

STARGAYZER

Celebrate the sensuous days of August by promising to wear as little as possible; Let's show the world how beautiful we are inside and Out. Every personal planet (Sun, Mars, Mercury and Venus) spend a good portion of their time in proudly confident Leo now. Move all plans on the front burner and bring to a boil, friends. Spice to taste.

ARIES

(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

School is out, but the planets demand that you follow the three "Rs" - romance, relaxation and revelry. (try it with a teacher....) Enjoy yourself gay Ram, but keep a beady eye on career shenanigans. Foggy Neptune regresses into Capricorn on the 24th which can make best laid professional plans as valuable as the paper it's scribbled on.

TAURUS

(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

August is opportune to explore family issues. Although heart and mind may not be in sync, it's possible to make some headway in even the most irksome areas. Compromise is not in the cards, cousin, so don't build bridges if they have a toll. Concentrate instead on home entertaining or, even better, home redecorating. Proud Bulls need a castle. Don't settle for a stable.

GEMINI

(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Charming Venus, feisty Mars and optimistic Sun give proud Twins amazing schmoose power this month. You can sugarcoat ultimatums and get what you want and need. (Retro Mercury asks if you know what you want and need.) Choose lovers wisely after the 24th; delusional Neptune can send you a naked troll on a silver platter. Are you that hungry??

CANCER

(JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Pink Crabs can make a few bucks this month when financial matters are pleasantly highlighted. Do your homework and listen carefully to sound advice so you can sock some extra funds away for a rainy day. Avariciousness alone won't make the grade, however cousin; it is a wise gay Crab that always considers partners their better half. Retro Neptune will remind you!

LEO

(JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Gay Lions require very little in the way of self confidence so why fight fate? Strut your stuff this month sweetheart and show the world why you are sooooo darn proud. One word of caution; Don't become too overbearing and demanding. You often call 'em as you see 'em, but is the wise Lion who uses Venus' velvety charming persuasion to get the iron point across.

VIRGO

(AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

If an idea pops into your mind from out of nowhere, entertain it. But don't follow it off a cliff because Mercury is, after all, retrograde and sends some mixed signals. Insure the good karma and channel the psychic static by volunteering for a worthy gay cause or by doing good gay deeds. Community service pays better than cheap and tawdry times this month, sorry to say.

LIBRA

(SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Rope a few friends in for a good time and if they need a sawbuck or two, what the hell. Sun, Venus and Mars conspire to put you in the center of the social set. I know that is exactly where you want to be! Queer Libras may hit a few snags at home or with family after the 24th when daffy Neptune turns the tables upside down. Who cares as long as you have proud pals.

SCORPIO

(OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Politico proud Scorps have their work cut out for them this August as every personal planet impacts career plans. Thank the Sun, Mars and Venus for making every bolt from Olympus a personal twist and shout. Retro Mercury coupled with retro Neptune makes you less than eloquent. How about hiding in your cubicle until after the 23rd? Better still, hide on Fire Island.

SAGITTARIUS

(NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Itchy feet? Traveling gay Archers are tempted to scratch them in faraway locales this August with the Sun, Mars and Venus. Why fight fate? Plan your itinerary, check it twice (paying homage to retro Mercury) and only spend what you can afford. If that means a weekend in Bayonne rather than the beach so be it. You'll find a little bit of magic in every squalid corner.

CAPRICORN

(DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Feisty proud Goats don't know what hit 'em this August when every personal planet is ready to heat the stove. Keep in mind that the urge to merge may take precedence over such minor things as your self respect. So if you find yourself baying at the moon and dressed in drafty lace, console yourself that as all things, this too shall pass. In the meantime, lie back and enjoy it.

AQUARIUS

(JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Humanistic Aqueerians are always ready to embrace a good gay cause. Who could imagine that the next good gay cause would be your personal happiness? The Sun, Mars and Venus are such yentas; trying to match you up with just about everybody! Why fight it? Let the pride parade begin! For those lucky souls who are already matched, start a raging fire.

PISCES

(FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Pink Fish don't feel like taking the summer off when prideful Sun, aggressive Mars and artful Venus hover in Leo. Whether you feel it's necessary to put your nose to the grindstone at work or workout like a maniac with some personal trainer, it's up to you. Get this overzealousness out of your system before the 24th. Then become a lazy slob like the rest of us.

--- the Cyber shark

by Miki Thomas

a monthly look at the internet & the web

Yes, yes, I know. I promised last month that I would have a column devoted to GLBT theater but I had problems finding any worthy web sites to review. What sites I did find were mostly promotional pieces for either theater troupes located in Los Angeles or New York or for books about gays in the theater. Unless someone wants to book a group, there wasn't much to report. So, I decided to focus on the next best thing: film.

