

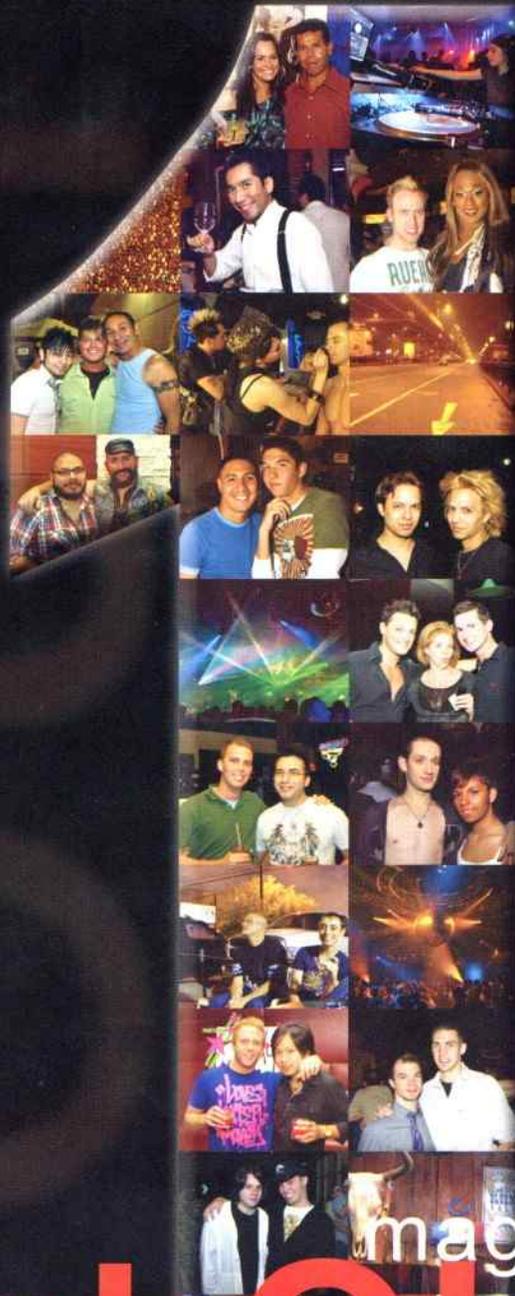
# FEATURE ARTICLE

LATIN GRAMMYS

GAVIN DEGRAW

WANDA SYKES +

DAVID ARCHULETA +



# magazine abOUT



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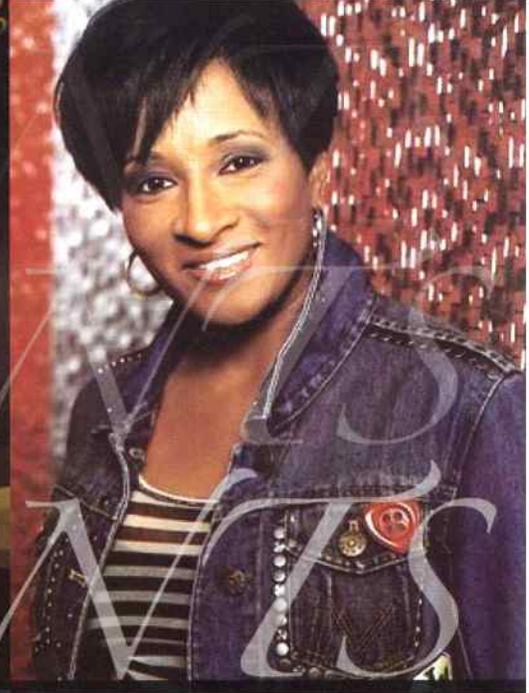
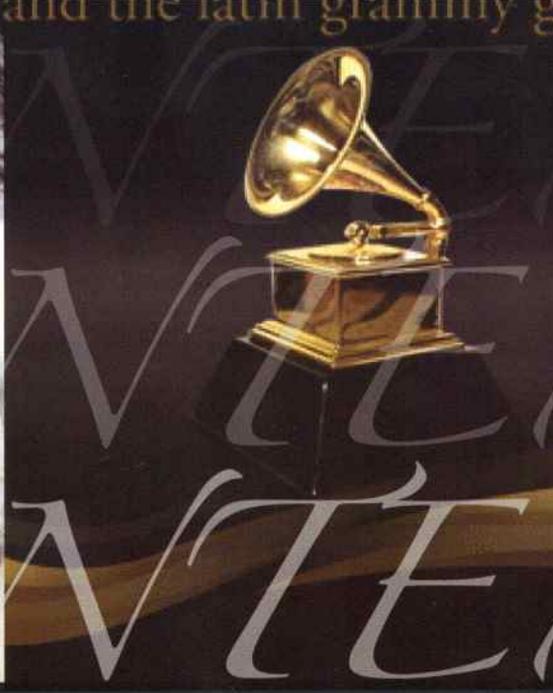
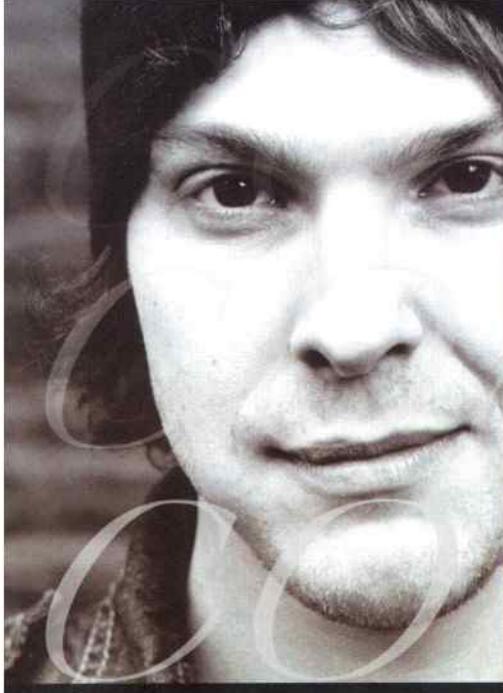
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*industry nights*  
EVERY MONDAY NIGHT

