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The Editor

Ah, fall. I know there are many feeling down that summer is coming to an end, and that blistery winter winds are mere months away, but let's enjoy autumn for all its beauty and freshness. It's the time of year to bring out those sweaters, curl up with a book, or lover, or both, and a perfect time to enjoy the great outdoors. Oh yeah, it's also the season of horror - Halloween!

Our Wiggled Out weirdo Donnarama is always up to her tricks, and in this issue she guides us to the best fall parties in the city. She also takes a behind-the-scenes look at the 35th anniversary celebrations of Canadian horror flick “Prom Night”, as she chats with scream queen Mary Elizabeth Rubens about her role as Kelly in this legendary feature. Our other feature writer Daniela Costa chatted with Canadian songstress and temptress Peaches about her new album and upcoming tour, which touches down here in her hometown of Toronto on October 20th.

Paul Bellini reflects back on some of the Halloween characters he's been over the years, while Cat Grant delves into the lives of witchy women, chatting with Rochelle Holt, owner of Toronto's Wonderworks. Boyd Kodak had a chat with singer Jade, who has her first full-length album being released this month, and our Beyond the Village column spotlights two great parties where queers who dig hip-hop can hangout and dance.

As always, there's always something BUZZ'in here in Toronto, and we're here to let you know about it. Now pass me that pumpkin pie please!

Bryen Dunn

Editor-in-Chief



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If you're a Peaches fan, congratulations – you're both incredibly loyal and incredibly patient, and that patience is paying off now. It's been six years since Peaches dropped her last album, but she's finally out with something new: *Rub*. Of course with this new album comes a much-anticipated tour, and both promise to be “classic” Peaches.

Peaches

discusses her new album and upcoming tour

By Daniela Costa

Born Merrill Beth Nisker, this Toronto-native has been putting out killer tunes since the early '90s. Since 2000 she's been averaging about an album a year, and subsequently touring those albums for two years a piece. It's no surprise then that she took some time off to work on different projects. And while those projects were success stories, Peaches got the music-making bug again.

"I got that out of my system, and then I was like, 'Now I'm ready to make a Peaches album.'"

Rub, which came out on Sept. 25, is certainly an audacious attempt. So much so that Peaches considers it a "loaded question" when asked to describe it. "I just think it's like raw, uncut, kind of just classic Peaches' style," she says.

Classic Peaches with some guests, like Sonic Youth's Kim Gordon on the track "Close Up", Simonne Jones on "Vaginoplasty" and fellow Canadian musician Feist on "I Mean Something". Peaches fans have long since come to expect such awesome collaborations — in the past she's worked with Joan Jett, Iggy Pop and Beth Ditto. And because she demands an absolutely full plate for herself, she's also directing videos for every one of her new tracks. These are videos that feature, once again, kickass collaborators, like the already mentioned Kim Gordon, and comedian Margaret Cho.

Now comes the hard part: touring. In actuality, she's refreshed and looking forward to it. Which begs the question: what can fans expect?

"Acoustic guitar, you know, choir," she jokes.

"Just classic me. I'm just doing my thing," she says. "Of course it's going to be theatrical."

That, indeed, is nothing new for her. Enter "Peaches Christ Superstar", her one-woman production of "Jesus Christ Superstar", which had its start in Berlin in 2010 before she toured the world with it. "I didn't change any lyrics and I sing every single part," she says, clearly proud. It was, after all, a rare experience for Peaches, as it saw her really make use of her singing voice, which she often underplays in her records. Fans will be interested to know she'll be doing it all over again in early October in Munich, Germany.

Another "side project" was "Peaches Does Herself" in 2010, an electro-rock opera that included material from all four of her previous albums. "It was a reaction against jukebox musicals," she says. "Jukebox musicals never honour where the music comes from. They just devise some hideous story to string the music along. So, I thought I would make my own. I'm going to make a narrative building on the mythology of what and who people think I am. That's where the idea came from."

This semi-autobiographical work became a film of the same name, premiering at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2012 and then showing at over 60 festivals around the world during the next two years. "It's exciting it actually worked. We made a film that actually worked."

This, along with her title singing role in a production of Monteverdi's 17th-century opera "L'Orfeo", and her collaborations with Yoko Ono, R.E.M., Le Tigre, Major Lazer, and more — are all captured in her book *What Else is in the Teaches of Peaches*, which came out in early June. The book features a collection of Holger Talinski's photos of the artist, which he took over the last six years. Some well-known figures, like Ellen Page, also contributed to the book.

"There's a lot of pictures where I look tired, where I'm wearing no make-up, where I'm exposed or vulnerable," she describes. "A friend of mine said it was 'brave' to do that, but it didn't feel that way to me. I'm very interested in seeing the human and the performer, the private and the public, in creating a persona but then letting people see behind the curtain."

Obviously Peaches didn't leave her fans high and dry during her hiatus from the studio, but finally the time to make new music came. For a full year she worked in her garage studio in Los Angeles with long time collaborating partner Vice Cooler, often putting in long hours. Now while the odds on favour are that fans are going to be delighted with the new album, it's doubtful that Rub will be the commercial success that's always eluded Peaches. Not that she's concerned.

