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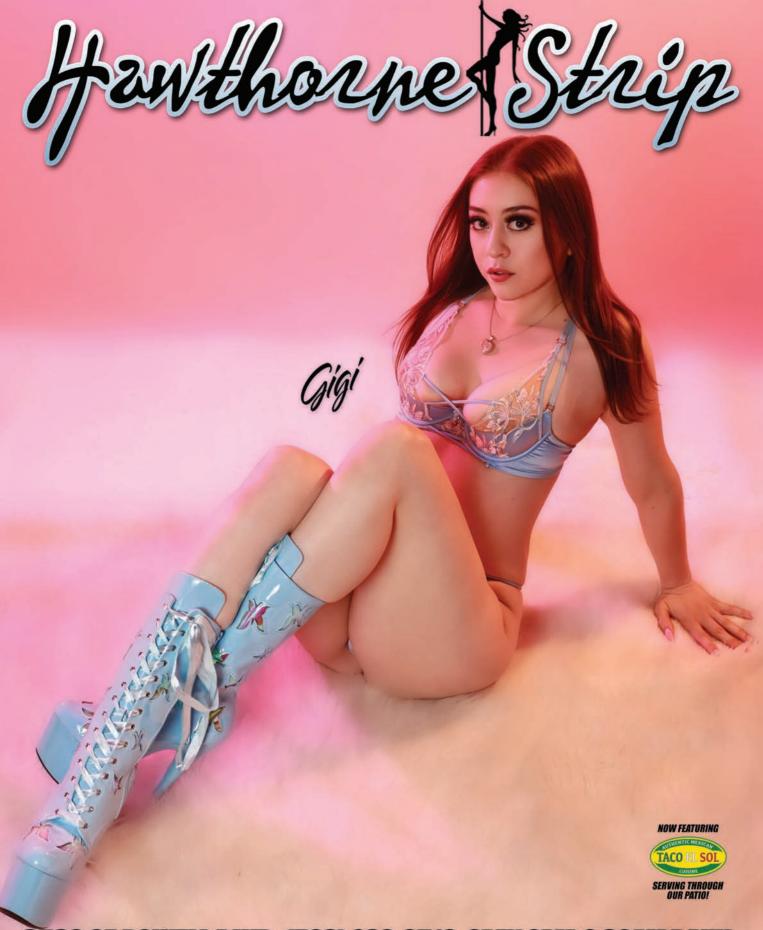








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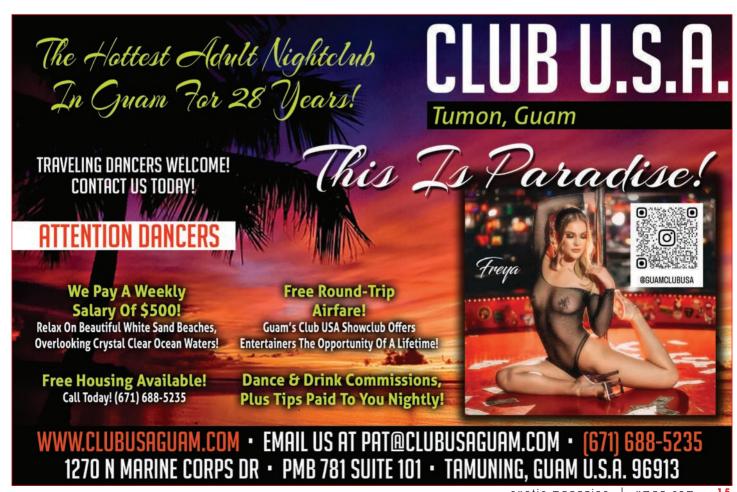














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THE PORTITAND HAPS

Welp! We made it past Halloween, and I'm proud of those of you who refrained from pumpkin bashing and stealing candy from the kiddos. Can you believe we've got less than 60 days left in 2023? Gadzooks!

That said, let's have a look at what's going on this month! The Lounge is holding its brand new Amateur Contest on Monday, November 13, with \$350 in prizes. That's pretty good for a Monday night! Like seriously, what else are you gonna be doing?

Thursday, November 16, Lucky Devil is holding their 5th Annual Stripper Bake-Off Benefit! The fun starts at 10 p.m., and you can't beat tasting delectable, Thanksgiving-inspired baked goods made by their talented entertainers—all while supporting a great cause. The proceeds are donated to Portland Rescue Mission, so come out and show your support!

2-girl stage sets, anyone? Now that I got your attention, Desire will be throwing a Twice As Nice 2-Girl Dance Contest hosted by DJ Dick Hennessy on Saturday, November 18. The contest is open to all performers, and there are cash prizes! Check out their ad on page 2 for more information!

MISS EXOTIC 2024

What can I say, folks?! It's hard to believe we're already past the midpoint of the pageant! If you haven't made it to one of the qualifier rounds so far, you're definitely missing some fantastic performances and memorable industry moments!

We'd like to congratulate all of our qualifying finalists to date (when we sent this issue to press):

<u>Round 1</u>: Pixie from Lucky Devil, Cherry Midnight from Kit Kat Club & Lucky Devil, and Scout from Kit Kat Club <u>Round 2</u>: Adrienne from Diamonds, Max from Twisted Sisters, and Nellie from Guilty Pleasures

<u>Round 3</u>: Rain from Stars Cabaret (Salem), Banshee, and Eris from Guilty Pleasures & Lucky Devil

(Check out page 40 to see photos of all the abovementioned finalists in action during their qualifying set.)