WEDNESDAY



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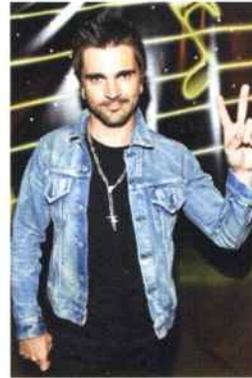
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9<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**LATIN GRAMMY**  
 November 13, 2008  
 8pm/7c - UNIVISION



Juanes  
 Photo: Rodrigo Varela/



La Mafia  
 Photo: Rodolfo Michel/



Kenny G  
 Photo: Rodrigo Varela



Gloria Estefan

HOUSTON TX - Colombian rock singer Juanes swept the Latin Grammys on November 13, tying up the top three categories for work from his album "La Vida ... Es Un Ratico."

Houston, which has a large Hispanic population, hosted the Latin Grammys with nominations embracing performers from Spain to Brazil and recognizing music as diverse as samba, alternative rock and tropical.

Much of the spotlight at the ninth annual event stayed on the black-clad Juanes, who goes by his single nickname. A darling of the Latin Grammy academy, Juanes won five awards, bringing his career total to 17 -- a record.

Juanes won for top record, top album and song of the year for his album, with a title that translates to "life is but a little moment."

"I'm happy with life, music, God, the academy," said Juanes, who the Houston Chronicle dubbed as "Latin America's answer to Bono," the activist frontman of Irish rock band U2, for the Colombian's pursuit of causes like land mine victims.

Singer-songwriter Kany Garcia of Puerto Rico, 25, won best new artist and for work from best female pop vocal album for her 2007 work, "Cualquier Dia."

Earlier in the week singer Gloria Estefan was named the Latin Grammy artist of 2008 -- the first woman to win the award. Estefan was one of the first Latin singers to break into the popular U.S. music scene during the 1980s with the Miami Sound Machine. ♣

Estefan praised Houston for its "great energy" and recalled -- seemingly fondly -- a performance in the fourth-largest U.S. city in 2004 when a male fan tried to pick her up and carry her offstage.

Houston's economy -- which had been shielded by high crude oil prices from broader U.S. financial woes but is now facing the strain of a plummeting oil market -- could see an extra \$25 million from the event, city officials said.

The event was broadcast live on the television network Univision, almost entirely in Spanish.

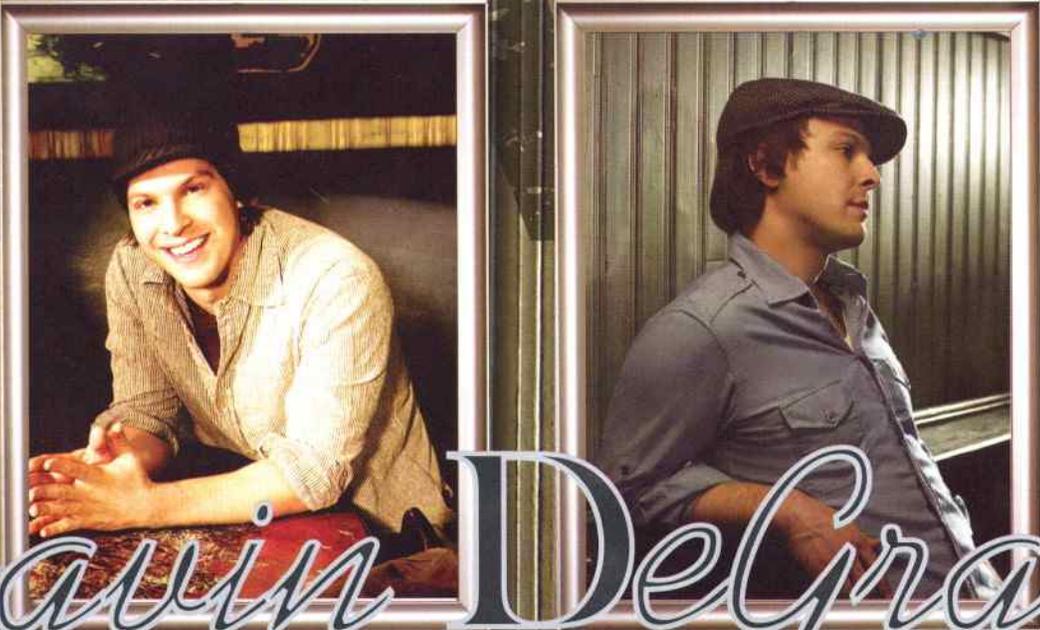
Mexican rock band Cafe Tacvba, which has been compared to the alt-rock band Radiohead, entered the evening with six nominations -- more than Juanes. The band went on to win two awards, including best rock song for "Esta Vez," a track from its rock concept album "Sino."