"That's not really something that I have control over," she says of commercial success. "I just do what I do."

Commercial success for Peaches would almost certainly mean changing her sound, and she's not having that. "I'm not changing. What's the point of changing?" she asks.

And why should she? Peaches brought us lyrics and a stage presence that express gender and sexual fluidity – this long before doing so was mainstream in any way. "To be honest, I'm only noticing it in the last five years," she says of changes to the music scene in this regard. To be even more frank, we're still not there yet, which only cements the need for artists like her.

Case in point was her cameo on Showtime's much loved "lesbian show" *The L Word* in 2005. For many, this was their first exposure to Peaches, and while she was rocking a beard no less. She says she didn't notice a spike in popularity after the appearance like one would expect, yet she still made an impression. In fact, during our interview she shared that the very night before someone had brought that episode up. "They said that was the first time they'd ever encountered a genderqueer performer on TV." Visibility matters, and Peaches is very visible.

What that's going to translate to onstage is bound to be extremely interesting. As is her hometown show at the Phoenix on Oct. 20. "I'm looking forward to it," she says. "It's going to be a good time, as it always is."

With an endorsement like that, what more do you need? Her track record alone says it all – Peaches knows best.

www.peachesrocks.com

Photos: Daria Marchik

Born and raised in Toronto, Daniela Costa graduated from Ryerson University's journalism undergraduate program (with a minor in politics) in 2013. Since then, my writing has focused on matters concerning the LGBT community. I've written many lengthy feature pieces, as well as plenty of news stories. More recently I began reviewing movies and recapping television shows that feature queer characters. I'm all about that #LGBT beat. Twitter: @danielaocosta



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PROM NIGHT

35 Years of Horror... And Disco

By Donnarama

"The killers are coming! The killers are coming!" Thus began a chilling prelude to a tragic tale of mayhem and revenge - "Prom Night". The Paul Lynch Canadian horror classic premiered in the late summer of 1980, and is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year.

It scored big at the box office and continued the launch of Jamie Lee Curtis' career. As duly noted as "Prom Night" is for its unintentionally campy components, it is also recognized as a pioneer for establishing the modern day slasher movie formula. One can take a look at "I Know What You Did Last Summer" and recognize similar scenarios. Seemingly timed to grab the attention (and the slash cash) of movie goers who packed houses for 1978's "Halloween", "Prom Night" managed to intrigue audiences enough to become Canada's most successful film of the year in 1980. It was a huge financial success both in theatres and home rental.

Today, it's both a beloved and despised cult favourite that's endured and found a unique and original place in pop culture, referenced everywhere from Mad TV to Wes Craven's "Scream". The plot? A tragic game of "Kill Kill" that ends with the accidental death of a school playmate, a death sworn to secrecy by the involving perpetrators, but not before being witnessed by a mysterious figure at the scene of the crime. Cut to six years later and it's time for graduation and prom for the grown up teens involved in the past tragedy, but not without a revisit from an old friend who has come to settle the score.

A bit "Carrie", a bit "Saturday Night Fever", and a bit

"Black Christmas", the film's elements were a sure fire hit. The genre defining Scream Queen of the 80's, and maybe forever, Jamie Lee Curtis appeared in "Halloween" as the terrorized babysitter Laurie Strode, before dazzling viewers as the fated prom queen. Shedding the shyness and reserve of her previous role in "Halloween", she appears confident and charismatic, an admirable display of how versatile Curtis' early acting abilities were even then.

Starring Leslie Neilson, Eddie Benton, Pita Oliver and Mary Beth Rubens, "Prom Night"'s subtle use of mirroring premonitions throughout the film are actually clever. An early game of phone tag at the beginning of the film by the mysterious killer, that later reveals the fate of the unsuspecting teens, is a stroke of brilliance. Also, let's not forget "Prom Night" probably has the best chase scene in slasher film history, with Eddie Benton's hilariously bitchy character "Wendy". The film ends in a tear jerker, both because of its heart breaking reveal of the masked stalker, and because of the killer's choice of lipstick colour.

Canadian actress and "Prom Night" star Mary Elizabeth Rubens, who portrays "Kelly", an incredibly soft and innocently virginal character and one of the preyed upon teens in the film, knew then that the film was promising when she landed the role. "I knew it was going to be special considering Leslie Neilson and rising star Jamie Lee Curtis were on board, but I had no idea 'Prom Night' was to become a horror cult classic. I landed the role of Kelly shortly after I had done only a couple of commercials, so I was pretty new to the screen and new to the business as well."

She reveals she believes the appeal of the film lies in its mixture of emotion and timely fashion. "I think it had a lot to do with the fact proms are a significant symbol of the moment of transition from teen to adulthood. Mix

that charged sexual awakening time with the chaos, and it's quite powerful. The psychological elements of the film still resonate as a very real possibility, especially with the death of a child killed by other children. I believe it's the first horror-slasher film that blurred the lines between sex, violence, and death, particularly between the virgin (me, ha!) and her boyfriend 'Drew', played by Jeff Wincott."