As anyone familiar with Vito Russo's seminal book, *The Celluloid Closet*, can tell you, for good and for bad (lots of bad unfortunately) the GLBT community has been a huge presence in the world of film and not just in Hollywood either. The web offers plenty of resources for GLBT film buffs from fan sites to online catalogs.

www.glbtfilm.com

Individual films often have web sites created as part of a promotional campaign by their studios. Such sites usually feature film stills, video and audio samples, plot synopses, cast and crew biographies, and in some cases, contests where often the prize is a trip to a location featured prominently in the film. Recent films on the web include *The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love* (<http://www.fff.com/twogirls/index.htm>), *In and Out* (<http://www.inandout.com/>), *The Birdcage* (<http://www.mgmua/TheBirdcage/>) and the upcoming *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss* (<http://www.billykiss.com>).

Obviously, the studios are not interested in pushing older films with elaborate web sites. It takes time and money to create and maintain web pages for films they have out now. That is where the fan comes in. The web is chock full of fan sites devoted to favorite films and genres that are every bit as elaborate as anything a studio can put out.

Though some sites focus on only one film, many fan sites are devoted to a particular genre or subject matter. One of the best I found of the latter type just happens to be about lesbians in film called *Pink Movies* (<http://members.tripod.com/~kraeva/lesmovie.html>). The webmasters, Marina A. Kraeva and Elena G. Ilyina, have put together a listing of over 250 films that either are about lesbians or feature lesbian characters. Click on a film title and you get a synopsis of the film and an opportunity to give your two cents about it. You can also read what others feel about the film as well. As I worked my way through the site, I was amazed at the amount of work put into it. It is truly a labor of love.

Commercial sites often have entertainment features with interviews, film stills, and video and audio clips. Among the most elaborate sites I've encountered is PlanetOut's PopcornQ (<http://www.planetout.com/popcorn/>). It has what it calls "The First Online Queer Digital Film Festival," a series of audio and video clips of commercials, short films and trailers, many of which are fascinating for their camp value. It's my opinion that one has not truly lived till one sees the clip of Anita Bryant getting the pie in the face (it gets better with repeat viewing) or the trailer for one of my favorite Raquel Welch movies, *Kansas City Bomber*. However, you would need to download Realvideo to see and hear the clips. PopcornQ also has up to date movie news and a video catalog.

However, if your taste is more esoteric, Frameline Online (<http://www.frameline.org/>) is the site for you. Frameline is a non-profit organization that promotes, distributes, and funds GLBT films and videos. It is best known for its annual San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Their site features two catalogs, one for film and video rentals and another for video sales.

I do hope to someday write a column on GLBT theater resources on the web. But, I would need your help in doing so. If you know of a noteworthy site, let me know at gossamer@together.net. I'm especially interested in those sites that have a Vermont or general New England connection. You have my heartfelt thanks!

Editorial

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things in other locations people in Burlington will have a hard time getting there, many of whom do not have cars. Easy solutions include car pooling, and for those of us in Burlington to get out and see the rest of the state. Vermont is an awesome place with so many interesting places, those of us in the Burlington area are doing ourselves a disservice by not expanding our region of travel.

Race and ethnicity, of course, were the main area of conversation, but the issue only had its surfaced scratched. The issue is also one that the entire state needs to deal with.

Political affiliation is an area we didn't discuss but that has been brought to my attention that everyone in the GLBT community is not a "Leftist" like myself. I welcome opposing points of view and I encourage any person who wants to take on the issue of "Conservatism" in this paper. I certainly can't present conservative positions myself. I may not be conservative myself, but as you can tell by the writing about AIDSride, I do not censor people who's opinions I disagree with.

Then there are people with kids. Barb Dozetos, who does more than anyone realizes around OITM, talks about the difficulties that having a child imposes on her within the queer community. According to our own survey as many as a third of the respondents have kids. The easy solution is that we should provide child care at our meetings and events.

There are a great many other differences we share throughout this community. The dialogue that began at the Summit is an exciting one that I think will continue through meetings like that and hopefully through OITM. I welcome as much writing on the subject of celebrating our diversity as possible, the hardest part is getting over our fear of talking about it.

YOLANDA & the Plastic Family

"The drag musical community spawns its most intriguing performer since RuPaul in the form of wildly charismatic Vermont-based tunesmith

YOLANDA."

-Billboard Magazine, June 20, 1998.

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