Faced backstage by reporters, many performers were eager to discuss the election of Barack Obama as the next U.S. president.

Early in the show, John Legend and Juanes sang "If You Are Out There," a song featured in some of Obama's campaign appearances.

"The timing is divine," R&B artist Legend told reporters, admitting that he had not sang in Spanish before, and that Juanes had helped him with his pronunciation. Juanes told reporters he would have voted for Obama if he was a U.S. citizen.

By: Bill Clevenger



# Gavin DeGraw

## AN INTERVIEW WITH

*Sitting in his London hotel room getting ready to head to his show at the Astoria, Gavin DeGraw sat down with abOUT Magazine for an exclusive interview about his touring, his new album and his KRBE Jingle Jam 2008 show that's approaching.*

Gavin DeGraw is a talent, who in just a few short years has become one of today's premier singer-songwriters. He's done it the old-fashioned way, on the merits of his creative abilities, perseverance and a healthy, homegrown perspective, establishing himself as a magnetic, new voice in music. Gavin DeGraw's new album, the self-titled *Gavin DeGraw* is a collection of songs that range from ballads to more guitar driven. "I really wanted to pay homage to my fans who helped me build the career I have while also giving them something with an edgier twist to it, and hopefully open myself up to a new group of fans as well, that weren't necessarily familiar with my last record." DeGraw says.

DeGraw will be one of the many headliners for KRBE's Jingle Jam which will be held at Toyota Center

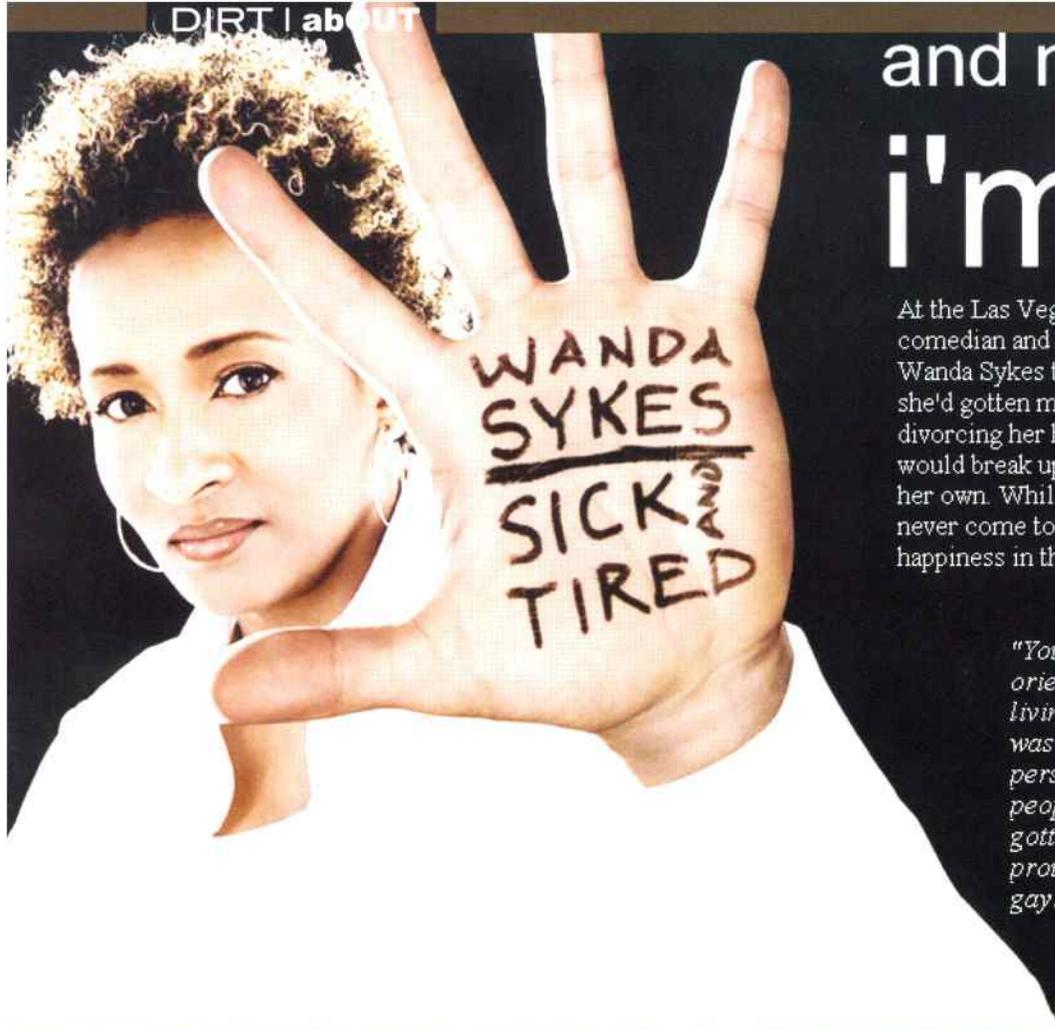
on December 7<sup>th</sup>. This will not be DeGraw's first Houston visit he recalls, "I've played in Houston a bunch of times. When I first started touring, we used to play at this place called The Engine Room that wasn't in the best part of town. It was always an adventure there! I'm looking forward to coming back to Houston and the good weather to play another show. KRBE has always been really good to me, so it will be nice to see some old friends"