Don't miss the remaining qualifying rounds this month:

Qualifying Round 5: Friday, November 3, at The Lounge Qualifying Round 6: Friday, November 10, at Dream On Qualifying Round 7: Thursday, November 16, at Cabaret

Then, it's the ultimate showdown at the biggest industry night of the year: The Finals on Black Friday...Friday, November 24, at Dante's in downtown Portland. Don't miss this night!

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FRI 03 – X EXOTIC LOUNGE – XOTICA-GO-GO

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FRI 10 – DREAM ON – MISS EXOTIC OREGON 2024 OUALIFIER ROUND VI

FRI 10 – X EXOTIC LOUNGE – XOTICA-GO-GO

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MON 13 – THE LOUNGE – BRAND NEW AMATEUR CONTEST

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OUALIFIER ROUND VII

THU 16 – LUCKY DEVIL LOUNGE
5TH ANNUAL STRIPPER BAKE-OFF BENEFIT

FRI 17 – X EXOTIC LOUNGE – XOTICA-GO-GO

SAT 18 – DESIRE – 2-GIRL DANCE CONTEST WITH DJ DICK HENNESSY

SUN 19 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

FRI 24 – DANTE'S – MISS EXOTIC OREGON 2024 FINALS

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40 IS THE NEW 20: ICONIC ARTISTS WHO BROKE LATER IN LIFE

By Blazer Sparrow

Don't trust anyone over 30. It is as true today as it was when used to combat anti-Communist paranoia during the counter-culture movement in the '60s. Let's be honest...music is for the children—pop music, especially. If you don't get a record contract by the time you're 30, just give up. This isn't to say you can't be playing music into your 90s like the Rolling Stones, but when your career actually starts, there is a shelf life. Be honest. Take your top five favorite records, your top five favorite songs, your favorite artists, whatever. Look up how old they were when their first single or album came out. Sorry, strip club patron paying for female attention...the truth hurts, don't it?

Fear not, lonely, boob-watching musical failure. This article is here to give you false hope that there is indeed life after 30. And I'm not talking about being a composer, jazz session player, or film score-ist. I'm talking about top 40 pop music. Iconic, genre-defining music that is, in every sense of the word, marketable. Please don't think I'm trying to convince you to keep hacking away at your pathetic, Modest Mouse-esque garage band. Please desist and get a real job. If no one's coming to your shows, and your friends smile and nod when you show them your music, my brother in Christ, just call it. We need mail carriers and nurses, not wannabe rock stars.

Still, I thought I'd throw a bone for those of you who are convinced you have the goods. Below are examples of some folks who were the exception, not the rule. Your average iconic pop star began their career as a teenager. Facts. Even Robert Smith lamented, like Julius Caeser gazing upon the statue of Alexander the Great, that he, too, had not created a masterpiece before the age of 30, like all of his idols. This prompted him to write the sketches for and help create 1989's Disintegration, which was released about a month before his 30th birthday. But also, fuck off Robert Smith, "Boys Don't Cry" came out when you were 20, and a lot of people consider *Pornography* a masterpiece. Hell, I consider *The Head On The Door* and *Kiss Me, Kiss Me, Kiss Me* masterpieces, but I'm super biased. The point is that 30 is a scary age, and here are some folks that no one ever heard about until they made it past that dreaded age.



Debbie Harry - 31

Miss Blondie herself turned 31 a month after their band's first single, "X Offender," was released in the summer of '76. Even so, most mainstream American music consumers didn't even know the name Blondie until "Heart Of Glass" was released as a single in early 1979 when Debbie was 33. You cannot argue that she was not only a sex symbol but also a pop idol of her time. She was part of what can only be described as one of the most iconic musical groups of the '70s. I dare you to find any literature from the mid to late 70s that described Miss Harry as "past her prime." Seriously. Find it and mail it to Mr. Exotic at 555 Go Fuckyourself Ave. in Portland, OR.

Bill Withers - 33

Although Mr. Withers released "Three Nights And A Morning" before his 30th birthday, it arrived with little to no fanfare. And by little to no, I mean none. "Ain't No Sunshine" was released shortly before his 33rd birthday and became an inarguable masterpiece of not just soul music but pop music in general. Bill was literally



building shitters for airplanes when the song blasted into the top 40 and refused to quit his toilet-building day job because he wasn't sure he'd be able to pay rent with this finicky music business. Clearly, he eventually did and even kept up with the world-changing bangers into the disco fad of the late '70s with "Lovely Day." He was kissing 40 then.



Lee Ving – 32

I'm including Mr. Boddy himself from 1985's Clue to give some hope to the punk rockers since that is truly the youngest man's game. Granted, "I Love Living In The City" was initially released when he was 28, but literally no one cared. Also, that same song was re-recorded for Fear's seminal debut, The Record, when Mr. Ving was well past his punk expiration date, at two years past his 30th. Also, if you like punk rock and haven't heard of Fear's 1982 landmark album The Record, just take a half hour out of your life and thank me later. Also, fuck Christmas.

Cyndi Lauper – 30

Cyndi Lauper was the first femme artist to make a debut album that had four top-



five hits on the Billboard 100. Can you imagine anyone giving a 30-year-old pop singer the time of day in this youth-obsessed, cut-throat industry, even today? Well, someone in the early '80s did, and it paid off in dividends 'cause you can't pretend Miss Unusual herself wasn't a defining artist of '80s commercial pop. Dear record labels, leave the teenagers alone and scout out the "old hags" in their early 30s for once. You might strike gold.