Relatively bloodless as it's been noted so many times in so many a review, "Prom Night" instead relies on keeping things rolling along and building the plot and suspense, leading up to the main event, creating a sense of dread in the air for audiences bearing witness to the film, in lieu of buckets of blood and rivers of gore. The scene where Ruban's character gets offed in the school change room curls toes and gets people squirming with its mere suggestion and use of audio sensory assault. With possibly the exception of a roll on cameo by a severed head.

The film was made at the tail end of the Hitchcock-ism of knowing it but not showing it, and the beginning of a battle with the ratings board, the MPAA, and visual exploitation. It was an era just on the brink of the visual shock that came with films like "Friday The 13th" or John Carpenter's "The Thing" in 1982, yet somehow it's what makes it work.

It recently had a screening at The Royal Cinema in Toronto commemorating its 35th year, with appearances by cast and crew, as well as a re-release on a Blue Ray special edition featuring plenty of treats for fans of the cult classic who can relive its full glory in the crisp. Incredibly enough, the new edition of "Prom Night" on Blue Ray reveals the true beauty and thought that went into the story-boarding of the film.

Classic horror films will forever have their stakes placed into the hearts of filmgoers, and "Prom Night" is no exception. One of the most memorable aspects of the movie is the irresistibly infectious Paul ZaZa soundtrack, a collection of surprisingly ace disco hit knock offs set to the super cheesy classic disco dance scene, featuring Curtis and the late Casey Stevens going full on "Solid Gold". I myself am a huge fan of this movie, and once blew a pretty penny acquiring the soundtrack that at the time was released only on vinyl and sold only in Japan. It's a purchase I proudly bear as my ultimate horror fan geek badge.

This Halloween, there's a good chance you'll catch "Prom Night" on television or view it as a rental. You may then be tempted to hit the town afterward to show off some inspired moves, but be careful, for as the famous tagline on the movie poster says, "if you're not back by midnight, you won't be coming home."

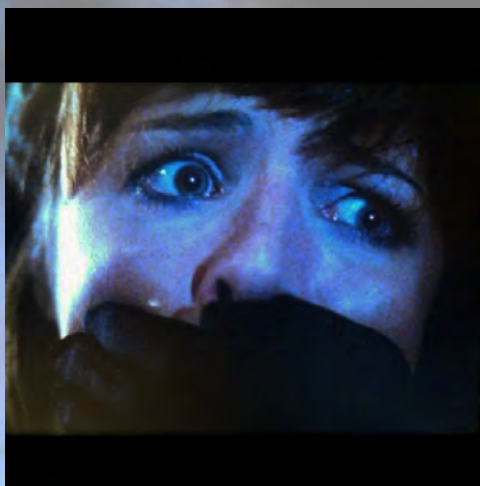
Happy 35th Anniversary to "Prom Night"; everything is alright.



Mary Elizabeth Rubens and Jamie Lee Curtis - Bluray.com



Mary Elizabeth Rubens with author Jim Burrell – Jim Burrell



Screen grab and poster art - Avco Embassy.

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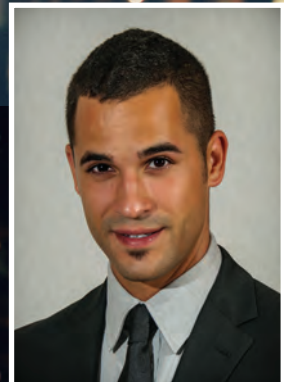
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WIGGED OUT

BY DONNARAMA

Donnarama is Associate Editor of theBUZZ and a senior writer for PinkPlayMags and theBUZZ.



Costumed hunks and sexy vampires, darkened clubs and busy pubs....the spooky chill of Halloween is ready to take on the scene. Here come the tricks, and after come the treats. Boogey men get on your feet! Join me for the masquerade, celebrate and stay up late!

Dammit Janet! Don't get caught with a flat, and make your way out to **The Black Eagle** (457 Church St) if you're a fan of the "The Rocky Horror Picture Show". Hosted by the gruesomely gorgeous Jenna Syde, 'The Rocky Whore Picture Show' event features visuals by Joe Black, and a screening of the infamous movie classic on Friday October 23rd at 10 PM. Expect audience participation. I see you shiver with anticipation. No cover. Bring toast.

Get out of your room and on your broom, and head on over to **FLY 2.0 Night Club** (6 Gloucester St), as Season 7



RuPaul's Drag Race runner up Pearl takes over T.O with #TeamPearl. Catch the drag sensation's hot performance and meet her live in person on Friday October 30th. "Kids On TV" electro punk hottie John Caffery spins the opening set with the hottest sounds on the grounds, followed by DJ/producer GSP (Greece) who will be spinning late in the night for queers with willing ears. Tickets available at teampearl.eventbrite.com. Doors 10:30 PM to 4:00 AM. 19+ event.