Breaking through in 2003, with the release of his debut album, *Chariot*, which awakened music fans across the country to a charismatic, vibrant young artist who connected with audiences in a way other contemporary musicians did not. Selling over a million copies and earning platinum certification, *Chariot* yielded three hit singles – "I Don't Want To Be," "Follow Through," and the title-track, "Chariot." But it wasn't just the numbers that confirmed DeGraw's popularity. The song, "I Don't Want To Be," was chosen as the theme song for the hit TV show, "One Tree Hill."

Since 2003 DeGraw has been going strong, complete with a full touring schedule. "Touring is my life. Hopefully I will always be touring. It really allows me to see the world, and connect on a personal level with my fans who enjoy my music. Also, for me, when I play the songs out live, I get to relive them over and over, and often times they take on a new meaning to me too, which is a really cool feeling. ...I've really been to some amazing places. Obviously a lot of the European cities are very unique and amazing to spend time in (Copenhagen, Stockholm, Amsterdam, London to name a few, but the US has some real gems as well; New Orleans, Austin, Nashville and, South Fallsburg is my hometown, so I had to throw that in!" "It's funny because when I used to play in bars when I was younger, it would bug me sometimes if people would sing along. Then I thought to myself, 'What?!' That's when you know they appreciate what you're doing so much, they're willing to sacrifice their own self-consciousness to be in it with you. That's a great thing."

and now.....

# i'm GAY



At the Las Vegas rally for Proposition 8 on Nov 15, comedian and *Adventures of New Christine* ingenue Wanda Sykes told a massive crowd of onlookers that she'd gotten married on October 25...to a woman. After divorcing her husband in 1998, many had hoped Sykes would break up Larry David's marriage and claim him for her own. While it looks like that hilarious coupling will never come to pass, we wish the brilliant Sykes all the happiness in the world. Here's what she told the crowd:

*"You know, I don't really talk about my sexual orientation. I didn't feel like I had to. I was just living my life, not necessarily in the closet, but I was living my life...Everybody that knows me personally they know I'm gay. But that's the way people should be able to live their lives...Now, I gotta get in their face. I'm proud to be a woman. I'm proud to be a black woman, and I'm proud to be gay."* - Wanda Sykes

HOROSCOPES



## ARIES

Oh oh! It won't take much to make your usual high spirits sink like a stone and start trailing around your ankles today. What's wrong? Are you worried about something or someone, or are you feeling restricted by responsibilities and obligations that you can't get out of? Bear in mind that all your problems are looming large right now but that things are not nearly as bad as they seem. Try to gain a sense of perspective.



## LIBRA

You may experience a positive day because you are in the right frame of mind. Try to make the best of what you have to personally deal with. Sexually you should try a different position. The same old thing kind of gets boring after a while. Orgasm level probably 8 out of 10.



## TAURUS

You will feel difficulties in asserting your influence in leadership situations. You don't like being pushed around, but you feel clumsy taking the reins yourself. You will often be challenged to take a leading role, but lack of self-esteem can undermine your confidence.



## SCORPIO

The emotional temperature rises by several notches today, leading to some hot and heavy scenes. It's one of those days when things take on more significance than usual, making you prone to losing your temper or getting your knickers in a twist. This is especially likely if the tricks of someone close arouse your innate possessiveness or jealousy. Try to play it all down.



## GEMINI

Central for you in your personal evolution is the development of your learning and communicative abilities. This will be a first priority for you, and you will probably travel, read and study a great deal to widen your knowledge of the world. You have great professional abilities as a communicator, and these may manifest in the teaching profession or information industry.



## SAGITTARIUS

Okay, so there's only one more night left for you to spend celebrating. Does that mean you won't be able to relax and enjoy it? Oh, sure. Like you've ever had a problem letting go before, no matter where you were or who you were with. Hal! But speaking of problems, your worst one now will be deciding which wonderful invitation to accept -- poor, poor you!



## CANCER

Opportunities appear now if you keep your eyes and ears open. You can harmonize areas in your life that are discordant, and you can assert yourself with less resistance from the world around you. You have a feel for how to lead now, and you are sensitive to what you really want.



## CAPRICORN

During the coming fortnight it's important for you to think deeply about your current financial situation. Go through paperwork, and make sure you know what's happening and what is being done in your name. If you aren't certain about what to do for the best, pick the brains of a financial whizz, such as your bank manager or a clued-up friend.



## LEO

It is time to take responsibility for your own life and to define new goals, whilst you can send a strong signal to other people - friends in particular - that you can look after yourself. By rising to the challenges of the time, you can develop a strong inner feeling of self-satisfaction, based on the results that come from hard work and effort. You will be facing central issues concerned with identity and self-sufficiency.



## AQUARIUS

Spouting off opinions in all directions, you will be jumping onto the next point before companions have had a chance to absorb the main ideas. You could also be point scoring or trying to have the last word, which may not always go down too well. If you want more prominence, you're going to have to do things that draw other people's attention to you. So do what suits the influential people at work or out in your community. You won't fail to impress.