Leonard Cohen – 33

Okay, this might be a bad example since I'm not sure anyone under the age of 30 even knows who Leonard Cohen is. JK, please don't @ me Reed College students. I am well aware he is the patron saint of freshmen English major snobs. Still, you can't be a freshman studying any kind of humanities in a university in this country without going through a Cohen phase. He is clearly a quintessential voice in American letters, even though he's Canadian.

I cannot stress enough how this article is not meant to convince you to continue using your annoying passion project as an excuse to call in for work. However, I think it's important to shed light on some of the folks who—at the age when their first record saw the light of day—you'd think were too old to be at this house show.







Hannah One Cup Does a European "Vacation" With Her Dad and Boyfriend

To call this a vacation without air quotes means that I don't know what a real vacation is...which might actually be true, considering every time I try to take one of these things, it never ends up being nearly as relaxing as I had hoped and needed it to be, and I end up excited to go back to work. Is that capitalism doing its job on me correctly? Anyway, this vacation was special due to the fact that not only was my partner joining me, but my father as well, who had actually planned the whole thing initially.

Make note that my father's mind is spry, but his body was not always willing. Make another note that my partner is constantly acting as if they are a hamster needing to be on the go as fast as their legs allow. And then, put me somewhere in the in-between, always asking, "Are you okay?" or "Do you need to sit?" or stating, "We should find a beer...or wine-I don't care," or having a panic attack. And that pretty much sums up how it went. Anyway, here are some helpful tidbits on the many places I had visited with these two...gentlemen. From Iceland to Sicily, here we go...

*Pregame tip: Start and end the night prior at your favorite watering hole. This takes away any anxiety you have about the trip and flying. My father was cured of his ailments by meeting a good amount of my favorite people at Joe's. A couple of them whispered to me, "I think your dad is my spirit animal." To that, I say good for you. My father is an interesting fellow, and top that with the 1950s authentic German Oktoberfest hat he had on with the Billy Goat beard attached to it, and I'd say that's a pretty unique spirit animal.



Iceland is cold. If you land here and plan on going outside of the airport, bring a large coat. Maybe some shoes that add a few inches to your height as well. All the people here are at least 6'3" (that includes the ladies). Things are also expensive here, but if you get a chance, go to the world's largest phallic exhibit for roughly 5 USD (I do not care to convert this to ISK...their local currency). I went, and I was not disappointed.

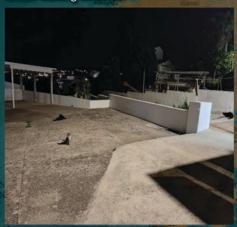


Make sure your luggage is as flamboyant and labeled as it gets. This airport is notorious for losing luggage, and no one there seems to know what their job is. Be aware that this is where punk music also came from. Since their garbage people were on strike and garbage was everywhere, this, along with rats, was the London I came to. If I never go back, it will be too soon. Their English muffins are pretty damn good, though, of course. Eggbreak is a good breakfast place; just know that everything in London is taxed heavily. Prepare for the meal to be about 30% more than what it's priced at. Look at London Bridge, then look down at the River Thames and note it's still dirty. But people have party cruises on it anyway.

etting Out of London

If you didn't purchase a Euro-pass, like we did not, getting out of London is a bit of a huge, expensive headache. Especially if you planned on just "hopping on the train." Yeah, no. Not unless you plan on spending 300 USD a person just to leave London. Instead, see if you can travel by plane to some island outside of Spain and then fly from there back into Europe. That's what we did, and we stayed on a small island called Menorca for one day. It was beautiful and meant for British tourists.

They even had a restaurant with fried fish and pea mash to make them feel at home. The island was also filled with wild cats. Traveling this way cost us roughly \$150 a person for the flight, hotel, and rental car we got for the day since the island was tiny, but things were not within walking distance.



If you go here during September for the Oktoberfest, I commend you. Make sure you have accommodations set...otherwise, you are pretty screwed as to what you're going to be paying or where you will be staying. Oktoberfest is a huge party. But unlike in America, where you have 38 types of beer to choose from, you are simply served a beer. It is some sort of German pilsner in the most giant stein I've ever held. It's not potent and tastes like any other pilsner (my partner would scoff at me for saying this). I wasn't really into Germany so much, as I was here to allow my father to attempt to relive his glory days.

eaving Munich to Get to It

You'll probably be taking a train or two or three. Since the "fast train" doesn't exist in Italy and they have their own train system, you should probably talk to a real, living person to help you get from point A to point B. Don't try to be a hero—you'll screw it all up.

You will be taking many trains on this trip and spend hours and hours either sleeping or staring out the window at the scenery when it isn't dark. It's gorgeous. You'll also be dealing with trains being late, and causing you to be late to your next train. Just prepare for this and always have a plan B.

Prepare for a lot of larger people coming in on buses to see the crispy people, turn around, and leave. Pompeii was really something to look at, but the amount of tour groups there was astounding. Some try to stop you from going further until they are done with what they're saying to the group. I said..., "bullshit," and just kept going.



Stay on the mainland. Northern and central Italy are gorgeous and filled with wonderful food and people. People who will feed you if you are hungry and ask for information on places to eat. They'll just feed you there. No questions asked. You have Rome to visit the Colosseum, Florence to visit the Statue of David, and more. There is so much history and beauty to be experienced. Unfortunately, we only got to see glimpses...because, instead, my father wanted to relive his favorite place in the world (45 years ago...).

