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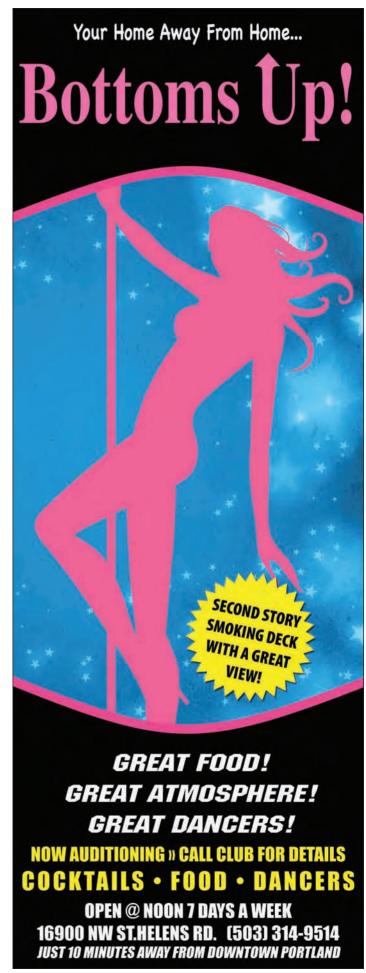




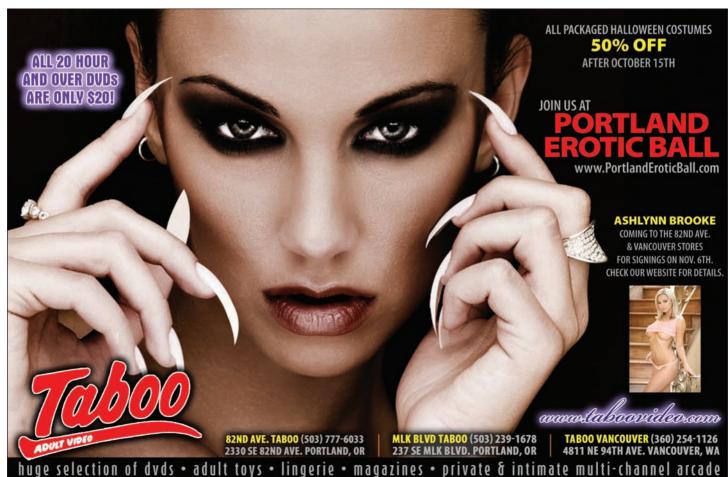












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aural exams with cage and skinny puppy by statutory ray page 30



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Well you're in your little room and you're working on something good but if it's really good you're gonna need a bigger room and when you're in the bigger room vou might not know what to do vou might have to think of how you got started sitting in your little room

Da da da ~ White Stripes. Little Room

The night began like any other night. I clocked in, opened my book.

"There's no light on Booth 26," said the new guy.

"Wha? Ah ok." I said it like Nick Nolte. I was too old for this shit and I was retiring in a week. After five years of working gravevard shift at the porno store. I'd finally turned in my resignation and was moving on. Five years in the shit and I was proud to say, never got robbed, never found a dead guy.

"It's always some junkie or drunk." I assured him, "Don't worry I got this." And with those last carefree words of the night, I whipped up the keys in my hand and practically skipped down the arcade hall.

I stopped in front of Booth 26. Behind me in the darkness, leaning up against the wall with arms folded, was a little man I liked to call "Señor Nussing." Nussing was a tiny, gay, Mexican cock-roach in hot pants and a Prince beard. I gave him that name because it was his favorite answer for every question, for every, "What are you doing?"

Nussing.

"Can I help you find something?"

Nussing.

"So, how much money do you make back there?"

Humph! Nussing!

I put my ear up to the door; it was quiet.

"Oooooh Mami," Nussing said, "Hee been in der a lon tye."

"Yeah? How long?"

"I dunno, I don hab my wach."

I put the key into the door and opened it slowly. I only saw the edge of his shoulder, but I knew. I looked down, his pants were around his ankles. I looked at his face, his neck was bent back, his mouth was open wide and his eyes were fixed and staring, still wet with tears.

I got one. I supposed this is what it would feel like to catch a unicorn. Somewhere between, "Oh no," and "What do I do with it?"

I closed the door, locked it. Nussing was still behind me.

"He yuss pass out huh? He seepin in der?"

I smiled, "Yeah, Nussing, we're gonna let him sleep a little

longer okay?"

"Oh! Ho-kay I been bery quiet no worry! I shshshsh like a leetle mousev okav?"

Okay. I ran to the front of the store. "How's the guy?" asked the newb.

"Hmm?" My shaking hands reached for the phone. "Oh he's fine. Dead. Very fucking dead, so I guess if you think about it, he's great..."

After what felt like a thousand rings. I finally heard, "Nineone-one what's your emergency?"

"Well," I began, "My name is Kristine Levine and I work at **** and actually, we have a dead body in one of the booths and I just need you to send someone to come get it out of the store. I guess?"

"Ma'am, are you a doctor?"

Huh? "No? I just told you I work at a porno store why would a doctor work at a-"

"Are you qualified to make that determination that a man is dead or not?"

Is she giving me shit? Do I detect a tone?

I was scrambled, "Well yeah, I mean I know when someone's dead. Don't you? You don't gotta be a doctor to know—"

She cut me off again, "Ma'am how do you know this man is dead?"

I do *detect a tone!*

"How do I know he's dead? Oh, well you know, cause I tickled him and he didn't laugh."

"Excuse me?"

Fucking cunt, giving me attitude. I have an emergency!

"Yeah and I went through his wallet and he didn't bat my hand away. So, I'm pretty sure he must be dead. Come get him."

"I have to ask you to calm down. So, you didn't even start CPR?" Cunt!

Was she really trying to guilt trip me? Had I called my mother? I love people, but I would never put my mouth on a half-naked stranger in a little room of a jack shack. I'm not saving I'm opposed to putting my mouth on strangers, but I have a strict policy of dead being a deal breaker. I didn't even know how long he'd been dead. Maybe it was hours.

I said, "Listen Lady, you want this guy to be revived, you come do it."

We were minutes in and she hadn't even gotten the address yet. Was this fight worth it to her? She sighed. "Fine. Why don't I just send someone out, then."

Fucking Brilliant! I hit my own head with a fist. This bitch is a genius! She must have called me with that great idea! "Hey, Kristine, I was just sitting here at the dispatch and I was thinking, why don't we just send some First Responders out to you, just in case you got a dead dude stinking your store up, how's that sound?

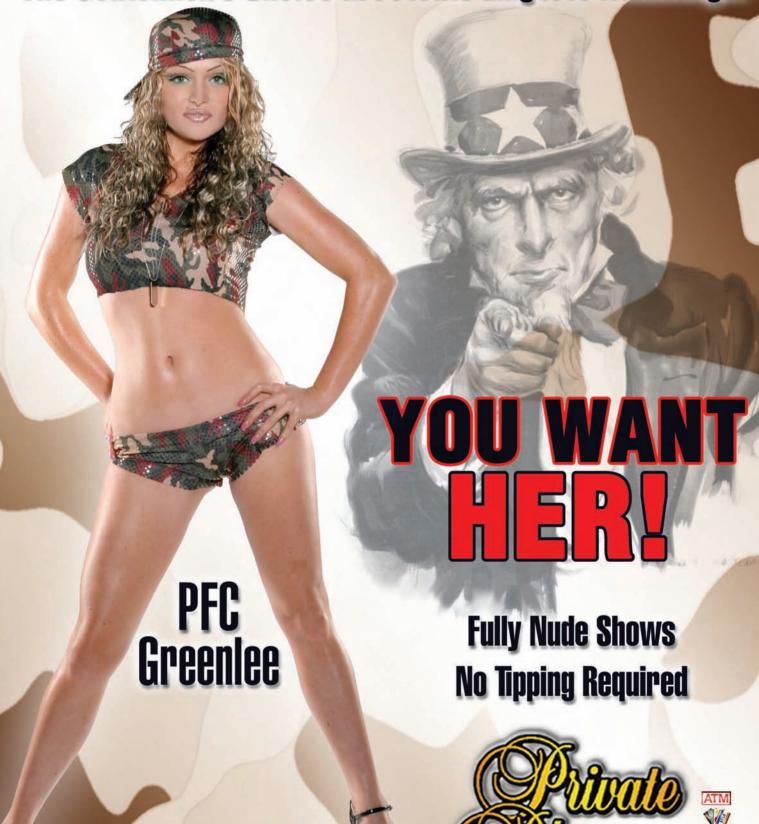
"Yes!" I said, "Why don't you just do that, Princess. Send someone out!"