## VIRGO

The bond to your mother and family has a powerful influence on your development for good or ill, and some of the major developments in your life will arise in connection with the family. You instinctively know how important feelings are to your personal development. Some people may see you as over-emotional or sentimental, but you know how to provide a truly nurturing environment for others to grow in.



## PISCES

Today, you have a strong sense of values, and will tend to become powerfully attached to the things which are dear to you. With your fine appreciation of quality, and your determination to get value-for-money, you have a professional talent for dealing with banking, finances, material items and perhaps matters concerning houses and land.

# DAVID ARCHULETA

## David Archuleta Shows His Vocal Ranges on Debut Album

**'I tried to give as much as a variety as I could, just to show different sides,' David says of self-titled album.**

**by: Cade Michals**

Who recalls Peter from "The Brady Bunch" where his voice changes while the gang is recording a song? David Archuleta wishes that would happen to him, SOON!

"Well, I think my voice is getting lower — I'd like to think anyway," David recently said, while promoting his self-titled debut album. "It's actually a lot lower than it used to be, which is kind of funny, 'cause I don't exactly have the lowest voice. It's actually gotten a lot lower."

While competing on "American Idol" earlier this year, Archuleta became known for his ballads. But the "Idol" runner-up hopes that, on the album, he can show everyone he's not just some kid that sings sappy songs. "I'm 17; I'm still a teenager. I still really like pop and this is what I do, and I just wanted to show that I still wanted to be relatable to kids my own age," he said.

"There are actually a couple ballads on the album, and I tried to give as much as a variety as I could, just to show different sides," he continued. "If I did any more ballads, I didn't want to fall into that little

place where I [was] stuck on the show. I wanted to show that I'm not just Mr. Ballad. I'm 17 and I love music. Maybe in the future the music will mature as I mature."

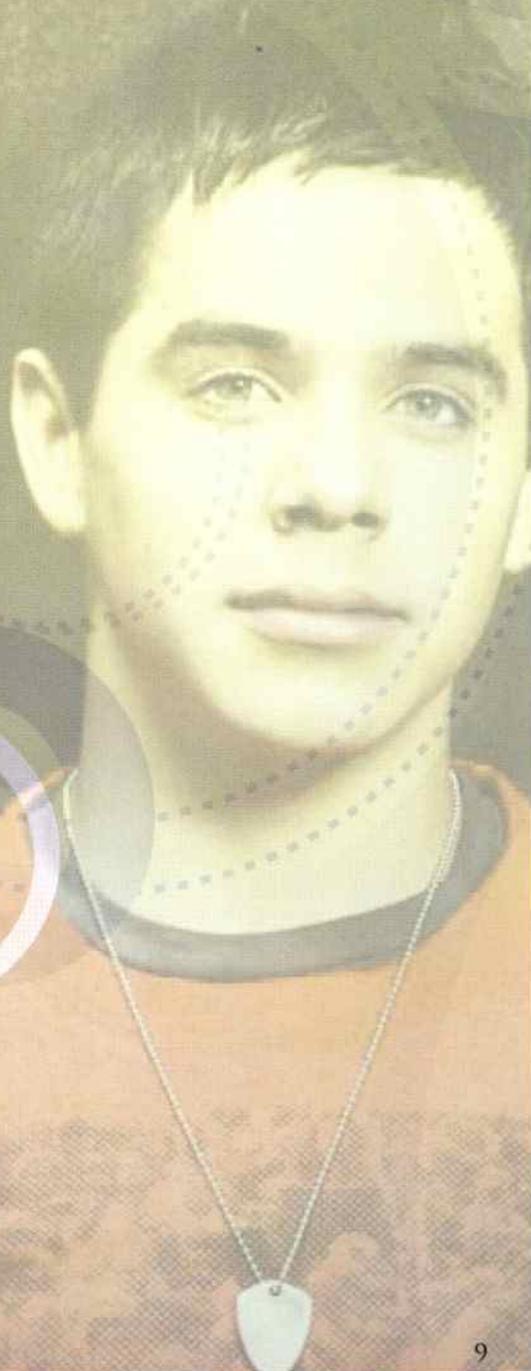
David also co-wrote two songs on the album, "Don't Let Go" (which he wrote with JC Chasez) and "A Little Too Not Over You." He said that recording a song he had a hand in crafting wasn't any more difficult than singing someone else's song, but it did allow him to have a better understanding of what he was singing about.

"There was a song called 'Don't Let Go,' and that was a lot of fun to record 'cause I really understood the song," he explained. " 'A Little Too Not Over You' was a fun collaboration. That one was a little more difficult to record, just because it was a little more rhythm and things going on with the song."

And unlike some other former "Idol" contestants who had post-show issues with their record labels, Archuleta insists things went quite smoothly for him. "The label was really good to work with, and they had some ideas, and I had some ideas too. We found a compromise, but they were really easygoing, and they were open to our ideas," he said. "They were really great."