Stay away from here. Unless you have family or friends who have verified places they live, you will be out of luck finding a hotel. Instead, there are things called "B&Bs," which 9/10 are simply squatters' dens filled with millipedes or no electricity. The food is okay, but keep in mind that they also eat horses. I did not eat any meat here, to say the least. This was also where we realized I wasn't smiling in my photos or forgot how to.



You get to take an expensive boat ride from the other side of the island, two hours away in Palermo, to Florence. It's a 10-hour ferry. Either that, or you go back up, take the short ferry, and retrace your steps back up the way you came, through Italy on the train.

Our end point was Brussels. Brussels is the European capital. I don't know why. Everyone speaks French and a little bit of Flemish. The gothic cathedrals and night market were wonderful. The people were friendly, and we made friends with a Greek bartender at the bar just across from our hotel, who said if I ever wanted to go to Greece, she had a home there.

At the end of it all, I can at least say we were able to do something that many can't say the same. But I definitely would have just stayed in one spot and stayed the hell away from Catania. Maybe I'll hit up my new international bartender friend and see Greece next year. I'll tell you all about the underbelly I thrive in there next time around.











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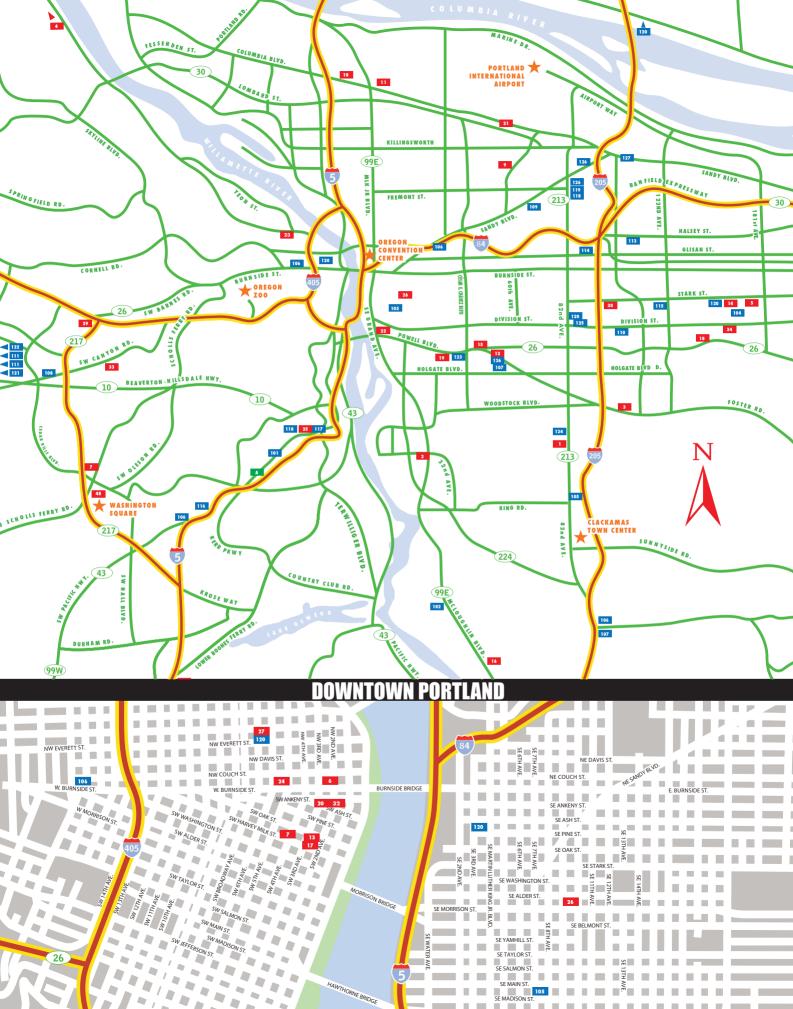


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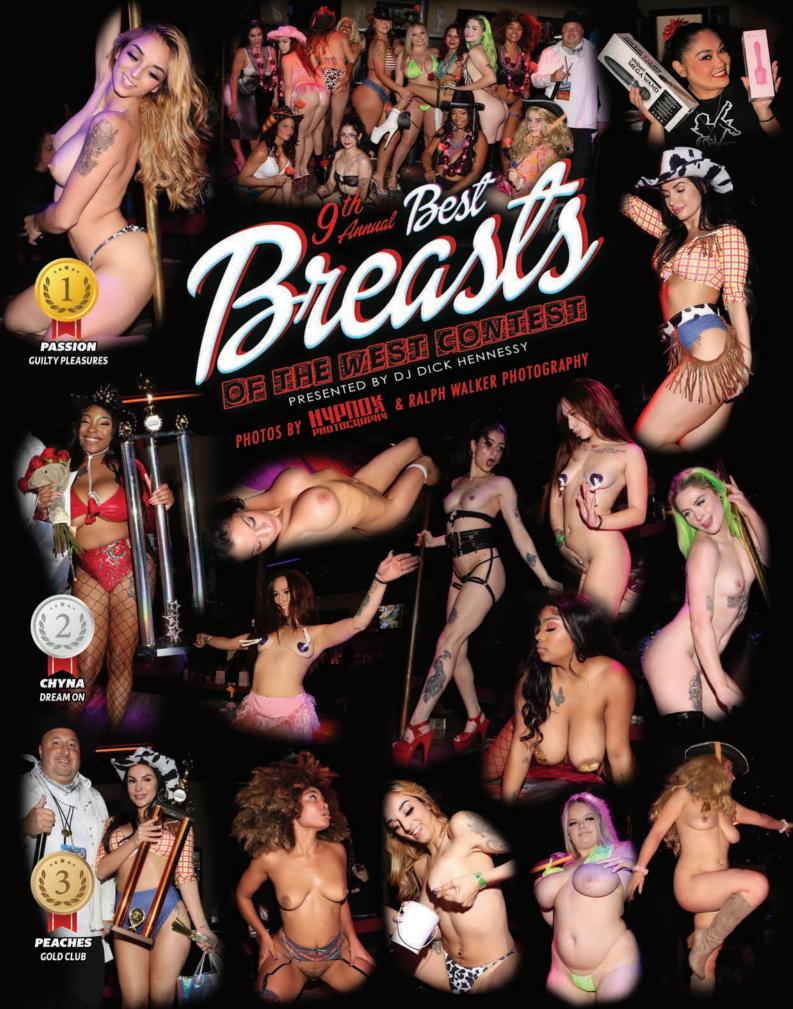
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SAINT SASHA PHOTOGRAPHY