Best chest? Best ass? Best legs? Then get on stage! **Woody's/Sailor** (465-467 Church Street) invites you to join hostess Sofonda Cox for the "Squirt Men's Best Ass" contest Saturday nights, featuring cash prizes and giveaways. Contest and show at 12 midnight. Mid-week catch the "Hump Day Hunnies" on Wednesday's, featuring Carlotta, Tootsie Toots, and Katinka Kature at 11 PM for the cabaret show extravaganza. No cover.

Scary Mary's and monstrous Myrna's will be throwing on their horrible best, and putting their costumes to the test at **The Phoenix Concert Theatre** (410 Sherbourne Street) for "FREAKOUT", the annual Halloween dance party and legendary costume contest on Saturday October 31st. A big cash prize goes to the right outfit that pleases the eyes, so bring out your grisliest creation for a standing ovation. 10 PM- 4 AM. Tickets are \$26.66 and available at wantickets.com. 19 + event.

The Phoenix also presents alterna-rock favorites Garbage live in concert on October 26th with "20 Years Queer", celebrating the 20th anniversary of their chart topping debut album. Fashionable front woman Shirley Manson ditches the famous red locks for a pink doo, and belts out classic hits like "Only Happy When It Rains", "Stupid Girl", and of course the classic "Queer" to all the queers loaded on beer. Tickets available through Ticketmaster.ca, Soundscape and Rotate This.

Queens head down to Queen for "H.S.G.B" - the classic rock, 80's pop, alternative, and gothic dance jam every Thursday at **WAYLA Bar and Lounge** (996 Queen Street East). Various guest deejays join in on the fun, including Madame HAIR and DJ Michael Thomas. \$3 Jack Daniel shots until midnight get the mood just right, followed by a sweet \$5 dollar Lowenbrau deal. 10 PM. No Cover lover.

It's your call this fall to get out to the ball. Masks, capes, wigs and scares are all around, so join in if you dare... Happy Halloween Buzztters!



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Witchy Women

It's trick or treat time and a perennial favourite costume is the classic Witch. We are fascinated with witches, and their gifts are legendary. Who wouldn't want to know the spell to prosperity? We find witches mysterious and crave more.

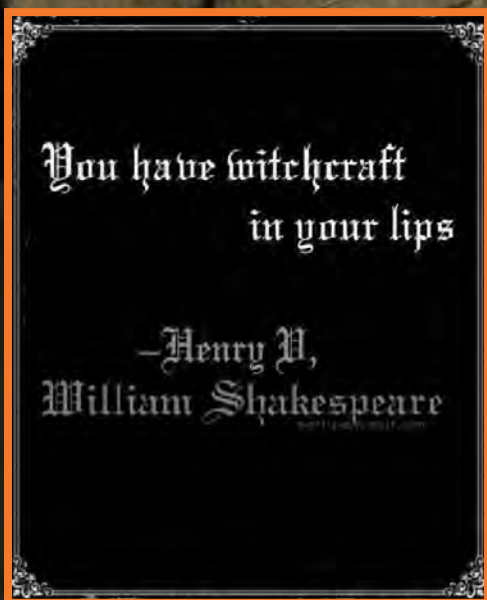
According to Rochelle Holt, owner of the Fleishman Art Gallery and shop Wonderworks, a modern witch is, "cultivating awareness of and connection with nature, understanding the earth as our mother, and celebrating the seasons with what's called the Wheel of the Year, with 8 sabbats / holidays. These rituals are symbolic as well as real, that are physical and practiced in open or a private community. They are often marked with a feast to be enjoyed and celebrated in a sacred space."

Holt continues, "On a daily basis being a witch may include spending time in nature, being eco-conscious, mindful, compassionate, and helpful to other beings, along with using natural and herbal remedies or medicine and personal tools for healing, inspiration and guidance in life, such as tarot cards, meditation and journaling."

Witches have aided their communities for centuries. Seems like a great fit, but awe can sometimes turn to fear, and combined with the belief in God being all so powerful, the "magic" of healing can be seen as evil. The most infamous witch bit of North American history? Salem Witch Trials. In this small village in Massachusetts, ministers, their wives and children, among other residents of Salem, were tortured into confessions then tried, found guilty hanged, drowned and burned.

"Consternation and frightened even out of their reason" is a passage from a report from several young women who confessed to being witches (later claiming innocence), due to torture applied during interrogation. It's estimated that 100,000 people were also accused of witchcraft between the 15th and 18th centuries, with a recorded astronomical number of 50,000 deaths. That is a lot of fear and ignorance.

Wonderworks, (bought by Rochelle from her best friend and witch Masina in 2005) is an amazing place to discover more about witches. "People can learn about Wicca and related approaches to spirituality and personal growth," Holt explains. "In addition to our curated selection of books, we have a large selection of tarot and oracle card decks." They also have special incense, candles, crystals, and pure essential oils for many purposes.



