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Jack Rabbit (detail), hand-crafted lithograph, 9.5 × 7.6 inches

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ABOUT THE COVER

DATE NIGHT IN TOWN SQUARE

Follow these guys on their date night on page 32

Photography by: Carlos Quiroz

Models: Randy Salinas, Brian Loveless

Styling: Kris Kass, Christopher "CJ" Jhureea

Hair: Danny Escobedo

Makeup: Lan Reiss

Location: Double Helix Whiskey Lounge



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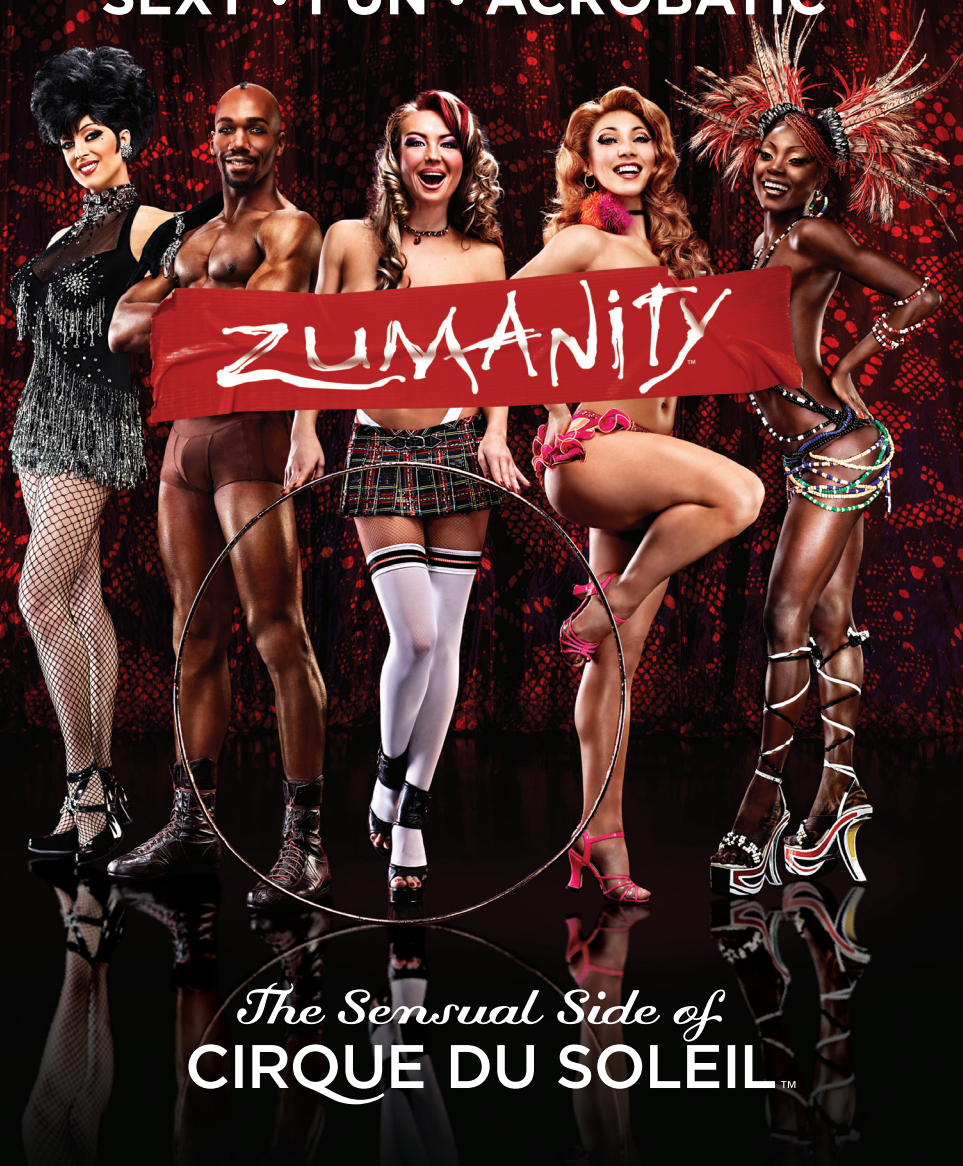
Randy (left): **Sweater**/ Coterie, **Pants**/ Zanerobe- Coterie, **Shoes**/ Lacoste, **Scarf**/ Scotch & Soda- Coterie

Brian: **Scarf**/ American Apparel, **Sweater**/ Coterie, **Pants**/ G-Star-DNA2050, **Boots**/ stylist own

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a note from our **EDITOR**

THE V IS FOR VALENTINE!

Christmas and birthdays I always feel like I can get away with a not-so-great gift. But Valentine's Day sure brings on the pressure! The QCrew has put together some ideas to get your gears turning in the right direction for your loved ones with our Valentine's Day gift guide on page 44. For those of you who aren't lucky enough to have a significant other or at least date for Valentine's, go find something interesting to celebrate anyway. For every lover's delight there are twice as many excuses for singles to head out for a night on the town. Food always does the trick for me so turn to page 46 for inspiration.

This is our Love, Sex & Vegas issue. We've packed a lot of love and heaping of sexy in this issue. To top you off, we have featured Las Vegas in all the ways that it is sexy and loveable.

Our adorable cover boys, Randy Salinas and Brian Loveless are Las Vegas locals and starting on page 32, these guys take take you on a fashionable and delicious Date Night through Town Square.

Are you ready for Sister-Mayhem? It is that time of year again. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are brining the circus to town with their 6th annual Red Dress event.



This year the 16th floor of the World Market Center will be transformed into a circus delight where attendees will be blown away with extravagant entertainment and also get a chance to strut their stuff in their best red dress. Purchase your VIP tickets today and I can't wait to see you there February 23rd.

Like us on Facebook (facebook.com/qvegasmagazine) and follow us on Twitter (@qvegas) to be the first to know about our new events and possibly participate in upcoming QVegas stories. By joining the #QCrew social network you can also get chance to win some exciting giveaways throughout the year.

Janise "Noah" Henderson

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I WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS

Do you have something on your mind? Do you have something to say about an article in QVegas or any topic of interest to our readers? Do you have an idea for a future story? I want to hear from you! Simply send an e-mail to Editor@QVegas.com. Letters to the Editor may be printed in a future issue if signed and may be edited for clarity or length.



PUBLISHER

Russ White

EDITOR & CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Janise "Noah" Henderson

COPY EDITOR

Daniel Hanna

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS

Stephan Penzcek
CJ Sturgis

GRAPHIC DESIGN ASST

Coddy Adams

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Luanne Austin-Sanchez

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVES

Miranda Boyd
Jesse Luján

CONTRIBUTORS

Michael Barbieri
Richard Davis
Danny Escobedo
Christian Gabroy
Kris Kass
Christopher Jhureea
Brian Loveless
Jincey Lumpkin Esq.
Lana Reiss
Junior Renteria
Randy Salinas
Jazzmin Awa-Williams

QVEGAS MAGAZINE

7635 Dean Martin Drive, Suite 200
Las Vegas, NV 89139
Phone 702-650-0636
Fax 702-650-0641
E-mail Editor@QVegas.com

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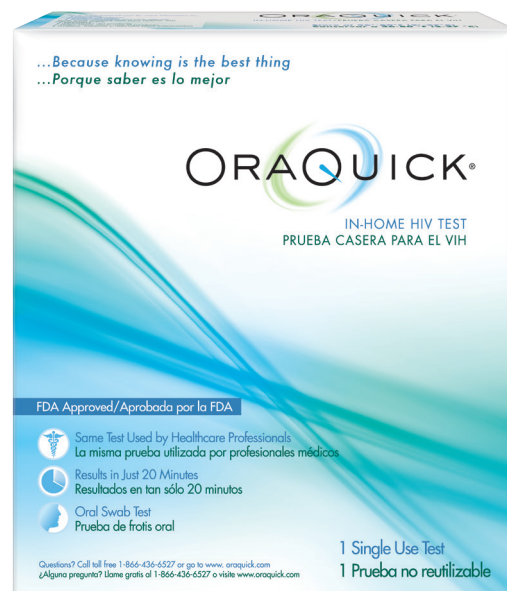
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QNEWS

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Since 1973, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Nevada has provided volunteer adult mentors for youth facing adversity. National research has repeatedly demonstrated that mentoring works at home, in school and in neighborhoods. They are proud of their accomplishments and their record of accountability and child safety.

They have kids waiting for mentors across their three programs: their site-based program requires just one hour a week at select elementary schools and after-school sites; their community-based program involves four to six hours a month of activities; their new DREAMR Project provides special mentoring to youth in foster care and requires easy weekly contact.

Child safety is their top priority. All volunteers are carefully interviewed with background checks. They provide special training and on-going coaching while their mentors make a minimum of a one year commitment to provide adult friendship and guidance for youth entrusted to the programs.

Members of the Las Vegas community are invited to step up, volunteer and make a difference.



"Start something. Make a difference...one child or teen at a time."