David Archuleta rolls into Houston on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Toyota Center for KRBE's annual Jingle Jam 2008

For more information on this event go to [www.104krbe.com](http://www.104krbe.com)





## abOUT HIM

### Straight model sues gay magazine Genre over 'vulgar' photo

If anyone is thinking of drooling over beefcake Benjamin Massing, gay men should be warned. He's NOT Gay! The eight pack model is suing Genre and a New York based fashion photographer for bringing him unwanted male attention by publishing a "cruel and vulgar" picture of him nearly in the nude.

The published feature *only* listed his first name, where he lives and provided readers / viewers a online approach to reach Massing-which he claims subjected him, the lawsuit states, to advances from gay men who "solicit him for homosexual sex"

Attorney Liah Catanese for Massing says "He's not gay". Massing was pictured in the March/April issue of Genre, on a page that was filled with ads for gay chat lines and sexual toys. "It's definitely put him in a class where he's going to have difficulty obtaining contracts for family-related shows," Catanese said.

Massing, 20, posed for the shots last December, stripping down to a snug pair of gray briefs free-of-charge for lensman Rick Day. The invasion of privacy suit, filed in Manhattan Supreme Court, says Massing wanted the pictures for his portfolio - and never expected Day to peddle them to a magazine that made him look "lustful and sexually promiscuous."

The shots of Massing tugging on his shorts have since surfaced on numerous Web sites for gay men, where readers make gushing comments such as "Super sexy!" and "Love the hairy little legs ... yummie."

Massing has modeled for Estee Lauder, Abercrombie & Fitch and wore a pinstriped suit for a 2006 Playboy fashion spread on dapper college men. The suit, which seeks unspecified damages, says he has suffered humiliation and damage to his reputation as a result of the steamy pictures. "He had a promising career," Catanese said. "I hope he's able to undo any damage that this has done."

## abOUT her

### *Lesbian Television*

Showtime chairman and CEO Matthew C. Blank announced a spin-off of The L Word is in the works.

Though the spin-off is in very preliminary stages, Blank confirmed that series creator Ilene Chaiken is working on a new series that will star one of the current cast members. Further, he said that the series finale of The L Word will feature an open-ended storyline that will continue in some online iteration until the spin-off begins airing, and then will become part of the spin-off's narrative.

The L Word's final season is scheduled to air in early 2009.

### *Lesbian Health*

*A survey of more than 6,000 lesbian and bisexual women, by charity Stonewall, revealed many had never had a cervical smear, or a test for sexually transmitted diseases.*

Stonewall said that the survey results showed that lesbian and bisexual women were less likely to approach health professionals, and less likely to receive appropriate advice when they did.

Two thirds of those questioned by De Montfort University researchers said they had smoked at some point - a significantly higher proportion than women in the general population.

Lesbian and bisexual women were also five times more likely to have used recreational drugs.

The survey also suggested that mental health problems were far more common among lesbian and bisexual women.

One in five reported having harmed themselves during the past year, and 5% said they had tried to take their own lives - a much higher rate than in the general population.

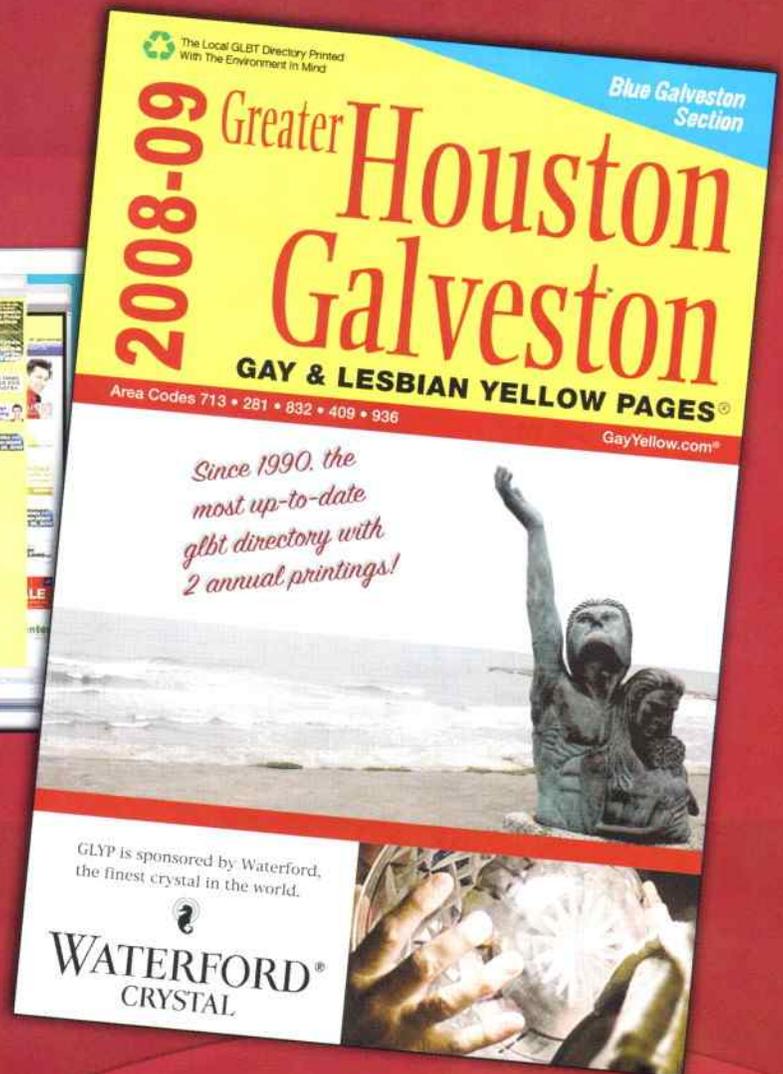
Lesbian and bisexual women have a significant risk of sexually-transmitted infection, but fewer than half had been tested in the past five years. Half of those tested were found to have an infection. However, 4% said that a healthcare worker had advised them they did not need a test.

