 'Eyes Shut' repaints the ballad for the Millennials, like dragging a Caravaggio into the age of graphic design.

Here Alexander's voice conveys an emotive beauty without straying into saccharine; 'throw your heart to me / let it fall and hit the ground / let it go... All I really want / Is you to understand that I'm a mess / I know you'd like me to go wrong / You'd like me gone.' 'Memo' creates a genre of its own, a blissful blend of electro-soul swinging round the honeysuckle garden with ethereal punk, and the first ever single 'Traps' proves why Kitsuné's hardon rose raging for these boys.

I fear the more mediocre offerings of Years and Years may be the damage inflicted by long-clawed, snaggle-toothed commercial witches meddling for money, but at the bands heart lies true worth.

WHAT
INDIE
DID
NEXT

BY PATRICK CASH



ALL THE
SWINGINGS &
SINGINGS OF
YOUTUBE AND
BEYOND

SCREEN TEST
BY JACK LEGER

IN THE WORKS

Rising star **Evan Peters** (aka X-Men scene-stealer Quicksilver) has landed a part in *Elvis & Nixon*, starring **Michael Shannon** and **Kevin Spacey** in the title roles • Meanwhile, hot young Brit **Ed Skrein** is up for a key character in the next X-Men movie, *Apocalypse*.



FILM OF THE WEEK



A MOST VIOLENT YEAR (15)

Oscar Isaac stars in this riveting drama about a 1981 New York businessman trying to stay clean in a culture defined by dodgy deals and corrupt cops. Even his wife (a fierce Jessica

Chastain), daughter of a gangster, wants to take a more heavy-handed approach. From filmmaker JC Chandor (*All Is Lost*), this is a vice-grip of a movie that reinvents the crime drama. Punchy and ultimately haunting.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK



BOYHOOD (15)

If you missed 2014's best film in cinemas, you can now catch it on video. Filmmaker Richard Linklater spent 12 years shooting this masterpiece, which follows Mason (Ellar Coltrane) from childhood to adulthood along with his parents (Patricia

Arquette and Ethan Hawke). An unmissable film that encourages us to see life as a continual flow of the people and events that make us who we are. (Universal)



STARRY ACTION

The terrific Oscar Isaac also appears in Alex Garland's **EX MACHINA** is a whizzy, achingly cool sci-fi thriller about artificial intelligence. Domhnall Gleeson and Alicia Vikander costar. • Mark Wahlberg is **THE GAMBLER**, an addict whose debts threaten to engulf him. Oddly simplistic, the film at least features the fabulous Jessica Lange and Brie Larson.

TEEN MANIA

BEYOND CLUELESS is an astonishing kaleidoscopic doc exploring what we learned from the past decade of teen movies, from mean girls to gay best friends. The blindingly comprehensive range of clips makes it unmissable. Smart and eye-opening.



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MUSTS & MAYBES

YOUR GUIDE TO THE WEEK'S BEST

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EVENTS IN LONDON

FULL LISTINGS AVAILABLE AT WWW.QXMAGAZINE.COM

THURSDAY 22ND JANUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2.

11pm-3am. Hot pop sounds get played out across the club, drink specials, cute guys and an almost unrivalled highly electric atmosphere. Open 7 days.

Create at the Shadow Lounge, 5 Brewer Street, Soho, W1F 0RF. 10pm-3am. £8, £10 with Gravity (afterhours) ticket. Orange Group steps back into Soho with a new weekly venture bringing a selection of house DJs into this slick new space for a decidedly hot weekend warm-up.

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-2am. £3 entry, free entry for members. Cruise spaces to explore to darker, deeper beats.

Ted's TV/TS Night at Ted's Place, 305a North End Road. 7pm-2am. £5. The night for fellas in frocks and their admirers.

Room Service at Miabella, 12-13 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DJ. 10pm-3am. Don't you dare miss this fiercely social, sexy club spot, playing edgy and upfront house. Expect hot gogo eye candy and hosted by fab scene faces. Get snapped by the legendary resident papper!

Decoded at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-5am. £5. Non-stop pumping house, plus a mix of nu-disco and uplifting deep vocal house from DJ's Alex Georgiou and Steven Artis at Vauxhall industrial Barcode club spot.

