

Very Special Issue!

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# outword

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Guide Inside!

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Happy Pride Sacramento!

These last two years have been some of the most challenging we have ever faced as a city and as a society. While I reflect on the lessons of the pandemic one thing stands out: the need for community.

Community brings us together to share experiences and learn. Community wraps around us and holds us up when we come up short. Community stands together in solidarity when we fight for equal rights and justice. Community helps us celebrate how far we have come.

As we come together as a community to celebrate Pride, we must also take this opportunity to educate and uplift one of the most historically marginalized groups in our society. We must recognize and acknowledge the violence and discrimination that the LGBTQIA+ community continues to face. We must join together to advocate and push for inclusivity and acceptance.

When we come together as a community there isn't anything that we can't accomplish.

As Mayor of the City of Sacramento, I am thrilled for you to share and experience how Sacramento celebrates Pride. I wish you a safe, happy, joyful Pride filled with love and care.

Thank you for joining us and thank you for helping us celebrate love and inclusivity.

Love is love.

Happy Pride,  
Mayor Darrell Steinberg



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**ON THE COVER**  
Lady Camden of RuPaul's Drag Race fame to perform at Sacramento Pride!  
Photo courtesy of Stephen Sparco (Voss Events)

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Interested in becoming a driver but don't have experience? Don't worry! SacRT will help you get your Commercial Learners Permit and offer paid Commercial Driver License training. We offer \$2,000 signing bonuses for bus drivers!

### WHEN:

**Tuesday, June 14, 2022**  
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**Wednesday, June 22, 2022**

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### WHERE:

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**A**re you an Ally? Are you a member of the LGBTQIA community? Come show your support in this fun celebration ride. Let the good times roll!

Wear your biggest, baddest, brightest rainbow colors! Part of the fun of coming to our events is seeing all the cool costumes & rides that show up.

Our special guest @konaiceofnorthsac will be there to give out FREE rainbow snow cones to every rider who shows up on some wheels. Get some!

Special THANK YOU to @jibewithus for sponsoring our ride, providing delicious treats to cool us off & more surprise goodies we will be handing out to our beloved riders. We appreciate you!

All wheels welcome! Bikes, scooters, skateboards, unicycles, onewheels, tandems, electric rides, even rollerblades. Let's have some fun!

Please arrive at 5500 Honor Parkway on June 16th at 7pm. Look for the dark grey Ford Raptor truck playing party tunes. Please gather at the truck by 7:50 so we can say hello and start our ride promptly at 8pm. We will ride for about an hour.

Do you have some spare change? We are accepting donations for the Sacramento LGBT Community Center. Learn more about this amazing organization here: @sacgbtcenter

- \* Obey traffic laws.
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- \* Safety in numbers. Keep up with the group to help cross streets together.
- \* Group moves about 8-10 mph.

See you on the 16th, bike party people!

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Pride Ride coordinators Carol and Ben Hafer.

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# Golden Rules Services – 22 Years of Serving Sacramento

by Matt Burlingame

Through the ebbs and flows of the COVID pandemic, the need for critical HIV, STD and other relied upon services does not simply get put on hold. As a matter of fact, it often intensifies.

During the worst part of the COVID-19 pandemic, Golden Rules Services (GRS) was forced to shut their doors for several months while implementing safety tools and protocols to protect their clients. When they reopened, the dedicated staff were not only able to offer their clients the services they had come to rely on, but preventative materials and up-to-date COVID-19 testing and vaccination information.

“Social and economic injustices don’t stop just because there’s a pandemic,” explains Michael Kennedy, the board president of Golden Rule Services (GRS). “It means we have to be even more diligent about not letting those who are most vulnerable fall between the cracks.”

GRS was founded 22 years ago in response to a gap in local culturally competent services for People of Color (POC) in Sacramento County. In its two decades of service the nonprofit has gone from providing free HIV, STD, and Hepatitis C testing and prevention services to also being a Ryan White funded organization providing PrEP navigation and case management to those living with HIV who have fallen out of care.

With multiple awards and accolades over the past two decades keeping the organization in the limelight, in the past year

GRS has again found itself riding the wave of success that swelled to new proportions shortly after its 2019 Strategic Plan was created.

“I can’t even begin to explain how thankful we are for the amazing opportunities that keep coming to GRS,” says executive director Clarmundo Sullivan. “Not only were we able to continue the work we have already been fortunate enough to be doing, but we were able to expand those services into critically at-risk communities.

“From the moment a client walks in the door for testing, we are there for them. That includes helping them get into follow-up care, going with them to help them navigate the system if needed, and following up with them afterward to ensure they stay in care.”

It is critical that new cases of HIV are diagnosed and treated right away, as well as keeping individuals living with HIV engaged in their treatment. That’s where GRS’ Ryan White case management comes in and continues to grow.

After 40 years of HIV/AIDS just over 50% of the nation has never known a time without it. For over half of that period GRS has made it their mission to provide culturally aware and trauma-sensitive prevention education and testing to its clientele.



Board President Michael Kennedy and Executive Director Clarmundo Sullivan stand in front of the Golden Rule Services Mobile Testing Unit. Courtesy Photo GRS

GRS’ mobile testing unit is a large part of that. Officially launched at the 2021 Rainbow Festival, the unit has since had its interior refurbished to provide clients with completely up-to-date comfort and resources.

As demands for GRS’ services expand, the organization is seeking new board members who can bring their expertise and enthusiasm to the thriving nonprofit.

“We are encouraging people from a wide range of backgrounds in fields such as law enforcement, education, employment development, social work, mental health, and finance to apply,” says Kennedy. “We also are looking for a culturally diverse board dynamic and encourage BIPOC, women, youth, and differently-abled individuals to apply.”


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## Being Seen: The History of Queer Symbolism

by Matt Burlingame

Since San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker designed the first rainbow flag in 1978, most of the world has recognized the six-striped rainbow flag as the unquestioned symbol of the LGBT community. Whether flying high above the Castro or stretched a mile long down the streets of Washington D.C., its bright, unyielding colors signal the unification and acceptance of sexual and gender diversity.

Originally designed with eight stripes, each represented a different meaning: red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sun, green for serenity with nature, indigo for harmony, and violet for spirit. The two missing stripes were hot pink for sex and turquoise for art.

As the LGBTQ community began to wake up to the realization that it needed to expand its definition of inclusion to recognize the truly rich diversity within it non-binary American artist and designer Daniel Quasar stepped up with what is now referred to as the Progress Pride flag. Developed in 2018 and based on the iconic rainbow flag the redesign features black and brown stripes to represent Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), and baby blue, pink and white to include the transgender.

As the movement evolves and grows the need for inclusion also comes with the desire for individual representation. Using the concept of the pride flag, many groups have created flags that specifically represent their unique part of the spectrum.

Some of these flags include magenta, blue

and deep lavender for bisexuality, black, gray, white and purple for asexuality, and yellow, white, purple and black for agender people.

Other groups also have unique flags that are often combined with various representative symbols such as the bear, leather and motorcycle communities.

While symbols of homosexuality date as far back as humanity's desire to self identify, few outside of the modern movement are known, or are left open to interpretation.

Both in ancient Rome and 19th-century England color green has been associated with homosexuality. During the first century Barnabas, also known as Joseph one of the prominent Christian disciples in Jerusalem, made reference to animals such as the hare, hyena and weasel when inferring homosexuality. Even mythical creatures such as the Phoenix burning and rising from its own ashes are thought to have been code for same-sex love.

The labrys, a double edged hatchet or ax popular among ancient matriarchal societies as both a weapon and a harvesting tool

remains one of the most commonly recognized iconic lesbian symbols.

Inferring lesbian and feminist strength and self-sufficiency, it is associated with Demeter the goddess of the earth who used a labrys as her scepter. Ceremonies in her honor, as well as in honor of Hecate the goddess of the underworld, are believed to have included lesbian sex.

even in the most liberal cities, gays and lesbians had to be careful. More discreet ways of making themselves known to others like themselves were used.

A red tie, a certain style of clothing, pinky rings and sometimes certain types of flowers. American journalist and poet Walt Whitman used the plant Calamus as a symbol of homoerotic love, while other poets of the



In the early 20th century discretion was of the utmost importance. Unlike today, when many openly wear representative symbols,

time referred to the plant Ladslove.

The lambda symbol was first adopted in 1970 by the New York Gay Activists Alliance



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and is still one of the more recognizable symbols and names among the LGBT movement today. While there is no definitive answer as to why the symbol, which is the Greek lower-case letter L is supposed to represent, some feel it stands for liberation movement. Another school of thought is that in physics the Lambda denoted concerted energy or a wavelength.

The most commonly held belief, however, derives from tales of the ancient Greeks placing the lambda on shields of Spartan warriors, who fought battles alongside their male lovers. The theory being that warriors would fight more fiercely knowing that their lovers were both watching and fighting alongside them. Today, the symbol denotes LGBT pride and activism.

In December 1974 Boston gay rights activists tried making a purple rhinoceros the symbol of the modern gay movement.

The thought behind it was a gentle creature that is often misunderstood, but that fights ferociously when angered. But the campaign, which mainly targeted the Boston subway system, never caught on and eventually faded into obscurity.

Yet it lives on in some aspects, such as San Francisco's Theater Rhinoceros, a well known LGBT focused theater.

Other modern symbols used to denote LGBT concerns range from twin gender signs interlocked: male/male or female/female with variations for bisexuals and transgenders, to the Human Rights Commission's famous yellow and blue equal logo.

The red ribbon is another symbol well known to our community representing awareness for the HIV/AIDS epidemic and those it has left in its wake. Pink breast cancer ribbons and now white teen suicide awareness ribbons are also closely tied to the LGBT community.

But there is no LGBT symbol born from a

more heinous origin than that of the inverted pink triangle. Though we now claim this symbol as one of pride and empowerment, it is rooted in one of the largest human tragedies in history: the Holocaust.

From the years 1933 to 1945, homosexuals were one of the many groups targeted for extermination by the Nazi regime, though it is also a group many historians often exclude.

Prisoners in the concentration camps wore a colored inverted triangle to designate their reason for incarceration, which alternatively served to form a social hierarchy among those imprisoned. A green triangle marked its wearer as a regular criminal; red for political prisoners, two overlapping-Jewish and pink were treated as fellow prisoners.

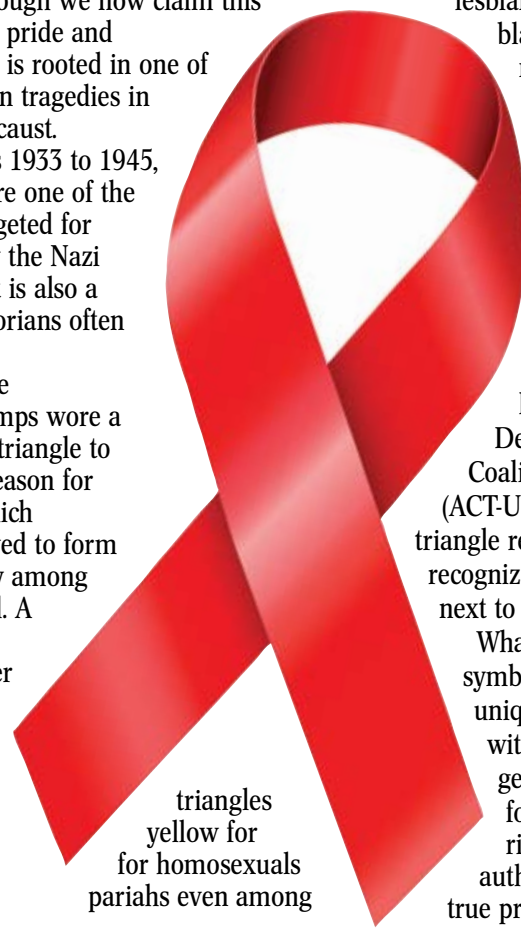
Variations of a black triangle were used for lesbians, prostitutes, women who refused to bear children, female gypsies and women

with other "anti-social" traits. Today some lesbians and feminists claim the black triangle in the same manner that the wider LGBT movement uses the pink.

The symbol which once represented a vile regime's persecution was reclaimed in the 1970s as the icon of unity and strength for the new gay rights movement. In the 1980s, it was accompanied by the haunting slogan "Silence = Death" created by the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT-UP). The inverted pink triangle remains today the most recognizable symbol of LGBT pride next to the pride flag.

Whatever acronym you use or symbol you wear to represent the unique individual you are, do so with the knowledge that generations before you have fought and sacrificed for your right to express your authentic self openly and with true pride.