Please consider being a Big Brother or Big Sister for a child or teenager. Couples are encouraged to apply & volunteer together! ■

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

In Clark County, more than 55% of kids are receiving a Free or Reduced Priced Lunch at school. What happens after school or during the summer? Kids Cafe provides nutritious suppers to after school enrichment programs. Currently they are boxing over 15,000 meals per week. Summer Food Service provides meals to sites, all over the valley, where any child 2-18 years old is able to receive nutrition during the 3 month break. Throughout this past summer, volunteers packed over 101,000 meals for distribution. Closed toe shoes required for all volunteer activities.

Schedule: Monday - Friday, 9am - 12pm Minimum age: 10 yrs old. Guardian needed for 10-15 year olds.

More info: www.threesquare.org

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Does a little retail therapy get you excited? Help others find their passion for fashion by assisting at NextStep Ministries Thrift Store. Proceeds collected from the store help to fund NextStep ministries park service as well as Clean and Sober living home. Make a difference and have fun!

Shifts are available Monday-Saturday. An orientation, interview, and background check are required.

More info: www.volunteercentersn.org



[by Richard Davis]

Can you climb the Stratosphere in seven minutes? Javier Santiago did. Santiago, from Mexico City, is one of the world's elite tower runners and he claimed first place at the American Lung Association's 2012 *Scale the Strat Ultimate Stair Climb*. The annual climb attracts both elite and amateur climbers from Las Vegas and around the world to raise money for the work and mission of the American Lung Association in Nevada (ALAN). ALA fights for clean air, indoors and out, and working to improve lung health in Southern Nevada. On Saturday, March 2, climbers from 18 years and up will tackle the Stratosphere Tower's 1455 steps, climbing 108 stories to reach the Observation Deck 854 feet up. I did it in 19 minutes and 24 seconds.

Diane Zapach, director of development at ALAN, says last year almost 400 climbers reached the top and for this year's fifth annual climb the goal is 600. Virtual climbers can participate via big screen TV in the Observation Tower. Teams from American Casino and Entertainment, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Connections Housing, Frias Transportation, IGT, Kindred Healthcare, Paragon Healthcare and UnitedHealthcare were among the many corporate sponsors who participated in last year's climb. New corporate teams signed-up this year are Bluegreen Resorts, Quest Fitness and United Airlines and the on-corporate roster now includes Bad Ass Chicks. In addition, fire departments from around the country send climb teams to Scale the Strat every year.

Top climbers get fabulous prizes and everybody gets a cool t-shirt and is invited to attend the after party in the Tower. Zapach says that Stratosphere headliner, Frankie Moreno, has been tapped to appear at the after party along with 2011 Playboy Playmate of the Year, Claire Sinclair, who is starring in a new revue premiering at the Stratosphere in February. Confirmation for both stars' appearances is pending.

Register today for the 2013 Scale The Strat Ultimate Stair Climb benefitting the American Lung Association in Nevada at ScaleTheStrat.com. Registration is \$50 with a fundraising requirement of \$150. For more information call Diane Zapach at 702-431-6333. Register in advance and take advantage of free climb trainings that are offered prior to the event throughout Las Vegas. Javier aims to beat his time from last year and so do I. ■



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The soundtrack from the "Inspiring Our World" performance is available online at <http://inspiringourworld.bandcamp.com>. All proceeds from purchases benefit The MGM Resorts Foundation.



[by Russ White]

“In my many years of attending Vegas shows have I never been as moved by a performance as the one I attended this past December. As I entered the Mandalay Bay Event Center, there was already an energy resonating throughout, though I felt isolated and separated from that energy. I didn't have a ticket. I didn't even know what performance I was attending. I was just asked to come. In the 90 minutes that followed, I was taken on an emotional journey through a musical production that left me engaged, entertained, and inspired.

The opening number introduces the audience to “Sawa Bona/Sikhona,” a common greeting among the Northern Natal tribes of South Africa. The literal translation of “Sawa Bona” is “I see you.” When greeted, one would reply with “Sikhona,” or “I am here.” Similar to the English “Hello,” though the dialogue is requisite on the mutual acknowledgement of each person, a trait often missed in our unidirectional “Hello.”

The “Inspiring Our World” musical production was the brainchild of Patty Coaley, Director of Diversity Training for MGM Resort International. Presented to over 50,000 MGM employees, the production delivered MGM's core messages of customer service, philanthropy and community engagement, sustainability, and diversity and inclusion. Many corporations deliver these mundane messages through pedagogical computer-based courseware or classroom lectures, but true to the

nature of MGM, the training was delivered through an experiential musical production.

“There's a perception of corporations that sometimes they don't have a heart,” said Coaley. “We value diversity. We made a huge statement. What other company stops to take all of their employees off the floor to do this.”

MGM is the largest employer in Las Vegas, so there are certainly a number of QVegas readers that attended one of the in-house performances. Some readers may have even performed in the shows. The 70-person cast spans all departments and all properties throughout Nevada. Front-desk, operations, housekeeping, security, food & beverage, casino, and entertainment employees sang and danced their way though what was essentially an employee training event, only at an MGM grand scale.

“We are a company made up of different kinds of people in business to provide service to different kinds of

people,” said Phyllis James, Executive Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer for MGM Resorts International. “It was all about recognizing that we're all different in certain ways, but at the core, we're all the same.”

In a town built on hospitality, taking a moment to acknowledge a guest and wait for their acknowledgement can fundamentally change the experience of visitors. Turning that same acknowledgement to a co-worker builds an even greater workplace. But what happens when we take a moment to acknowledge each other?

LGBT and diversity often go hand-in-hand, and the LGBT community is as diverse inside—our rainbow flag reminds us of that diversity. Yet too often, archetypes within the LGBT community create fractures that divide us. If we take the simple lesson of Sawa Bona / Sikhona and acknowledge instead of shun we can only become a community united through our diversity. ■

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Join us in welcoming Christine Nottage to The Center as the new Director of Development. She has over 15 years in nonprofit management and fundraising. After completing her masters in nonprofit management in Cleveland, Ohio, Christine relocated to Las Vegas. She brings her extensive nonprofit background and enthusiasm to The Center and we are pleased she has joined us.



SAVE THE DATE

GRAND OPENING
APRIL 6



Apocalypse After Party Was a Huge Success

The Center's QVolution Apocalypse After Party brought young people into the Las Vegas New Year's Eve scene for the first time!

On New Year's Eve, nearly 100 LGBTQ and allied youth celebrated the holiday in a safe and substance-free space at The Center, and were greeted by celebrities Jaymes Vaughan and James Leigh Davis from *The Amazing Race*, Bryan Chan from *Chippendales*, and Rainbow Noise Entertainment!

A dance floor, free food, a drag and makeup station, and stage performances filled the evening until the countdown to midnight. The night culminated with the youth, glasses of sparkling cider in hand, watching the fireworks over the Strip. This event was sponsored by QVegas, Share Nightclub and Blown-Out Productions!

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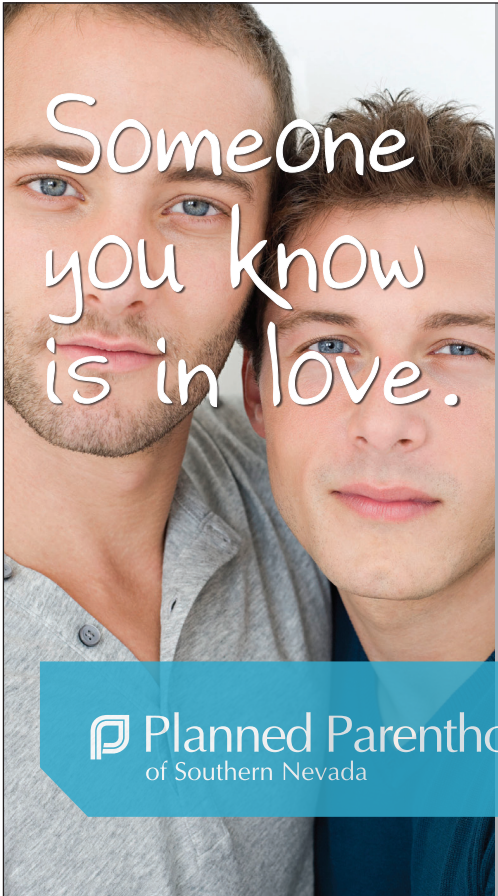
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THE SIN CITY SISTERS OF PERPETUAL INDULGENCE

ROCKIN' RED DRESS

CIRCUS

THE CIRCUS IS IN TOWN

[by Jazzmin Awa-Williams]

Attendees will blow the roof off the 16th floor of the World Market Center at the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence's (SPI) 6th annual "Rockin' RED DRESS Circus" on February 23, 2013. Expected under the "big top" for the revelers amusement are such delights as circus acts, a lion habitat, adult carnival games, Fuego Fusion, magic and Sisterly mayhem. Internationally known San Francisco radio talk show host, Sister Roma, "the most photographed nun in the world" will serve as ringmaster for the night's acts and DJ Tatiana will keep the party going with her high-energy spinning.

The average cost of HIV treatment is \$2,000 to \$5,000 a month, or \$24,000 to \$60,000 a year. Compare that to the median income for a household in Las Vegas at \$53,000 a year. With costs for HIV medication and treatment so high, the options for staying alive are few.

The Red Dress Event is used to bring awareness to HIV/AIDS, raise money for a drug assistance program, and bring the community of Las Vegas together.