BY SPENCER SCOTT

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## SUNDAY

**Third Coast Bar** in Galveston is "Sunday is Funday" on the seawall. Great place for a beachside mimosas **5PM**  
**Meteor's Lizard Lounge** - A Party for the Young at Heart **4PM**

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**Guava Lamp's** Service Industry Night (SIN) is now for EVERYONE! Enjoy Service Industry Prices at their best.

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## CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT AGREES TO HEAR PROP 8 CASE

By The Associated Press

(San Francisco, California) California's highest court agreed Wednesday to hear several legal challenges to the state's new ban on same-sex marriage but refused to allow gay couples to resume marrying before it rules.

The California Supreme Court accepted three lawsuits seeking to nullify Proposition 8, a voter-approved constitutional amendment that overruled the court's decision in May that legalized gay marriage.

All three cases claim the measure abridges the civil rights of a vulnerable minority group. They argue that voters alone did not have the authority to enact such a significant constitutional change.

As is its custom when it takes up cases, the court did not elaborate on its decision.

Along with the gay rights groups and local governments petitioning to overturn the ban, the measure's sponsors and Attorney General Jerry Brown had urged the Supreme Court to consider whether Proposition 8 passes legal muster.

The court directed Brown and lawyers for the Yes on 8 campaign to submit their arguments for why the ballot initiative should not be nullified by Dec. 19. It said lawyers for the plaintiffs, who include same-sex couples who did not wed before the election, must respond before Jan. 5. Oral arguments could be scheduled as early as March, according to court spokeswoman Lynn Holton.

Both opponents and supporters of Proposition 8 expressed confidence Wednesday that their arguments would prevail.

But they also agreed that the cases present the court's seven justices - six of whom voted to review the challenges - with complex questions that have few precedents in state case law.

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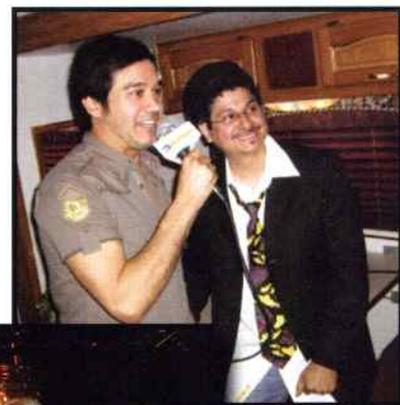
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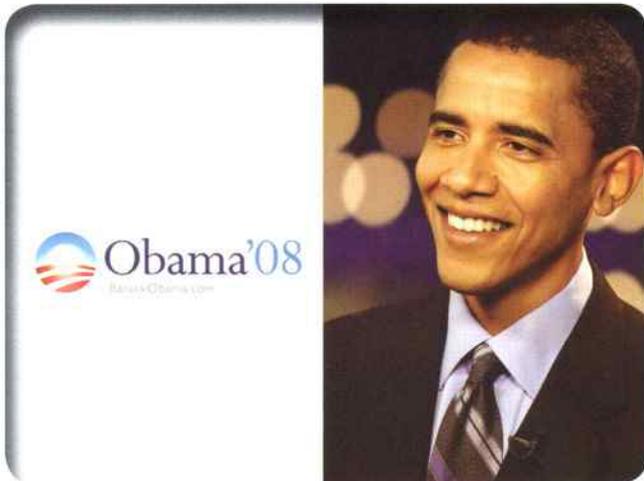
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# The Post Election Rundown



With less than 10 weeks to go until InaugurationDay, are expectations for Barack Obama's presidency impossibly high? Yes and no, according to an interesting Quinnipiac Poll released November 12th, which concluded-almost paradoxically-that voters think Obama really will make the country better, but won't necessarily do all that he promised he'd do during his campaign.

Specifically, 62% of respondents thought Obama would be a "great" or "good" president, while only 22% thought he'd be "so so" or "bad." 56% believe Obama will be able to "restore trust in government", and 70% expect the economy to be better by the end of Obama's first term. Respondents also expressed confidence that he would improve the nation's energy independence, give more people health care and make the government "work better". On the other hand, only 34% think Obama will be able to enact the tax cuts he has proposed, and they don't really expect him to govern from the center--52% call the president-elect a "liberal", while just 30% say he's "moderate".

Hopefully, the voters are not expecting a transition packed with kept promises. Keen observers have noticed that the issues pages of the official Obama-Biden transition Web site, [www.change.gov](http://www.change.gov), recently went missing and were replaced by a general statement of priorities. A spokesman for the Obama transition team, Nick Shapiro, who has been fielding inquiries about the disappearance, said that they are "retooling" the site, but did not elaborate further.