*Matt Burlingame is an award-winning journalist and playwright. See more of his work at [justkisstheguy.com](http://justkisstheguy.com)*



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## Bans Off Our Bodies!

photos by Chris Allan

**A**BC reported a turnout in the hundreds when Sacramento showed up for the local “Bans Off Our Bodies” abortion justice rally and march on Saturday, May 14 at California’s State Capitol. Here are a few photos of some of the amazing activists in attendance.



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## Welcome to the life of Rick Stokes

by Scott M. Brozek - Freelance writer

The measure of a person's life is always considered when they pass away. We talk about their works, who they were and what they did.

Rick Stokes was born in Oklahoma on February 27, 1935 and passed away on Tuesday, May 3, 2022. A man that had seen it all and lived at a pivotal time in LGBT history. At a time when the mere knowledge that a person was gay could mean unemployment and ostracization, Stokes was a role model. He was a leader, activist, philanthropist, attorney and business owner who dedicated his life to LGBT civil rights and equality.

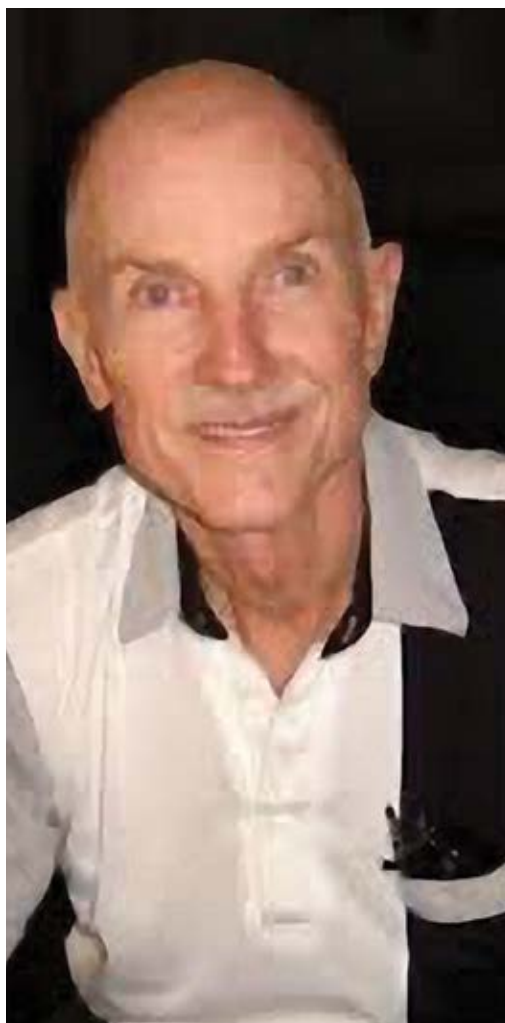
After years of struggle with his gay identity, including suffering through regressive reparative therapies and an unhappy marriage, he moved to California determined to find "his true love". He found him in David Clayton, who was his lover, mentor, partner and right-hand man in business and life for the next 35 years until Clayton's death in 1995.

First in Sacramento, and later in San Francisco, Mr. Stokes set about being part of the early gay rights movement. He was at a point in his life that change was happening and that the LGBT community was coming together. He formed a gay organization called Association for Responsible Citizenship (ARC) and became an active participant in the Society for Individual Rights. ARC published the Archer, an early magazine dedicated to the gay movement. Mr. Stokes organized previously unthinkable actions like sponsoring a booth about gayness at the California State Fair, an effort that was blocked at the last minute by fair organizers, but not getting a booth gave his group more coverage as they protesters outside the gates.

Mr. Stokes and his partner, Mr. Clayton, moved to San Francisco and began a law practice. Mr. Stokes helped gays and lesbians caught up in bar raids and police sting operations, he also assisted them with child custody cases and other issues. As a member of the San Francisco Bar Association, Mr. Stokes worked on the non-victim crimes committee and was a delegate to the State Bar Association.

Rick Stokes was the civil rights lawyer for gay activist David B. Goldstein during the 1970's. Stokes was active in the gay rights movement at the same time as Harvey Milk. He was doubtful about Milk's ambition to become City Supervisor of San Francisco, instead he encouraged him to form a political alliance with a sympathetic straight candidate. In 1977, Stokes ran against Milk in the Board of Supervisors election and Milk beat him in an historic victory for the gay community.

Mr. Stokes will also be remembered as one of the founders and owners of Steamworks Baths, one of the longest, continuously gay-owned bathhouses in the world, and an industry leader that long set the standard against which other similar facilities are run. Prior to Steamworks, Stokes and Clayton's legacy included their ownership of the Ritch Street Health Club in San Francisco in 1965.



That venture, at 330 Ritch Street, represented the first gay ownership of a gay bathhouse in the U.S. Before this time, bathhouses were usually owned by people who rarely took care of their facilities or invested in them as part of the LGBTQ community. Along with a collective of other investors, Rick created a bathhouse by and for gay men, and made cleanliness and customer service a priority.

The couple sold their interest in Ritch Street in 1977 and that same year bought the Mayan Baths in Berkeley and, after a remodel, relaunched it as Steamworks Baths which still stands today. Over the next 45 years Steamworks Baths grew with locations in several California cities and locations in Puerto Rico and Hawaii. Currently Steamworks has locations in Berkeley, Chicago, Seattle, Toronto and Vancouver, British Columbia.

Under Mr. Stokes' visionary leadership Steamworks has long been regarded as one of the best bathhouse chains in the world, winning architecture awards, setting standards for facilities, and for community and health partnerships during the AIDS crisis. Mr. Stokes always prioritized being an active business partner to the LGBTQ community.

People like Rick Stokes, Harvey Milk, Gilbert Baker and countless other men and women in the transgender and bisexual communities paved the way so that we can now hold and treasure what we love the most: marriage, quality Community Centers and laws that protect us

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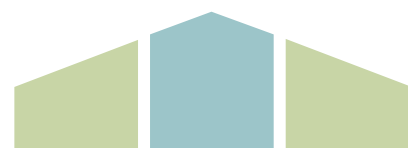
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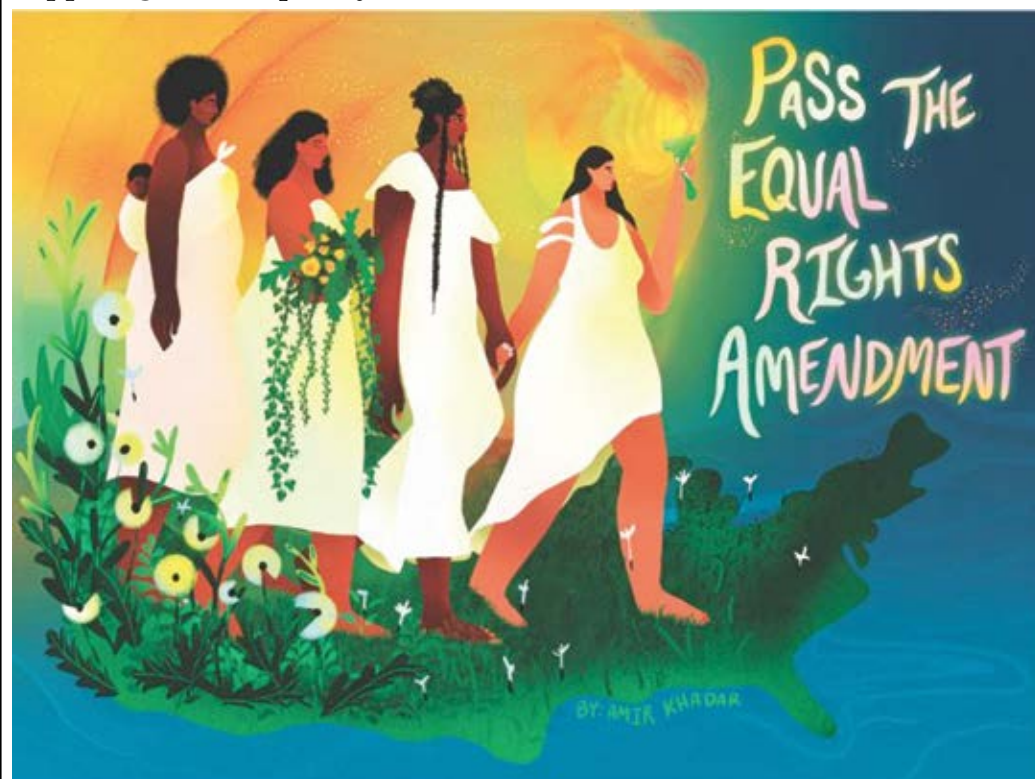
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## Artists 4 ERA Exhibit Comes to Sacramento's A Space In Between

In support of including the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) into the U.S. Constitution, prominent artists from across the country have contributed limited edition prints in a traveling exhibit to support gender equality and end discrimination.



Shepard Fairey, Tara McPherson, Shannon Taylor, Chuck Sperry, Gabe Gault, and Miles Toland are among the 28 artists who have produced limited, signed posters. Joining the traveling exhibition are eminent artists Lin Fei-Fei from Sacramento and Denver artist Ally Grimm.

The project was created to raise awareness of the effort to add gender equality to the U.S. Constitution with the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). With the latest news that the Supreme Court is planning to overturn Roe v. Wade, it is vital that the ERA is passed.

Come out and support this social justice movement for gender equality and the rights of women and LGBTQIA+ communities, and enjoy some excellent art, at A Space in Between, a multi-media non-profit art space that elevates local and international contemporary fine and street art, with multiple ongoing exhibits and events.

The Artists 4 ERA exhibit will be on view locally until June 24, 2022. More information can be found at: <https://artists4era.org>

## Send A Pride Bouquet To Your Beloved



Teleflora, the nation's largest flower delivery service, has designed two to celebrate Pride Month. From May 15-July 31, 10% of net sales from the proceeds of its new "Dreaming of Rainbows" and "Rainbow Love" bouquets to LA Pride, an inspiring organization serving the LGBTQ+ community of LA and beyond for over 50 years. Teleflora bouquets are always hand-made and hand-delivered right to the recipient's doorstep. No boxes or shipments ever. Visit: [www.teleflora.com](http://www.teleflora.com)

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A woman with short dark hair and large hoop earrings is shown from the chest up, looking upwards and to the right. She is holding a large rainbow flag with her right arm. The background is a light-colored wall with large, white, geometric shapes that look like stylized letters or abstract forms. The lighting is bright and warm, suggesting a sunny day.

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# 8th Annual Davis Pride Celebration Weekend

**Saturday, June 11**

Skate Night,

7 p.m. (Tickets by Donation)



**Sunday, June 12**

Run/Walk,

8 a.m. (\$25-\$35)

Festival, music, vendors, crafts,  
10 a.m. (FREE)



## 2022 MAIN STAGE HEADLINERS

Queen of the Universe's **Ada Vox**      The Voice's **OneUp Duo**



Central Park,  
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**More activities:**  
DavisPride.org



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## The Crocker Celebrates Pride with "ArtMix: OUT-rageous"

Sacramento's Crocker Art Museum ushers in Pride Month with a fabulous edition of ArtMix, its monthly party inside the museum.



ArtMix puts the 'art' in party each month with a different theme, live performances, DJed music, festive food and drinks, creative artmaking, and so much more.

This June, ArtMix gets a queer makeover that encourages all of us to laugh out loud and live our own truths.

Led by A La Mode, Miss Gay Sacramento 2021, revel in a night of bold outfits, new

friends, breakout performances, and a "Once More, with Feeling" sing-along with Empire Art Collective.

The Crocker will be bursting with Pride on Thursday evening, June 9, 2022, when "ArtMix: OUT-rageous" goes over the rainbow.

To purchase tickets, visit: [www.crockerart.org/event/2955/2022-06-09](http://www.crockerart.org/event/2955/2022-06-09)

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# Great Day of Music During the Davis Pride Festival Headlined by Ada Vox and OneUp Duo

Drag queen singer Ada Vox and pop music's OneUp Duo will headline a great day of celebration and pride on Sunday, June 12, 2022 at the Eighth Annual Davis Pride Festival. The music is part of a weekend of activities in downtown Davis that celebrate International LGBTQ+ Month.