By Nate Hazen

THELIFE

My eyes, bloodshot and heavy with sleep, burst open at the sound of my alarm. I stare stupidly at my phone, struggling to focus my eyes in the dark long enough to see what ungodly hour it is. 6 p.m. "Goddammit," I mutter, "it can't be time already." But it is indeed time, already. If I try to sleep any longer, I'll wind up late for work. My bed pleads with me to stay as I get up, groaning. I consider it a moment, but I have bills to pay—no rest for the wicked. I plod up the stairs to the bathroom, my knees and the stairs creak together in miserable harmony as profanity tumbles from my mouth in lyrical contribution to the creaky duet. I shower under the hottest water I can tolerate in hopes of feeling something other than back pain and sciatica.



By 7:30, I'm ready to head out. I tell my cat, Shredder, that I'm leaving for work now, inform her that she's in charge while I'm gone, and admonish her to make good decisions in my absence. It's a silly ritual, but it's one I carry out religiously—an absurd act that prepares my mindset for work. I unlock my piece of shit car, put the key in the ignition, and... nothing. I'm used to this by now, but that doesn't make it any less obnoxious. Online research on the problem has informed me that this particular year range of this particular make and model has a mystery gremlin in the electronics that drains the battery. Well, fuck. Luckily, I keep a battery jumper in my car for exactly this reason. I jump-start the car, and I'm on my way. I stop at a gas station en route to pick up my nightly fix of caffeine and nicotine, which, along with anger and a severely unhealthy diet, act as the fuel that keeps me going night in and night out.

I arrive at work just a few minutes before

8 p.m., the club's opening time. I pop the hood and disconnect the cable from one terminal of my car's battery, so I won't have to jump-start the fucker again at the end of the night. The homeless people, indigenous to the neighborhood, seem extra lively this evening—none of their usual zombie-like shuffling. There must be a good batch going around. This ought to be fun. One such specimen hunkers inside the club's smoking patio, scorching a piece of aluminum foil with a butane torch. I threaten to administer one of the doses of Narcan I keep in my backpack, inspiring the man to fuck off with admirable haste. Faced with the choice of staying put or staying high, the foil smokers will always choose to stay high.



I clock in and begin setting up. I lug tables, chairs, and a propane heater out to the patio, turn on the exterior lights, and all at once, we're open for business. For a good hour and a half, there are only three customers; two of them wander in, buy a shot, and walk back out. The other eagerly turns fifty bucks into zero bucks at the video lotto machines. I take a seat at the booth closest to the front door, open my laptop, and work on my article for next month's magazine, which is now two days past the deadline. I write a couple sentences and immediately delete them in frustration. As I begin my attempt at writing pretty much the same thing but better, my friend Beau, a cook from the seafood joint half a block down, walks in carrying a carafe of coffee.

I close my laptop and stash it in the kitchen, grateful for the opportunity to procrastinate. He offers me coffee, and I grab a mug from behind the bar. We adjourn to the patio to drink our coffee while he smokes a cigarette, and I puff on some fruity-flavored vape. Our conversation is interrupted every few minutes by yet another person asking if either of us can spare a cigarette. These people are one of the biggest reasons I switched to vapes. Beau, on the other hand, stubbornly sticks to cigarettes, so he bears the brunt of the bumming. He tells the circling buzzards that he can't afford to just give cigarettes away, but he'd be happy to sell them one. The currency they offer isn't to Beau's satisfaction: half-empty lighters, permanent markers, a downright filthy bandana, and sunglasses with one of the lenses broken out. One man eventually produces a dirty, crumpled dollar bill, and Beau rewards him with several cigarettes.

By 11 p.m., we finally have a handful of customers. We'd have more, but a funny thing keeps happening. A guy will walk in, see half a dozen dancers and only one or two customers, and he'll immediately walk back out, and I can't help but wonder whether he just prefers to get his boners with way more people around. I bet he loved getting called up to the blackboard in junior high. I make a mental note to tell the next guy to come on in anyway; if he's patient enough, soon the room will be full of boner buddies to share in the weird group arousal he seems to seek. I shake my head vigorously back and forth as though resetting an Etch A Sketch, desperately attempting to derail that entire train of thought.