The new guy and I waited for the EMT's. Nussing cruised, pretended to shop and made small talk with us. I wished I could be him-ignorant of everything and in hot pants. continued on page 49





The Gentelmen's Choice in Private Lingerie Modeling...

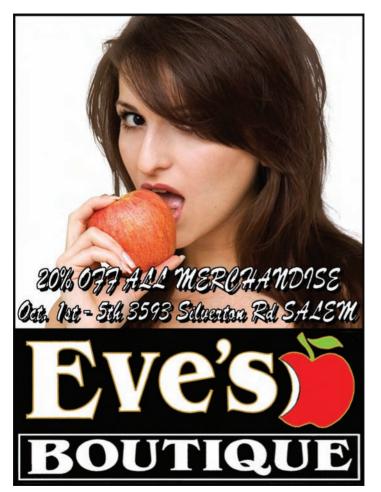




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NIGHT OF THE GIVING HEAD:

Zombies are all the rage these days. There is a new zombie movie coming out in theaters. We have organized zombie walks around Portland and, allegedly, there are zombie strippers on the east end of the Ross

Island Bridge. Zombies can even be found in porn! This movie was brought to us in 2008 from the sexually deviant mind of Rodney Moore (renowned for his hand in the creation of "Gonzo" style porn). He has transformed the tired, overdone, brain-eating zombie film into a fresh army of undead cock gobblers. This horror spoof

questions, "Is any man's penis safe?"

In the movie, a news broadcast on the radio warns us of an exposure to "sperma-rays," adversely affecting men's sperm. Women who come into contact with it orally become "sperm zombies." They are scary, but very sexy creatures, whose only purpose in life is incessantly craving "more cock, more cum!" They turn even a prude virgin into a sex-crazed zombie slut. You will have to watch it for yourself to learn how the sexy zombie fighters save the day. Night of the Giving Head is a hilarious entry into the cinematic library of horror porn. When given the option of a zombie chasing you down to suck your brains or suck your cock, it's a no-brainer!

ALIEN PROBE 3:

Aliens have invaded earth in search of a female specimen to knock up in order to save their own race (a common plot in sci-fi suspense movies). Having misguided ideas about human copulation, the Zordonians inflict pain on their human subjects in the belief that it makes them more fertile. Not only that, but they must be properly stimulated at the same time. High commander Zordac tortures his subjects with various devices and restraints including whips, nipple clamps, ball-gags, vibrators and even electrodes. Who knew clothes pins and plastic wrap could be so fun?

Released in 2008 by ZFX Productions (a name that has become synonymous with high-intensity bondage films), they have expanded their repertoire in creating BDSM images that go beyond reality with a sci-fi and supernatural flair. At times darkly comedic, this film is an ultimate look into the expression of female submission. Looking at the box tells you this movie is going to be disturbing. I don't know what's scarier: the torture, the bondage or the creepy old guy playing the High Commander. Will the Zordonians succeed in biologically invading Earth? Watch and find out!

FLESH CIRCUS:

Thomas Zupko is one of the most controversial directors porn has ever seen. His movies have an edge and a style that is truly unique. SPONSORED BY He has made a name for

himself by pushing the envelope in the adult industry. He is an AVN and



International Film Award winner. Flesh Circus was his debut release for Elegant Angel in 2003. In it he explores the darkest depths of sexual depravity. It is a psychological tale about a young girl whose car breaks down on her way from Las Vegas to Los Angeles. Lost in the desert, she stumbles upon an extremely bizarre circus where all of her lurid sexual fantasies materialize before her.

Sexy and strange, it is a blend of bizarre imagery, lyrical dialog and hard sex. Relying mostly on images and sounds and less on plot and lines, this full-length feature exhibits various costumes and makeup, to include a werewolf-like creature getting freaky. The sex scenes are shot with voyeurs in mind, so there is a lot of good coverage of the action and very little to get in the way. This circus of freaks brings us a sexy cheerleader, a sexy ringmaster, caged men and more. Sounds like a party I'd like to attend.

DARK ANGELS 2: BLOODLINE:

Vampires are one of the more common and sexy creatures of the sinister fantasy world. Porn has not avoided this trend. In 2005, New Sensations Studios gave us Dark Angels 2: Bloodline, revamping the eternal battle between good and evil. "The Fear is back!" A band of vampires and mutant zombies are on the hunt for a special kind of blood that holds the key to their immortality.

With a touch of humor, Dark Angels 2: Bloodline was a fun movie to watch with some almost incidental porn scenes added in to enhance the fun. This is the polar opposite of the usual porn feature where the story is tossed in to enhance the porn scenes. This two-disc set offers an entertainment value above and beyond your typical porno. It is a visually interesting movie with some attractive people having sex in between ghoulishly good and entertaining scenes. Amid special effects, costumes and an all-star cast that includes Sunny Lane, Monica Mayhem, and my personal favorite Ron Jeremy, it's no wonder it won the 2006 AVN Award for Best Videography.

SQUEALER:

You've heard of notorious serial killer Jack the Ripper—well, don't be afraid of Jack the Zipper, one of the edgiest and most dangerous directors in porn. He has been hailed as "the Kubrick of Porn" and has been described as "the New Hardcore." He is helping to push this new era of adult filmmaking into the mainstream and opening the door for a wave of new directors and performers influenced by the look, feel and danger of his films.

Hailed by many as the best horror porn film ever made, Squealer was made for Hustler in 2005. It is porn's answer to The Texas Chainsaw Massacre combining fetish, sex, tension and violence. Ever wish that your favorite horror movie would turn hardcore, and then suddenly shift into porn? This may just be the movie to satisfy your sickening urges. Four gals are driving along a deserted backroad when their car breaks down. They find an abandoned house. Before you know it we see bondage, physical defilement, threats and imprisonment—wall-to-wall orgies, DPs, anal, and pin-up bondage. "Squeal all you want, ain't nobody gonna hear you." You will see porn actresses demeaned, degraded and diminished. Gonzo wishes it was this gross.

With zombies, aliens, vampires, werewolves and serial killers I think we have all our scary movie bases covered. With blowjobs, anal penetration, group sex, girl-on-girl and bondage, we pretty much have our porn bases covered. It's a win-win! Go trick-ortreating at Taboo this year. Get yourself some flicks and some toys; it's better than a bag full of candy. Set your own horror movie plot and have yourself a sexy slumber party, just beware what may be

lurking under the bed.