Vox was a semi-finalist in ABC's "American Idol" in 2020, and the runner up this year on the Paramount+ drag queen singing competition "Queen of the Universe." The San Antonio-based singer lists her influences

Ada Vox

toured from coast to coast making waves all over the country. Lambert's 2021 single, Come to Me, has caught the attention of the press and reached number one on Indie Radio! Hailing from the San Francisco Bay Area, Lambert began studying violin at age two and has continued making music ever since. A pop, folk and hip-hop artist whose career has taken her all around the world, she is influenced by her studies in Celtic music. Female empowerment is a recurring theme in her music.

Raneé is a powerhouse singer, songwriter and producer born and raised in Los Angeles, Raneé's dynamic voice has drawn in fans everywhere from Australia to Italy. She began performing at the age 10 and earned her Bachelor's degree in Music from Cornish College for the Arts. Raneé doesn't recognize any boundaries in her music style which is primarily R&B/Soul, yet contains elements of jazz, funk, rock and pop.

With their captivating, high-energy performances, The Midnight Dip takes the audience through a unique and creative theatrical experience. The sultry and sassy Liz Kat pens powerful messages which are refreshing and relatable, confronting gender stereotypes and promoting body positivity, and her voice is mesmerizing and soulful with an undeniable depth of feeling. Their



OneUp Duo

style has been described as circus funk, an eclectic blend of swing, funk, polka and rock with underlying elements of jazz. Unique and infinitely danceable, this double keyboard combo is everything sweet and salty.

"I am always excited by our musical line up" noted Pride Director, Sandré Henriquez Nelson, "I just feel we have a great variety of

performers for everyone's taste."

A complete list of artist/performers along with the stage schedules can be found on the Davis Pride website.

Along with the music, celebrate Davis Pride with several events over the weekend, June 11 and 12 in Central Park, 301 C St. Produced by the Davis Phoenix Coalition,



Michelle Lambert

Farmers Market Pavilion. The night will include music, lights and food trucks. Tickets for this event are by donation and may be purchased on the Davis Pride website.

- Run/Walk for Equality, a 5K run or walk from the park, and a 1K Rainbow Run for youths — and those who prefer a shorter trek — on Sunday, June 12, beginning at 8 a.m. Entry fees for the run/walk range from \$25-\$35. Each participant that signs up prior to June 4, 2022 will receive a unisex t-shirt. To sign up visit the Davis Pride website.

- The FREE Davis Pride Festival begins at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 12. It includes performances by several local and international music acts, a drag queen revue, educational booths, food, drink and vendors. The Davis Pride Committee is working in partnership with the Davis Craft and Vintage Market.

Other events are the rainbow painting of the crosswalks around Central Park early on May 29; a Drink with Pride Night at Sudwerk Brewing Company (date to be determined); and a Bike Party Davis Ride with Pride scheduled for the end of June. For a complete calendar of events, please visit the Davis Pride website.

The Davis Phoenix Coalition, is a nonprofit working to foster diversity, eliminate intolerance, prevent hate-motivated violence and support LGBTQ+ youths. It was founded in the aftermath of a 2013 anti-gay attack on



Sydney Raneé

as Lady Gaga, Beyoncé, Aretha Franklin and Patti Labelle. Notable performances include The Animals' "House of the Rising Sun," Jennifer Holiday's "And I am Telling You I am Not Going," and Journey's "Open Arms." She was the first drag queen in Idol's history to make its Top 8. She recently released her first single, "Because of You."

Also performing with Vox will be some of the amazing local Sacramento Valley drag queens at what has been called one of the best pride festival drag revues in Northern California.

Making their Sacramento Valley debut, will be OneUp Duo. This amazing group is a Detroit-based pop/soul vocal combo comprised of husbands Adam and Jerome Bell-Bastien. The team was a finalist on NBC's "The Voice" in 2018, serving under coach Kelly Clarkson. The couple rose to fame with their blind audition video of The Spinners' "Could It Be I'm Falling in Love?" The pair was the show's first same-sex duo, and known for dynamic, high-energy performances. OneUp Duo is planning to perform several new songs that they have been working on.

Along with the two headlining artist, and several other performers, the music festival will feature three artist up and coming indie artist from the Davis Live Music Collective; Michelle Lambert, Sydney Raneé, and returning fan favorite Midnight Dip.

Lambert, a pop singer/songwriter has



Midnight Dip

activities include:

- Diva Disco Skate Night, starting at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, under the Davis

Davis resident "Mikey" Partida. Proceeds from Davis Pride support the coalition's anti-racism and anti-bullying campaigns, support to LGBTQ+ youths and their families, and outreach with area police departments, churches and schools. To donate, go to <https://davisphoenixco.org/donate>.

Sponsorships are a way to show support for equity in the community. To learn about the available benefits, email Sandré Henriquez Nelson at [davispride2015@gmail.com](mailto:davispride2015@gmail.com). To become a vendor or volunteer,

visit <https://www.davispride.org/>. To learn more, visit the website, and follow Davis Pride on Facebook and Instagram.



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## “20-Twenty” Exhibits at Kennedy Gallery

For the past 22 years, the “20-Twenty” exhibit has always been one of Sacramento’s most anticipated annual art shows. Twenty local artists are jury-selected to show 25 pieces of their artwork created around a single theme. Each piece of art is no larger than 8 inches tall, wide, and deep.

“The result is some of the most innovative and provocative work Kennedy Gallery has the honor of exhibiting,” says gallery owner Michael Misha Kennedy. “This year we are hosting some of the finest collections to grace the gallery’s walls.”

Along with the featured exhibit are works from over 20 resident artists spread over three floors of open studios in the heart of Midtown’s entertainment district. The “20-Twenty” exhibit runs until July 3, Noon-6 p.m. at Kennedy Gallery, 1931 L St. [Kennedygallery.net](http://Kennedygallery.net)



Seeking The Divine - Laine Holman  
[outwordmagazine.com](http://outwordmagazine.com)

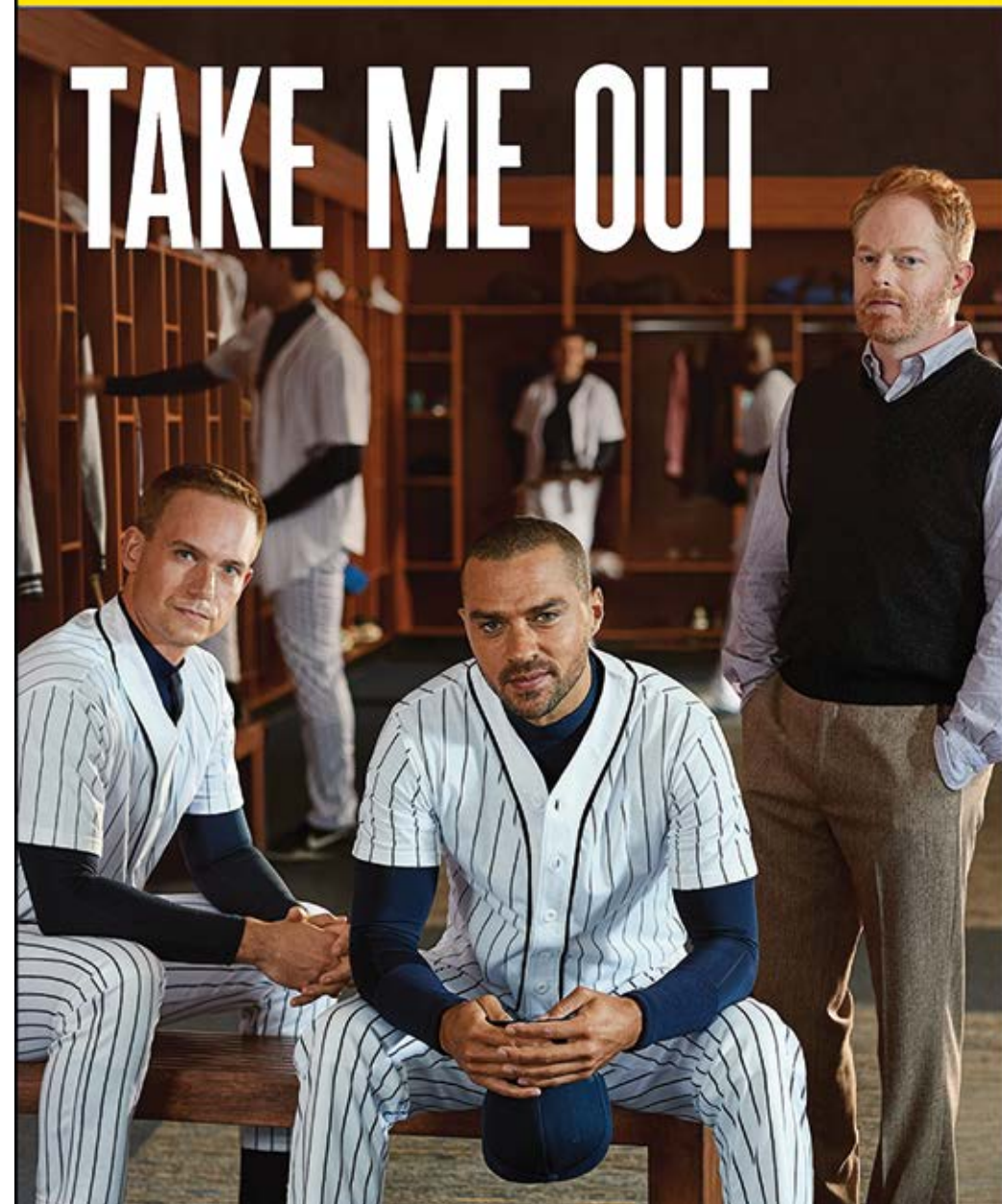


## Will “Take Me Out” Win Another Tony?

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People who have never set foot in a Broadway theater are aware of “Take Me Out” now, after someone illegally filmed actor Jesse Williams’ full-frontal, on-stage nude scene and the leaked footage went viral. The publicity is bound to increase ticket sales, and the play’s highly-acclaimed revival was recently nominated for four Tony Awards. (The original 2003 Broadway production of “Take Me Out” won three Tony Awards.) Will the new production win a Tony for Best Revival of a Play? We will know on Sunday evening, June 12, when the 75th Tony Awards ceremony is televised on CBS from Radio City Music Hall. Ariana DeBose is host, and the new musical “A Strange Loop” received the most nominations this year, followed by the Michael Jackson musical “MJ,” “Paradise Square,” and a revival of Stephen Sondheim’s “Company.” To see all of this year’s nominations, visit: [www.tonyawards.com](http://www.tonyawards.com)

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## Out & About

with Matthew Burlingame

It's time to dust off our rainbow flags, sew on a few new stripes and strut our stuff on the Sacramento Capitol mall. Pride is a time to (figuratively) embrace the new, celebrate what we have and honor the past. In order to do that all generations of pride-goers, young and old, need to shed their preconceptions and prejudices of one another and come together as one loud, proud voice of hope for the future. Otherwise we will lose all the ground we've gained.

A great place to start is the Sacramento Pride March and Festival, June 11 - 12 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the Capitol Mall. The two-day festival will have an entertainment zone with bars, vendors, and music stages that feature international stars, drag performers and live musical acts. On Sunday join the march to the State Capitol complete with floats, signs and community visibility in remembrance of Stonewall. Visit: [Sacramentopride.org](http://Sacramentopride.org)

Each month the Outword Monthly Happy Hour at Badlands, 2003 K St., grows more exciting! You never know what's going to go down! Make sure you're at the next one on Friday, June 10 from 5:30 - 7 p.m. There's almost always a chance to win some awesome prizes!

June's Drag Queen Bingo is busting out all over on June 2 at 7 p.m. A night of fun hosted by the fabulous DoMe Moore at Mango's on K St. Proceeds will benefit the Sunburst Projects. [Rainbowchamber.com](http://Rainbowchamber.com)

Have a few laughs with family on Friday, June 3 the Sacramento Comedy Spot presents Queermedians featuring the best comics hosted by Maryam Moosavi and featuring Heather Rogue, Melissa McGillicuddy, and Marcus Williams. Visit: [Saccomedyspot.com](http://Saccomedyspot.com).

The Crest Theatre, 1013 K St., has got it going on! On Friday, May 27 at 7:30 p.m. catch the classic film Cat On A Hot Tin Roof (1958). Brick (Paul Newman) drinks his days away while shunning the affections of his wife Maggie "The Cat." And we all know why don't we? He has a reunion with his dying father which brings up a ton of daddy issues. But the best part of seeing this on the big screen is watching Newman in his prime who could make us melt faster than a Sacramento summer!