Sometime just before midnight, a customer at the rack starts getting grabby. I roll my eyes and march to the stage. "Hey bro, lust with your eyes, not with your hands," I tell him. He pretends to be apologetic, but I've had my eye on him since he came in; gut instinct has been warning me he might become a problem at some point, and I get the impression that what he's actually sorry about is getting caught. He's been warned. I

won't be warning him again. I post up in a spot where I can watch him, and every so often, I see his head turn over his shoulder to see if I'm still nearby. His eyes find mine, and he knows I won't be letting him get away with his bullshit. He tosses a couple more dollars on the stage, stands up, and walks out. "Good riddance," I think. "Let Uncle Touchy go test boundaries at some other club. He was a shitty tipper anyway."

At a quarter to 1, a fight breaks out on the sidewalk outside. I have no clue how or why it starts, but I do know it has nothing to do with anyone at the club; it's just a couple of random dingdongs whose egos clearly outweigh their intelligence. The spectacle of these nutsacks attempting to widen that ego/intelligence gap by



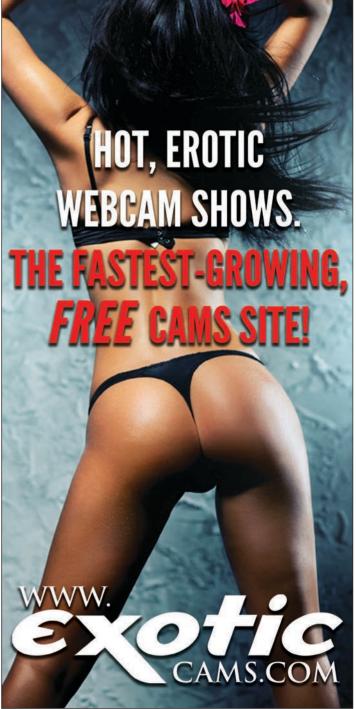
punching IQ points out of each other's heads, like Mario punching coins out of bricks, makes it clear why gladiators were so popular in ancient Rome. Customers and dancers hanging out on the patio stop what they're doing and focus their attention on the kerfuffle, laughing and joking all the while. One dancer begins talking shit and yells at the guys to stop being such pussies and finish it already. Others join her in a chorus of jeers. As if on cue, one guy lands a punch that knocks the other out cold.

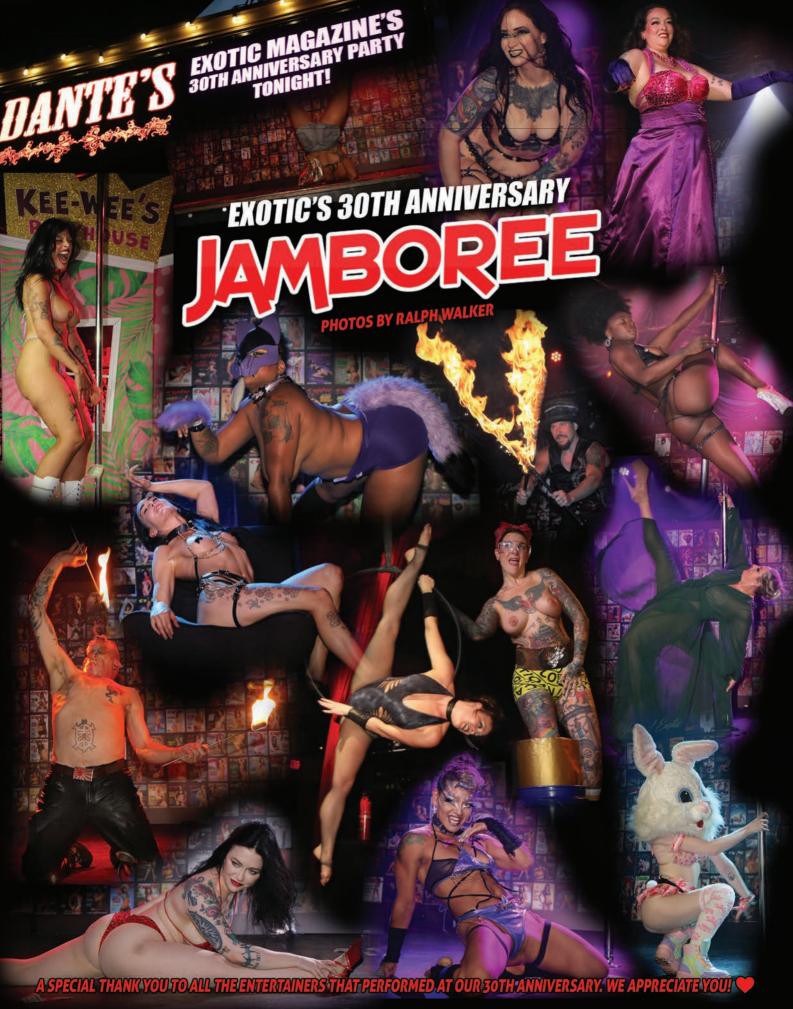
The last hour and a half of the night is slow and uneventful until 2:10 a.m. For some reason, people *love* showing up just in time for last call. "Why the fuck can't we be this busy all night?" I wonder. Oh well, at least this last-minute rush means we aren't all leaving here empty-handed. 2:30 arrives at long last. I begin herding customers to the door, but closing time affects customers in much the same way as bedtime does toddlers; people who were completely fine just moments ago, now faced with having to leave, suddenly possess bladders that are full to bursting and rush to the bathroom.