BARS & CABARET

Backing The Stars at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. Popular central London karaoke fun with Kevin Walsh.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

VS at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1. 4pm-4am. Munroe Bergdorf and Adam Turner get you warmed up for Room Service with some unrivalled Thursday night hotness!

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. From 8pm. Weekly dance session at the popular Soho bar. TONIGHT: Enriched with DJ Rich B.

Dr Woof's Thursday Surgery at Kazbar, 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-3am. Free. Dr Woof presents his weekly cabaret turn at the funky Clapham bar.

Comptons of Soho – Tasty Tim Teaches House at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-midnight. One of Soho's best loved traditional gay pubs, always busy and always friendly and always fun. TONIGHT: DJ Tasty Tim plays the delicious tunes.

Quiz Night at The Roebuck, 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. 8pm onwards. £1 entry. Cash prizes to be won at The Roebuck for their awesome Quiz Night.

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

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

FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Fitladz – Free Membership Party at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-9am. £8 members, £10 guests. The club session for horny lads with hot grooves from the DJs and an extended cruise space. Followed by Bodyshakers (afterhours). TONIGHT: Get your Fitladz Membership Card tonight for FREE (usually £10).

Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-3am. £5. Party-pumping basement bunker club that sees celebs and all sorts drop down for debauchery...

G-A-Y Camp Attack at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-4am. FREE with wristband from G-A-Y Bar. Main Floor plays 70s, 80s, 90s, 00 & 01, Star Bar is 02 to present day, videos in the Pop Room. Musical theme sing-along in the Departure Lounge.

The Glory at 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5pm-2am. FREE. Jonny Woo and co.'s new bar flying the flag in Faggerston.

Motherload at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am. £5 before midnight, £8 after. D Ramirez & Guy Williams bring you the latest jackin', deep house

and surprise classics to take you late into the night with support from James Campbell!

Club Lesley at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am. Free b4 11pm/£5 after. Nancy's on the ground floor features resident DJs spinnin' up a storm of top deck disco house and hot tracks to shack out to. TONIGHT: Club Lesley – this week two floors are given wall-to-wall to hot gay girls – guys welcome, too, of course!

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE b4 11pm, £5 after. Pop perfection and hot floor fillers as Ku's hot 3 spin the tunes in its downstairs basement club spot.

Men Inc. at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-3am. £5. Free for Eagle/Paris Gym members. For blokes, butch guys, bears and their pals after a social time and seriously good tunes. TONIGHT: Special guest DJ superstar Mark Loverush plays!

Eurofest with Suzy from Portugal at the RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-4am. £6. Warm up the cold winter nights and kick off Eurovision 2015 season, flying in the wonderful Suzy from Portugal! Plus Eurovision DJs Dave Simmons, Don Grant and John Hagley...

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 7.30pm-3am. Hot pop sounds, drink specials, cute guys and a pop perfect atmosphere.

A:M at Protocol, 39 Parry Street, SW8 1RT. 11pm-11am. £3 before 1am, £7 thereafter with ad/flyer/concession/NUS card. The original Saturday morning afterhours beast that continues to light up the weekend ahead of the rest churns out the turbocharged house sounds.

BARS & CABARET

Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens at The Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 8pm. Tickets: www.eventbrite.co.uk. Two Box Productions presents a journey into outer space. Expect the unexpected.

Saunabar at 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA. 11.30am-2am. £10 b4 2pm and after 9.30pm, £17 other times. FREE use of facilities when booking a massage. The only

licensed gay sauna in the West End, open 'til super late every weekend.

New Bloomsbury Set at 76 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury, WC1N 1AG. 4pm-11.30pm. Open seven days a week for the more social gays around the Kings Cross/Bloomsbury area and those after a refreshing new experience. London's only 21+ bar!

Friday Night Live at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. 9pm-3am. The central London cabaret hot spot. TONIGHT: Cabaret from LoUis Cyfer.

The Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-4am. FREE b4 10pm/£7 after. South London's legendary club, bar and cabaret spot. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Lola Lasagne.