The Crest is also offering some great classic films during pride month including Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (1994) on June 9, and The Birdcage (1996) on June 10. and Some Like It Hot (1959) on June 4. I'm sensing a theme here. Let's see if they stand up to modern times. Visit: [Crestsacramento.com](http://Crestsacramento.com)

Feeling fruity? Check out the Blueberry Festival, 1820 Arroyo Vista Way, El Dorado Hills on June 4 - 5. Presented by Once in a Blue Moon Berries and The Momma Bear Bakery the festival will feature over 15 vendors with blueberry products and

Daddy's Day gifts!

Feeling the need for an operatic interlude? On June 4 - 5 Folsom Lake Symphony presents Opera Meets Broadway with Shana Blake Hill and Roberto Perlas Gomez. Combining opera and Broadway into a single concert, this pair of vocalists team up to deliver selections from The Barber of Seville and Carmen to West Side Story and Phantom



**Queermedian Melissa McGillicuddy.**  
Photo by Katy Karns.

of the Opera. Christine, the Phantom killed your brother! [Folsomlakesymphony.com](http://Folsomlakesymphony.com)

The Sacramento County Fair is back May 26 - 30 with promises to be bigger and better than ever! Since 1937 the County Fair has striven to bring Sacramento a friendly atmosphere with traditional county fair competitions, agriculture displays, hands-on activities, carnival, specialty food, & festival-style entertainment where all concerts are included in your fair admission. It will be held at Cal Expo, 1600 Exposition Blvd. Visit: [Sacfair.com](http://Sacfair.com)

Congratulations to all those who made this year's NorCal AIDS Cycle ride a success. A special congratulations to Markcurtis Otani and Jimmy Short who are celebrating 26 wonderful years together on June 5!

Events? Announcements? Birthdays? Anniversaries? Send them to me at: [matthew.burlingame@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.burlingame@gmail.com).

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## The Sacramento Pride Festival Will Be Held on June 11 and 12

The Sacramento Pride Festival, produced by the Sacramento LGBT Community Center as its largest community engagement program of the year, welcomes 22,000+ people annually. The festival runs Saturday, June 11, 2022, 11 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sunday, June 12, 2022, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. This year's Pride Festival will feature hundreds of exhibitors and vendors from throughout the region, including community retailers, diverse food and beverage, nonprofit and public service providers, faith communities, and many more! This year's event will include three stages featuring exciting entertainment from the Sacramento region and the greater LGBTQ+ community. In addition to entertainment and exhibitors, the festival grounds will hold multiple activations and attractions that will bring guests of all ages and backgrounds together in an environment that entertains, educates, and inspires!

SACRAMENTO'S PRIDE MARCH WILL BE LIVE AND IN PERSON SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2022.

Inspired by the 1969 Stonewall Uprising, the Sacramento Pride March returns live on Sunday, June 12, 2022, at 11 a.m. The march will comprise walking contingents, vehicle contingents, and large floats.

Join thousands of your closest friends to cheer on marchers, colorful floats, music, and much more for the annual Sacramento Pride March. Harkening back to the earliest days of Pride events as protests against oppression, this event is both a demonstration of activism in our pursuit of equity and social justice as well as a celebration of diverse Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,

Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and two-spirit communities and culture.

The Pride March is free and open to all community members starting at Southside Park to the Capitol along 10th Street. Getting to the March: Any place along 10th Street will provide a view of the passing Pride March. We suggest using public transportation, using ride share, walking, or biking as the most accessible and environmentally friendly way to travel to and from Pride events. Free street parking is also available downtown on Sundays. Limited paid parking lots along the route may also be available. Festival and March details such as location, event hours, route and program are subject to change with

little notice. Please check our website frequently and follow our Social Media outlets Facebook.com/sacramentopride or @sacpride on Instagram and Twitter for the latest updates!

It takes a diverse group of professional staff and extraordinary volunteer leaders to produce the Sacramento Pride March and Festival. Our intention as we exit the COVID-19 pandemic after two years of dormancy is to work toward re-building a community driven Pride committee that reflects the diversity of the community and provides advice, expertise, and logistical management assistance in the production of all Pride events for the entire community's benefit. The Sacramento

LGBT Community Center, which produces the Pride March and Festival is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations. The Sacramento LGBT Community Center is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Key Center Staff Managing Pride Events Collin Lourenco, Pride Event Manager Camille Adams, VIP & Community Engagement Coordinator Lanz Nalagan, Corporate Sponsorship Director Frederick, Pride Volunteer Manager Jason Alviar, Marketing, Pride Communications, Media Relations Hosna Mohabbat, Pride COVID Safety Response Robynne Rose-Haymer, Youth & Family Pride Programs Koby Rodriguez, Health & Wellness Pride Programs.



**Angeria Paris VanMicheals | RuPaul's Drag Race**  
Angeria Paris VanMicheals is the stage name of TBA, a drag performer and one of the contestants of the fourteenth season of RuPaul's Drag Race. This southern belle from ATL will light up any room with her charisma, uniqueness, nerve and talent. An old-school pageant queen, "Angie" is here to serve fierce fashion.



**DeJa Skye | RuPaul's Drag Race**  
DeJa Skye is the stage name of Willie Redman, a drag performer and one of the contestants of the fourteenth season of RuPaul's Drag Race. This pastel princess prides herself on embracing all her curves and swerves. DeJa is known for her bold, colorful drag aesthetic and design skills.



**Kerri Colby | RuPaul's Drag Race**  
Kerri Colby is the stage name of Elyse Alessandra Anderson, a drag performer and one of the contestants of the fourteenth season of RuPaul's Drag Race. This bodacious queen is all about beauty, hair and body-ody-ody. From the legendary House of Colby, Kerri is a bold diva who tells it like it is while always looking flawless.



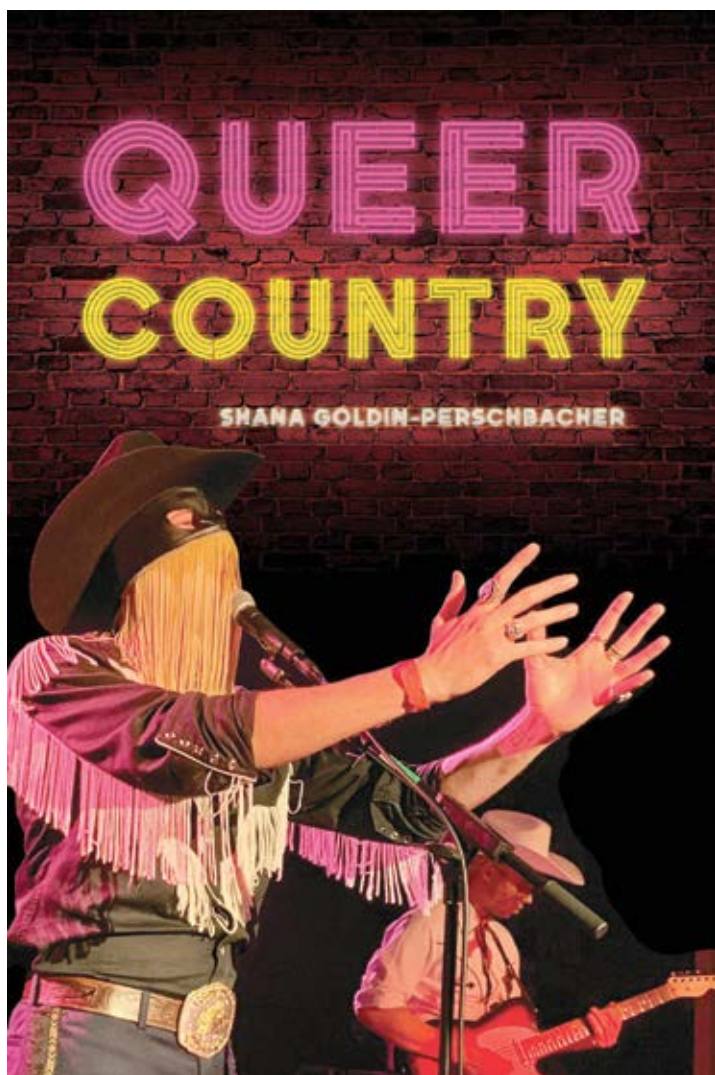
**Lady Camden | RuPaul's Drag Race**  
Lady Camden is the stage name of Rex Wheeler, a drag performer and one of the contestants of the fourteenth season of RuPaul's Drag Race. Three cheers for America's little spice girl! Born in the U.K. but now living in Sacramento, this professional ballet-dancer-turned-drag-queen is ready to take the world by storm.



## “Queer Country” by Shana Goldin-Perschbacher

reviewed by Terri Schlichenmeyer

Two steps. This way, two more that way, tap your heels together, step-and-bow left, step-and-bow right, turn and again. Eventually, you’ll get the hang of doing this and you won’t bump into everybody on the dance floor. Also eventually, you’ll see that country music has a place for you even when, as in the new book “Queer Country” by Shana Goldin-Perschbacher, you never thought you had a place for it.



after Stonewall; at that time, Haggerty was especially determined that his album be honest and sincere in its reflection of gay life – things that continue to concern queer artists who use irony, drag, and camp in their work.

And there’s that struggle to go mainstream. Goldin-Perschbacher writes about k.d. lang’s career and how it progressed. You’ll read about Chely Wright and Lil Nas X and how they used non-traditional ways to rise to stardom. And you’ll read about many artists who do what seems best for them, and count LGBTQ listeners and cis audience members among their fans.

There really is no way “Queer Country” could ever be considered a “beach read.”

This isn’t the relaxed, rangy kind of book you

want to sunbathe with; instead, author Shana Goldin-Perschbacher speaks to the academic, rather than the casual listener, with language that seems to fit better in school, than in sand. The analyses border on the high-brow just a bit, with some amount of repetition to underscore various points.

Even so, this is an important work.

In writing about this almost-hidden branch of country music, Goldin-Perschbacher also tells of the efforts she’s made to help some artists to gain a wider audience. This lends more of an insider feel; the intimately extensive interviews with artists, and excerpts from other works, let readers know that they should keep their eyes (and ears!) open...

Give yourself some room to absorb, if you tackle this book. It’s not for everyone, but C&W listeners and “queer country” fans may find it necessary. Step one is to find somewhere comfortable to sit. Reading “Queer Country” is step two.

Here is a list of our full 2022 IGRA Rodeo Season.

(Keep in mind some of these have already taken place.)

We hope to see you on one of our many stops on the circuit this year!

- 02-19-22  
**ARIZONA GAY RODEO**  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
- 04-09-22  
**TEXAS TRADITION RODEO**  
DENTON, TEXAS
- 04-23-22  
**RODEO IN THE ROCK**  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
- 05-07-22  
**HOT RODEO**  
PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
- 06-11-22  
**SHOW ME STATE RODEO**  
SEDALIA, MISSOURI
- 07-02-22  
**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL RODEO**  
DENVER, COLORADO
- 07-30-22  
**NORTH STAR REGIONAL RODEO**  
MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
- 08-13-22  
**GREAT PLAINS RODEO**  
EL RENO, OKLAHOMA
- 08-27-22  
**ZIA REGIONAL RODEO**  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
- 09-03-22  
**CANADIAN ROCKIES RODEO NORTH**  
CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA
- 09-10-22  
**BEST BUCK IN THE BAY**  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
- 09-17-22  
**BIGHORN RODEO**  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
- 10-29-22  
**WORLD GAY RODEO FINALS**  
EL RENO, OKLAHOMA



**2022  
RODEO  
SEASON**

[www.igra.com/CalendarRodeo.htm](http://www.igra.com/CalendarRodeo.htm)

Usually, when one thinks about country music, rural living comes to mind: cowboys, pick-ups, Christian values, conservatism, heartbreak and honky tonks. Stereotypically, few of those things have seemed LGBT-inclusive and listeners might have felt unwelcome, were it not for today’s boundary-breakers and “queer country” which, says Goldin-Perschbacher, is becoming more of a music category with fans.

Goldin-Perschbacher is quick to say that “queer country” is not a genre on its own. Some out musicians might closer identify themselves with Americana or folk music; k.d. lang’s music is more countrypolitan, but with humor; and you can attend queer Bluegrass festivals, if you want. None of this defines the various artists: in many ways, gay, lesbian, and trans artists have really had no other options than to embrace all labels.