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ON THE ROAD TO MISS NUDE OREGON

If you haven't heard about this year's Miss Nude Oregon Pageant®, you must have been living under a rock for the past few months. At press time, we have just completed the 5th and final preliminary qualifier and are now armed with 28 of Portland's sexiest and strongest competitors ready to battle it out once and for all in the semi-finals and the finals. The first semi-final at The Dolphin I will take place before this issue has come out, but the second semi-final at Stars Cabaret Beaverton will be blowing up the Southwest on October 1St, (good thing we just reminded you isn't it?) 14 entertainers will appear at each semi-final, but only 6 from each semi-final will make the final cut to compete in The Miss Nude Oregon® Finals to be held at The Dolphin II in Beaverton. Both of these events are looking like a standing room only situation, so if you're looking for the royal treatment, why not reserve yourself a V.I.P. reserved table. Just shoot us an email to mnop@xmag.com or call 206.498.3056 to make your reservation today!

So now that we've covered where Miss Nude Oregon® is going, let's take a look at where it's been. Opening night for the preliminary rounds launched to a packed house at Spyce Gentlemen's Club on a very hot August night with our first 10 contenders. The gang at Spyce gave the ladies the royal treatment by welcoming them with flowers, gift baskets and V.I.P. privileges for the night. 6 young ladies qualified that night, among them Ling from Union Jacks, Lacey and Renee from Spyce, Keeley from the Dolphin and Gypsy from the Lucky Devil Lounge.

Next stop, it was off to Salem and Stars Cabaret for round two. This was actually my first visit to Stars Salem since they relocated several years back, and I have to say I was very impressed by the staff and the clubs layout. The line-up that night looked a bit like an Ink 'n' Pink reunion as former rivals took to the pole to perform amazing feats of zero gravity. Qualifying that evening was Veesha and Taylor of Stars Salem, Pantera of the Viewpoint, Paradise of Stars Beaverton and Karla of The Dolphin Clubs.

Then it was back to Portland the following week for round three at the Boom Boom Room, where the competition definitely stepped up to the feature style entertainment we were waiting for. Jackie of Dante's Sinferno and Pistolita of Sassy's brought their A-game right out the gate as they secured the top positions that evening, along with a pair of Boom Boom babes, Steely and Indika.

Rounds four and five at The Viewpoint and Safari Showclub continued the progressive trend as the entertainers put the "show" in showgirls with feature sets by Sequioa of The Viewpoint, Miss Bea Promiscuous of Sassy's Bar and Grill, Athena of the Dolphin Clubs, last month's covergirl, Marlee of Safari along with Safari newcomer Cassie rocked the stages to secure their places in the semi-finals. But if we're gonna talk about rockin', then its time to tell you all a little story about a pair of bands that made our final two qualifiers that much more of a party.

HELLION AND CRAZY TRAIN

I had been chasing a Judas Priest tribute band by the name of Hellion to be a part of several events over the past 6 months to be a part of several *Exotic* events, but it seemed like the planets never aligned properly to make it happen for some reason. Fortunately, when I put out the call to book a pair of bands to be the first live music feature to participate in a Miss Nude Oregon® event, the first response I re-

ing up not one, but two bands looking to rock the pageant.

When Hellion took the stage at The Viewpoint, the metal had been brought with a vengeance as the first power chord to rock the house. The Hellion experience is not some hack cover band – this is truly a tribute. Every bit of their performance honored the music of Judas Priest, while enhancing it with their own personal flare. Note for note, the band amazed me with their accuracy. Formed in the summer of '07 by Bates and Brian Garrison of Splintered Throne after doing a show together in Salem, they later struck up a conversation about possibly taking things to a whole new level with a new Judas priest tribute project. With Doug Parks and Brian Bailey both coming aboard from Splintered Throne, the project had a good head start on being tight and working well together. Bob Scott, joined as the lighting/effects/stage manager, helping to make each show one of the most visual mind blowing events anywhere! As the set list grew, it was apparent they needed to round out the sound and find a second guitarist to fulfill the Priest legacy. After an exhaustive six-month search, Hank Clopton joined the band. Shortly after Hank joining the ranks, Rick & Chuck (formally from Crazy Train fame) joined the line up on bass & drums. completing the ultimate Judas Priest experience on the West Coast, both sonically and visually.

On the morning of Hellion's performance, disaster knocked as Garrison was struck down with a serious flu which put him in the hospital. Being the true rockstars that they are, they rallied a stand in vocalist Brian Allen, from fellow Priest tribute band, British Steel. In the face of disaster, these guys never missed a beat and delivered a powerhouse performance that I won't soon forget.

Dan's second band, an Ozzy Osbourne tribute by the name of Crazy Train was our house-band for the final preliminary the following week at Safari. These guys transformed a rather cramped stripper stage into a rock n' roll throne for the madman (portrayed by Ozzy doppelganger Tim Tugg) and his minions – Bates on guitar along with Rick Lepinski on bass guitar and Chuck Mansfield on drums. Bates has obviously done his homework when it comes to the school of Randy Rhoads, as he continued to shred solo after solo, note per note. One of the more amusing moments of their performance occurred when one of the pageant judges and I witnessed one of Safari's house dancers, Winter, perform a marathon on stage "dancing" to not only the entire extended version of *Iron Man*, but a five-minute guitar solo by Bates. You gotta give credit where credit is due, and Winter gave it her all for at least fifteen minutes of trying to interpret exactly how in the hell one is expected to dance to a squealing guitar solo. I honestly believe that most of the crowd thought that Tugg was actually the Ozzman himself, (including Safari's head-honcho Paulie). Although I'm not so sure some of them would really know Ozzy if he bit them on their asses, as I received about a half dozen complements from confused "Ozzy" fans about how great I sounded on stage, (after the first few, I stopped correcting them and simply thanked them for their kind words in my best attempt at an English accent.)

All in all, adding live music to the pageant was a definite success thanks to the addition of these two bands. I not only suggest but also demand you check both Hellion and Crazy Train out for yourself as soon as possible. And what better way to spend Halloween this year than a night with Crazy Train? You can check them out at their upcoming gig on the 31st at Doc's Club 82 for a night of classic metal goodness. For more info, check out myspace.com/crazytrainkicksass



up giving a nod to another act that rolled through Portland last month leaving a pile of moist panties in their wake. The Party Death (as featured in the September edition of Aural Stimulation) kicked off Sinferno Sunday and showed those fortunate enough to show up early that there is much more to this band than a singer who captured the heart of one of Brett Michael's castaways on VH1's Daisy of Love. This band rocked in a way that I have not seen since the salad days of glam-punk-metal when Guns N' Roses dropped the Appetite for Destruction bomb on Hollywood. Give their new tracks a listen at myspace.com/thepartydeath and let the music do the talking. But before I wrap this up, I gotta share one more thing with you about these East Coast bad boys. Not since the days of a young Mötley Crüe have I witnessed such finesse when it comes to proper groupie management and utilization skills. Given the fact that most up 'n' coming bands are always broke; being able to lean on your female admirers is not only helpful, but vital to a bands survival. Traveling from one town to the next, these bands must sharpen their groupie handling talents to bring them the necessary creature comforts such as alcohol, rides to and from the venue, other intoxicants, a place to crash and of course, casual sex. The Party Death should be awarded Jedi status in their execution of these talents. Hell, one of them even managed to receive all of the above and more from one of our very own Exotic staffers.

With that said, I'm out. See you at The Miss Nude Oregon® finals.