My first experience seeing witches was The Wizard of Oz. Movies typically treat a witch character as either good or evil, with a current bend towards a better balance of humanity, because that is what a witch is, human. Television's "Bewitched" set the standard of a positive portrayal of life with a witch. How many times have fans of that show wished they could wiggle their nose?

Rochelle celebrates Halloween, aka Samhain (pronounced sowwin), with five close friends. "We get together regularly for ritual, referring to our practice as eclectic, since we've been trained in different "witchy" traditions that include Celtic, Greco-Roman, and other variations of what is essentially an Earth Based spiritual practice honouring nature, the seasons and acknowledging various mythical deities."

Witches are wise women, and in donning the stereotypical black cone hat and black-robed costume for Halloween, many may for a moment wonder what it would be like to make magic

Wonderworks - www.gowonderworks.com

Cat Grant OCAD is a multimedia artist. A published poet currently writing a book. She contributes to Hone Life, Jingobox and her blog for theBUZZ. Painting, sculpture, photography/video, choreography/dance & costume design also make her days. Check out Cat's blog, Kitty Indacity, on our website at thebuzzmag.ca



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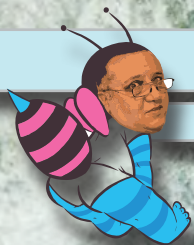
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BUMBLE-INI

BY PAUL BELLINI

It has often been said that Halloween is gay Christmas. Stands to reason, as despite its pagan roots, Halloween is non-religious, does not require the exchange of gifts, and most importantly it involves dressing up. Without dressing up, Halloween is just another day.

I've done some crazy costumes in the past – a priest, an angel, a king, a hooker, all aspects of my own personality. Then there was the time I went as a messy table. I just glued beer cans, ashtrays, and magazines to a garbage bag and put it on and crawled around on all fours. The big kick was when someone put out a cigarette on my back, but nowadays, nobody smokes in public.



Photo: Josh Levy

Perhaps my most debatable costume was in 1983 when I decided to go as my hero, Prince. I pulled together a totally funky outfit with lots of ruffles and platform shoes, and as a final attempt at verisimilitude I rubbed black make-up all over my face and neck. Of course being twice his weight, I looked nothing like Prince. The moment of reckoning came when I opened the door to welcome a black friend, who took one look at my motley outfit and burst out laughing. He encouraged me to sing Prince songs all night long, which made him laugh even more.

Nowadays, doing blackface would practically ensure banishment from the community. Fair enough, but we've come to live in a world where some people believe that all 'appropriation' is wrong. This type of thinking reached a zenith about two Halloweens ago, when someone on Facebook suggested that it is never okay to wear a Native headdress. Does that mean that all ethnic costuming is 'appropriating'?

Do I have to throw out all my kimonos and burkas? Does it conversely mean that Native people can't dress up in western garb? What about the Metis? Are they permitted to only wear half a headdress? The whole thing sounds like nonsense.

And what about drag? Isn't that the greatest act of appropriation ever? Is it okay to dress

like Caitlyn Jenner, because after all, isn't transitioning the greatest act of appropriation possible? Besides, I do not want to live in a world where we can't lampoon public figures, no matter where they sit on the political spectrum.

That type of umbrage could possibly destroy Halloween. So where to draw the line? Are ghosts and monsters the only characters we can dress up as because they don't actually exist? I remember once being infuriated by someone's KKK outfit, only to realize later that it was just their lame attempt at being a ghost. I wish I had just kept my mouth shut.

When it comes to Halloween, let's all give each other a free pass. You can deal with the social media outrage on November first.



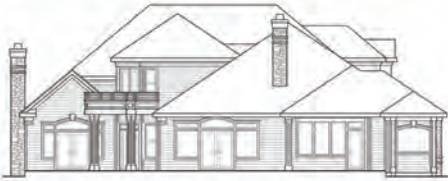
Photo: Andre Tardif

Paul Bellini is a comedy writer who has worked on such TV shows as *The Kids in the Hall* (where he played The Towel Guy), *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* and *Locker Room*. He was also a *FAB* magazine columnist for 11 years. He currently teaches comedy writing at George Brown College and the Second City Training Center in Toronto.

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A KODAK MOMENT

BY BOYD KODAK

Jade is a rapper/ singer/ writer/ producer from Toronto who is releasing her debut full-length LP this fall, titled **BIBLE**, which is a follow up to her 2014 **Jadapussy** EP.

Jade is releasing her full-length LP 'BIBLE' in the fall of 2015. Her debut full-length LP BIBLE will be her 3rd release following 2014's Jadapussy EP.

Boyd: Tell us what where you've been and what you've been working on this past 12 months?

Jade: I have been in Toronto. I've played a few shows, but mostly I've been in the studio hard at work on my new album.

B: During that time, which was the one most exciting event for you?

J: I made a record, fell in love, went on vacation....all of that good stuff. I also performed at Brendan Healy's farewell party at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, which was definitely a highlight.

B: What are you looking forward to over for the next year?

J: My LP being released, releasing music videos, and touring.