Camp As Hits at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12pm-3am. Venerable institution of the gay scene rocks out some pop classics for an evening of fun.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. Midday-3am. Last entry 2am. FREE b4 10.30pm. Four floors of fun! DJs spin a blend of commercial, house, pop and chart remixes. Guilty pleasures upstairs.

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

Ku Bar Soho, 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. Open 'til 3am. Ku Bar's little brother stretches across two floors for that perfect Soho warm-up drinking session and a little dance with downstairs DJs.

The Black Cap at 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 10pm-3am. £5. Camden's party-popping and beat-bumping venue rocks the gay scene!

The Yard at 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.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-2am. The grand dame of Soho.

The Roebuck at 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. 6-11pm. Happy hour all night at this enticing gay friendly venue in the Oval area where you can meet local lads and sexy drinkers.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 12noon-3am. FREE b4

10.30pm. Four floors of fun! Ground floor DJs spin top 40 and radio edit chart dance and commercial and chart R'n'B on the 2nd floor.

Kazbar at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-1am. Free. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish. DJ Mark Norton spins the retro sounds. Hosted by Nervenzellen.

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

Central Station at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10pm/£3 after, £5 after 10.30pm. The super-friendly Kings Cross bar. DJs 'til late. TONIGHT: DJ Matt Unique.

SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

G-A-Y presents Charli XCX at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 10pm-5am. Discount wristbands from G-A-Y Bar. The palace of pop and quite possibly the world's most famous gay club packs out this cavernous venue. TONIGHT: Pop phenomenon Charli XCX launches her highly-anticipated new album 'Sucker'! See our interview, this issue. **XXL 'Suited & Booted'** at XXL, Pulse, 1 Invicta Plaza, Southwark, SE1 9UF. 8pm-8am. £15 non-members, £8 members. Big, bear night that's open to anyone in vast super club Pulse takes on a military theme to its sexy going-ons! With resident DJs Christian M and Joe Egg. TONIGHT: XXL Suited & Booted. **Papercut** at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland High St, E8 2PB. 9pm-3am. FREE before 10pm, £5 after. DJs

Miltos B and Wandson Maxx are ready to give you an electronic Papercut with two floors of techno deviancy to get you dancing off those January blues.

TheMenWhoFell2HomoElectric at East Bloc, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 10.30pm-6am.

TheMenWhoFell2Earth invite the legendary Homo Electric to East Bloc with DJs Luke Unabomber, Jamie Bull joining TheMenWhoFell2Earth! It's gonna be divine music dancing time.

R18 2nd Birthday at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-4am. FREE before 10pm, £6 after. Get ready for a night of 'Unrestricted' pleasure as R18 rears up the end of your month man-on-man action, XXX shows from porn stars, and deep, dark beats from resident DJs, and porn studs Riley Tess & Mickey Taylor.

Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 10pm-very late. £8/£10 others. Vauxhall's full-throttle late night, industrial chic nightclub keeps the house music booming right through til Sunday morning.

Legion - Pleasure Principle at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 7XB. 10pm-5am. £5 all night. Ursula Snakes presents the pulsating techno party with an edge taking over the Dalston basement.

Urban World Winter Ball 2015 at The Scala, 275 Pentonville Road, King's Cross, N1 9NL. 10pm-6am. Early bird tickets £6, new tier £8 tickets. Urban World Winter Ball is the biggest collaboration of LGBT Urban & World club nights, bringing together 16 DJs & MCs and 7 clubs across 4 floors of London super club Scala.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30

Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE b4 11pm, £5 after. £3 with wristband/membership. The party continues in Ku's basement club with hot pop and floor fillers from the DJs.

Duckie at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 9pm-2am. £6. Alternative London club/entertainment night. Hosted by Amy Lamé, with music by Readers Wives.

Riverside Tavern at Riverside Tavern, 8 Canal Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 4DR. Kent's most popular gay bar/club.

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 stressful week with the all the fun of the foam at Sweatbox's original weekly party.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. Hot pop sounds, drink specials, cute guys and a pop perfect atmosphere.

Beyond (afterhours) at Fire, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RT. 4.30am (Sunday morning)-late. £12 before 7am with ad/flyer/concession/NUS card. The crazy club beast takes it up a notch with a move to Fire for the late night/early morning house music session.

