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Torch Song Trilogy: the movie

Torch Song Trilogy New Line Cinema

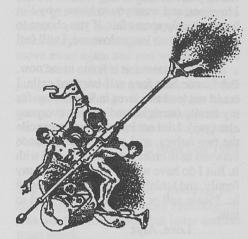
Starring: Harvey Fierstein Anne Bancroft Matthew Broderick Brian Kerwin

By Sarah Coy

The worst nightmares and the best dreams of every gay person are brought to life on the screen in the form of Torch Song Trilogy. Avoiding the pitfalls of conversion, Harvey Fiersteins's drama retains the vitality, realism and raw emotions that won it awards for its original stage version.

Fierstein's convincing acting is an essential element of Torch Song's success. The pain, joy and vulnerability of Arnold, who Fierstein also played on stage, is palpable throughtout the movie. Be prepared to take a roller coaster ride! From lonely soliloquies to the joys of reconciliation,

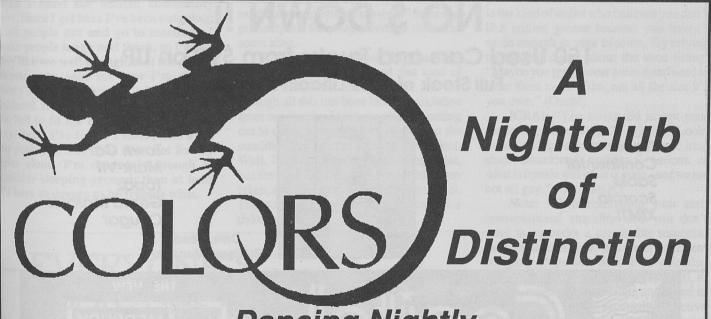
Arnold carries us through his life as a member of a dying breed - a New York City drag queen.



The movie spans the 1970's and ends in the early '80's. During this time Arnold, realizes that he needs to take care of his own

emotional health first and foremost. He becomes increasingly forthright in his demands for respect from his mother, played be Anne Bancroft, and for understanding from his lovers, played by Brian Kerwin and Matthew Broderick(!). Life spares this man nothing! He faces rejection, violence and utter loneliness and again and again his pride and commitment to himself as a gay man pulls him through.

Torch Song Trilogy is a must see for gay men and lesbians. You'll soon forget that you're in your home town theatre because this movie is completely uncensored in its depiction of the Greenwich Village gay male scene. The casual sex encounters that characterize the bar life clearly reveal the film's pre-AIDS origins. Sub-cultural jokes abound and the scattered laughs throughout the theatre will tell you with whom you share a common identity! Loss, fear, anger, rapture, hilarity- Torch Song has it all. And don't forget your Kleenex!



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