B: Do you have any plans or thoughts about your cd release party?

J: All I can say for sure is it will be epic, and it will be in Toronto. I'm also working on getting physical copies made. I miss that, being able to feel and touch a CD from your favourite artist. Everything is so digital now.

B: What's your favorite song on your new album, and why?

J: I love 'Shape'. It's the sexiest, naughtiest thing I've ever done, and it's amazing to dance to. I also love 'King' and 'Roses' a lot.

B: Who mixed and produced the new release?

J: Mixing is being done by my amazing sound engineer Jaye, and recorded at Grindz Recording in Toronto. I produced the album mostly by myself, as I usually do, but I also have some amazing co-production on 'BIBLE' by Avah Coco and Marko Cindric. Of course I also enlisted my bestie Sam Earle to help co-produce on a couple of the tracks.

B: What will the distribution method be?

J: I personally think selling your music is something you have to earn nowadays, and I don't feel like I'm there



Photo: Alejandro Santiago

yet. It's going to be released for free on SoundCloud in its entirety, along with the album art. The cover was shot by an amazing Toronto based photographer, Alejandro Santiago, and it's freaking beautiful. I've done lots of shoots with Alejandro. He's just the best.

B: Can you tell us where the inspiration for your music comes from?

J: Love, life, Toronto, family, struggle. Also Mariah Carey and Foxy Brown. Always.

B: Any long term plans?

J: Keep putting out music, keep building the fan base, get married, and run off into the sunset.

B: Finish the following sentence - I couldn't live without...

J: Music.

Keep up to date with all things Jade:

twitter.com/jadetdot

facebook.com/jademusicofficial

bandcamp.com/jadetdot

soundcloud.com/jadetdot

Boyd Kodak is an award winning trans activist, musician, writer, activist, filmmaker, curator, and festival/entertainment director. Boyd put together both educational and artistic programs for festivals worldwide. In 2012 he was inducted into the International LGBT Hall of Fame.





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BEYOND THE VILLAGE

Queer Hip Hop. Hooray!

By Bryen Dunn

Photo: YYY

A few years back a group of individuals decided Toronto needed a safe space for queers to get down to their favourite hip hop, dancehall, and RnB tunes, so they created a monthly party. Now there are two such parties in the city that are both still going strong. We chatted with the crew behind both **BIG PRIMPIN (BP)** and **YES YES Y'ALL (YYY)**

1. When and where did your first event take place?

BP - On the patio of the Cadillac Lounge in Parkdale. We had read about the importance of having a cutting, knowing, and editing door person, so we put a bitchy friend in charge of the guest list (which didn't really exist), and they literally gave everyone a hard time at the door. It's an experiment we didn't repeat.

YYY - At the Global Backpackers Village Hostel at King and Spadina in February 2009. The party was supposed to be a one-off. We wanted to see if we could throw the kind of party we would want to go to. It felt like a basement jam with people dancing on the speakers and everyone sweating.

2. How have things changed since then?

BP - After the second party we moved across the street to Stones Place for a few years, then to Wrongbar, which is now called Miss Thing's.

YYY - It's still the same five of us who started the event close to seven years ago who run things, and we haven't lost that basement jam feel after all these years. People come to dance and you'll still find people up on the speakers and dripping in sweat.

3. What can people expect who attend the nights, in terms of the crowd, the music, and overall atmosphere?

BP - The crowd is mixed in just about every way, the music ranges from 90s R&B to contemporary top 40 hip-hop, to dancehall, trap, and bounce with a bit of Chutney and Soca in the mix....and the atmosphere is always fun, sweaty and sexy.

YYY - The crowd is very mixed in terms of age, gender, and ethnicity. For us it's always such a joy seeing this diverse cross-section of Toronto. The overall vibe and atmosphere is palpable, and pretty much the entire crowd is moving

and dancing up on each other.

4. What are some must play tunes that get the crowd grooving?

BP - Rihanna and Beyonce are sure fire crowd pleasers, and lately everyone is in love with the Coco. Also, Trap Queen and anything and everything Janet.

YYY - We go from trap house rap anthems to slow grind RnB to dancehall bangers. Of course the brand new Drake



Photo: BP

and the latest Vybz Kartel tunes are sure to get the gun fingers up.

5. Other than the main crew, have you ever had any guest DJ's, performances, or celebrities in attendance?

BP - Recent appearances include performers on the vanguard of queer hip-hop internationally, like Cakes Da Killa and Jay Boogie.

YYY - Bonjay, Yo Majesty, Skratch Bastid, Timberless, Bear Witness from a Tribe Called Red, and many others.

BIG PRIMPIN

First Friday Monthly - The Nest, 423 College St. W.

YES YES Y'ALL

Third Friday Monthly - Miss Thing's, 1279 Queen St. W.

Bryen is a guest writer in this issue.



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COMMUNITY BUZZPICKS

Vocal Rehab

Every Thursday, Elyse Douglas hosts Vocal Rehab Karaoke from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Come belt out a tune or three, and throw back a cocktail or.... six!