Unchill (afterhours) at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 6am (Sunday morning)-super late. £5. Sunday morning afterhours with DJs spinning fresh uplifting house music into Sunday morning.

BARS & CABARET

Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens at The Two Brewers, 114 Clapham

High Street, SW4 7UJ. 8pm. Tickets: www.eventbrite.co.uk. Two Box Productions presents a journey into outer space. Expect the unexpected. **The Two Brewers** at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-4am. FREE b4 10pm, £7 after. Cabaret and clubbing 'til late at the famous venue. TONIGHT: Cabaret from CK.

The Roebuck at 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. Gay venue in the Oval area. Worship the weekend with Bar-Buck-Q's in the secluded garden. .0

Central Station at 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross, N1 9SD. Open 'til 4am. FREE b4 10pm. Cabaret then DJs 'til late. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Dave Lynn.

G-A-Y Bar at 30 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 4UR. Midday-Midnight. FREE. Soho's palace of pop with the hottest videos screened out across the venue, great drinks deals and discount entry wristbands for G-A-Y @ Heaven.

West 5 at South Ealing, Pope's Lane, W5 4NB. 7pm-3am. The popular West London club, bar and cabaret spot, with added Piano Lounge fun.

Ku Bar at Ku Bar Lisle Street, Chinatown, WC2H 7BA. 6pm-3am. One of London's hottest gay bars and clubs, with the hottest boys both behind the bar and in front of it, stretching over three floors.

Saunabar at 29 Endell Street, Covent Garden, WC2H 9BA. 11.30am-2am. £10 b4 2pm and after 9.30pm, £17 other times. FREE use of facilities when booking a massage. The only licensed gay sauna in the West End, open 'til super late every weekend.

Circa at 62 Friith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. 4pm-4am. Soho's intimate but packed-out bar/club spot with the

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DJ IN THE CLUB BAR

SUN 25th JANUARY
9pm



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The Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 9pm-3am.
Camden's party-popping and beat-bumping venue rocks the gay scene.

The Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-12am.
Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Mandy Gap.

Saturday Market Slash Swap Shop & Camp Disco at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon St, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 3am. Rose Garden provides Saturday shopping light relief followed by DJ Justin Swift's Camp Disco 'til 3am.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. Midday-3am. Last entry 2am. FREE b4 10.30pm. Four floors of fun! DJs spin a blend of commercial, house, pop and chart remixes. Guilty pleasures upstairs.

New Bloomsbury Set at 76 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury, WC1N 1AG. 4pm-11.30pm. Open seven days a week for the more social gays around the Kings Cross/Bloomsbury area and those after a refreshing new experience. London's only 21+ bar!

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 2pm-late. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd.

The Green Carnation: Dorian Gray at 5 Greek Street, Soho, W1D 4DD. 5pm-2.30am. DJs including Brent Nicholls, Rich B, Little Rob, Tasty Tim, Matt Bogard and Zach Burns play the tunes at this seminal Soho bar/club on rotation. Hosted by Chrissy Darling.

Kazbar presents Push Push at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-1am. Free entry. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish.

Pick N Mix at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12pm-3am. Top tunes and late night fun at the legendary gay boozier near Marble Arch.

Ku Bar Soho at 25 Frith Street, WC1D 5LB. 12 midday-late. Ku Bar's little brother stretches across three floors for that perfect Soho warm-up drinking session and a cheeky dance with downstairs DJs.

SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Beyond (afterhours) at Fire. 4am-late.

See Saturday.

Unchill (afterhours) at Barcode 6am-late. See Saturday.

Later at Fire, 39 Parry Street, SW8 1RT. Midday-late. £10. Continue Beyond vibes into Sunday afternoon as Later funks it up.

Horse Meat Disco at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 8pm-3am. £6. The HMD gymkhana continues to shake Vauxhall down every week. Residents spin super-disco sounds with weekly guests.

Put It In Your Mouth at Dalston Superstore, 117 Kingsland Road, N16 7XB. 9pm-2.30am. Free entry. DJs QBoy and Neil Prince move to their new Sunday night for the best in fun 90s R'n'B and hip-hop to ease you towards the end of the weekend.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2.

11pm-3am. Hot pop sounds get played out across the club, drink specials, cute guys and an almost unrivalled highly electric atmosphere.