Featured Events

Thu. Oct. 1 - Stars Cabaret (Beaverton) — The Miss Nude Oregon Pageant® Semi-final Round II - \$15

Sat. Oct. 3 - Bourbon St. Cabaret (Salem) – Surrender The Booty Bash with \$100 for best-dressed pirate – presented by Captain Morgan **The World Famous Bunny Ranch** – Daddy Dennis' B-Day Party w/

Sun. Oct. 4 - Dante's - Judas Priest tribute band - Hellion - 9pm

Ron Jeremy & wrestling superstar Chyna's book signing

Tue. Oct. 6 - Dante's – Viva Las Vegas Book Signing Bash w/ bands, book readings & burlesque – 7pm

Thu. Oct. 8 - The Dolphin II – The Miss Nude Oregon Pageant® FINALS! \$25 admission – reserve VIP tables by calling 206.498.3056

Fri. Oct. 9 - Safari Showclub - Safari's Next Ad Contest - 9pm

Fri. Oct. 16 - Dante's – Hells Belles w/ Lock N' Load & guest

Sat. Oct. 17 - George's Dancin' Bare – The Dancin' Bare Pole Contest - \$500 in cash & prizes – pre-register by phone or in person

Devils Point – Live music w/ Erotic City

Bourbon St. Cabaret (Salem) – Pajama Party presented by Rockstar w/ naughty pillow fights, naked twister & free giveaways all night - Wear PJ's for free entry

Wed. Oct. 21 - Stars Cabaret (Salem) – Feature performance w/ Cece from VH1's Megan Wants A Millionaire

Fri. Oct. 23 - Full Moon Bar & Grill – Pole Competition w/ cash prizes **Rose City Strip –** Grand Opening Party w/ adult store certificates, tattoo gift certificates, raffles, prizes, feature performances & specials

Sat.Oct.24 - The Viewpoint – UFC Shogun vs Machida – free buffet w/ entry **Bourbon St. Cabaret (Salem)** – Casino Night w/ free Bourbon St. merchandise for first 100 guests

Sun. Oct. 25 - Devils Point – Stripparaoke Halloween Costume Contest

MON. OCT. 26 - BOSSANOVA BALLROOM - EXOTIC MAGAZINE'S BREAST CANCER AWARENESS RECEPTION & BENEFIT (SEE PAGE 59)

Fri. Oct. 30 - Sassy's — Blackout Party all day & night w/ door prizes Pirate's Cove — Davy Jones' Party with \$1,000 in giveaways & prizes for creative costumes — sponsored by Cathie's

Sat Oct 31. HALLOWEEN

The Crystal Ballroom - The Portland Erotic Ball - \$5,000 costume contest - visit www.portlanderoticball.com for more info

Jody's Bar & Grill – Jody's Annual Halloween Bash w/ \$50 cash prizes for sexiest, scariest, funniest & most original costumes

Pallas Club – Halloween Party where you can win a trip to Las Vegas plus more giveaways all night long

Full Moon Bar & Grill – Halloween Party w/ live music by Etched in Stone, raffle & wet t-shirt contest w/ cash prizes

Safari Showclub – Halloween Costume Party w/ live music by Ditchdigger & Exuviate

Devils Point – Live music w/ Coco Cobra & the Killers

Sassy's – Halloween Party w/ costume contests - \$300 grand prize

Hard Candy (Salem) – Halloween party w/ kinky fetish shows Lucky Devil Lounge – 2nd Annual Zombie Stripper Night

Dante's – Dead Sexy Halloween Ball w/ Smoochknob & The Smoochgirls plus \$1.000 costume contest

Boom Boom Room – Pimp 'N' Ho Costume Party w/ live music by Water Doc's Club 82 – Halloween Rock N Roll Party w/ live music By Ozzy tribute band Crazy Train – porn giveaways and more

Plus more Halloween costume parties at Stars Cabaret Salem, George's Dancin' Bare, The Viewpoint, & Soobie's

Weekly Events

Devils Point – Fire Strippers

Pallas Club – Monday Ñight Football with free tacos

Jody's Bar & Grill – Monday Night Football – Join us for Jody's NFL pick'ems & win a NFL jersey or blanket of your choice

THURSDAYS

Spyce Gentlemen's Club – Hot Rod Thursdays – Buy a dance & get a chance to win a 1969 Buick Skylark muscle car!

Bourbon St. Cabaret (Salem) – Throwback Thursdays w/ amateur showcase from 9-12

Dante's – Xotica Go-Go – Go-Go Nocturnal - Hosted by Taber James & The Family

Lucky Devil Lounge – 90's Hip-Hop House Party & Texas Hold 'Em

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The Viewpoint – The American Male – All-Male Revue **Spyce Gentlemen's Club** - \$9.99 Steak & Lobster from 3pm-9pm

SATURDAYS

The Viewpoint – The American Male – All-Male Revue

SUNDAYS

Soobie's – Super Dave Sundays

Dante's - Sinferno Cabaret & Vaudeville

Devils Point – Stripparaoke

George's Dancin Bare – Erotic Pole & Lap Dancing Classes w/ Merecedes 12-3pm

Spyce Gentlemen's Club –Silicone Sundays, where you can win a new rack plus weekly Amateur Contest & Industry Night









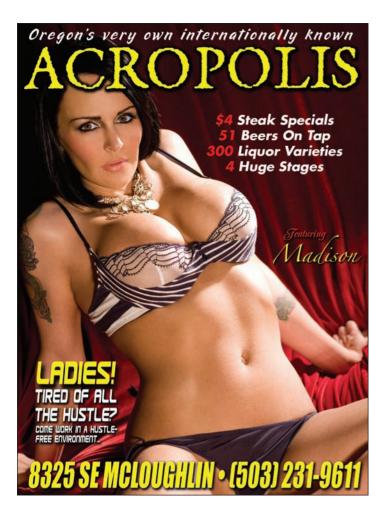


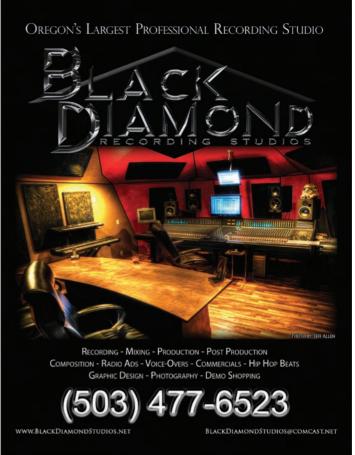
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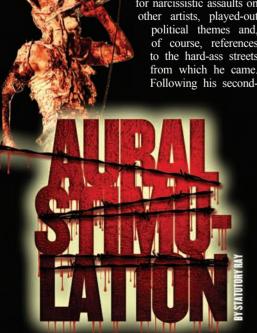


CAGE. DEPART FROM ME

It might not seem that odd that a hip-hop artist would top this list considering the oversaturated amount of horrocore shock-rap dominating internet playlists and underage house parties. "Blah blah bloody kill kill spooky cuss cuss" might entertain the kids at Hot Topic, but it doesn't do much for the seasoned ear. Don't get me wrong, I bump ICP for a good laugh and some entertainment, but the horrorcore genre is far from, well, horrifying.

With the above stated, I will say with confidence that Depart from Me is one of the most psychologically disturbing pieces of art (music or otherwise) to emerge in the past decade. Chris Paliko, aka Cage, began his rap career in the same

> self-important tone as Eminem or Chino XL, opting for narcissistic assaults on other artists, played-out political themes and, of course, references to the hard-ass streets from which he came. Following his second-



most-recent release, Hell's Winter, Cage disappeared almost overnight, leaving fans wanting more of his lyrically predictable, white-boy style.

In 2009. Cage returned with Depart from Me. which was simultaneously one of the most disappointing and amazing albums of the year. Disappointing in the fact that, of the 14 songs on the album, only three or four contain the vocal delivery that even remotely resembles the hip-hop sound Cage fans had come to expect. Amazing in the fact that the album captures the essence of disintegration and renewal in the lyrical sense, while the instrumentals are a catastrophic but cohesive mesh of Radiohead-style keys, Marilyn Manson guitars and sampling techniques that would make Throbbing Gristle jealous. Depart from Me sounds and feels like a suicide note, not from the perspective of one who reads it, but from the viewpoint of the self-victimized.