Thursday's - Crews & Tangos, 508 Church St. Toronto
www.crewsandtangos.com



Men's Ass Contest

Every Friday night it's all about the best ass in town. Hosted by Georgie Girl and Devine Darlin, with tunes by DJ Chris Steinbach. Show off your ass for cash!

Friday's - Woody's and Sailor, 467 Church St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/WoodysSailorToronto?rf=144063048969759

D.F.M.O. (Dance Floor Make Out)

Fall is here and there is a chill in the air, so get on our dance floor and find someone to get you hot! DJ John Caffery is spinning with a D.F.M.O. new comer, Pöny Pöny Pöny!!! \$5 Cover

October 16 - The Black Eagle Toronto, 457 Church St. Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/1060140987359969/



Forever 54

A night of all your favourite disco classics alongside some forgotten gems from the debaucherously over-the-top scene that was New York City in the late 70's and early 80's! \$5 Cover

October 16 - Zipperz Cellblock, 72 Carlton St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/493399830820408/

Sultry Saturdays: Reinvented

Grab one of the best cocktails Church Street has to offer and dance the night away with us each and every Saturday Night. From 11:00 p.m.

Saturday's - Byzantium - 499 Church St. Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/928622263857705/

Michelle Ross and Guest - The Early Show

Join the living legend, Michelle Ross, and her guest(s) each and every Saturday at Crews and Tangos from 6:30 to 8:30 for a show that will leave you hoarse from cheering.

Saturday's - Crews & Tangos, 508 Church St. Toronto
www.crewsandtangos.com

Don't Just Wing It, Wig It!

Come see your host Jada Hudson with special guests at Church St Garage. \$4 bar rail all night long with 1/2 Price Roaster Wings. From 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday's - Church Street Garage, 477 Church St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/378606918995845/

C.U.Next Tuesday

The incomparable talent of Donnarama takes over Statler's at 11:00 p.m. with a show like nothing you'd expect. Special guests, and surprise performances - a surprise for the hostess as well as the audience. It's a raucous good time!

Tuesday's - Statler's - 487 Church St. Toronto
www.statlers.ca

Loungevity

In the Cellblock it's The Toronto Wranglers from 7 to 10pm. In the front lounge, from 10pm to 1am, it's Loungevity with the talents of Mark Kersey and Zoey Adams. No Cover and daytime drink prices all night.

Wednesday's - Zipperz Cellblock, 72 Carlton St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/Zipperz?fref=ts

#TeamPearl

Season 7 RuPaul's Drag Race Runner-Up "Pearl" will be at Fly! She'll be serving two shows of her best eleganza and have a meet-and-greet for all of you kittens! 11:30 p.m.

October 30 - Fly 2.0, 6 Gloucester St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/1662530890627200/

CHARITY BUZZPICKS

Eat to the Beat

Willow Breast & Hereditary Cancer Support's annual fundraising gala, featuring Canada's finest female chefs all gathered in support of Willow's free programs and services. 7:00 p.m.

October 27 - Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. Toronto
www.eattothebeat.ca



LGBT Rock Placebo: Hallowe'en Edition

Musical performance show featuring local artists Sherry Sylvain, James Blonde, Amanie Illfaded and Thane. Dance to follow. Show starts at 8:00 p.m. \$5.00 cover to support Social Action For Equality.

October 30 - Placebo Space, 2877 Lakeshore Blvd. W., Toronto
www.facebook.com/safemeetup?fref=ts

Miss Demeanor presents Hallowe'en Bash in The Emerald City

Miss Demeanor presents the Imperial Court of the Waterfall Empire's Halloween Bash in the Emerald City in the Embassy Basement. Cocktails/Music at 9pm with show to follow at 9:30pm. Proceeds to benefit the charities of Reign 21

October 31 - Embassy Night Club, 54 King St. E., Hamilton
www.facebook.com/events/109676179383602/



Porridge for Parkinson's

A unique fundraiser for Parkinson's Disease that features a breakfast prepared and served by some of Toronto's celebrity chefs. All of the proceeds raised go to benefit research programs adjudicated through the Scientific Advisory Board of the Parkinson Society of Canada. 10:30 a.m.

November 8 - Vaughan Estates, 2075 Bayview Ave., Toronto
parkinson.netfirms.com/cno/porridge/



Annual Spaghetti Dinner (Buffalo)

Reign XXV of the Imperial Court of Buffalo cordially invites you to the Annual Spaghetti Dinner. \$10.00 for All You Can Eat Spaghetti! All proceeds benefit the charities of Reign XXV of the Imperial Court of Buffalo. 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

November 8 - Hamlin House Restaurant, 432 Franklin St., Buffalo, NY
www.facebook.com/events/903044313113427/

Shades of Purple

DJs, Drinks and Dancing all in support of Second Chances, an organization that assists battered women. In support of raising funds to open a new shelter. 9:00 p.m.