"It's not just the event itself, it's the fact that we want to bring as many members of this community together as possible in support of what is a national effort to end the epidemic," said Sister Sioux, co-chair of the event and a nun in the order.

When an HIV-positive individual in Las Vegas cannot afford to pay for their medication or does not qualify for federally funded assistance, the Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program (SADAP) steps in. To date, SADAP has raised and paid out more than \$350,000 for several hundred clients in the Las Vegas Valley in the form of prescription medication and health insurance continuation.

SADAP is a unique branch of the Sin City Sisters order, part of a worldwide organization of queer nuns (Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence) that use community service and outreach to promote human rights and engage in the fight against HIV. The Red Dress Event is a critical part of the fundraising for SADAP.

"It takes a lot of money to fund our program. What I would like to see from our event is to be able to raise enough to sustain us for at least a good six months," said Mother Loosy, co-founder of the Sin City Sisters.

The sixth annual Red Dress Event, themed "Rockin' Red Dress Circus" will be held at the World Market Center on February 23. With more than 800 attendees last year, 1,000 plus are expected to attend this year's extravaganza.

The color red is the internationally accepted symbol for HIV/AIDS awareness, traditionally shown by a red ribbon worn on the lapel. At the Rockin Red Dress Circus, all partygoers, regardless of age, gender, or sexual orientation, will wear a red dress, serving as a powerful reminder of those living with HIV/AIDS while creating community solidarity.

"(It's great) to have everybody have a good time, to let their inhibitions down. I mean, we have everybody come in in a red dress so that they can sit there and laugh at themselves and still have fun." Loosy said.

For those that don't have a ball gown lying around, there will be a "red dress barn" where anyone daring can try on



a supply of red dresses and rent one for the night. Professional designers at Stitch Factory in downtown Las Vegas are also offering courses for those interested in sewing their own creation. A portion of the proceeds from those courses is donated to the Sisters.

"We've had a lot of people who were reluctant to do it and reluctance has shrunk every year," Sister Sioux said. "We have wives bringing in their husbands who say 'Oh I'm not putting on a dress, I don't care,' and by the end of the evening they're in a dress and dancing around!"

The evening kicks off with a VIP party (admission \$50) at 7 p.m. At 10 p.m., the doors are opened to the masses (admission \$30). There will be a costume contest for the best

red dress, a jazz string quartet and continuous entertainment with a circus theme. Internationally known San Francisco radio host Sister Roma will be "ringleader" of the night.

Whether it is a family member, a friend, or an acquaintance, most can say that they know someone affected by HIV/AIDS. In Las Vegas, the Sisters work to change existing stigmas and extend help to those in need. Community assistance and open arms allow the all-volunteer organization to stay alive.

"Knowing that there's both local and federal recognition for what we do is a testimonial to the fact that you can be more than just an individual. It is a point in case where one person can make a difference. Because we have," said Sister Sioux.

For more information including the dress code, visit www.sinsitysisters.org.

2 STEPS FORWARD... ■

[by CJ Sturgis]

Chanel's Lesbian Brides Rip the Runway

Karl Lagerfeld closed his Chanel Spring 2013 Haute Couture collection in Paris with a bold statement. Less than 24 hours after the president's call for equality Karl Lagerfeld said he wanted to signal his support for the controversial French gay marriage law. He did so by closing the Chanel catwalk show with not one blushing bride, but two, holding hands and dressed in identical, ravishing wedding gowns as they strutted down the runway. "I don't even understand the debate," said Lagerfeld. "Since 1904 the church and state have been separate."



France's First Parents of 2013 are Lesbians

The first recorded baby born in 2013 in France was born to a lesbian couple. A woman in Moulin, France named Maude is the biological mother to newborn Sacha, and has sole legal rights over the child. According to the Daily Telegraph, Maude and her partner Delphine had to go to a sperm bank in Belgium in order to become pregnant, because gay couples are not allowed to do so in France. "We were very lucky because we only had one insemination, which worked right away, so everyone was ready to start our little family," her partner Delphine said. The women say they wish to wed if the French Parliament approves a marriage equality bill, which the government is currently debating.

Miss California inspires

Shortly after Donald Trump announced changes to the Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants to allow transgender women to compete, 26-year-old Kylan Arianna Wenzel ditched her manager position at Jamba Juice and moved up her plans for gender reassignment surgery in hopes of competing in the pageant. "The first time I watched a beauty pageant was when I was 11, in 1997, when Miss USA won Miss Universe. And ever since then, it's kind of been implanted in my brain. I wasn't sure how it would happen for me, but it was something I put out there" says Wenzel. It seems that not only does she have the support from the LGBTQ community, but the pageant's producer is also a fan. Keith Lewis calls Wenzel "inspiring." "I so admire what Kylan's doing, because she's fought so hard to be here. I think she will be successful in whatever she decides to do in her life." says Lewis about Wenzel.

THE NEXT LEVEL OF PETER JOBSON'S BLOWNOUT PRODUCTIONS



[by Noah Henderson]

Peter Jobson, Australia native and Vegas resident for 13-years has been working in the community for over a decade. Barely "OUT" a year before moving to Las Vegas in 2001, Peter began working at Gipsy's, then Pirahna and then Freezone as a bartender and manager. Two years ago QVegas sat down to catch up with Peter Jobson and we learned that he was the "fixer" behind the fabulous presentations we saw at major events. With non-profit events such as the Red Dress and the annual Black & White Party as his special niche, Peter's installations or what he calls "Space Transformations" continues to blow up. We caught up with Jobson recently, and his talents have blown straight into the interest corporate decision makers; he's building relationships and continues to always be at the right place at the right time.

QVEGAS: You began with the "Threads of the Community" with the Community Counseling Center. Then you started doing Closet Sundays and Heaven at BARE Pool with Eduardo Cordova. From there you earned some pretty large contracts with Revolution, Duece, Gold Lounge, 10AK, Haze, and clubs all over town. It sounds like you've really found something you love. What's next for Blownout Productions?

PETER: The most exciting part of it right now is that I am collaborating with Kidd Madonny of 3DX.com, a company based in Miami that does the White Party Palm Springs and Miami, as well as Ibiza.

Q: Las Vegas is a tough city to break into. Having a mixture of talent and great contacts is the perfect recipe for success.

P: Exactly, and I have made a great reputation for doing a great job in the casino club industry now, so its exciting for me because I know his product will push Blownout Productions to the next level.

Q: Your talents have grown to be as big as your heart for the local LGBT community. We really appreciated you donating all the decorations for the QVegas/Qvolution Youth 2012 NYE Bash. Are you doing any other LGBT events this year when and if you catch breaks off the Strip?

P: I'm doing the Red Dress, basically the Red Dress is my baby. I've been doing it for the last five years. I styled it when it was back at the Beauty Bar, and then we branched into the Downtown Lounge and the Beauty Bar, and then we went from there to the World Market Center.

Q: You make our nightlife so pretty and still manage to remain a friendly face at FreeZone; how do you find the time?

P: You know, FreeZone has been my home for seven years. I'll never forget FreeZone because it's been a part of my life for so long.

Q: Now, do you do much designing yourself as far as designing the actual props, or is it more or less you put the elements together?

P: I do everything. Basically right now I do everything from meeting with the clients, to getting the accounts, to putting the designs together, and basically building everything from scratch. I would say I'm basically the vision, you know. I pull everything together. But I have a very talented team that helps me get my vision across and put it together.

Q: Did you study installation design, or was it something you just developed on your own?

P: Honestly, I've surprised myself with this ability and I feel very blessed to have made the contacts that I have in Vegas to let me do what I have come to love. I've just been in the right place at the right time.



Blownout Productions designed 10AK for NYE 2012. Pictured: Kanye West (left), Kim Kardashian (right). Photo courtesy The Lightgroup

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THAT'S SO VEGAS

Tidbits from the Strip & Beyond

FEBRUARY 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

FIRST FRIDAYS DOWNTOWN

Friday Feb. 1st

Downtown Las Vegas Art District

www.firstfridaylasvegas.com

SNAPI GAME NIGHT

Sunday Feb. 3rd @ 3pm

Charlie's Las Vegas

5012 S Arville St., Las Vegas, Nevada 89118

702-876-1844 - www.lasvegaspride.org

PRIDE FAMILY BINGO

Wednesday Feb. 7th @ 7pm

Circus Circus Grand Ballroom Every 1st Wednesday

2880 Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89101

1-866-930-3336 - www.lasvegaspride.org

LAS VEGAS CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE

Friday Feb. 8th @ 7pm & Saturday Feb. 9th @ 1pm

West Las Vegas Library Theatre 951

W Lake Mead Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

702-507-3991 - www.LVDance.org

PRISM

Thursday Feb. 14th

The Artifice Every 2nd Thursday

1025 S 1st St., Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

702-489-6339 - prismlgbt@hotmail.com

CELINE DION IN CONCERT

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1-877-4Celine - www.thecolosseum.com

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3500 Las Vegas Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89103

702-991-5990 - www.martinlawrence.com



NEW ADULT PLAYGROUND: PURPLE PUSSYCAT (FORMERLY SINDERELLA'S)

Las Vegas' newest Adult Playground (formerly Sinderella's), opens to offer patrons an added incentive to shop for adult toys, sex aids, and adult novelties. The popular arcade returns, with all the bells and whistles. It features the newest Blu-Ray videos and the largest adult arcade in the state of Nevada. There are 28 private viewing booths, 34 HDTV flat screen TV's, and the lounge area is open to patrons at \$10 for all day unlimited viewing with FREE re-entry for up to eight hours.