The true genius behind the disturbing nature of Depart from Me lies not in the delivery or composition, but in the confident and collected presentation of disturbing topics that have been so poorly executed by other artists in the past. "I'm a serial killa, boo!" may work for Esham and Brotha Lynch Hung but Cage holds himself to a higher standard, opting for artistic subtlety that disturbs and frightens without trying too hard. Take, for example, the last few lines of the title track (spoken in a half-mumbling Mickey Avalon tone):

I'm miles out of my way, creepy, I want

Was gonna turn back, but you stuck your key in your front door

I'm standing across the street, stars that aligned us to meet

Standing outside with your trash feeling

My finger aching for your doorbell like a random blog

Instead I lurk outside in the cold like an abandoned dog

Perish the thought, you should cherish the words that I've got in my mouth

The only words that can truly explain how I got in your house

Cage was raised by a junkie, driven by the New York hip hop scene, admitted to Storm Lodge (mental) hospital and eventually given a recording contract. God bless America for allowing Cage to record Depart from Me.

SKINNY PUPPY, TOO DARK PARK
Everyone remembers the first film that scared the living shit out of them. For me, it was Poltergeist. Even though the PG-rated film consists primarily of out-dated special effects and an annoying elderly actress named Zelda, it still raises the hairs on the back of my head when I watch it. Too Dark Park, the second-to-last "official" (aka with Duane Goettel) Skinny Puppy release, is my aural Poltergeist. Perhaps due to the fact that I was dropping acid on a semi-daily basis when I first heard it and perhaps due to its genuine intrinsic value, Too Dark Park retains the scare-factor even when played on repeat.

Ranging from somewhat danceable ("Spasmolytic") to melodic ("Nature's Revenge"), the more popularized singles from Too Dark

Park contain mere particles of the album's core which, like most other Skinny Puppy releases, unleashes it's disturbing unpredictability and erratic-but-calculated qualities toward the latter half of the album. Although Skinny Puppy is responsible for far superior (Rabies) and far more hardcore (Last Rights) releases, Too Dark Park is the equivalent of a Whitman's Skinny Puppy Sampler in that it delivers a taste of everything without losing a sense of cohesion.

Whereas Depart from Me is disturbing due to the fact that an artist is breaking out of a confined space to unleash his insanity, Too Dark Park is dependent on confined space. Each track has a clear starting and finishing point in terms of composition, but the bitingly hypnotic chaos that brings the two points together is the real meat of every track on Too Dark Park. As a band, Skinny Puppy is unlistenable to some, barely accessible to most and desired by a rare few. Outside of the goth club, though, Too Dark Park is the perfect background to any Halloween-related event and an all-around good idea for anyone in possession of good acid and two days to kill exploring abandoned areas in rural Oregon.



HONORABLE MENTIONS

One of Trent Reznor's record-label pets, Pig is really more of a KMFDM side project than anything else, treated as a solo effort from Raymond Watts. Containing orchestra samples combined with the ambiance of a horror movie soundtrack and laced with gut-wrenching vocals that drip with sleaze, Sinsation may owe everything it has to the title track but is nonetheless a must-listen for the connoisseur of spook

MARILYN MANSON. SMELLS LIKE CHILDREN

Technically a "Dope Hat" single, this followup to Portrait of an American Family is arguably the launching point of Manson's mainstream acceptance. Although die-hard fans dismissed the album as a sell-out tactic, there is no arguing that the nothing-like-the-original remixes of Portrait songs, unnerving skits and covers of "I Put a Spell on You" or "Sweet Dreams" are without their spook appeal. Ten years after bitching about how Manson sold out, some of us older fans are finally starting to appreciate that Smells Like Children is one of the most disturbing albums to come from Manson, not to mention the best maxi-single of all time.









At the tail end of the lnk 'n' Pink competition back in May, we discovered a talented new artist in our midst named Olivia Britz. Five months later, we were finally able to catch up with this very busy young lady—step into her world and share it with all of you.

So tell us a little about yourself Olivia.

Originally, I'm from Colorado, but spent the last three years in Missoula, Montana attending the University of Montana and learning how to tattoo, as well as having a million hob-

bies. Let's put it this way: anyone who asked me if I wanted to help out with this or that project would never get a "no" from me. Basically, I kind of ran myself into the ground a little. I needed some down time and after awhile I felt I needed to experience something besides small town life. I just recently moved to Portland in November of last year, and have been working at Raven Ink since February.

When did you first discover that your artistic side demanded to be unleashed?

Both of my parents are artistic, and they encouraged my sisters and I to be creative growing up. It got to be a problem in middle school when I spent more time drawing and doodling and less time taking notes or homework. I owe a lot of gratitude to my art teachers, all the way from elementary school to my last year of college I attended, who have all been amazing and encouraging.

How did it evolve into your present career?

Drawing on my friends during middle school was a big part of it, I had every color sharpie and kids would line up to have me draw superman symbols and barbed wire and crap like that. But it led to a natural curiosity about tattooing and in my last year of high school I decided that was what I wanted to do with my life. I went to three years of college studying art but eventually I was sick of being a broke college student and dropped out to take on an apprenticeship at American Made Tattoo in Missoula. I worked under Jed Dillon & Phil Roberson, who I feel gave me a great opportunity. When I visited home for Christmas recently, I attended my younger sister's art class who was taught by the same teacher I had. She told me I was the only person who actually is doing what they said they wanted to do. It made me feel like I accomplished something pretty big.

Tell us about any accomplishments you have acquired in your career as an artist.

I worked at a skate /snow shop in Missoula called Edge of the World that gave me so many opportunities to use my drawings for logos and graphics. I ended up doing a skateboard graphic for our shop brand B.O.M.B., which was an amazing experience. I also did a bunch of art shows and show posters for the band I was in. Missoula was great to me. A few years back I painted some big murals at the Carbondale skate park of some old school graphics from the Bones Ripper to the Roskopp Eye, which was an intense and fun project. I had never used spray paint before, but picked it up pretty quick. The town bought all my supplies and even threw me some dough on top of that, so it was a win-win for me.

What freedoms or constrictions do you find in a comparison between tattooing and your own art?

For one I like to use gold leafing, and on rare occasions, glitter for my paintings (which obviously can't be done in the realm of tattooing). But for the most part, the things I like to paint are things I'd like to tattoo. After tattooing so much recently, I found myself frustrated because I thought coloring a tattoo was becoming easier than coloring a painting. I put lots of pressure on myself when I create a painting, because if I don't like it, I'll just toss it or stop working on it. I always feel like I have one shot to get it right, so I pretty much approach it like I tattoo now.









What artists inspire you?

Right now, the artists I work with at Raven Ink, Wade and Zak, are fantastic and I'm always learning from them and constantly amazed by their work. Also Ryan Mason from Scapegoat and Derek Noble out of Seattle are a couple of my tattoo favorites, along with Chriss Dettmer, Uncle Allan, Eli Quinters, and Clae Welch. Mike Giant is always amazing—his work is so clean it's ridiculous. I will always have a soft spot for Sailor Jerry and traditional tattooing in general. I remember when Jed first showed me traditional tattoos. I thought they were archaic and ugly because being in art school for the past few years all I could see was the inaccuracy of the light source, how proportions were incorrect, etc. Now I realize that to execute even the simplest traditional tattoo, it requires more than basic skill for those perfect whip shades and clean straight lines. Being surrounded by artistic people helps too. My boyfriend and I are always showing each other awesome stuff we find for reference and inspiration, and our shop apprentice Derrick helped us create an amazing art space for us to do all the projects we want. Now there's no excuse for me not to be constantly making new work.

Tell us some details about the mediums, methods and inspirations that lead to the creation of one of your original works.