November 13 - Club 120, 120 Church Street, Toronto
www.eventbrite.com/e/shades-of-purple-ladies-night-in-support-of-second-chances-tickets-18372148591

Flashback Gala

Carole Pope and Lorraine Segato invite you to press rewind on your boombox and party to the sounds and styles of the 1980's at the third annual Flashback Gala! In support of the CLGA. Cocktails - 6:00 p.m. Dinner - 8:00 p.m. Dance - 10:00 p.m. Tickets - \$175.00 each

November 14 - Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St., Toronto
www.clga.ca/flashback-gala-1980s-mixtape

Hamilton Pride's Christmas Dinner and Dance Fundraiser

A fundraiser for Hamilton Pride - Cocktails 5:00 to 6:00, Four Course Dinner 6:30. Silent Auction, After Dinner Holiday Drag Show, and dance. Cash bar, Vegetarian option available.

December 5 - Crowne Plaza Hotel, 150 King St. E., Hamilton
www.facebook.com/events/1632478890337764/

GENERAL BUZZPICKS

PUNKtures Art Show

12 Toronto Artists Examine Punk Sensibulleties

Showing at the Steam Whistle Roundhouse

October 7 - 30th - Steam Whistle Roundhouse, 255 Bremner Blvd., Toronto

www.facebook.com/events/1646605965608613/

Queer and Trans Artists of Colour

Nia King celebrates her groundbreaking book QUEER AND TRANS ARTISTS OF COLOR, featuring special guests Vivek Shraya, Trish Salah and Kiley May! 8:00 p.m.

October 15 - Glad Day Bookshop, 598A Yonge St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/107047806314482/

Hardtwist 10: Memory

The tenth annual edition of the Gladstone Hotel's signature show of textile-based art explores the many and complex relationships between cloth and memory. Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Ongoing Through December 27 - Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen St. W., Toronto

www.gladstonehotel.com/spaces/hard-twist-10-memory/

Disrupting Queen Inclusion Book Launch

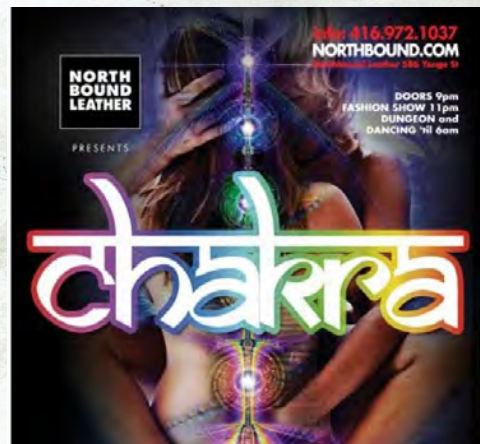
Glad Day Bookshop presents the Book Launch for OmiSoore H. Dryden and Suzanne Lenon's edited collection, Disrupting Queer Inclusion: Canadian Homonationalisms and the Politics of Belonging. (UBC Press) 8:00 p.m.

October 16 - Buddies In Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/1627614264122390/

Back To The Future Parts I & II Screening

Screenings of the acclaimed documentaries Back to the Future I and II at the Royal Cinema. Drinks will be served. Laughs will be shared.

October 21 - The Royal Cinema, 608 College St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/834788729934556/



Chakra: Northbound Leather's 19th Annual Fetish Fashion Show and Party

A fully loaded and DM'ed dungeon with classics like spanking benches and "other" things. Not your average fashion show, focusing more on the SHOW aspect. It's kinky performance art! With all night music and dancing. From 9:00 p.m.

October 24 - Phoenix Concert Theatre, 410 Sherbourne St., Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/794703603961756/

Lea Delaria Live at The Danforth Music Hall

Break out star of ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK, Lea DeLaria is back in Toronto with a brand spanking new show filled with her trademark fast, furious and funny comedy, and some of her tunes. Maggie Castella opens. 7:00 p.m.

October 31 - The Danforth Music Hall, 147 Danforth Ave., Toronto
www.ticketmaster.ca/event/10004F2D19A437FD



Zombie Prom

Celebrate All Hallows' Eve in style! Sexy corpses, dapper survivors, cute cadavers and HAZMAT tuxedos. Dress to impress or infect. From 9:00 p.m. \$30 Advance/ \$40 @ Door

October 31 - Palais Royale, 1601 Lakeshore Blvd. W., Toronto
www.eventbrite.ca/e/zombie-prom-halloween-2015-tickets-14314532151

GRACE's Hallowe'en Spooktacular

Wear your fiercest, scariest, hottest dance costume. Prizes for scariest and funkiest outfits!

\$15 at the door. 9:00 p.m.

October 31 - The Old Eton House, 710 Danforth Ave. Toronto
www.facebook.com/events/1672259949657266/

The River

English playwright Jez Butterworth's poetic follow-up to his international hit Jerusalem, receives its Canadian premiere with direction by Ted Dykstra. Starring David Ferry, Dani Kind and Jane Spidell.

November 1 - 22 - The Coal Mine Theatre, 798 Danforth Ave, Toronto
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2182183>



Hallow-Mania

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