Whether in the mood to be dirty and flirty or dramatic and intense, the Purple Pussycat will make a splash in the Las Vegas adult store industry. The Purple Pussycat has a large selection of lingerie and undergarments for both men and women along with the latest novelties and DVD's. Located near the intersection of Russell and Valley View, the Adult Playground is only 2 blocks from the strip. The Purple Pussycat seeks to fulfill your fantasies and desires.

"We strive to give our customers the best possible experience the moment they walk into the store," says owner Daniel Kouretas, "We have a large emphasis on keeping a clean and safe environment, and have things for our customers of all different lifestyles. There is a large LGBT community here in Las Vegas and we want to celebrate that by offering everyone a different experience with the adult industry. We are currently in our soft opening phase and will be looking to hold our LGBT Grand Opening in late February. In the next couple of years we aim to be the largest adult store in the country".

SUNDAYS

- *REVO Sundays* at Revolution Lounge inside Mirage Hotel & Casino
- *Showtunes High Tea* at FLEX Cocktail Lounge
- *100% Pure House Music* at Insert Coin(s)

MONDAYS

- *QSocial Ladies Event* (Every 2nd Monday)
- *Boys Night* at Entourage Men's Spa
- *Stache Mondays* at Piranha Nightclub
- *Liquor Bust* at Spotlight Lounge

TUESDAYS

- *Ladies Night* at FreeZone
- *QUESDAYS* hosted by Stephan
- *Latin Night* at Entourage Men's Spa
- *Neo Soul* at Blue Martini

WEDNESDAYS

- *Underware Night* at Charlie's LV
- *"Fly" with Duwwopros and DJ Lord Q* at Insert coin(s)
- *Gay Men's Mpowerment Group* at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- *Wise Womyn Group* at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- *Drag Queen Bingo* at Piranha Nightclub
- *Ntoxxxicated- Diva Toxxx Drag Show* at FreeZone



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Stripped The Play
Planet Hollywood

FEBRUARY 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

Stripped The Play showcases another side to the sexy world of male stripping by following the true story of an ex-cop's final night on stage and the struggles he faces before taking-it-off one last time.

Stripped The Play will perform nightly at midnight (dark on Sunday & Monday) inside Saxe Theater at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino.

Use coupon code **QLV50** for great savings:
vtheaterboxoffice.com

THURSDAYS

- *Industry Night* at HAZE Nightclub inside ARIA
- *POP Thursdays* at Share Nightclub
- *QVolution* Youth Group meeting at The Center
- *Dark & Double* at Entourage Men's Spa
- *Prism* at the Artifice

FRIDAYS

- Scottish Country Dancing
- Fridays at HAZE Nightclub inside ARIA
- *Stripper Circus* at Share Nightclub
- *The L Group* at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- *Trans.lation Group* at The Gay & Lesbian Center
- *Addicted to Drag* at FLEX Cocktail Lounge



SATURDAYS

- *SNAPI Saturdays* at Charlie's Las Vegas
- *E-Rock Saturdays* at HAZE nightclub inside ARIA
- Ladies Hip-Hop Night at Gipsy's Nightclub
- *Share Saturdays/ Porn Stars in Vegas*

1st

A CLOCKWORK ORANGE

Brace yourself for the mind-bending journey of Alex the Large, leader of a young rebellious street gang in the not-so-distant future. After a spiral of excess, violence, and rape results in the death of a writer's wife, Alex's gang turns on him, leaving him to take the fall. His only chance: to be forced into change. To escape prison, Alex volunteers for a new medical treatment that strips the subject of his ability to choose. Alex is "cured"...but at what cost? This pseudo- psychopathic play with music will take the audience through the most violent, sexual, and politically- charged metaphor conceivable. This production will pull no punches and is only for mature audiences. "A real horrorshow..." Show dates are February 1st-3rd & 8th-10th @ 8pm. Tickets available at Onyxtheatre.com or call 702-732-7225

7th

PASTA FOR PAWS

It's no secret that we all love our little furry friends. Most would consider them a part of the family actually. In support of our extended "family", local independent rescue shelter, All Fur Love is hosting Pasta for Paws, a fun night to mix and mingle with other animals lovers while enjoying a delicious dinner, all in support of local rescue animals in need! This event takes place at 3 Tomatoes & A Mozzarella on February 7th from 6-9pm. There will be a raffle drawn at 8pm, giving away lots of fantastic prizes. Tickets for the event are \$25.00 (includes one raffle ticket). For more information about Pasta for Paws, visit their website at allfurloveanimalsociety.org



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10th GAY & LESBIAN WEDDING EXPO

Join Las Vegas PRIDE and the Rainbow Wedding Network for the 2013 Las Vegas Gay & Lesbian Wedding Expo at Circus Circus Hotel & Casino.

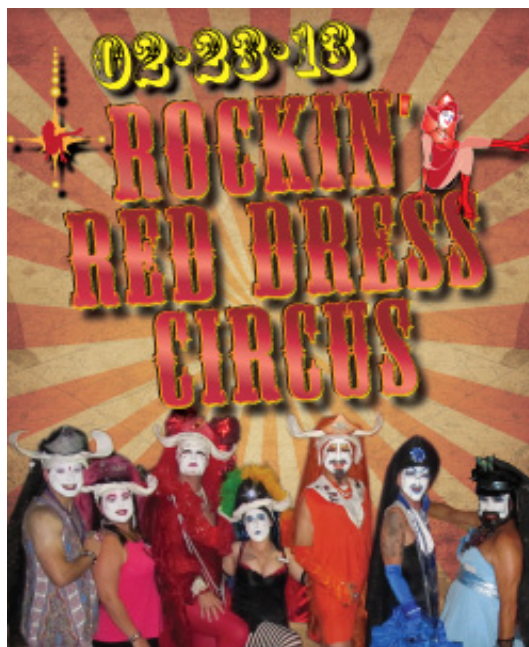
The lesbian-owned RainbowWeddingNetwork has produced over 70 'Same Love, Same Rights' Expos in several states across the country. Since 2000, RainbowWeddingNetwork.com has been Your Trusted Gay and Lesbian Wedding Resource, offering an online directory of screened LGBT-friendly businesses, the nation's first Gay & Lesbian Wedding Magazine, Couples' Wedding Webpages, and much more! Now they're teaming up with Las Vegas PRIDE and bringing their team of wedding experts here to Las Vegas. The expo will be held at Circus Circus Hotel & Casino on Sunday, February 10th from 1-4pm. The first 100 tickets are FREE! So get to the website now RainbowWeddingNetwork.com

21st CIRCUS OZ- THE SMITH CENTER

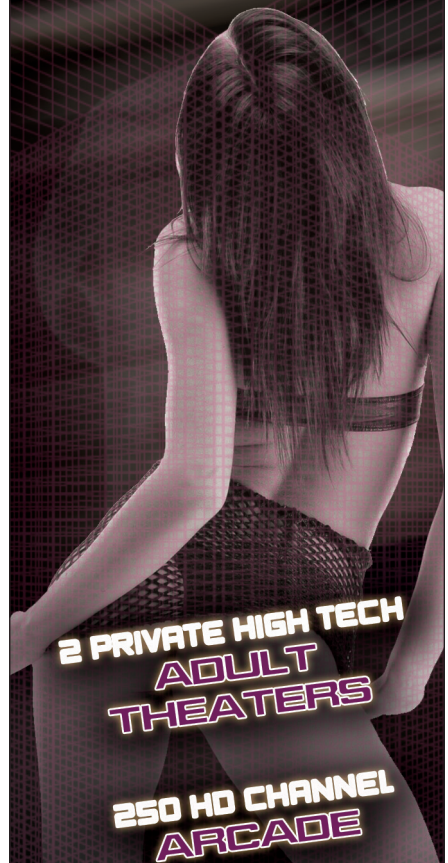
Circus Oz comes to Las Vegas to present its new show for audiences of all ages. With their multi-skilled acts of daredevilry, the cheeky but irresistible Circus Oz promises an adventurous Australian contemporary circus explosion. This diverse home-grown mob of skillful stunt jumpers comes fully-charged and raring to give you a spectacular performance. Aerialists, jugglers, and musicians will astonish and delight you with inconceivable acts of gravity-defying brilliance. Circus Oz is creating a fabulous new future "From the Ground Up." Performances are at The Smith Center from February 21st-22nd, 7:30pm, February 23, 2:00pm & 7:30pm. For ticket prices and venue directions visit TheSmithCenter.com, or call (702) 749-2012.