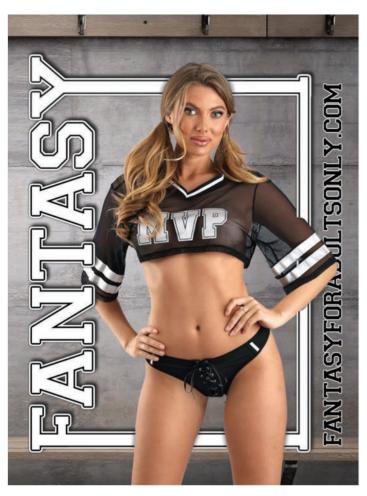
We finish closing an hour later, but as seems to be our way, the bartender, DJ, and I end up staying long past that, bullshitting and recounting the events of the night. We finally lock up at nearly 5 a.m., the color of the horizon heralding the impending arrival of the rising sun. We say our goodbyes and get in our respective vehicles. I pop the hood again, reconnect the battery, and make my way east across the Burnside Bridge. I park my car, unplug the battery, and unlock the front door of my house. When I reach my room, I relieve Shredder of duty, kick off my shoes and pants, and climb into bed. "Did you miss me?" I ask my bed. "Yeah, I missed you too."

Nate Hazen is a bouncer, writer, artist, and cat owner who is currently in a highly codependent relationship with his bed.

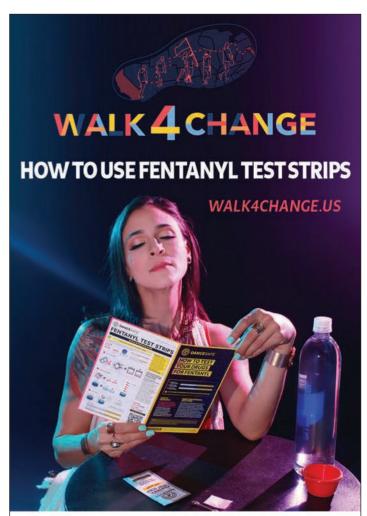














UNDERSTANDING & PREVENTING OVERDOSES

Except for suicides, overdose deaths are always accidental. The word "overdose" has sometimes carried a moral judgment that the individual was "pushing their limits" in order to get as high as possible, as if it were their own fault.

This is not true. "Overdose" simply means taking too much of a drug and it is always accidental. Even daily opioid users who know that fentanyl is in their product have no way of knowing the amount.

Instead of blaming others, let's work together to end accidental overdoses.

Model: Gi Mary Jane Photographer: @saintsashaphotography



WORLD'S WEIRDEST MUSEUMS

Museums are collections for the curious. We've all been to a few in our lives. at least, I hope so. If not, you're missing out. From the dry, stuffy kind like the British Museum to the somewhat wacky nature of the Museum of Modern Art, these spaces are full of objects and exhibits that fascinate and educate. They inspire the human desire to explore and discover, as the word "museum" has origins in antiquity. In its Greek form, mouseion, it meant "seat of the Muses," and Muses, of course, were inspirational goddesses of the arts, sciences, and literature. But the Muses are fickle, like all those Greek gods and goddesses, and can steer you toward inspiration in some very strange ways. I've found some museums that have very odd subject matter as their point of focus. Let's see what they are!

Listed in no particular order.



The Icelandic Phallological Museum

Leave it to the weirdoes in Iceland to make an entire museum dedicated to the appreciation of penises. That is precisely what this place is: they boast of having hundreds of specimens of preserved dicks from various dick-having creatures the world over. Founded in 1997 by historian and teacher Sigurdur Hjartarson (say that three times fast), the museum has become a popular attraction in downtown Reykjavik. Interestingly enough, their website claims that it is a "family-friendly" space. Okay. "Hey, kids! Wanna go to the cock museum?" "Can we, Dad?!" The museum also has a signature bistro called "The Phallus Cafe," which has "penis waffles," but their website does not elaborate on this. Though, being the diligent journalist I am, I did manage to find a photo of them. Additionally, their gift shop boasts "hundreds of penis-themed wares." Truly a memorable experience.



The Museum of Broken Relationships

This one is in Zagreb, Croatia. It is a collection of stories and objects referencing love lost or relationships gone sour. Most of the items have stories describing their significance to the fractured partnership and range from rings and small keepsakes to even household appliances. "I kept the toaster after he left." Some of the more interesting items are love letters, single shoes, and belly button lint. "His stomach had a particular arrangement of body hair that made his belly button prone to collecting lint. Oc-

casionally, he'd extract a piece and stick it to my body, which was sweaty after sex." (She apparently kept some and donated it to the museum.) Anyone can donate an item and story or even send photos for their "virtual collection." It's essentially a museum dedicated to souvenirs of the misery inflicted upon our hearts.



The Amsterdam Sex Museum

I'm not sure why most of these are at least tangentially sex-related, but this is Exotic magazine, so I don't figure you readers will mind all that much. The Amsterdam Sex Museum is guite the sight. They have sex exhibits (sexhibits) featuring erotic statues, paintings, and items from as far back as ancient Rome, all the way to modern art, which all relate to getting it on. They claim that their exhibits display the hidden side of history, which more stodgy institutions refuse to show. The museum is in this very lavish 17th-century structure in downtown Amsterdam, one your author has actually been to, so I'll testify it's worth your handful of Euros, should you be in the heart of the Netherlands. Plus, if I recall correctly, they sell beer there, too.