Most of my paintings are done in liquid acrylics these days. I used to use a lot of acrylic but switched to liquid because it is faster and I like how it looks better. I trace my design on illustration board, then outline it, paint it, then typically outline it again to make it look crisp. My favorite things to draw are gypsy heads, living or dead, with as much jewelry and hair and embellishments as I can put on them. Pin ups and roses are fun, as well as severed limbs and banners with fun sayings that add humor to the piece. I'm working on a triad of flash sheets dedicated to some choice pop stars, like Lady Gaga, Katy Perry and Rihanna. Their aesthetic is inspiring for my art, so I'm just gonna run with it.

Do you do commissions? What would it take for one of our readers to acquire one of your originals or a commissioned piece?

I've done a few commissions, but the hardest thing about buying one of my paintings is the level of attachment that I have with the piece. Eventually, I'll just have to get over that. I do however, make prints of almost everything as an effort to make my work available for people.

Which type of your art do you find more rewarding: tattooing or your original works?

The look on someone's face after you've just covered up a tattoo that they've hated for the past decade with something they love is pretty amazing. This is art for life, real talk, no joke.

What other passions do you have outside of art?

I love music; DJing and performing have definitely been a few of my favorite extra curricular activities. The band I was in previously never toured but played a grip of shows. The name of that group was Black Velvet Elvis and we had a ton of fun. The project isn't dead and I miss making music, however with moving and all the changes in my life, I have decided to focus first on my work in the tattoo industry until I have the time necessary to devote to music.

Any upcoming appearances/tattoo expos you'll be attending?

I'll be attending and working at the Portland Tattoo Expo, which will be my first real convention. I'm super excited to see all the other amazing artists that will be there too. It's a great opportunity to get inspired and motivated and hang out with the tattoo community.

Thanks so much Olivia. Before you go, is there any advice you would care to share with any aspiring artists looking to break out as a tattoo artist?

Draw as much as you can! Go to conventions, check out tons of art books and don't be an asshole.

















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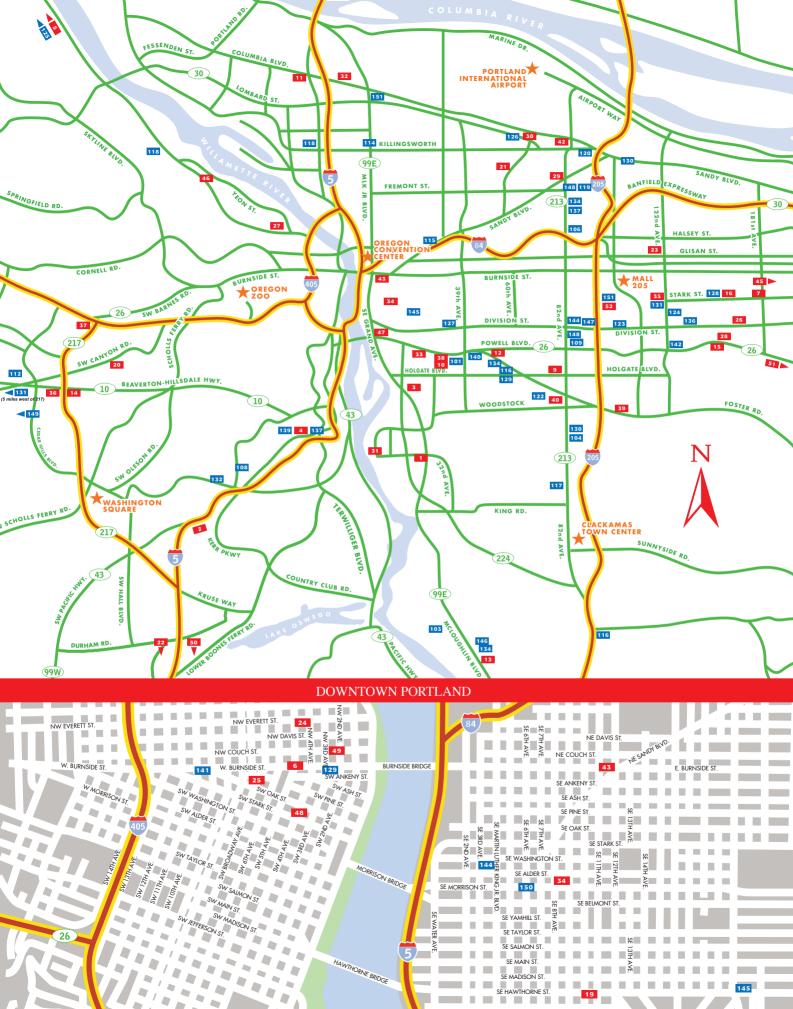


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continued from page 14

How long since we last saw this man alive? While Nussing was "occupied," I got the keys and went back to investigate.

He was even paler now. The skin around his neck and ears started to mottle red and white. I looked on the floor around his feet and found out what I wanted to know—what he'd purchased before his death, and nope, he didn't finish (know what I mean), though it can be said that he died doing what he loved.

I used to imagine that when a man died at the porno store, the floor just opened up underneath him and sucked him straight to Hell. Like cash in a bank tube, *thwooop*. I've always been aware that people died and that they sometimes did so in strange places. But until now, I hadn't completely understood. There is no magic that takes the body to a more acceptable place. The body continues to sit, right where its soul left it. Shed and abandoned like a too tight shell—wanted no more, thought of never again.

I locked the door behind me again and went back to the computer. At 12:45 a.m. he bought a Gay Happy Meal—a popper, a condom and a pillow of lube. It was now 1:23 a.m. I was sick to my stomach. It hadn't been hours at all—minutes.

Three paramedics arrived and I led them back to the booth. The lady paramedic practically dropped her heart paddle box and said, "Oh God. Wow. He's dead."

Duh. I said, "Right? You tell your dispatcher that Dr. Kristine wasn't wrong." The look the workers gave me, said that maybe this wasn't about me.

They got his wallet and keys and told me his name, Mr. W. I guarded the door until the police arrived to take over. Hours later, the coroner came and I told him what I knew, keeping my creepy observation of his not finishing to myself.

He asked me to make sure we kept his car safe and informed me that Mr. W's family would be there in the morning to get it. My heart sank. The indignity of having to go get your husband or dad's car from the porno store because he was riding home in the back of a coroner van was sobering. "Please," I asked, "Can't I just drive his car over to Fred Meyer? Don't make them come here..."

The coroner smiled and said with kindness in his eyes, "You're sweet to think of that for them. But they have a funeral to pay for now. We can't let you drive it and if we tow it, that'll be another bill they don't need. We gotta let them do what they have to do. This is just how life goes."

I nodded. They put him on a gurney and Mr. W left my store feet first. I thought of how hours earlier, he'd been walking on them. How he could not have known how our lives would cross, how his would end and how mine would change now that I knew Death can show up in a half an hour. The coroner was right. This is how life goes.



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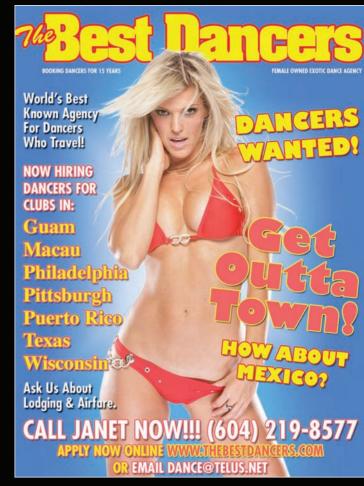




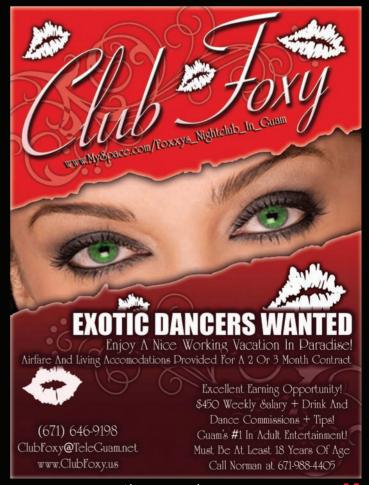
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OCTOBER 25T











This is not in any way meant as a recruitment flier. I love my job but for reasons mysterious, no one ever seems to be able to quit stripping. To quote the fabulous bartender Margarita (who was quoting The Eagles) "It's like the Hotel California—you can check out anytime you like, but you can never leave." If you are totally hell-bent on becoming a stripper, then for the love of God, have an exit strategy. That, and please don't attempt pole tricks for the first time wearing stockings or leg warmers. Trust me, no good will come of it.