23rd ROCKIN' RED DRESS CIRCUS

The circus is in town! That is The Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence's version, where attendees will blow the roof off the 16th floor of the World Market Center at their "Rockin' RED DRESS Circus" on February 23rd, 2013. Expected under the "big top" for the revelers amusement are such delights as circus acts, a lion habitat, adult carnival games, Fuego Fusion, magic and Sisterly mayhem. Internationally known San Francisco talk show host, Sister Roma, "the most photographed nun in the world" will serve as ringmaster for the night's acts and DJ Tatiana will keep the party going with her high-energy spinning. VIP tickets are starting at \$50 and \$30 for general admission. For more information about the Red Dress event, visit sinsitysisters.org



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JASON & deMARCO'S NEW NORMAL

Gay Spiritual Singers and Their
Two New Additions Perform at the Onyx Theatre

[by Sean Larkin]

Jason and deMarco met twelve years ago when Jason, a solo spiritual artist at the time, was visiting Los Angeles. Jason went to the restaurant where deMarco was the host. The two locked eyes and although it wasn't love at first sight, deMarco thought Jason was cute and noticed the twinkle in Jason's eye when he looked at deMarco.

deMarco, however, was in a year-long relationship at the time - with a girl. He soon realized that the feelings he was experiencing with Jason ran deeper than any he had felt towards the opposite sex. When he stopped caring what others would say, or how it would affect his career when

they found out that he was gay, deMarco knew he was in love.

The duo first recorded a Christmas album together in 2002. It was so successful they began recording more albums together; they have released six albums and several singles, two that climbed the Billboard charts. Logo even named their music video for This is Love "Video of the Year" in 2006.

Jason & deMarco's most recent album release is SAFE. They will perform many of the tracks from the album on their "Celebrating Families of Diversity" tour that kicks off in Houston on Feb 1 and lands in Las Vegas at The Onyx Theatre on February 26th.

In the documentary film, *We're All Angels*, your Pentacostal parents revealed they had a very hard time accepting your homosexuality. How did they accept your decision to create a family?

Jason: My parents have been amazing. We couldn't have done this without them. Shortly after the boys were born my parents relocated to Houston. They watch the boys on weekends that we travel and perform.

deMarco: Jason's mom performing with us on stage will be a highlight of the show, I'm sure.

What have you learned from your parents' reaction to your homosexuality?

Jason: I've learned that anything is possible. Sometimes I have to remind myself how far my parents have come and not take it for granted.

Will you be more accepting of your children when they grow up?

deMarco: My hope is that I will respect my children's decisions and support them on their path of discovery. However, we all want certain things for our kids. I'm sure if they chose a path I didn't feel comfortable with, I'd have issues. We're here to learn from one another and I think children and parents are perhaps one another's greatest teachers.

Why did you decide to make Texas your home?

deMarco: While living in Los Angeles, we met a producer who lived in Houston. We were traveling back and forth so much to record that we decided to relocate for a year. That year stretched a bit longer.

Was it difficult to create a family in Texas?

Jason: For us, moving to Texas was the key to creating our family. We met our surrogate in Houston.

deMarco: The only difficult part about Texas is that two men aren't allowed to be listed as parents on the birth certificates. We had to have a second-parent adoption and adopt each other's biological child. It would have been nice to both be on the birth certificates.

Do you believe all gay men can create families?

deMarco: All gay men can create families; however, not all gay men should. Having a family is a huge responsibility and before anyone decides to have a child, I would encourage them to be sure they want it. You can never be ready, but it's not a decision to be taken lightly.



Was it expensive?

deMarco: Doing it the way we did it was quite expensive. The cost of harvesting and banking embryos cost around \$20,000 (the donor is a close friend and didn't ask for money). Our surrogate had 100% insurance coverage so we had no out-of-pocket expenses for her other than the clinic expenses to transfer the embryos. That ended up costing around \$10,000. When it was all said and done, including all travel, legal, medical expenses, we probably spent close to \$40,000.

That's not too bad. Surrogacy agencies charge anywhere from \$50 - \$100K, and it could go up to \$150,000.

Jason: Living as independent music artists, this wasn't an option for us.

Did you consider adopting?

deMarco: At the time, we didn't realize fostering-to-adopt was an option. Fostering scared us because we feared falling in love with a child and then possibly having to return them to their biological parents. We have since learned that there are over thousands of children available for adoption in every state. The parental rights of these children have already been terminated. In addition, adoptees are actually paid by the states and children may qualify for benefits including a free college education and medical insurance. Even after adopting, parents still qualify for a monthly stipend when adopting a child out of the foster system. This is a great opportunity for same-sex couples and for anyone who doesn't have the finances to do otherwise. If we have more children, this will be the route we take.

What is the best thing about being a daddy?

Jason: For me, it's probably seeing the boys' faces light up when I walk through the door.

deMarco: Getting to tickle them.

What do the children call you?

Jason: I'm Daddy and deMarco is Pappa.

Do you worry your children may face discrimination in school?

Jason: I think every parent wishes they could keep their child in a safe bubble. We will definitely want to make sure there are other kids with same-sex parents attending our boys' school. One



lesbian couple told me that their 5-year-old thinks that some kids have two mommies, some two daddies and some a mommy and daddy. It's just the way they think you are born.

What is your goal with the "Celebrating Families of Diversity" tour?

Jason: When coming up with the concept for this tour we really felt the timing was perfect. Prop 8 is going before the Supreme Court. President Obama has given his blessing on gay marriage. All of a sudden, the traditional family is the minority in our society. We now have inter-racial families, single parents, same-sex parents, divorced parents, co-parents... the list goes on and on. Why not celebrate the new normal?

Your new album is called *Safe*. Is that a reflection of how you feel today?

deMarco: We feel more safe and secure now than ever. We have built a beautiful relationship, career and now family together, in spite of all odds.

The album also ties in to your non-profit, S.A.F.E.

Jason: S.A.F.E (Safe, Affirming, Family Environment) aims to support GLBTQ youth in foster care and connect them with affirming foster homes. We are also a resource to gay and lesbian individuals and couples who wish to learn about beginning the process of parenting. A portion of the proceeds from our ticketed events will go to support S.A.F.E.

Will you perform "This Is Love"?

deMarco: "This is Love" is our biggest hit so we always try to include it.

What's your message to other gay men and women who might want to create families of their own?

With love, commitment, intention, belief and action, anything is truly possible.

Tickets for Jason & deMarco's "Celebrating Families of Diversity" tour are \$20 advance/\$25 at door and can be purchased on-line at www.jasonanddemarco.com. All kids 17 and under are admitted free. A portion of the evening's proceeds benefit S.A.F.E., Jason & deMarco's non-profit charity for GLBTQ foster children.

WWW.SINSITYSISTERS.ORG



ROCKIN' RED DRESS CIRCUS



02.23.13

VIP TICKETS: \$50

FROM 7PM TO 9:30

GENERAL TICKETS: \$30

FROM 10 TO 2AM

AT: WORLD MARKET

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SPECIAL GUEST MC:

SISTER ROMA

02.23.13

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MEATBALL SPOT

QSTYLE:

Date Night

PHOTOGRAPHER - Carlos Quiroz

STYLIST - Kris Kass

STYLIST - Christopher "CJ" Jhureea

MAKEUP - Lana Reiss/ Lanareiss.com

HAIR - Danny Escobedo

MODEL - Brian Loveless

MODEL - Randy Salinas

LOCATION

TOWN SQUARE 6599 LAS VEGAS BLVD S, 89119

Meatball Spot

Double Helix Wine & Whiskey Lounge



Randy (left) - **Shirt**/ knomadik from the Coterie Downtown,
Bracelets/ M Cohen - Coterie

Brian - **Shirt**/ American Apparel in the Miracle Mile Shops

MEATBALL SPOT

A dynamic restaurant and a bar made for mingling come together at the new Meatball Spot, located across from the movie theaters at Town Square. Featuring the celebrated fare of renowned chef Carla Pellegrino and a compelling cocktail menu, Meatball Spot offers meatball dishes, pizzas, salads and a gelato bar, as well as an array of mojitos, sangrias and cocktail floats. French country design unites with a "SoHo meets Malibu" setting at the new restaurant, where a white picket fence frames a spacious patio with a garden-style setting outside, and a lively bar is the centerpiece to the dining room inside. Meatball Spot is open for lunch, dinner and late-night dining, daily: Sunday through Wednesday, from 11 a.m. until 11 p.m., Thursday, from 11 a.m. until midnight, and Friday and Saturday, from 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. More information is available on their website, www.MeatballSpot.com, by calling 702.641.7768, on Twitter @meatballspot, and on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/MeatballSpot.

Brian (left) - **Sweater**/Coterie, **Shirt**/knomadik - Coterie

Randy - **Scarf**/Stylists own, **T-shirt**/American Apparel,
Vest/Rag&Bone - DNA in The Cosmopolitan,
Bracelets/M Cohen - Coterie





Brian
Polka Dot Shirt/ Coterie
Bowtie/ Stylist own
Velvet Blazer/ Coterie



Randy (left) **White Shirt**/ American Apparel,
Cardigan/ DNA2050, **Denim**/ J Brand

Brian: **Polka Dot Shirt**/ Coterie, **Bowtie**- Stylist own,
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Also, located in Town Square Las Vegas, the 2,800-square-foot space features a full bar that offers over 30 unique wines by the glass, nearly 100 whiskeys, sampler flights, and Double Helix's signature "wine-tails". Chef Doug Vega, whose previous experience includes Daniel Boulud's DB Brasserie, has created a wine-friendly small-plates tasting menu. Guests are treated to shareable, melt-in-your-mouth dishes that satisfy any craving for \$15 or less. The diverse menu includes charcuterie and cheese boards, vegan flatbread, and a range of gourmet comfort food dishes like shrimp and grits, meatballs, and triple mousse cake. The pet-friendly and cigar-friendly patio has been extended to accommodate a new fire pit, cooling mister system and ultra-comfortable lounge-style furniture. Televisions showing key sporting events are located both inside and on the patio.