RVT Sundays at RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY.

3pm-2am. £6. The afternoon/evening clubbing session slot playing huge dance anthems and commercial house. Plus, multi-media entertainment from Charlie Hides TV at 5.30pm.

Ku Klub Retro Sundays at Ku Bar Lisle Street at 30 Lisle Street, Leicester Square, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. The party continues in Ku's basement club with classic 80s, 90s and 00s tracks from DJ Pablo and Lady Lloyd.

Orange at Fire, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RT. 11pm-8am. £7 before 1am with ad/flyer/concession/NUS card. The weekend ends here with funky-up house sounds from the resident disc jocks.

BARS & CABARET

Halfway 2 Heaven at 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. Open 'til 11pm. Long running popular Central London cabaret pub. CK Sunday 'Kelly Goes Down (Under)' from 4pm, followed by An Evening With Tanya Hyde.

Kazbar presents Flow at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 12pm-12am. Free entry. Funky Clapham bar with stylish swish. Nu disco, funky and deep house from DJ Eduardo Herrera.

The Old Ship at 17 Barnes Street, Limehouse, E14 7NW. 8pm-midnight. Cabaret: 8.45pm. Free. Local gay bar in East London's Limehouse. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Davina Sparkle.

The Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 4pm-2am. FREE b4 8pm, £3 after. South London's legendary cabaret, club and pub. Triple cabaret punch with The Power of 3!

The Black Cap at 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. 9pm-3am. The party-popping, cabaret campy and beat-bumping venue flies Camden's gay scene flag.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-12am. The grand dame of Soho pulling in a more blokey crowd.
The Roebuck at 84 Ashmole Street, SW8 1NE. New gay venue in the Oval area. Serving top Sunday Roast every week.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder. Ground floor DJs spin top 40 and radio edit chart dance and commercial and chart R'n'B on the 2nd floor.

The City of Quebec at 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. 12p-1am. Legendary gay boozier near Marble Arch features weekly cabaret. TONIGHT: Cabaret from Lola Lasagne.

West 5 at Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. 7pm-late. FREE. West London's giant club/bar/cabaret home invites you to chill out here.

MONDAY 26TH JANUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Popcorn - Land of Oz at Heaven, Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 11pm-5.30am. £4 b4 1am, £5 after, £8 after 2am. FREE with wristbands from G-A-Y Bar b4 1am. Massive mixed mash-up with four rooms of top sounds, from upfront, progressive house to chart hits, via R&B tuneage. Perfect polysexual party to start the week as you mean to go on.

TONIGHT: Land of Oz 'Australia Day' with DJs Adam Turner, Jamie Hammond, Neroli, Jonathan Bestley, Trex, Nick Shepherdson, Zach Burns and Luke Donnington.

Cruise Control at Eagle, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-3am. Free for members, £3 guests. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

Hard-Up Mondays at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramillies 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.

The Big Bingo Show at RVT, 372

Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. Doors 7pm. Eyes Down 8.30-10.30pm. FREE. £1 per game. Timberlina and Hey Baylen roll their balls out for their weekly bonkers bingo sesh. Banter and barmy bingo, plus dancing.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. DJs play the weekend out on a wave of hot pop.

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. Late night dancing spot for pure-pop enthusiasts doing the funky chickens.

BARS & CABARET

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

Rupert Street at 50 Rupert Street, Soho, W1D 6DR. The trendy Soho drinking spot celebrates with 2-4-1 classic cocktails all day!

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-11.30pm. The real queen of Soho. Bar £2.50 on popular drinks from 5pm.

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

Karaoke at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. From 9pm. Chris Reardon hosts the singing fun at the famous gay boozier in Marble Arch.

Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. The landmark south London cabaret, bar and club.

TONIGHT: Mrs Moore's weekly cabaret session.

TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

G-A-Y Late at 5 Goslett Yard, off Charing Cross Road, WC2. 11pm-3am. The weekend begins early or finishes late to a melodious mix of classic chart pop and current hits.

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

BARS & CABARET

Karaoke at Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. 5pm-2am. £3 b4 10pm, £4 after. Sing-along the mid-week blues with Kevin Walsh.