Then there’s the issue of how to do queer country: Goldin-Perschbacher refers often to Patrick Haggerty, who was the first gay artist to officially record the album Lavender Country. He recorded it in Seattle, shortly





# MARY GAUTHIER

WITH SPECIAL GUEST: JAIMEE HARRIS

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 • 7:30 P.M.**

**International Artist of the Year (2019) Mary Gauthier** writes what she sees “in the world right now.” Using her art to traverse the uncharted waters of the past few years resulted in her eleventh album, ***Dark Enough to See the Stars***. Consisting of all original songs, this album collects ten sparkling jewels of Gauthier songcraft.

“*Dark Enough*” follows the profound antidote to trauma, *Rifles & Rosary Beads*, her 2018 collaborative work with wounded Iraq war veterans which was named **Best Album of The Year** at the International Folk Music Awards. It also garnered a Grammy nomination for Best Folk Album, as well as a nomination for Album of the Year by the Americana Music Association.

**Special Guest Jaimee Harris**, “The Next Queen of Americana-Folk” (NPR), opens and performs with Mary onstage.



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## The Queen of Disco Gets the Comic Book Treatment



It's hard to believe that it's been a decade since Donna Summer lost her battle with lung cancer on May 17, 2012. To mark the anniversary of her passing, TidalWave Comics has produced a tribute comic book that celebrates Summer's life and career on a more personal level, including singing in church as a young girl and later touring in European productions of “Hair” and other musicals before becoming a household name as the “Queen of Disco.” For more than twelve years, TidalWave has published well-received biographies of such music icons as Selena, John Lennon, Tina Turner, Dolly Parton, Prince, Whitney Houston, David Bowie and more. The 22-page comic book “Tribute: Donna Summer” is now available both digitally and in print and can be found on multiple platforms such as Amazon. For more information, visit: [www.tidalwavecomics.com](http://www.tidalwavecomics.com)





**KAKI KING**  
SATURDAY, MAY 28



**LYDIA PENSE & COLD BLOOD**  
FRIDAY, JUN 03



**JOE CRAVEN & THE SOMETIMERS**  
SATURDAY, JUN 04



**JOE PURDY**  
MONDAY, JUN 13



**ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY**  
TUESDAY, JUN 21



**CHERYL WHEELER**  
WEDNESDAY, JUN 22



**LOUIS PRIMA JR. & THE WITNESSES**  
FRIDAY, JUN 24



**LUNAFISH**  
SATURDAY, JUN 25



**ANDY MCKEE**  
THURSDAY, JUL 14



**JOE LOUIS WALKER**  
FRIDAY, JUL 29



**STROLL DOWN PENNY LANE**  
SATURDAY, JUL 30



**PAUL THORN**  
THURSDAY, AUG 18



**PAULA FUGA**  
SUNDAY, AUG 21

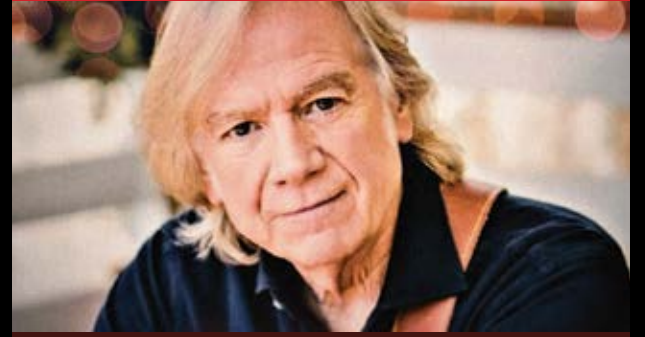


**MARIA MULDAUR**  
FRIDAY, AUG 26



**IONA FYFE**  
FRIDAY, SEP 16

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THE VOICE OF THE MOODY BLUES **JUSTIN HAYWARD**  
THURSDAY, MAY 26 | CREST SACRAMENTO



**PINK FLOYD LASER SPECTACULAR**  
SUNDAY, JUN 05 | CREST SACRAMENTO



**DEBBIE GIBSON**  
TUESDAY, JUN 21 | CREST SACRAMENTO



**WHO'S BAD** THE ULTIMATE MICHAEL JACKSON EXPERIENCE  
SUNDAY, JUN 26 | CREST SACRAMENTO



**HAPPY TOGETHER TOUR**  
MONDAY, JUL 11 | CREST SACRAMENTO

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FRISCO KID (1979)  
STIR CRAZY (1980)


**SATURDAY | JUN 18**

**DEBBIE GIBSON**  
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**TUESDAY | JUN 21**

WHO'S BAD



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**MICHAEL JACKSON**  
EXPERIENCE

**SUNDAY | JUN 26**

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THE ASSOCIATION  
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**MONDAY | JUL 11**

**JOSH PRAY**



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45TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR 2022

**WEDNESDAY | AUG 10**

**Crash Test DUMMIES**



**TUESDAY | AUG 16**

**Crest CLASSIC MOVIES**

**CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF**  
(1958)  
FRIDAY, MAY 27, 7:30PM

**AS I AM: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DJ AM**  
(2015)  
SATURDAY, MAY 28, 8:00PM

**FREAKSCENE: THE STORY OF DINOSAUR JR.**  
(2021)  
THURSDAY, JUN 02, 7:00PM

**SOME LIKE IT HOT**  
(1959)  
SATURDAY, JUN 04, 7:00PM

**THE BIRDCAGE**  
(1996)  
FRIDAY, JUN 10, 7:00PM

**LUCA**  
(2021)  
FRIDAY, JUN 17, 7:00PM

**GENE WILDER DAY**  
(SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS)  
SATURDAY, JUN 18, 12PM-8PM

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**  
(1986)  
SUNDAY, JUN 19, 3:00PM

**HAROLD AND MAUDE**  
(1971)  
THURSDAY, JUN 23, 7:00PM

**GASPAR NOÉ'S VORTEX**  
(2021)  
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 7:00PM

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JULY 26-31

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THE NEW YORK TIMES



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# Don't Miss "The Lifespan of a Fact" at Capital Stage



An ambitious young fact checker gets more than he bargained for when the star writer he has been hired to proofread doesn't take kindly to having his work put under a microscope. A very funny and thought-provoking play about journalistic ethics and the trouble with the truth, "The Lifespan of a Fact" was a hit on Broadway where it starred Daniel Radcliffe, Bobby Cannavale, and Cherry Jones. At Sacramento's Capital Stage, another dynamite cast takes over, with Jamie Jones, Dave Pierini, and Cole Winslow performing the three lead roles. The Sacramento premiere, expertly directed by Michael Stevenson, continues through June 5 and is not to be missed. For tickets, go to: <https://capstage.org>

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## to Outword's Sacramento Pride Issue - New and Returning Advertisers!

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## New Movies at The Tower & Old Movies at The Crest

by Chris Narloch

For a film buff like me, there's nothing like revisiting a beloved movie from my childhood as an adult, back on the big screen.

Sacramento is lucky to have the Crest, a historic movie palace in midtown that still screens old movies and is showing several of my favorite films from back in the day, this June.

Over at the Tower, Sacramento's other historic theatre, several new must-see movies opened recently.

### The Crest

Cinematic comfort food is on the menu this June at the Crest, which is showing several queer and/or gay-friendly films on their big screen during Pride Month, as Matt Burlingame pointed out in his column elsewhere in this issue.

In "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," a studly Paul Newman plays a tortured, repressed homosexual opposite Elizabeth Taylor in the 1958 movie version of Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize-winning play. That film gets a jump on Pride Month, screening on Friday, May 27th.

In June, you can revisit two queer favorites from the '90s, with one-time only big screen showings of "The Birdcage" and "The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" at the Crest.



That theater is also presenting one of my favorite Hollywood comedies of all time, the cross-dressing classic "Some Like It Hot," in June. The movie stars Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis, hilarious in drag, plus Marilyn Monroe, who was never sweeter or sexier than she is in this 1959 film.

Also in June, I am especially excited to see two of my favorite movie musicals back on the big screen, when the Crest shows the original "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory" from 1971, as part of their Gene Wilder Day, and then the next day screens Frank Oz's great 1986 movie musical version of "Little Shop of Horrors," starring Bill Murray, Steve Martin, Rick Moranis, and the divine Ellen Greene.

But wait, there's more! The Crest is also screening 1971's "Harold and Maude," one of the finest and funniest warped comedies ever made, in late June.

For dates and information on all the movies coming to the Crest, visit: <https://crestssacramento.com>

### The Tower

Unfortunately, movies come and go very quickly at this theatre, but as I wrote this, two fascinating foreign films were still playing at the Tower, both following female protagonists on painful personal journeys.

In "Pleasure," Sofia Kappel gives an intense performance as an ambitious young woman who moves from a small town in Sweden to Los Angeles hoping to become a porn star. Predictably, she gets in over her head and finds the pressures of the business to be more than she bargained for.

A serious examination of the adult film industry, "Pleasure" is a powerful, disturbing drama that can be hard to watch at times.

Also at the Tower, "Happening" is another very tough drama about a woman's harrowing experience, after she becomes pregnant in grad school and decides to have an abortion so that she can finish her studies.

Since "Happening" is set in France circa 1963, when abortion was illegal there, the young woman risks going to prison if she goes through with the procedure. Anamaria Vartolomei gives a heartbreaking performance as the heroine of the film, which, obviously, couldn't be more timely right now.

To confirm current titles and showtimes, go to [www.angelikafilmcenter.com/tower](http://www.angelikafilmcenter.com/tower)



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## Film Festival Fever This June

**F**estival favorite Rose Troche ("Go Fish") returns with "My Fake Boyfriend," starring Keiynan Lonsdale, Dylan Sprouse, and Sarah Hyland, just one of the many new queer movies screening at this year's Frameline46 LGBTQ+ film festival, happening June 16-26 at San Francisco's iconic Castro Theatre, and other Bay Area locations. Frameline's full 2022 program will be announced this May 25 at [www.frameline.org](http://www.frameline.org)



Closer to home, Sacramento's own fabulous French Film Festival turns 21 this year and runs June 2-12 at the Crest, the Tower, and the Esquire IMAX. The SFFF program is already public and can be found at: <https://sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org>

## CA State Fair Announces 2022 Cheese Competition Awards

**A**fter a two year hiatus, the California State Fair Commercial Cheese Competition was held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at Cal Expo. Out of 100 cheese entries from producers throughout the state, the best two cheeses in California have been named.

The Best of Show Cheese - Cow's Milk has been awarded to Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Company. Inspired by the sheer natural beauty of our coastal climate and locale, Point Reyes Farmstead Bay Blue took the honors. Bay Blue is a rustic-style blue cheese with a natural rind. It is known for its mellow flavor and sweet, salted caramel finish. Bay Blue is made from pasteurized, rBST-free cow's milk with traditional rennet. It is gluten-free and aged for 90 days. This is their fifth time winning Best of Show for Cow's Milk.

The Best of Show Cheese - Other Milk Type goes to Central Coast Creamery for their Goat Gouda. This is the producer's first time winning Best of Show! The Goat Gouda is made from 100% whole goat milk and goat cream, aged on pine wood in a ripening room for at least 5 months. This semi-soft cheese is ivory colored with a smooth mouth feel and the slightly grainy texture of an aged cheese. Goat Gouda has a caramel scent with a slightly nutty and sweet flavor that makes this cheese an ideal choice for your cheese tray, picnic basket, or when pairing with your favorite wine or beer.

The 16 California cheese companies who entered the competition range from small artisan producers to large-scale cheese production companies. Cheese judges are selected from respected cheese merchants, writers, promoters, and educators. The cheeses are entered by Division and Class and evaluated for appearance, aroma, texture, and taste.



Point Reyes Farmstead "Bay Blue"



Central Coast Creamery "Goat Gouda"

This year, a panel of 9 official judges tasted and evaluated all 100 California cheeses at Cal Expo on May 11, 2022. You can find a complete list of the award-winning cheeses at [CalExpoStateFair.com/California-Commercial-Cheese](http://CalExpoStateFair.com/California-Commercial-Cheese).

