A New Show in Town



Sharon Randall (Producer-Coanchor), Barry Mitchel

BY SHARON RANDALL -

The New Year marked the beginning of Vermont's firs weekly L/G/B/T news T.V. show. The 30 minute program entitled, "The Vermont Rainbow Connection", is produced by Lav ender Visions Productions, Inc., (a non-profit 501(c)(3) organi zation), and is taped monthly by a crew of committed volunteers. "The Connection" will air over Public Access Channels throughout Vt.. Lake Champlain Cable Ch. 2 which includes Colchester, Milton and Georgia viewing areas will show the program on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 8:00 pm. (Ch. 2 will also air the show 6 more times throughout each month usually on the Tuesday following the regular Monday evening spots at, 2 am, 8 am, & 2 pm). The program will also be aired by Adelphia Cable which covers numerous cities throughout Vt. You may want to call Adelphia at (802) 658-3050 and ask them is you're in their viewing area and, if so, what day and time you can "catch the connection" (as of the writing of this article, we do not have the day & time information to pass on).

Although the format of "The Vermont Rainbow Connec tion" is simple, it remains effective. In addition to news and commentary, as well as a reminder of up-coming calendar of events in the L/G/B/T community, the program focuses on a variety of subjects from Youth to Spirituality, from HIV & AIDS to Family Issues and Pride Celebrations. The first program (which will air in Feb.) will feature an interview with Chris Moes, Editor of

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# Shopping for Salvation at the Compost Gallery in Hardwick

BY MICHAEL WOODHOUSE-

lights attracted me. As I strolled down Main St. in Hardwick I caught my reflection in a store front mirror surrounded by holiday lights The image of myself I beheld was one that a side show mirror might reflect than that of a legitimate boutique. I stepped back and took in the entire front of the building and noticed a decorated, albeit dead fir tree in a shopping cart placed in the other display window. Embossed across the glass were the words Shopping for Salvation. Aha, my favorite sort of store. I went on in.

I suppose the first thing that assails the unwary visitor entering "Shopping for Salvation", the newest offering at Compost Arts Center exhibition space, is the brightly painted walls, done in a vicious red. Is it to celebrate the season or was it used to agitate the spectator, like powder blue walls are used to calm the unruly mental patient. Although I prefer not to dwell on the space itself, this paint job is

Hardwick- I'll admit the unbelievable and adds to the overall effect.

The flyer advertising for submissions asked for the artists to imagine a second coming and bring appropriate gifts for the savior(open to interpretation)born in a trailer somewhere in the Northeast Kingdom. Although a few of the pieces, including Jo Billing's homemade clothes for Mary, Joseph and Jesus and a mysterious package which asks the viewer to make guesses on its content created by Patrick Kane, most strictly adhere to the calling, each piece can fit this description if only with the use of a little imagination.

Clifford Jackman's mixed media installation, "Hmm..." tastes like Almonds." is a still life of a quick death. The victim, of course is Santa. It features an overturned living room scene complete with broken T.V. playing those sickening holiday specials. When one investigates the crime scene closer you are able to ascertain the perpetrator is a disgruntled

youth who took his revenge after being denied a decent haul of gifts the previous year. The outline of Santa's body on the floor is particularly satisfying. An exquisite leaded glass quasi-grandfather clock, "Bomb Clock, designed and fabricated by Fred Varney dominates the show. Encrypted within its multi colored glass is a tableau of war and its aftermath. The slowly swinging pendulum creates an ominous doomsday effect. Well done. "Monopoly", by Jill Waxman, a monstrous Florentine needlepoint hung on the back wall is brilliant. The image of several strange humanoids playing a board game boggles the observer on a few levels, not withstanding the patience and effort required to create such detail and size with a medium such as yarn. Victor Huffs, beautifully macabre, "Afraid of the Hospital" depicts a cleverly created skeletal x-ray and seems to ask the question: Is this based on a bad experience? I will conclude this review with some advice. The first being, I highly recommend a visit to this festive, if not nauseatingly so, journey to the far end of a holiday greeting card gone wrong. The second, make sure to say hello to that handsome fellow reading in the back

"Shopping for Salvation" runs through February 14 at the Compost Exhibition Space, Main St., Hardwick. Hours are 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sat, and /or by appointment(472-9613).