The Museum of Bad Art

This one's in the good ol' US of A. Located inside a brewing company in Boston, Massachusetts, the Museum of Bad Art has a tagline: "Art that is too bad to ignore." Indeed, that's what they display there. Art by people who have talent, but it's likely not in the field of making art. As they are a brewing company, they definitely sell beer there. You'll likely need one, as they have strict criteria for what defines "bad" and supposedly only pick the absolute worst. If you are also a bad artist or know someone who is, you may make a donation, and they just might put it up for all to view.



The Cockroach Hall of Fame Museum

This one existed in the humble town of Plano, Texas. It features a series of dead cockroaches wearing various outfits, then placed in various tableaus. Scenes with roaches in a parody of various celebrities (such as "David Letteroach" and "Liberoachi") adorned the space, which stood inside, somewhat fittingly, a DIY pest control shop. Sadly, it is no longer operating as a museum, though the owner is apparently trying to get it back up and going, so there's hope for the world vet.



The Avanos Hair Museum

This one is located in a small village in Turkey and, furthermore, is located in a rather gloomy cave. Yes, a cave. It features locks of hair donated by thousands of random ladies. The story goes that the place, initially the simple workshop of a local potter, was consecrated with its first lock of hair by a great friend of his who had to leave and go far away. He'd asked her for something by which to remember her, and she gave him a lock of her hair, which he hung in the cave below the shop, wherein he stored his finished pottery. Apparently, this became a trend among his visitors, and now the cave is host to thousands and thousands of locks of ladies' hair, each with a small note saying the name of their former owners. Whether or not it sounds like a destination worth the travel, there's nowhere else on Earth you can see a cave that is quite literally covered in hair, except perhaps Tom Selleck's bathroom.



Le Musée des Vampires

A French museum dedicated to the history of vampires. Not necessarily in cinema, but documenting the mysterious, bloodsucking undead and their impact on culture throughout the years. They actually have autographs from everyone who has ever played Dracula, including Bram Stoker himself. Of course, Stoker never portrayed his creation, but he wrote the fucking thing, so that definitely counts. There's vampire paraphernalia everywhere: posters, scripts, statues, and all sorts of interesting things. Having reopened in 2022 after a decade-long hiatus, this is your destination if you are a bored French person or international goth of mystery.



If you're booking a getaway at home or abroad, consider visiting a location where you could take in one of these bizarre facilities

Safe travels.

-Wombstretcha

Wombstretcha the Magnificent is a roach reanimator, movie vampire, bad artist, writer, and retired rapper from Portland, OR. He can be found at his website, wombstretcha.com, on Twitter as @wombstretcha503, and on MeWe.com (yay!) and Facebook.com (boo!), as "Wombstretcha the Magnificent."





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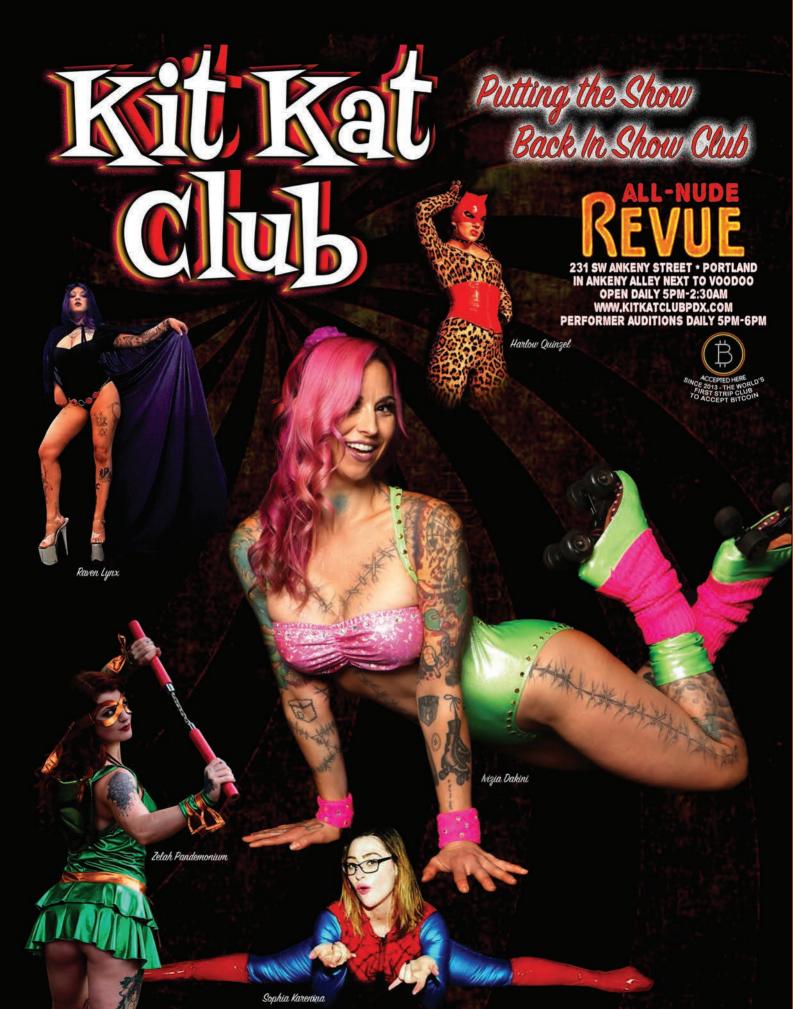
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