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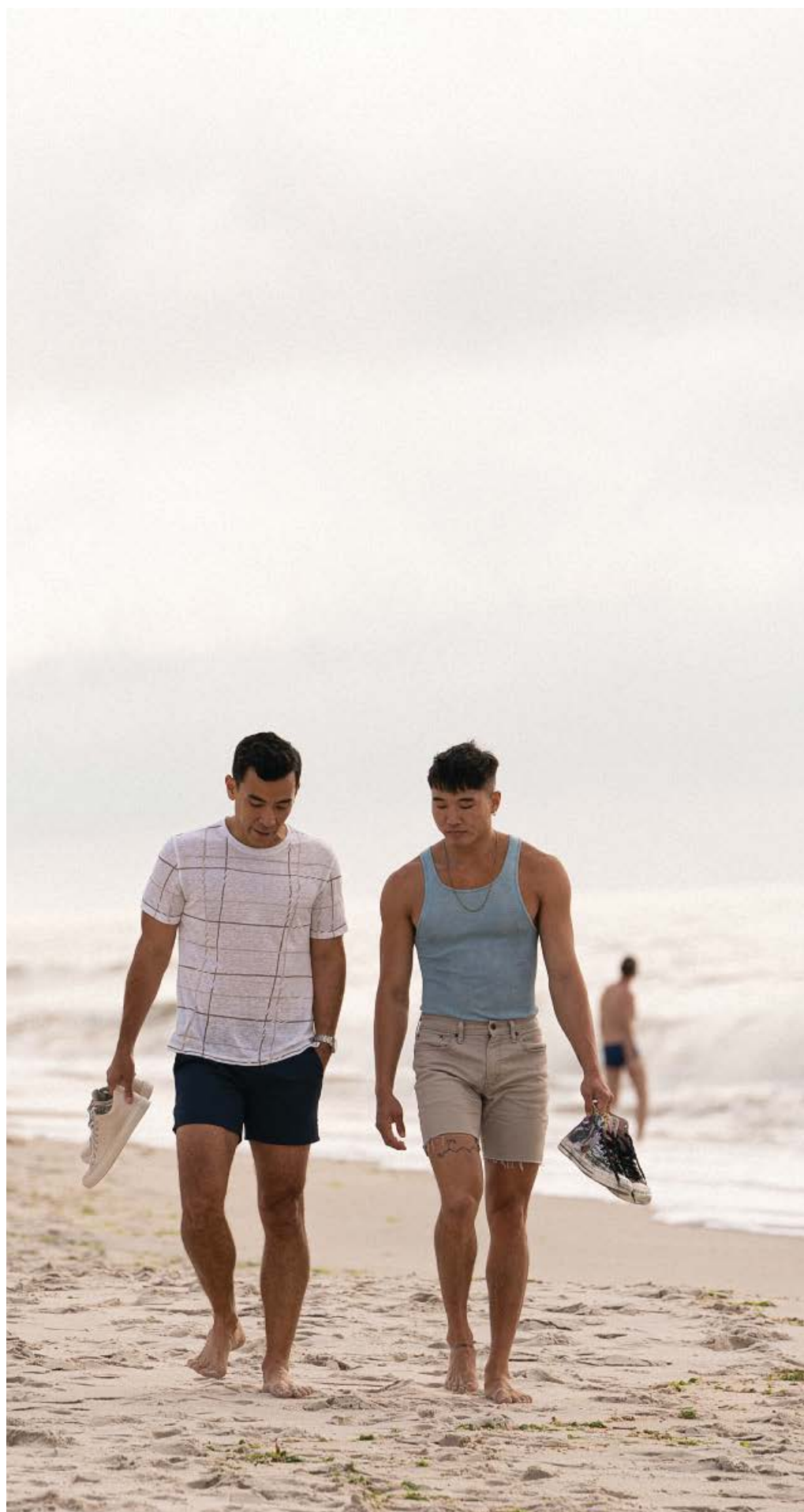
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## Set Sail For “Fire Island” on Hulu



If you have Hulu, you'll want to mark your calendars for June 3, when this highly-anticipated, new LGBTQ+ movie premieres. Set in New York's iconic Pines, Andrew Ahn's "Fire Island" is an unapologetic, modern day rom-com showcasing a diverse, multicultural examination of queerness and romance. Inspired by the timeless pursuits from Jane Austen's classic novel "Pride and Prejudice," the story centers around two best friends (Joel Kim Booster and Bowen Yang) who set out to have a legendary summer adventure with the help of cheap rosé and their cadre of eclectic friends.



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## HAPPY PRIDE!!

We are continuing with safety protocols for shopping in the warehouse and store. Masks are required until further notice.

**Next Bag Sale!**  
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## "Downton Abbey" Is Only in Theaters Plus, See "Top Gun: Maverick" At IMAX

by Chris Narloch

As a devoted fan of the moviegoing experience, I like to know that there are still film studios releasing major movies in theaters only, forcing fans eager to see such titles as "Downton Abbey: A New Era" and "Top Gun: Maverick" to venture out and support cinemas, which need all the help they can get. Read on for more details about both those films.

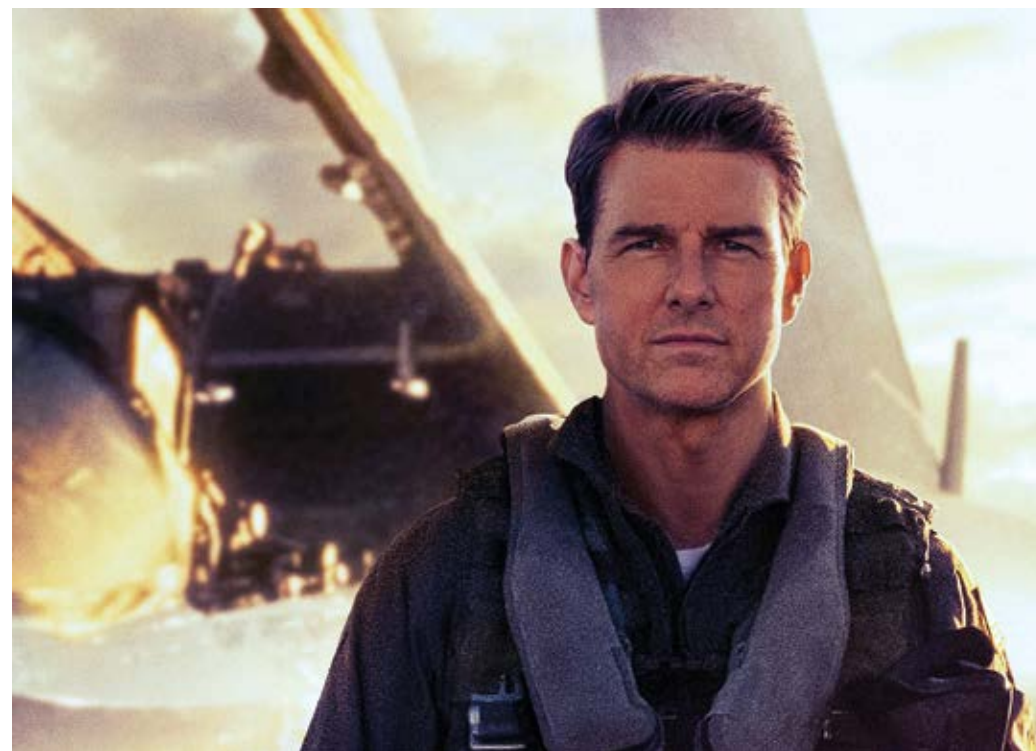
### Downton Abbey: A New Era

The Crawleys are back on the big screen for a sumptuous second helping of cinematic comfort food, and I'm not ashamed to say that I ate it up.

The new movie takes few risks, although the script does kill off a very major character, and it introduces a welcome new one -- a closeted, gay male movie star (played by Dominic West) who pursues the dark-haired and handsome Thomas Barrow (Rob James-Collier).

The main plots involve Maggie Smith's character inheriting an unexpected villa in the South of France, and a Hollywood film crew invading Downton to make a silent movie. The queer-positive subplot involving Mr. Barrow is very chaste, but then even the straight characters don't get any "action" in this film.

"Downton Abbey: A New Era" is content to leave the sex to "Bridgerton" -- it's completely safe for your grandparents and the kiddies (although children will probably be bored out of their minds.) I, however, enjoyed it thoroughly.



### Top Gun: Maverick

I missed the press screening for this critic-proof blockbuster, but I can report that the advance reviews for the sequel to Tom Cruise's huge hit from 1986 are beyond glowing. The new film received a five-minute standing ovation at Cannes recently, which is almost unheard of for a mainstream popcorn movie at that artsy film festival.

It's hard to believe that Cruise is almost 60 now since he still does many of his own stunts, and he looks remarkable for his age. Val Kilmer also returns for the sequel, and they are joined by Miles Teller, Jennifer Connelly, Jon Hamm and Ed Harris.

The movie is described thusly: "After more than 30 years of service as one of the Navy's top aviators, Pete "Maverick" Mitchell (Cruise) is where he belongs, pushing the envelope as a courageous test pilot and dodging the advancement in rank that would ground him. Training a detachment of graduates for a special assignment, Maverick must confront the ghosts of his past and his deepest fears, culminating in a mission that demands the ultimate sacrifice from those who choose to fly it."

You can see "Top Gun: Maverick" on the enormous screen at Sacramento's Esquire IMAX Theatre beginning May 26th, until at least June 4th. For tickets, visit: [www.imax.com/imax-esquire-00](http://www.imax.com/imax-esquire-00)

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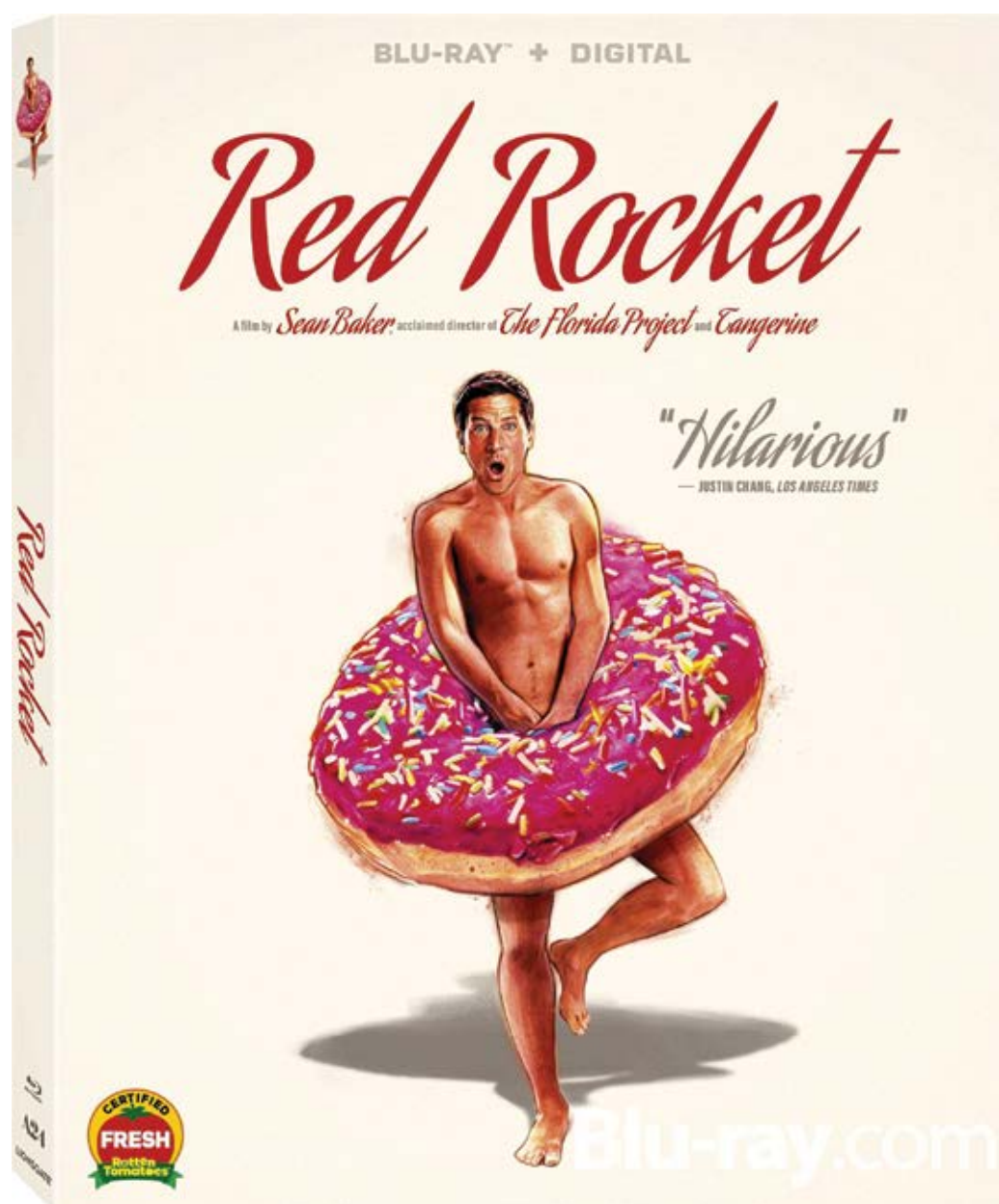
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## Simon Rex Bares It All In "Red Rocket" Plus, Three New Warner Bros. Blu-rays

by Chris Narloch

Now that we've all enjoyed the final seasons of "Ozark" and "Grace and Frankie," it's time to take a break from binge-watching and catch up on some movies. The four recent DVD releases below include three classic Warner Bros. Blu-rays and a wild movie from last year about a heterosexual male porn star.