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QSTYLE BEAUTY TIPS

Prep for an Awesome *Date Night*

[by Junior Renteria]

National Makeup Artist with Rain Cosmetics

Dates can be nerve wracking, whether it's a first date, a blind date or even a date with your current partner.

In order to feel good you have to look good, and keeping your nerves and stress level down is crucial to avoid things like last minute blemishes and break outs. Here are a few ways to prep and maintain your skin for complexion perfection.

THE NIGHT BEFORE

You should avoid trying out new skin care products or any cosmetic products. You never know what your skin will have an allergic reaction to and don't want to risk having any rashes or redness before your big debut. Stick to what your skin is already used to and is comfortable with. Do your regular daily and nightly regime which should include a gentle facial cleanser or exfoliant, moisturizer, eye cream/gel, and for added beautification I suggest a cooling mask to de-puff.

LADIES

The day of date night your skin will be prepped and ready to glow! Apply a light layer of foundation primer and a medium coverage foundation to even out skin tone. Set with a translucent powder. Dust a bronzer across your t-zone and add a little blush to cheeks. Neutral eye shadow colors are my

top picks to create a subtle or smokey eye look, and follow up with a few coats of mascara to make your eyes pop. To complete your look apply a hydrating lipstick, and a sheer gloss.

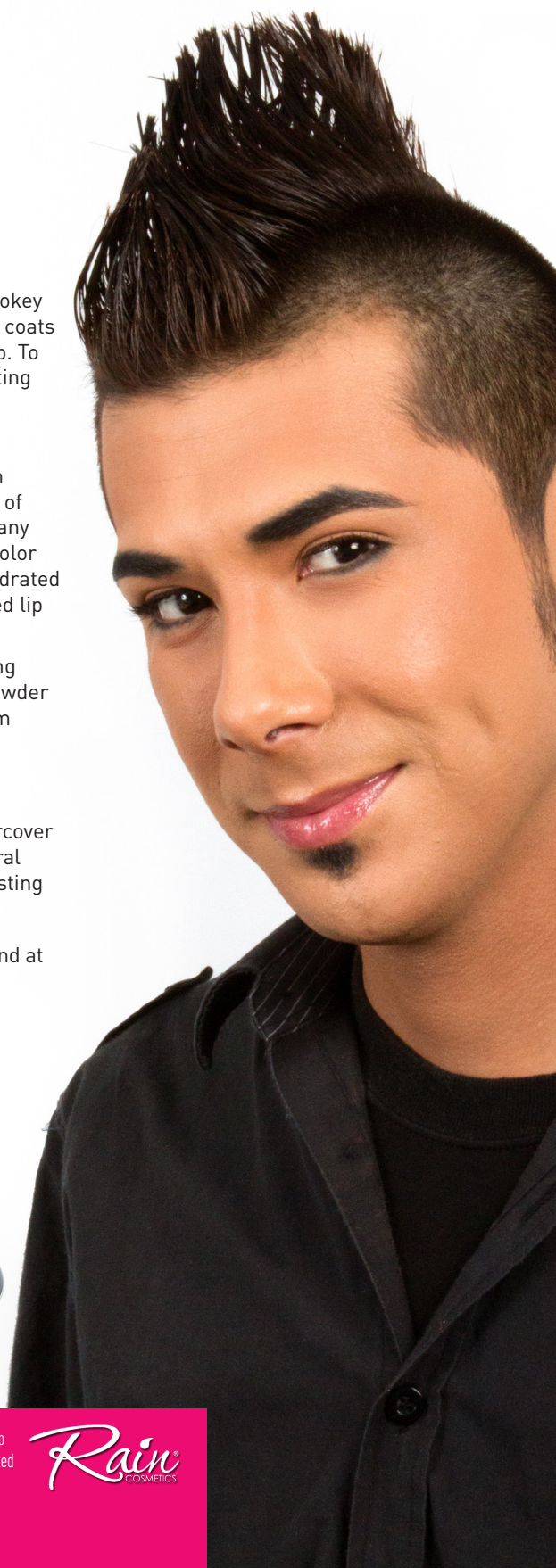
GUYS

If you are worried about uneven skin tone, dab on a small amount of concealer under the eyes and on any areas of concern. For a touch of color add a matte bronzer. Keep lips hydrated with a translucent to sheer colored lip balm.

To stay fresh and flawless during your hot date, keep a touch-up powder on hand and your gloss or lip balm close by. Kissable lips are always appreciated!

I recommend Rain Cosmetics Perfect Cream Foundation, Undercover Concealer, Lip Therapy and Natural Dual pressed powders for long lasting results.

All of these products can be found at www.raincosmetics.com



Junior Renteria is one of Las Vegas' rising celebrity makeup artists. As the National Makeup Artist and Lead Educator for Rain Cosmetics, a company born in Las Vegas, Junior has worked alongside some highly-talented photographers and designers, on sets of popular television shows, and several shows on the Las Vegas Strip.

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A Love Story



We asked our local readers to share their love stories and we decided to publish them in this year's *Love, Sex & Vegas* Issue.



TATIANA LEWIS & CLAUDIA CORONA

Claudia and I met October 27th of 2012 during the closing weekend of Krave; I was dressed as a zombie and she as a skeleton. We met through a mutual friend. We talked all night. We said our goodbyes about 5 am and I thought I would never see her again, that we would only enjoy each other for one night. Thankfully I was wrong; we met up again and on Halloween night we both knew this was meant to be. We have spent wonderful times together, met each others families, and have created beautiful memories. She has been such a blessing in my life and I pray this will never end. I love everything about her, from her dimples to her devout love for Madonna. And she in return loves me and whenever I see her or hear her name I get butterflies in my stomach and my heart is filled with love. She is beautiful and amazing.



DAVID PAFF & JOHN LEE

We met on a blind date on April 3rd, 1997 and it was love at first sight; we were married on August 30th 1997. We don't have human kids but we do love our four-legged ones that we call our angels. We have been through lots of ups and downs, from a car accident that nearly took my partners life and my fathers, to cancer with my Mother-in-Law and then the death of both my in-laws. We have struggled through the sicknesses of our four-legged kid Sammy Jane and the loss of her life. The struggles we have gone through would have certainly ended in divorce for most couples (including those of the straight family kind), but our love and our faith in God and our faith in one another keeps us going strong. Dave and I made a commitment to one another, through good times and bad, we would be together for 50-plus years and we look forward to being together for eternity. Our love was chosen by God and we stand by that all the way.



KIMBERLIE & ERICA

We have been living in Vegas for the last 1 1/2 years and have found a great community through the HRC Federal Club. Erica works with Open Air Printers and is active with bringing art to Downtown. Kimberlie runs the Breguet Boutique at the Bellagio. We met in NYC just after Erica finished her MFA at Pratt in printmaking. We were legally married in Massachusetts waters on a boat with our families & friends and had our reception in Newport, RI which was something Kimberlie always wanted from the years of summer vacations there. We have lived in NYC, Dallas, LA & now Vegas. We celebrated our first Vegas Pride at MEET, where we were filmed with John Galinsky as our officiant celebrating our commitment in Las Vegas. We have 2 babies; our Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Kaylie McCay & Casey Rae :)

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Food & Romance

[by Michael Barbieri]
myvegasobsession.com

Let's face it, food is sexy! As the great lover Casanova once said, "Sex is like eating, and eating is like sex."

Food and romance have always gone hand in hand. Years ago, a first date might've been to the soda shop for a milkshake with two straws. We give each other boxes of chocolates for Valentine's Day. And is there anything more romantic than sitting in a nice restaurant with a date or partner, taking that first taste of a delicious meal, and then reaching across the table to feed them a bite from your fork or spoon, so they can share your experience?

We see images of food combined with sex in the movies - slaves feeding grapes to their masters in old Hollywood epics, or Mickey Rourke teasing Kim Basinger with olives, strawberries, and hot

peppers, before squirting honey directly onto her tongue in the film *9 1/2 Weeks*. TV shows like *Top Chef* and Anthony Bourdain's *No Reservations* use long, lingering shots of exotic foods, now known as "food porn," and we even use food terminology when referring to those to whom we're attracted - a beautiful woman might be called "tasty", or a hot, buff guy referred to as "beefcake".

So...what makes food romantic? Is it chemical, like the compound in chocolate that makes us feel the same way we do when we're in love? Is it a physical sensation produced by the nice round molecules in high-fat foods that actually feel good in our mouths when we eat? Is it visual? Beautifully presented food served in a gorgeous, dimly-lit restaurant? I suppose you could say it's all of these things. But

there's one ingredient missing.

It's us! It's the feeling that we bring to the table - quite literally. My first meal with my partner was take-out sushi, eaten while sitting on my sofa in front of the TV. It was so romantic, we're still together 11 years later. When we dine out, we'll lift our cocktails, clink the glasses together and say "I love you"...every time! At home, my partner's a good cook, but he'll frequently ask my advice when it comes to flavor profiles - he'll ask me what a sauce might need, for example, and that collaboration is more romantic than any restaurant could be.