Mecca Rock and Roll Bingo at The Black Cap, 171 Camden High Street, NW1 7JY. Midday-Midnight. The long-running cabaret, club and pub nestled in the heart of Camden presents bonkers bingo.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

Industry at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Delicious Sam DMS lays on a smorgasbord of R'n'B classics, chart toppers and deep house grooves at Sohos' snazzy drinkery.

See You Next Tuesday at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 8pm. Bette Rinse hosts the Tuesday night revelry at the Central London cabaret hotspot,

with DJ ME.

Bar Wotever at The RVT, 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5HY. 7pm-midnight. £5. Genderbending cabaret, live music and performance at the monumental RVT.

Cosmic & Keys at The City of Quebec, 12 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W1H 7AF. Showtime 10pm. The legendary gay pub in the heart of London presents a new show to dispel your mid-week blues.

WEDNESDAY 28TH JANUARY

CLUBS & EVENTS

Spoken Word London at Vogue Fabrics, 66 Stoke Newington Road, N16 7XB. 7.30pm-11ish. Free. QX Assistant Editor Pat Cash presents an open mic night of poetry, performance, monologues, singing, rap, soliloquies and anything in-between. Open to all! Arrive b4 8pm to sign up for a spot.

Ku Klub at Ku Bar Lisle Street, 30 Lisle Street, WC2. 10pm-3am. FREE. The party continues 'til late in the Ku basement.

LIPSYNC 1000 at The Glory, 281 Kingsland Road, E2 8AS. 5pm-2am. FREE. Jonny Woo invites you to revel in the chaos and charisma that is the return of Tranny Lip-Synching! A grand prize of £1,000 for the best of baddest show-stopping gob stoppers. To enter email: info@theglory.co

Cruise Control at Eagle, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-3am. Free for members, £3 guests. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

Foam Party at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. If you can't make the weekend wet fun, why not head down tonight? Relieve the midweek stress! The foam flies at 7, 8 and 9pm.

Misfits at East Bloc, 217-219 City Road, EC1V 1JN. 10pm-4am. FREE b4 11pm/£5 after. Midweek urban glamour as R'n'B scene star Mark-Ashley Dupé presents his ghetto fabulous in the infamous basement of debauchery.

BARS & CABARET

Mary Mac's Mastermind at West 5, Pope's Lane, South Ealing, W5 4NB. Open from 8pm. FREE. Mary Mac presents her inimitable quiz.

Comptons of Soho at 51-53 Old Compton Street, Soho, W1D 6HN. 12pm-11.30pm. Super social pub downstairs, chilled club lounge upstairs with guest pianist tinkling the ivories.

Sandra Fundraiser at Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, Kings Cross N1 9SD. 10pm. FREE. Cabaret legend Sandra has been ill and unable to work for weeks. No work = no money for a freelance drag artist. As such the community is rallying to help the slag out with a fundraiser! Come and enjoy entertainment from Marta D'Arthur, Jason Prince, Baga Chipz, Miss Penny, Mrs Moore, Rose Garden and many more.



Two Brewers at 114 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UJ. FREE b4 10pm, £3 after. South London's famous bar/club.

BoomBox at Kazbar at 50 Clapham High Street, SW4 7UL. 4pm-1am. FREE. DJ DBwoi playing your favourite R&B beats.

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

Detained at Circa, 62 Frith Street, Soho, W1D 3JN. Open 'til 1am. Circa goes all-out with the dance, pop and R'n'B remixes every Wednesday. DJs Attack Attack Attack, Kingsley, Munroe Bergdorf and Kris Di Angelis on rotation.

The Edge at 11 Soho Square, Soho, W1D 3QE. 4pm-late. Last entry 1am. Soho's multi-floored gay wonder.

Sing-Along-A-Sound at Halfway 2 Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, Charing Cross, WC2N 4JF. From 9pm. Martha D'Arthur hosts the midweek drag fun at the central London cabaret den. With DJ Dave Robson.