### Red Rocket

There was talk earlier this year that Simon Rex might receive an Oscar nod as Best Actor for playing a charming con artist in this dark comedy, but he didn't make the cut when nominations were announced. I wouldn't have been surprised if he had made it.

In "Red Rocket," Rex plays a sexy but washed-up porn star who plots his return to the big time from a small town in Texas, where he leeches off his 'ex' and romances a young woman half his age -- who works at the local donut shop -- hoping to turn her into the next big porn queen.

Rex is entirely believable in the role, and he should be, since he really was a porn star for a minute as a young man, before he rose to fame as an MTV VJ, and then a rapper known as "Dirt Nasty."

Mr. Rex is a serious actor now, and he is the best reason to rent or buy "Red Rocket," a bittersweet satire about a fast-talking guy on the outermost fringes of celebrity who is willing to exploit others to extend his fifteen minutes of fame.

### Stage Fright

This 1950 film from Alfred Hitchcock isn't as famous as "Psycho" or "Vertigo," but it has its moments, thanks mostly to Hitchcock's direction and a starry cast. Richard Todd plays an actor falsely fingered for murder who suspects his lover (Marlene Dietrich) is the guilty party. He takes shelter with his ex-girlfriend (Jane Wyman), a budding actress who decides to do some amateur sleuthing and finds herself in over her head.

continued on page 47



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## Simon Rex Bares It All In “Red Rocket” Plus, Three New Warner Bros. Blu-rays

continued from page 44

### A Star is Born

This is the first of four movie versions of this familiar story about a troubled celebrity couple, half of which is on its way up the Hollywood ladder while the other half is on its way down. The superb romantic drama from 1937 stars Fredric March as Norman Maine, the fading star who helps launch the career of an aspiring actress (Janet Gaynor) with whom he falls in love. This classic version, which is not a musical, inspired the three musical remakes that starred Judy Garland, Barbra Streisand, and Lady Gaga, respectively. The movie was a hit at the box office, and it is one of the earliest films made in Hollywood about Hollywood.



### Gold Diggers of 1933

A Broadway producer has the talent, the tunes, the theater, and everything else he needs to put on a show – except the dough. Not to worry, say Ginger Rogers and the other leggy chorines decked out in giant coins. Everyone will soon be singing “We’re in the Money.” Soon after “42nd Street,” the brothers Warner again kicked the Depression blues out the stage door and into a back alley. Mervyn Le Roy directs the snappy non-musical portions involving three wonderfully silly love matches (including Dick Powell and Ruby Keeler). The great Busby Berkeley brings his peerless magic to the musical numbers, his camera swooping and gliding to showstoppers that are naughty (“Pettin’ in the Park”), neon-lit (“The Shadow Waltz”) and soul-searing (“Remember My Forgotten Man”). “Gold Diggers of 1933” is a truly great movie musical from the Golden Age of Hollywood.



Note: “Stage Fright,” “A Star is Born,” and “Gold Diggers of 1933” can be purchased at the Warner Archive Amazon Store or from other online retailers where DVDs and Blu-rays are sold.

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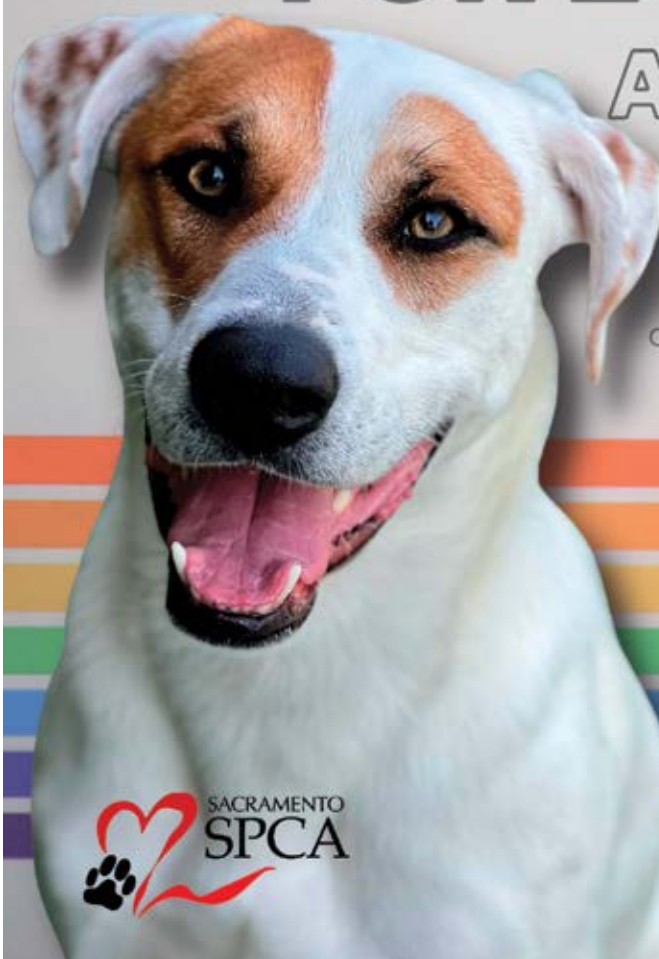
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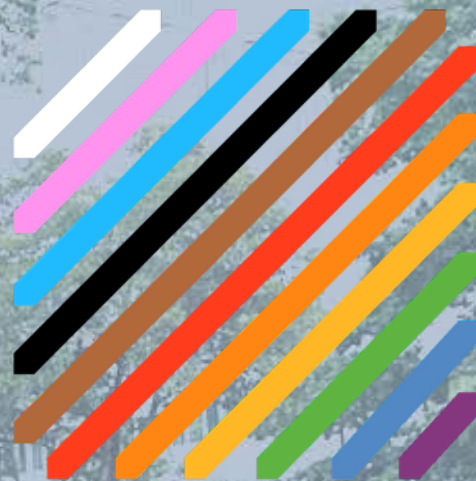
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# SAC PRIDE



FESTIVAL: SATURDAY JUNE 11 & SUNDAY JUNE 12 11AM-8PM

MARCH: SUNDAY JUNE 12 11AM

## 2022 SACRAMENTO PRIDE GUIDE

The Sacramento Pride Festival, produced by the Sacramento LGBT Community Center as its largest community engagement program of the year, welcomes 22,000+ people annually. The festival runs Saturday, June 11, 2022, 11 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sunday, June 12, 2022, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. This year's Pride Festival will feature hundreds of exhibitors and vendors from throughout the region, including community retailers, diverse food and beverage, nonprofit and public service providers, faith communities, and many more! This year's event will include three stages featuring exciting entertainment from the Sacramento region and the greater LGBTQ+ community. In addition to entertainment and exhibitors, the festival grounds will hold multiple activations and attractions that will bring guests of all ages and backgrounds together in an environment that entertains, educates, and inspires!

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Join thousands of your closest friends to cheer on marchers, colorful floats, music, and much more for the annual Sacramento Pride March. Harkening back to the earliest days of Pride events as protests against oppression, this event is both a demonstration of activism in our pursuit of equity and social justice as well as a celebration of diverse Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and two-spirit communities and culture.

The Pride March is free and open to all community members starting at Southside Park to the Capitol along 10th Street.



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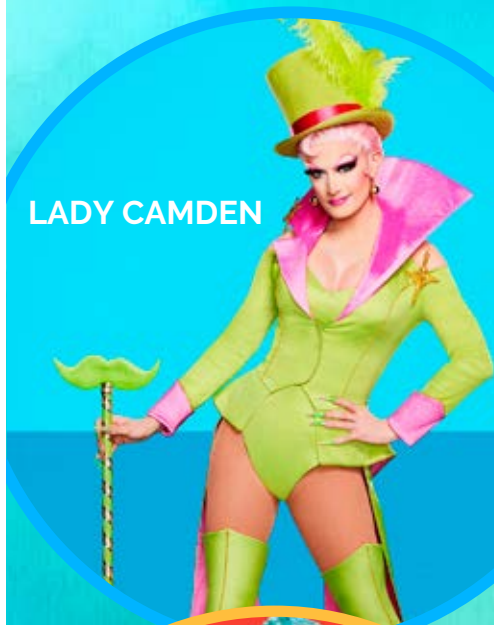
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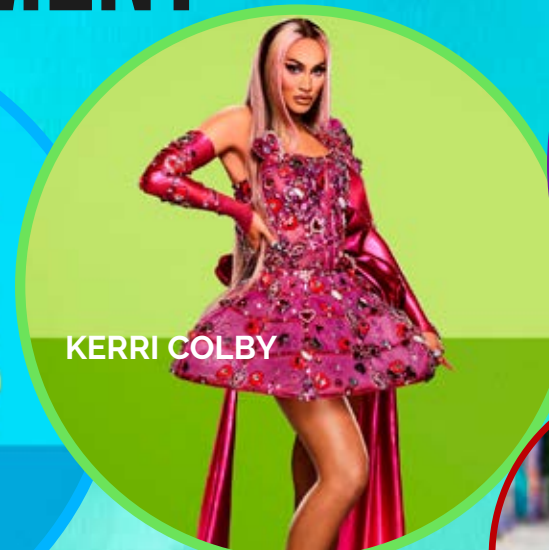
If you are driving in, be sure to plan ahead. You can use the City of Sacramento's SacPark system to pre-reserve your parking space in city garages near the events.



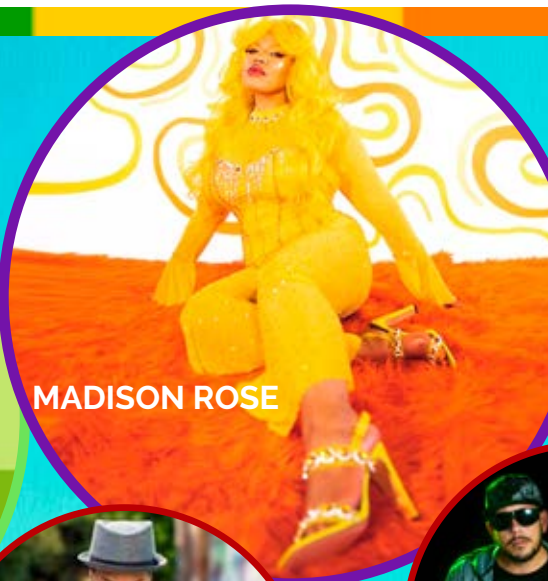
## ENTERTAINMENT



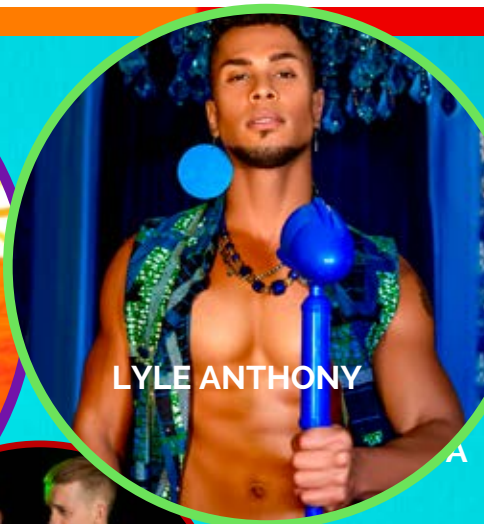
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Q-Spot Live, located at the youth and family zone of the festival, is Sac Pride 2022's youth area for respite, socializing, activities, free food, and drinks! Stop by to hang out with other LGBTQ and allied youth ages 13-24.