My partner and I have eaten in all kinds of restaurants over the years, and we've tried some very sexy foods. Here are some of the amazing dishes that have seduced me in Las Vegas...

SPICY THAI SHRIMP NOODLE SOUP

(Noodles Restaurant - Bellagio Hotel)

A meal in a bowl. A spicy broth with noodles, lemongrass, cilantro, scallions, lime juice, fish sauce, mushrooms and five gorgeous shrimp. It'll clear your sinuses and make your tongue tingle!

ARTICHOKE AND BLACK TRUFFLE SOUP

(Restaurant Guy Savoy - Caesar's Palace Hotel)

A luscious, silky-smooth soup with subtle, earthy flavors, it's garnished with shavings of aged parmesan and served with toasted mushroom brioche. This is the dish that made Guy Savoy famous!

BUTTER POACHED LOBSTER TAIL

(kokomo's - Mirage Hotel)

One of the most perfectly cooked lobster tails I've ever tried - sweet and silky, with a perfect bite. A smooth lemon confit served on the side was like a blended, candied lemon peel, adding a touch of acid - the perfect counterpoint to the lobster.

THE ROSSINI

(miX Restaurant - THEHotel at Mandalay Bay)

A lean, juicy Filet Mignon, topped with a slab of seared foie gras and shaved black truffles, served with a truffle jus. A worthy indulgence from Master Chef Alain Ducasse.

FLAN WITH CATALAN CREAM AND ORANGES

(Jaleo - The Cosmopolitan Hotel)

This is the only flan I have ever loved! Ordinarily, I dislike flan. Leave it to Chef Jose Andre make me a convert! The classic Spanish custard was smooth, not too sweet, and absolutely irresistible. The candied orange sprinkled on the cream added a nice, slightly bitter crunch for texture. Fabulous!

DUCK BREAST WITH CRISPY SKIN

(Bouchon - Venetian Hotel)

A long lost love! I saw it on the menu the first time I ate at Chef Thomas Keller's gorgeous bistro. I ordered it, fell in love, then never saw it on the menu again. Maybe it'll return to me...some day....

FOIEGRAS RAVIOLI IN WARM CHICKEN BROTH, WITH DILL AND MINT

(L'Atelier de Joel Robuchon - MGM Grand Hotel)

Tiny, delicate ravioli, stuffed with rich foiegras, floating in a warm broth flavored with dill, and a hint of mint to make the whole dish pop! Once the ravioli were gone, I picked up the bowl and drank the broth from it directly. Embarrassing but true!

KOI SOY

(Lotus of Siam - Commercial Center Mall)

The Thai version of Steak Tartare - raw minced beef mixed with herbs, fresh and dried chiles, onions, soy, and lime juice. The flavors are bright, strong and intense. Order it spicy, if you dare!

FROZEN HOT CHOCOLATE

(Serendipity 3 - Caesar's Palace Hotel)

Imagine the best hot chocolate you've ever had, blended into an amazing milkshake and topped with luscious whipped cream. This is Serendipity's best-known treat. Order one as part of your meal, as a dessert, or by itself. Careful! They're addictive!



MAINE LOBSTER POT PIE

(Nobhill Tavern - MGM Grand Hotel)

Claw, knuckle and tail meat of a sweet, young lobster, cooked in a rich, delicious truffle cream sauce, with baby vegetables, then baked under a flaky crust. Decadent!

So here's my advice when it comes to restaurants and romance: Seek out the perfect eatery for you and your date - certainly Las Vegas has them in abundance. Put yourselves in the hands of the hot hostesses, the cute waitstaff, and the many exceptional chefs out there, and let them enhance your romance. Let them tempt you with their sensual, sinful, and yes, sexy dishes, again and again and again!





SEXBOTS

ROBOTS ARE THE FUTURE OF SEX

By Jincey Lumpkin, Esq.

Jincey Lumpkin, Esq. is the founder of JuicyPinkBox.com, a producer of luxury lesbian pornography. She's often called "the lesbian Hugh Hefner" or "Carrie Bradshaw with an edge". Lumpkin is a lesbian, married to a woman, and her unique path to becoming a porn director and her views on sex are chronicled in her monthly Huffington Post column.

What if you had a partner who was always hot and heavy? Someone with a bangin' bod who knew exactly what you liked and how to give it to you? This is not impossible fluff from romance novels; it's the future.

In his book, *The Age of Spiritual Machines*, Ray Kurzweil explains his theory that the growth rate of technology is exponential, and we are beginning to reach the part of the exponential curve where the line shoots straight up and to the right. In other words, things that seem like nonsensical science fiction will start to become real.

Recent films *AI* and *I, ROBOT* dealt with artificially intelligent robots who became aware they had real feelings. *AI* even featured Jude Law as a sexy gigolo robot who drove his female clients wild with desire. Science is beginning to catch up to the movies. New developments in technology have led to artificial skin that feels exactly like human skin, robust verbal abilities in computers, and robots that look more and more like us.

If the idea of humping a piece of metal does not get you going downstairs, not to worry. Scientists like Ray Kurzweil postulate that by 2029, robots will no longer just be "things"; they will begin to have real feelings and emotions. So-called sentient robots may challenge our basic notions of humanity.

In his book, *Love and Sex with Robots*, David Levy writes how we have long used our immense psychological powers of projection to create relationships with inanimate objects. Growing up, did you have a favorite blanket or stuffed animal that you loved? How many times have you shouted at your computer when it freezes, as if it can hear you? This sort of emotional connection is exactly what will

lead humans to being open to having sex and even relationships with robots in the next 16 to 35 years. How would one meet their robot lover? Easy. Walk into a store and buy the model that suits your personal tastes. An exchange with the shop owner might go something like this.

Customer: Hi, I'm here to look at your butch lesbian robot, model number 2252.

Store clerk: Oh yes, right over here. Do you have a preferred ethnicity?

Customer: Sure, here's a photo of my wife. Can you make it look like her?

Store clerk: Certainly, but facial customization costs extra and takes about four weeks. If you'd like to leave with a robot lover today, we have this Latina model on sale.

Customer: OK. Interesting. How do I program it?

Store clerk: It's very simple. Everything is stored on the cloud and will automatically transfer into your robot lover's artificial consciousness. All you have to do is visit this website, pay a subscription fee, and answer a survey in order to have the romance settings match your own.

Customer: So it's like E-Harmony?

Store clerk: Yes, except your robot lover will be exactly what you want. No guessing and no disappointments. Guaranteed or your money back.

Is this sounding like a more interesting proposition? Robot lovers will never get fat. They won't leave the toilet seat up. You'll never have to argue over who's going to take out the trash.

The website Transhumanity.net says, "Sexbots will electrocute our flesh because they'll be more desirable, patient, eager, and altruistic, plus they'll be uploaded with supreme sex-skills. They'll offer quadruple-tongued cunnilingus, open-throat silky fellatio, deliriously gentle kissing, transcendent nipple tweaking, g-spot massage and prostate milking dexterity."

Sounds exciting. However, there are a few sticky issues about having a robot lover.

First, is it healthy to be in a relationship with someone who gives you everything you want? There's truth to the old adage, "Be careful what you wish for, because you just might get it." On paper, a super eager, very skilled lover sounds amazing, but sometimes when you're with someone who's too nice, it can be off-putting. And where's the challenge? Will easy access be a turn off?

Furthermore, if you just pick the attributes of your partner to suit your needs and desires, aren't you limiting your personal growth? Is it a good idea to be able to reset the programming when you don't like your relationship?

Lastly, would the robot really want to have sex with you, or would he/she simply be programmed to always say yes? In order to consent to sex, a person must be of sound mind and body, fully capable of understanding the consequences of their choice. That's why it's illegal to have sex with someone who's passed out drunk. If a robot doesn't have free will, the relationship can never be a two-way street.

We know why we'd want to have sex with robots, but why would the robots want to have sex with us?