Pro: Giving a private dance to a cute boy wearing thick beer

goggles who just can't stop talking about how much he loves your tits, ass, etcetera.

Con: Getting said cute boy to quit following you around like a drooling Labrador puppy that ate your roommate's entire pot stash.

Con: Patronizing middle-management jerks that make the blanket assumption that strippers are stupid.

Pro: Getting to inform patronizing jerks (who have neglected to accurately calibrate the intelligence level of the girl wearing a bikini) that they are troglodytes who clearly have no idea what they are talking about and that their didactic tone is not appreciated.

Pro: Working what is possibly the only service job where the customer is not always right. In fact, most of the time the customer is usually wrong and we are not strictly required to pretend otherwise.

Pro: Not being under any obligation to show up to work on time or sober. In fact, I have been getting to work an hour early five days a week for the last two and a half years and no one has yet to notice. I even tried to call attention to my own exemplary behavior by phoning ahead just to say that I may be

running a little late because I had fallen out of a boat and into a river, which was true. Twice. No one cared that I was late, but they did share my concern about the catastrophic effect falling overboard had on my hair.

Con: Running into old high school classmates, teachers, child-hood friends, the parents of childhood friends, ex-boyfriend's current girlfriends and a guy who may, or may not, be your mom's second cousin, while topless.

Pro: Having really awesome coworkers who are willing to go ask they guy who looks like your second cousin what his name is, while you hide in the DJ booth.

Pro: Sleeping past noon.

Con: The deathly pallor (for my less verbose readers that means being so pale you look like a goddamn vampire) resulting from

minimal sun exposure. As it turns out, one possible side effect of getting maybe three hours of sunlight a day (besides crippling depression) is alarmingly low vitamin D levels. This is to be avoided because your doctor's office might become bizarrely obsessed with your vitamin D levels and call you incessantly, insisting you take stupid expensive blood tests and gigantic prescription vitamins. Like this is even close to being the worst of my many problems, for fuck's sake!

Con: Having to pay for your own health insurance.

Pro: Making enough money to afford health insurance, not that any strippers have it (even though it is way more of a necessity than fake eyelashes, plastic shoes and sparkly accessories).

Pro: Being able to count fake eyelashes, plastic shoes and supposedly "self-adhesive" rhinestones as deductible expenses on the taxes I supposedly pay.

Con: Learning the hard way that it is a really, really bad idea to combine pole tricks, fishnet stockings and nipple piercings.

Pro: Getting paid to dance for super hot girl customers your asshole ex-boyfriend could never in a million years even get the phone numbers of. Suck it TJ.

Con: Rude girl customers who try to draw attention away from the girl dancing onstage by making out with each other. Because no one has ever seen that before.

Con: The paranoia that your brain will spontaneously hemorrhage the next time you have to hear another girl dance to "She's My Cherry Pie", "I Want to Fuck You like an Animal" and whatever the fuck is up with that Rob Zombie song that is about horses or something.

Con: Being so covered in bruises from dancing on stage you look like the rugby player who got drunk before a match.

Pro: Strategic club lighting that can hide bruises and pretty much

anything else with sophisticated blends of red lights, black lights and, in extreme situations, total darkness.

Pro: The valuable realization that there is absolutely no reason you have to listen to stupid people yammering on about asinine crap or put up with getting hit on by creepy old men you don't know, unless you are at work getting paid or suffering through a family reunion.

P.S. I want to thank all the amazing women I work with at Union Jacks for their support and input with writing my column. With the exception of whoever took my polka dot skirt. I'm still pretty ticked about that and I seriously want it back. A plague on your apartment complex.









GOSPEL ON BREAST CANCER WITH VIVA LAS VEGAS

ore frightening then anything Halloween can throw at you are the terrifying statistics of breast cancer. According to the American Cancer Society, every three minutes a woman is diagnosed. In fact, there is a 12% chance that a woman will develop breast cancer at some point in her life. Of all the women that you know, 1 in 8 will get some form of breast cancer. For women, breast cancer death rates are higher than those for any other cancer besides lung cancer. Second only to skin cancer, it is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women. Although mostly affecting women, it can also be found in men. This means none of us are safe.

Breast cancer is likely to touch all of us in some way at some point in time. The stripping industry is not immune. No one knows this better than former *Exotic Magazine* Editor Viva Las Vegas. She is a spokeswoman for free speech, a musician, a talented writer and for 12 years she has been one of Portland most illustrious strippers. She is also a breast cancer survivor.

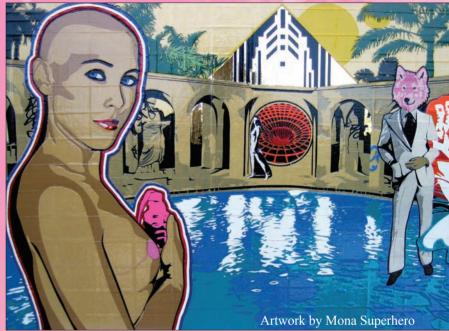
Last year at 34, as Viva felt she was approaching the end of her stripping career, she suddenly found herself bald and missing a breast. Not exactly a good look in this business. Over the years, I have heard sightings of the one-legged or one-armed stripper around town, but is Portland ready for the one-breasted stripper?

When it came to organizing our breast cancer awareness benefit, Viva Las Vegas was the name that came to mind. Not only because we wanted her band, Coco Cobra and the Killers to perform but who better to talk to then someone with intimate experience with both breast cancer and our industry.

I had the chance to take my former colleague out to lunch and catch up. I wanted to get the lowdown on her personal struggle, find out how she coped both internally and financially, what she is up to these days and ask if she had any words of wisdom she would like to share with us on the subject. I also had heard a rumor that she was back to stripping and had to find out if it was true.

Rockin' a new pixie post-chemo hairdo, Viva is no less striking than she ever was. In fact, based on first glance, she is sporting two new additions. We gossiped about what's going on in the industry these days, strip club drama and current trends in stripping. Of course, we touched on subjects like boyfriends, relationships and heartache. After all, the lump was discovered directly over her heart.

Like many of us, Viva was living hand to mouth already, barely paying her mortgage. Being a stripper and bartender she had no benefits but was fortunate to have had insurance when she got the news. I know personally many of us in the industry are not



afforded with this luxury. Still this meant months of time off and a possible career-ender for stripping. As awesome as her doctors and health care coverage is, she points out that she has four doctors appointments this week alone, "It's a full time job."

She tells me, "I've become a stereotype. Google: stripper breast cancer, and I come right up" (She was right). This has led to calls from the press such as Inside Edition and Entertainment Tonight. This is because people want to hear her story. Not only does she have something important to say, she has an eloquent way of doing it. Although she jokes, "they may be disappointed I have two breasts again." You can tell that she instinctively knows humor can play a role in the healing process. At the same time, she is clear she doesn't want to be a running joke.

She refers to me to a relevant article she wrote that we should all read. Published this March in *Portland Monthly Magazine*, it is a chronicle of her journey through it all. Chop off one breast or two? To chemo or not to chemo? She tells her story as a young woman going through breast cancer. It's a story of tears, prayers, denial and acceptance. In this time when she would fight for her life, her decision-making skills would be put to the test. Entitled, "The Last Days of My Left Breast" it is witty, informative and written with the eccentricity of a stripper.