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# february



iscussion Group, Brattleboro Area AIDS Project's Meeting Room, 67 Main St. 4th Floor Mario Cossa, director of Acting Out - a Keene-based young person's acting troupe, will facilitate a discussion examining gay identity &

Lesbian/Feminist/Activist Reunion, "Class of '75-'85". Come share your stories, archive out the restory 26 p.m., Contois Auditorium, Burlington City Hall. Call Crow 864 5595.



MONDAY

Gay/Lesbian Ballroom Dance, Montpelier. 3rd of 4 sessions. 6-7 p.m. Waltz and Foxtrot, 7-8 p.m. Tango and Mambo. No partner or experience needed. \$10 per person per hour. FMI call instructor Nancy Schulz 223-7035.

Self Defense/rape awareness workshop. First in a series of two three-hour classes sponsored by the Burlington Women's Council in cooperation with the Burlington Police Department. 6:30-9:30 at Fletcher Allen Hospital Campus in Burlington. Open to all women regardless of ability to pay. 865-7200

Women From Down Under - This is a collection of Lesbian Short Films from Australia....Monday Nights At The Rhombus Gallery 7:30-9:30 PM - Note NEW Times!! The Rhombus Gallery is located at the intersection of College & Church Sts., Burlington. 652-1103. Enter on College St. Gallery is on the second



TUESDAY

Social Alternative for Men meeting at 7:30 p.m. Call 649-3133 for directions and

The Peace & Justice Center presents Approaching the 21st Century: Energy

Needs and a Military Perspective, 7-9 p.m. a tragic accident set off a conflict between at Ira Allen Chapel, UVM, Burlington Dr. African-Americans and Hasidic Jews. 8 Helen Caldicott, Founder of Physicians for Social Responsibility and Women's Actions for Nuclear Disarmament, wil speak on electric restructuring in Vermont, nuclear power, and the US military budget and engagement policies.



FRIDAY

Peter Mind Liu will be speaking at Trinity College of Vermont on "Gender Role and Nonconformity in Youth: Research Implications for Clinical Intervention, Primary Prevention and Public Policy" as part of the college's 1997-98 Gender Development Symposium. 9-11 a.m. in McAuley Hall, Room 201 on the campus of Trinity College in Burlington. Free and open to the public. FMI: Jan Kenney 658-0337, ext. 297.

Trinity Repertory Company, "Fires in the Mirror" by Deavere Smith at the Flynn Theatre. A compelling account of the 1991 Crown Heights, Brooklyn incident in which p.m. Tickets: \$22.50, \$18.50, \$12. 863-

Pre-performance Discussion: Crown Heights, Brooklyn, and Other Identities at 6:30 p.m. at the Flynn Gallery, 147 Main St. Free. Leroy Nesbit, Jr., Esq., Special Assistant to the President of Middlebury College, will place in historical context the cultural and racial tensions that led up to the explosive Crown Height incident in

Opening reception at Phoenix Rising in Montpelier for a exhibition of landscapes by Elaine Parker, 5-7 p.m. Show runs through February 28. 229-0522

Opening Receptions for Fine Art Photo Exhibit "Scenes of Sensuousness", the work of fine art, fashion and beauty photographer Andres Aquino. 6-8 p.m., MoonBrook Cooperative Art Gallery, 24 Wales St., Rutland. Exhibit runs through March 3. 775-9548.



SUNDAY

Gender-Free Contradancing for gay men, lesbians, bisexuals & allies has come to Brattleboro. 8 p.m. Brattleboro School of Dance, upstairs 17 Elliot St. Admission \$5-\$7. This is a soft floor, so please bring clean, light-soled dance shoes or bare feet. Contact Howie Peterson 603-357-2200 (day) or 603-563-8085 (evening). Beginners welcome, arrive by 8 p.m. to receive instructions.

LISA McCormick at BURLINGTON COFFEEHOUSE/Rhombus Gallery, 186 College St., Burlington VT, 8 p.m., \$6, info: 802-864-5888.

Underwear party at The Edge in Rutland. 12 Merchants Row. Starts at 7.

Gender Role-Free Contra Dance for gay/ lesbian/bi/transgenders and friends - all welcome. Chris Ricciotti calling. 8:00-11:00 p.m. sliding scale admission \$5-7. Brattleboro School of Dance, 17 Elliot Street, Brattleboro VT no experience