**Skip the line and buy your tickets online at [www.sacramentopride.org](http://www.sacramentopride.org).**



# Official Sacramento Pride Guide

Official Pride Guide created by the Sacramento LGBT Community Center and Sponsored by Outword Magazine

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# PRIDE MARCH

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## A New "Queer as Folk" Comes To Peacock

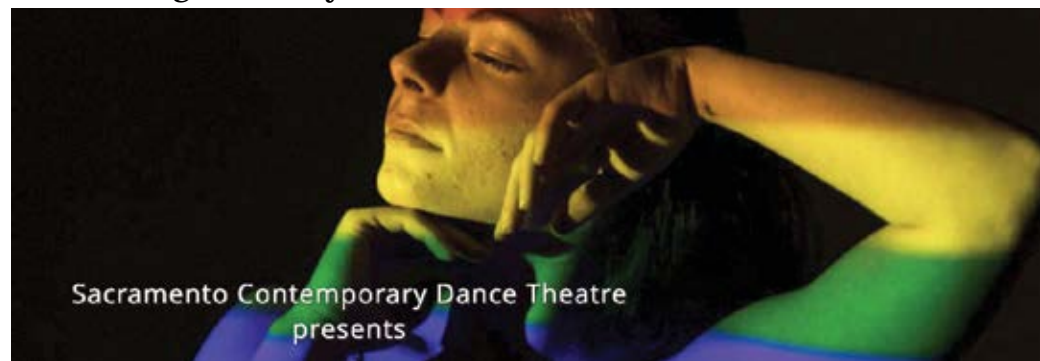
by Chris Narloch



Although I wasn't crazy about the shallow Showtime remake of "Queer as Folk," I loved the original British series. Hopefully, the new version, which premieres on Peacock this June 9, will have more depth than that first American reboot and lean more towards Russell T. Davies' groundbreaking, English "Queer as Folk." Kim Cattrall and Juliette Lewis are among the impressive guest stars in the reimagined "QAF" which promises to include a wider, more contemporary collection of queer characters this time. Don't miss it!

## Sacramento Contemporary Dance Theatre Presents "OUT"

Sacramento Contemporary Dance Theatre's upcoming performances of "OUT" will use sensational storytelling and beautiful movement to create a safe environment to witness the challenges and heartbreaks that so many endure while discovering who they are.



Celebrating the uniqueness and color of the LGBTQ+ community, the show features a brilliant ensemble cast and the Los Angeles-based drag queen Jonnie Reinhart, who uses wit, humor, and divine vocals to enchant an audience while transforming into a dazzling Queen live on stage.

This forum is appropriate for all ages and provides an opportunity to educate people about the LGBTQ+ community.

Children, parents, and families that may not have access to queer representation

might begin to have a conversation or be more open and aware of LGBTQ+ issues after seeing this dance theatre production.

The glamour, the dancing, and the artistry of "OUT" is the perfect way to honor Pride month this June 10-12 at The Sofia, on Capitol Avenue in midtown Sacramento.

Proceeds benefit the Sacramento LGBTQ+ Center. Choreography and artistic direction by Jacob Gutiérrez-Montoya. To purchase tickets, visit:

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# Out & About

## Big Day Big Bingo! Rock On!

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## Mr. Styles Is Back With "Harry's House"

by Chris Narloch

It was inevitable, I suppose, that the follow-up to Harry Styles' brilliant album "Fine Line" would be a disappointment. Anything short of a masterpiece would have been a comedown after the excellence of songs like "Golden," "Watermelon Sugar," and especially "Adore You."



That album contained hit after hit and felt like a cohesive statement, whereas "Harry's House," although delightful in places, feels unfocused and unsure of itself. Even Styles' voice sounds wispy and lightweight on several tracks.

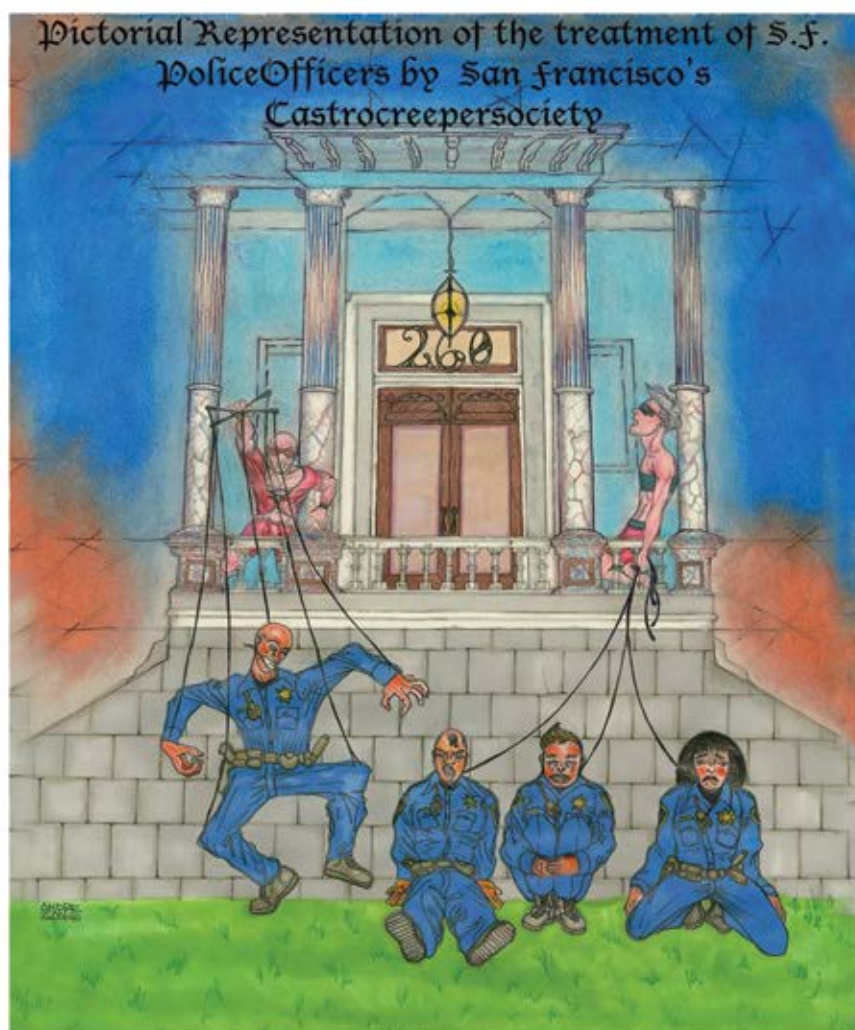
First, the good news -- the single "As It Was" is dynamite, with a shapeshifting charm that is sweet, sad, and beautiful in equal measure.

I don't know exactly what Styles had in mind, but to me, the lyric of "As It Was" says that the world is a crazy place right now -- it's not "as it was" -- and the only escape that is lasting is love.

Elsewhere, "Keep Driving" and "Satellite" hum along nicely, and the harmony singing on "Boyfriends" -- as well as its lyric -- sound pretty good to my middle-aged ears.

Yet too many of the tracks on "Harry's House" -- such as "Late Night Talking," "Matilda," and "Cinema" -- are repetitive and dull.

The songs on the new album will almost certainly sound better when Styles performs them live, and several of them cry out to be remixed for the dance floor. In its current state, however, "Harry's House" could use a few repairs.



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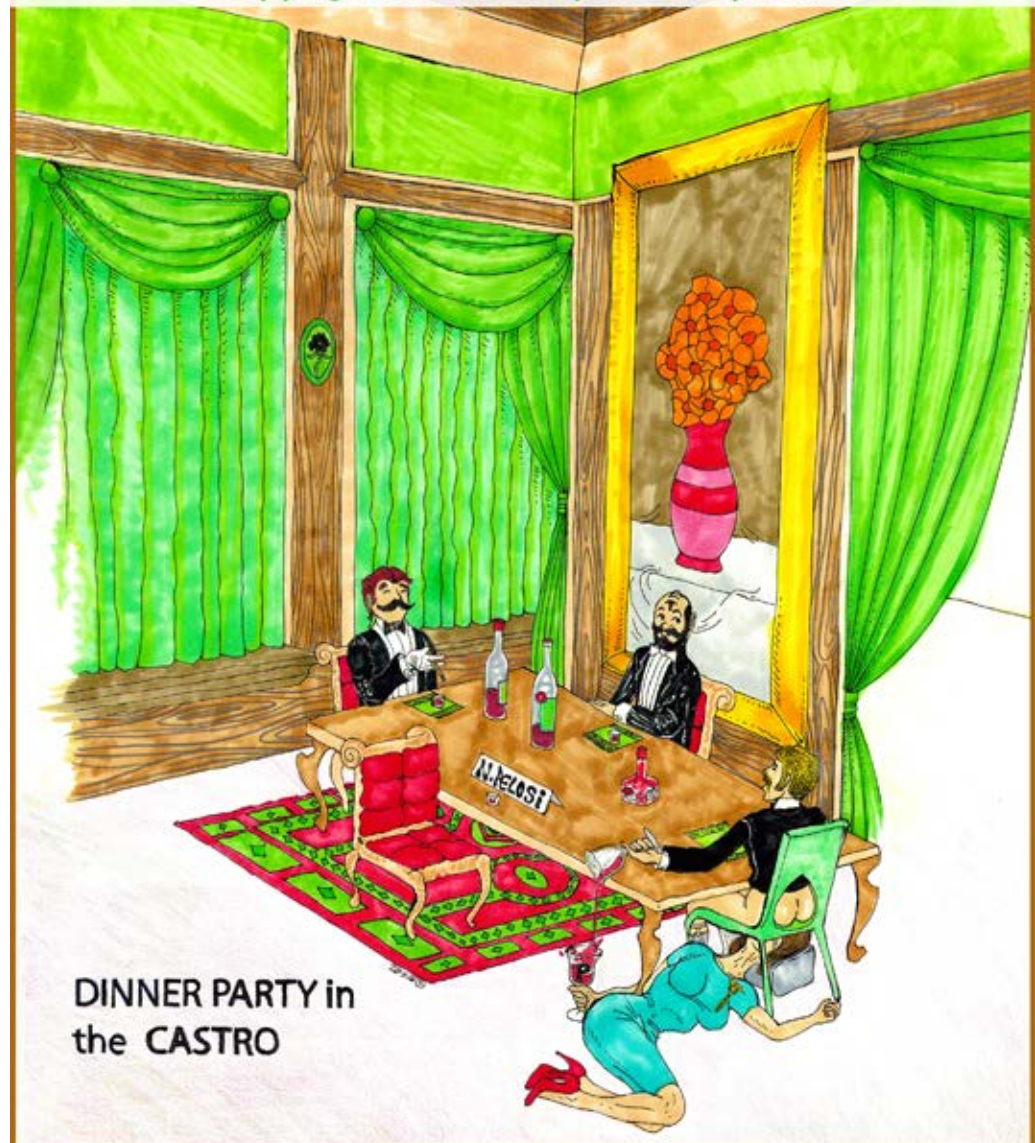
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*For 26 years, we have been Sacramento's resource for LGBTQ+ information, politics, entertainment and we have helped connect and maintain our community.*

*Because of the continuing trauma being caused by COVID, many of our advertisers are doing everything they can to stay afloat - that includes Outword Magazine. At the onset of the pandemic we changed our distribution model to an online-only affair. That helped us weather the storm, but we have since returned to both online as well traditional, printed copies. Thankfully, the response we have recieved after returning to print has been fantastic!*

*Once again we are asking that you, our readers and advertisers help us with a contribution that will be used to help keep the presses rolling. This money will assist with publishing costs, both in print and online, and help pay our staff, distribution costs and a few of our writers, among other things.*

*We have established [OutwordRainbowFund.com](http://OutwordRainbowFund.com) for our readers and/or local businesses, should you wish to support us. If you consider us a valuable and vital resource for our LGBTQ+ community, please send some financial Love. As a Supporter, at any level, we will give you a listing in our full page ad with the Supporter level you are in, in upcoming issues (see next page for the list of those that have already contributed). If you have any questions, or comments, please feel free to drop us an email: [sales@outwordmagazine.com](mailto:sales@outwordmagazine.com)*  
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## Emmy Rossum Plays A Mysterious Starlet In "Angelyne"



**L**ong before Kim Kardashian showed up – even before Paris Hilton – there was another real-life starlet who pioneered the art of being famous just for being famous. That woman was the mysterious blonde bombshell known as Angelyne, who popped up (and popped out) on a series of provocative billboards that appeared all around Los Angeles in the 1980s. She famously drove a pink Corvette, appeared in a few forgettable films, and recorded some really cheesy music. Now, Emmy Rossum is playing the top-heavy title character in "Angelyne," a wonderfully wacky, five-part series on Peacock about the lengths some people will go to for fame.



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*Current as of February 22, 2022*

*Once again we would like to thank those that have become sponsors of Outword Magazine! Your contribution will help us keep the lights on and the closet doors wide open. Here are a list of our Sponsors at the level they participated, so far. We will continue to run this page, with any updates, for the next several issues.*

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