After a lot of thought, Viva did have a mastectomy on her left breast. With the hopes of someday breastfeeding, she kept her right. This March, she also had reconstructive surgery. Even with the smallest implants, they still had to make her bigger than before. She tells me how she would have never thought of getting implants previously. "If I didn't use my breasts so much in my occupation and in my hobby (her band Coco Cobra), I would have probably just had them both taken off."

Without the luxury of time, she was suddenly faced with a profile that didn't match her self-image. Not only does breast cancer threaten one's health and life, as Viva experienced, it can drastically chance one's physical appearance. Not only can losing one's breast cause a body image crisis, in our business, it can drastically effect how one makes their living. With the courage to be admired, Viva is back to stripping. "I never dreamed I'd be a stripper again, ever!"

Viva tells me how stripping helped save her, "Going back to stripping is my personal fuck you cancer, fuck you!" and recommends it to other cancer survivors to help them get used to their new bodies. She jests that she is even lobbying for a stripper pole at her cancer treatment center. "When this started, I didn't accept this as my body and then I started dancing and warmed up to it at last."

Her advice, "feel your breasts," breast self-exams are important. Or better yet, get your partner do it. "They love doing it, let them!" What she really wants us to know is, "if you do get it, it's not the end of the world." She relays something someone shared with her, "Breast cancer is like one year of your life, and they were right."

Describing herself as a workaholic, Viva says, "It's good to have work or I may have lost my mind." Currently, she is back to dancing at Mary's Club in addition to bartending two days a week at East End. The same week she was diagnosed with cancer, Viva landed a book deal. A pre-cancer story of her life in the industry, *Magic Gardens: The Memoirs of Viva Las Vegas* is finally here. Sound familiar? That is because the book is named after Portland's downtown strip club where Viva worked from 1996-2005. Describing the book as "so Portland," Viva calls it "a Portland love letter."

Busily preparing for book readings and a big book release party, she shares with me her excitement and own disbelief this is finally happening. What to wear? It's one thing to strip for years as Viva Las Vegas, it's a whole other to sign it as your name. This could take some practicing.

As a result of treatment advances, earlier detection through screening and increased awareness, death rates from breast cancer are declining. Viva was lucky she caught it in the very early stages. With the help of good doctors, friends and family, it appears she is completing her healing process both physically and mentally and is slowly coming to grips with her new body. Her invitation to all "Come check out my new rack, but remember to be nice!"

Tuesday, October 6th @ *Dante's:* Book release party; celebrity readers, Coco Cobra and the Killers, Storm Large and dancer performances by Malice, Blaze and more...

Monday, October 26th: Book reading at Powell's Books.

Afterwards, Viva and her band will be making a special appearance with a performance at our benefit the same night at the Bossanova Ballroom.

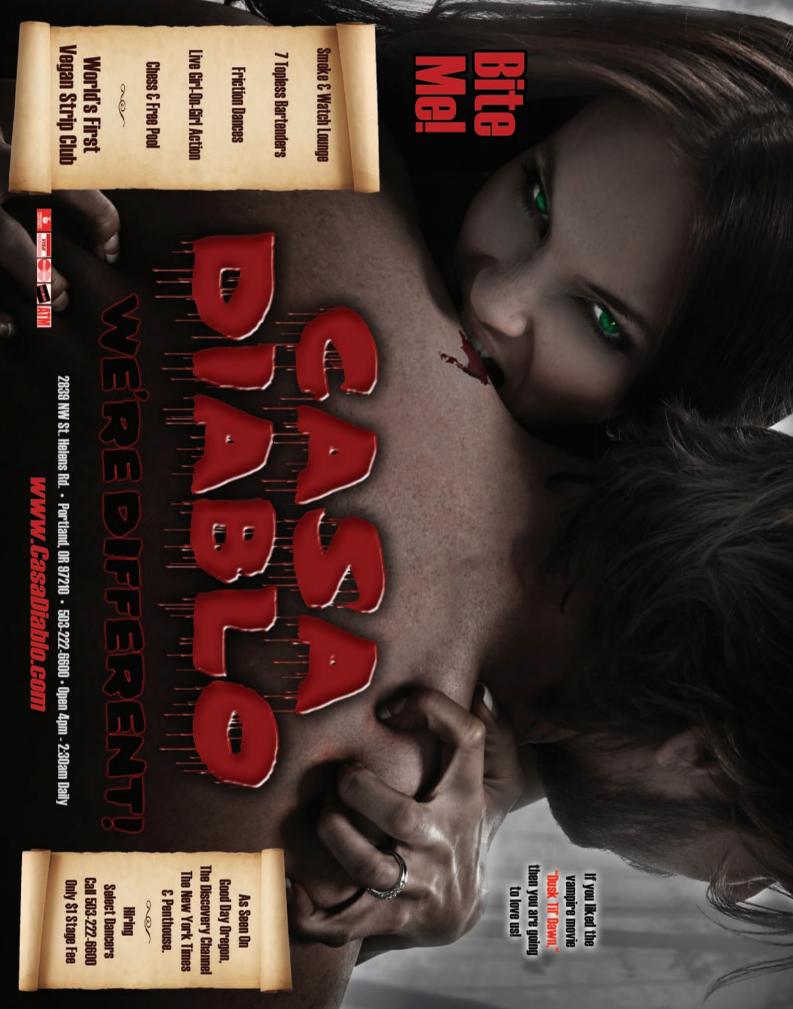


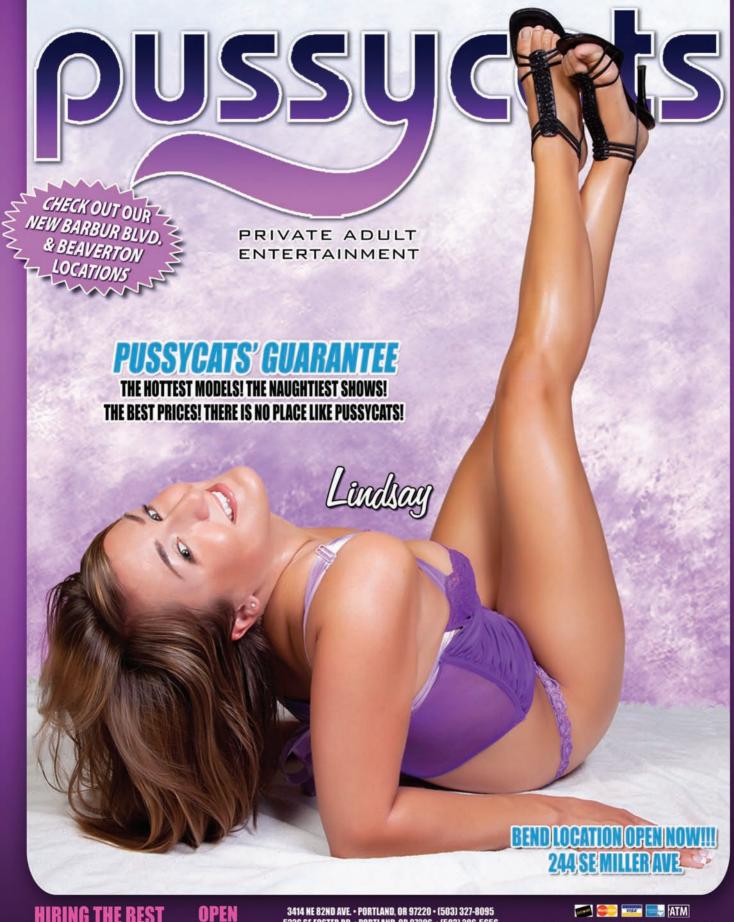
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