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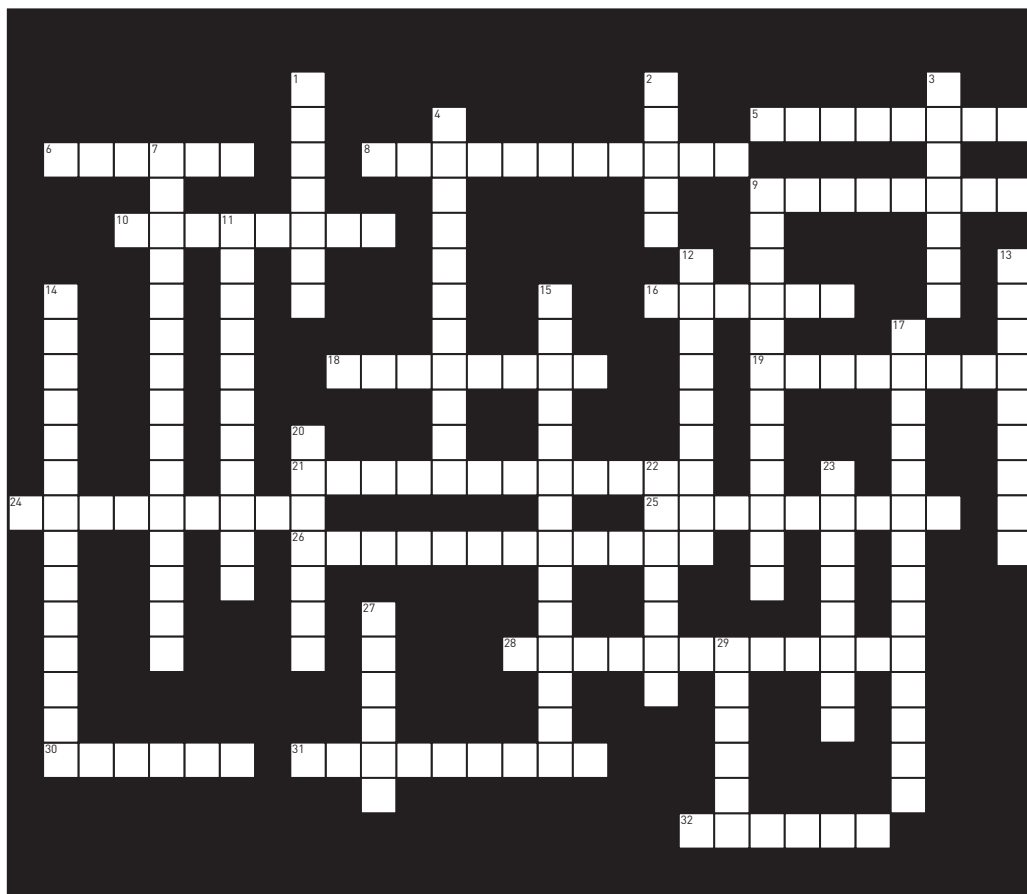


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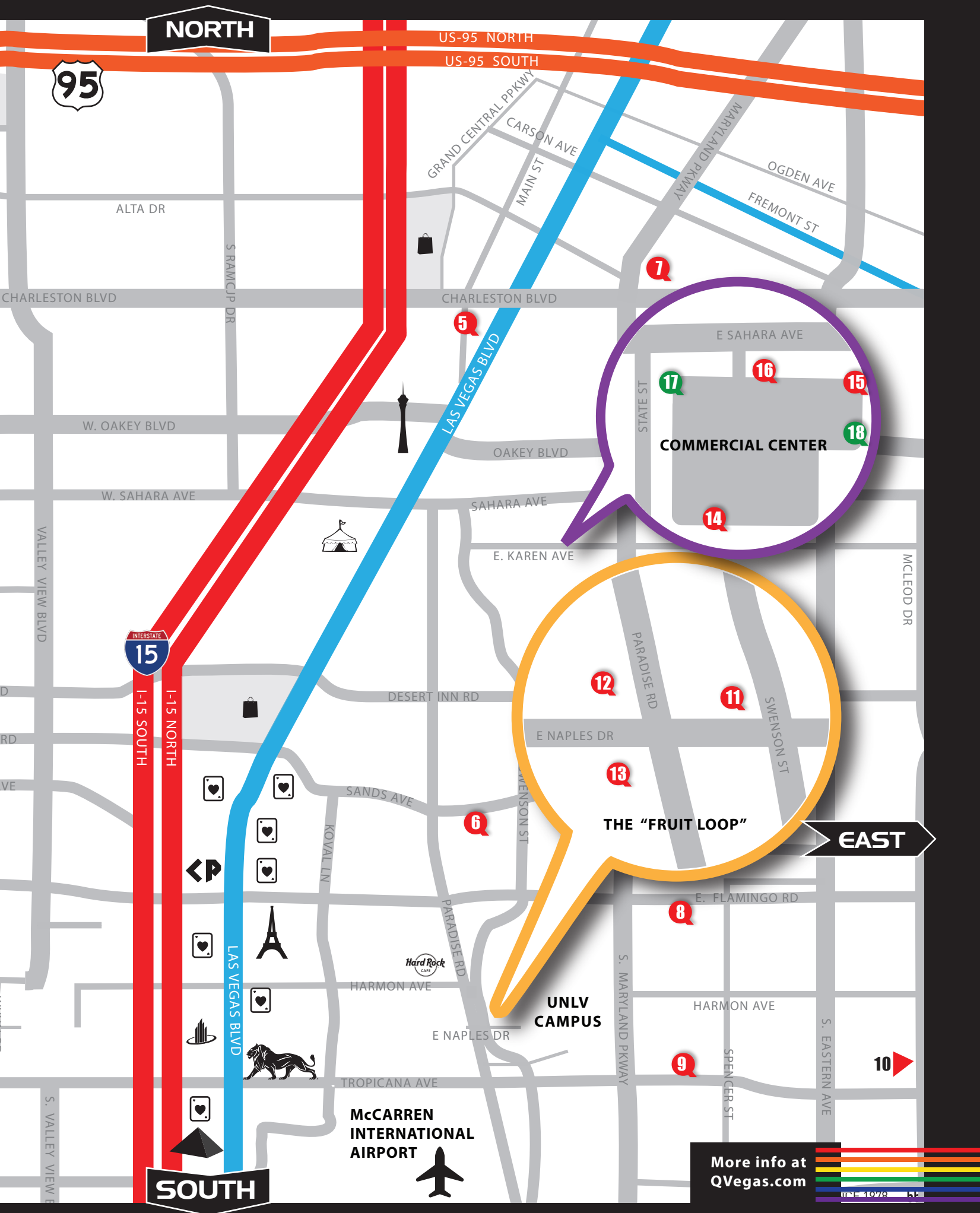
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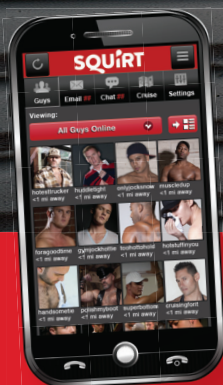
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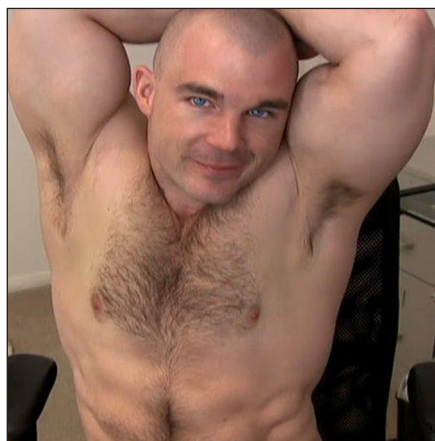
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QRADAR THE LAST WORD:

LGBT Rights in the Workplace

[by Christian Gabroy]



Title VII Still Lacking But Nevada State Law Helps

In 1964, to combat growing discrimination against minorities, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act, which included specific prohibitions against discrimination in the workplace (Title VII). However, Title VII only included protection for discrimination on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Since 1973, various bills have been introduced in Congress to add protection on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, but unfortunately, none have passed. Today, Jennifer Pizer of the *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review* estimates that more than eight million people identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT).

In recent years, some states have chosen to fill the gap by providing protection against workplace discrimination through state laws. In 1999, Nevada fortunately tackled the growing issue by prohibiting discrimination against sexual orientation, and in 2011, became one of only fifteen states to prohibit discrimination against gender identity.

Research by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law indicates that in the past decade, LGBT people are experiencing discrimination in the workplace at an alarming rate. Discrimination can be seen in many forms, including physical or verbal

harassment, income differential, failure to promote, and others. Nevada Revised Statute 613.330, modeled after the language in Title VII, makes it unlawful for an employer to “fail or refuse to hire or to discharge any person, or otherwise discriminate against any person with respect to the person’s compensation, terms conditions or privileges of employment, because of his or her race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability or national origin.”

Despite the lack of explicit federal protection for sexual orientation and gender identity, in 2002 the Ninth Circuit determined that Title VII offers some security. In *Rene v. MGM Grand Hotel*, the court acknowledged that Title VII did not provide protection for an employee specifically because he was homosexual, but neither did it preclude protection for sexual harassment against a homosexual. Simply put, sexual orientation was simply irrelevant. The important factor was that the harassing conduct itself was sexual, not whether it was done by a person of the same or opposite sex.

Claims based on sex-stereotyping are not barred by Title VII either. The Supreme Court in *Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins* established that Title VII not only prohibited discrimination based on biological gender difference, but on

gender perception and stereotypes as well.

Due to the relative novelty of these claims, suits for discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in Nevada are rare, and the law only applies to employers who have fifteen or more employees. If a person believes that he or she has been discriminated against in the workplace, before initiating a lawsuit that person must first file a claim with the Nevada Equal Rights Commission. However, a person only has a limited time from the occurrence of discriminatory conduct to file a claim – and these deadline are extremely important. The Commission will then open a charge, investigate the claim, and eventually make a determination. In certain situations, the Commission will facilitate resolution of the matter as well. Based on the outcome of this process, an individual may then either file a claim in a state court, or request a “Right to Sue” in a federal court.

In Nevada, LGBT people have some remedy to combat workplace discrimination under our state law. Unfortunately, until Title VII is formally amended to specifically include sexual orientation and gender identity, the LGBT community will have to rely upon the limited state law remedies to address such discrimination.

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