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24/01/15: R18 2ND BIRTHDAY XXX SHOW

CLUB R18

Get ready for a night of 'Unrestricted' pleasure as R18 heats up the end of your month with a huge load of man on man action. Think XXX rated shows, and deep and dark beats! Your deep and dirty resident DJs keep the action

going with harder, faster, longer beats - the R18 sound of pulsating dark sounds. Their door policy is all welcome, come in what makes you feel good, but they will offer free entry to those come 'dressed to impress' in gear. The Eagle, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-4am. Free before 10pm, £6 after. Free for Eagle London members and under 25s before midnight.

THURSDAY 22ND JANUARY

The Underground Club, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm) Underwear fun. SPANKZ (6pm-10pm) CP night for rougher, tougher play. Followed by COME TO DADDY (10pm-2am).

Vault: Cruise/Stripped at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7). STRIPPED (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get nude and rude. Strictly naked, except footwear.

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, NI. XXX CLUB

(7pm-midnight) £15 incl. DVD. Get horny, get filmed and leave with a DVD of the action. Then, PAUNCHY (midnight-4am) The club for big bellied men and those that admire them.

Fitladz at Barcode, 69 Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, SE1 7TP. 9pm-9am. £8 members, £10 guests. Get sexy at this cruise/club sesh! Horny lads, hot grooves, plus extended cruise space. TONIGHT: FREE Membership Cards - usually £10 each.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Horny cruise spot minute's from the West End.

Cruise/Darkroom at Ted's Place, 305a North End Road, W14 9NS. 7pm-midnight. £3. Horny night in the cruisey basement club in West London.

SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY

R18. See box out. **Sweatbox Foam Party** at 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. Foam from 10pm. All the fun of the foam at Sweatbox's original weekly party.

Buff at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party. Heated outdoor 'naked' smokers terrace.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm, £4) Best undies for the boys. COLLARED (7pm-midnight) Friendly BDSM night.

SBN Afterdark at The Hoist, 47c South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8. 10pm-4am. The world's biggest men-only naked party. Donkey Dick on the loose! XXX-rated shows.

Harder at Bar Berlin, Arch 47c, South Lambeth Road, SW8. 10pm-4am. Macho night of leather, rubber, skin, uniform, industrial, or just boots/jocks.

Vault: Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Free drink, cloakroom, re-entry. Dark corners, catch a dirty movie, indulge your carnal side.

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road, Waterloo SE1 8XE. Open 24/7. £15, £12 under 25 with ID. FREE towel. Cruise all day and night with plenty of rooms to play. Licensed bar.

SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY

S.O.P. at The Underground Club, Central Station, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, NI. 1pm-midnight. £7. Yellow fun for waterworks fans.

Chill Out at Ted's Place, 305a North End Road. 7pm-2am. £3 b4 10pm, £5 after. Mixed/gay crowd of cruisey guys.

Buff at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 6pm-10pm. £8 members, £9 guests. Horny, naked cruise party. Dark rooms, smoking terrace, full bar.

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road,

Waterloo SE1 8XE. Open 24/7. £15, £12 under 25 with ID. FREE towel. Cruise day and night, plenty of rooms to play. Licensed bar.

The Hoist at Arches 47b & 47c, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, SW8 1RH. S.B.N. (2pm-1am. £12) Naked cruise club. N.B.N. (7pm-1am) Nearly Bollock Naked from 7pm. Regular HARDER (10pm-1am) All fetish club. Finish the weekend with a bang!

Vault: Underwear/ Cruise at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. UNDERWEAR (1-7pm. £7). CRUISE (7pm-1am. £8). Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Just pants b4 7pm, then cruise 'til late.

MONDAY 26TH JANUARY

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road, Waterloo SE1 8XE. Open 24/7. £15, £12 under 25 with ID. FREE towel. Cruise day and night with plenty of rooms to play. Licensed bar.

Sportswear/Cruise at Ted's Place, 305a North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £3. Football shorts freaks, Speedo lovers, basketball tops (and bottoms), rugby buggers and trackie sluts unite!

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

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, NI. PANTS (1-6pm) BUTT NAKED (6pm-10pm) Strip down and get off with like-minded guys. HARD CRUZ (10pm-1am, free entry) Hard cruising for horny guyz.

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? Get a load off. Free for under 25s (ID required) at Soho's

only gay sauna. Plus, free HIV testing and Hep vaccinations by the 56 Dean Street boys (5-9pm).

TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY

Cruise Control at Eagle London, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY. 9pm-late. £3 entry, free for members. Cruise spaces to explore with darker, deeper beats to play to.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, NI. S.O.P. (6pm-1am) Yellow fun for waterworks fans.

Club CP at Bunker Bar, 217 City Road, Shoreditch, EC1V 1JN. 7pm-11pm. £6. Dominant masters and submissive sluts get down here for a night of horny and hard, rough and tough fun.

Underwear/Naked at Ted's Place, 305s North End Rd, W14. 7pm-midnight. £4. Strictly underwear only. **Vault: Cruise** at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. 1pm-1am. £7 b4 7pm/£8 after. Cruising session at this horny hot spot.

WEDNESDAY 28TH JANUARY

Pleasuredrome at Arch 124 Cornwall Road, Waterloo SE1 8XE. Open 24/7. £15, £12 under 25 with ID. FREE towel. Cruise day and night with plenty of rooms to play. Licensed bar.

Vault: Cruise/ Underwear at 139b-143 Whitfield Street, WIT 5EN. CRUISE (1-7pm. £7) Then UNDERWEAR (7pm-1am. £8) Free drink, cloakroom and re-entry. Get down to your underwear.

Buff at MAI Backstreet, Wentworth Mews, Mile End, E3 4UA. 7pm-11pm. £8 members/£9 guests (free drink/coat check). Horny, naked cruise party. Heated outdoor 'naked' smokers terrace.

Foam Party at Sweatbox, 1-2 Ramilies Street, Soho, W1F 7LN. 24 hours. 24hr pass £17, 48hr pass £19. If you can't make the weekend wet fun, why not head down tonight? Relieve the midweek stress! The foam flies at 7, 8 and 9pm.

The Underground Club at Central Station, 37 Wharfedale Road, Kings Cross, NI. HARD CRUZ (10pm-1am).

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Hi Dr Alex

I've started to come out but am finding it hard work and difficult. I'm 21 and black and know that some of my family are going to have a major problem when, or if, I tell them. In fact I'm finding out first hand that some of the black community are just never going to accept me. I've met a few guys online and been to a few bars and clubs and have had both good and bad experiences. I'm learning fast but I just wonder if it is going to get any easier. Any advice?

T

Being black and gay puts you in not one but two minority groups, so you are likely to face challenges. Gay black men can often feel like they don't fit in either the mainstream (predominantly straight) black community or in the mainstream (predominantly white) gay community. It seems to be true that the fear of rejection, hatred, or violence can lead young gay black men to hide their sexual identity. This can lead to a lack of visibility, and when gay black men aren't visible in the community they have even less reason to expect community acceptance. Religion is often very important in predominantly black communities and, unfortunately, these churches often have a hostile relationship with the gay community. This can often be the origin of the discrimination you face.

Some black gay men feel especially stigmatised (both in and outside the gay community) by amplified versions of the stigma that, it has to be said, also face white gay men. On the one side, gay black men are portrayed as hypersexual and aggressive. On the other side, gay black men are portrayed as extremely effeminate, flamboyant, and "sassy". Dealing with peoples' prejudice about how they expect you to behave can be hard work.

It sounds as though you are taking things slowly and I think this is a good approach. You should come out at your own pace and only when you feel ready. For some support and advice about coming out I suggest you look to the voluntary organisations such as Stonewall: www.stonewall.org.uk/at_home/coming_out/

And on a possible weird upside there is research, albeit controversial, showing that being both black and gay can be an advantage to being 'just' black or being gay, but white. A sociologist sent four resumes from fictional college graduates to hundreds of potential employers with names that were stereotypical of black applicants and white applicants.

Some of the resumes mentioned participation in a Gay Student Advisory Council. It was found that the resume that was designed to imply the job applicant was both black and gay made him more likely to be considered for the same starting salary by employers as a heterosexual white male. Resumes that were designed to suggest the applicant was white and gay or black and heterosexual were considered for lower starting salaries! The sociologist suggested that the results showed that the negative stereotypes about gay men as effeminate cancelled out the negative criminal stereotypes about black men. Bizarre but true.

Take your time with your coming out, and don't be afraid to seek help from the numerous gay organisations out there.



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