When it went live last week, the transition Web site included a detailed agenda section with pages for "Revitalizing the Economy", "Ending the War In Iraq", and "Providing Health Care for All", among others. Now those pages are nowhere to be found. Instead, clicking on the site's "Agenda" tab lead to the following statement:  
The Obama Administration has a comprehensive and

detailed agenda to carry out its policies. The principal priorities of the Obama Administration include: a plan to revive the economy, to fix our health care, education, and social security systems, to define a clear path to energy independence, to end the war in Iraq responsibly and finish our mission in Afghanistan, and to work with our allies to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon, among many other domestic and foreign policy objectives.

Notably the campaign promises of Barack Obama and Joe Biden continue to reside on their old campaign web site, which still includes a side-by-side comparison of Mr. Obama's policy proposals and those of Senator John McCain.

The scrubbing of the site, which the Obama transition team says is only temporary, has not escaped the notice of observant political bloggers who moved swiftly to archiver the original pages. And on the We site, [www.TechPresident.com](http://www.TechPresident.com) which covers the intersection of politics as the Internet, Michael Whitney asks: "Is this the first blow to Obama's pledge of government transparency, or something else?" Since we are dealing with politicians, we can only wonder.....

That points to a cautionary reminder for Mr. Obama and his team: the election turned partly on what they did right, but also on what Republicans have done wrong for the past 8 years. And there is no assurance that Democrats will confront a similarly star-crossed opposition in elections to come.

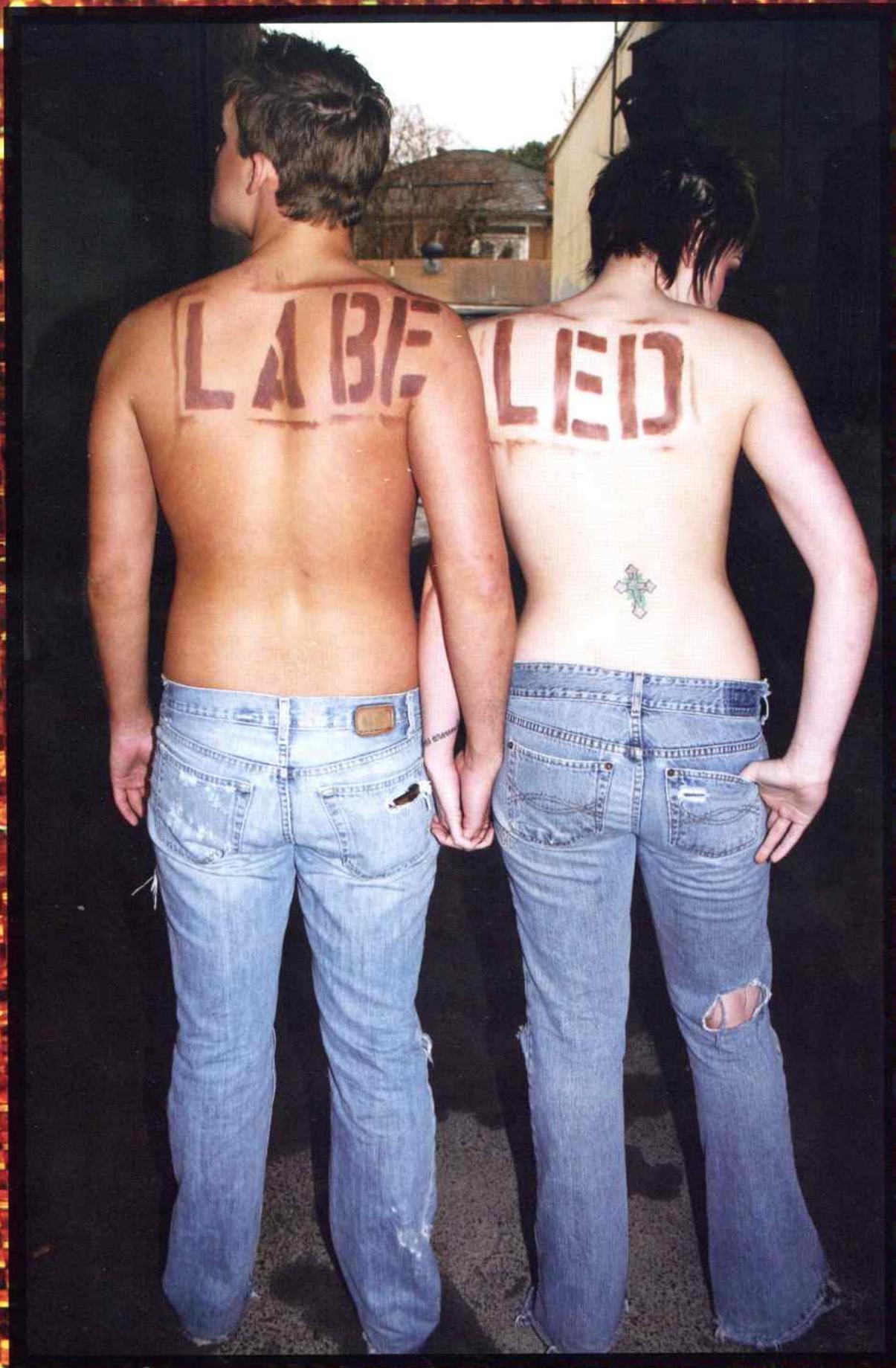
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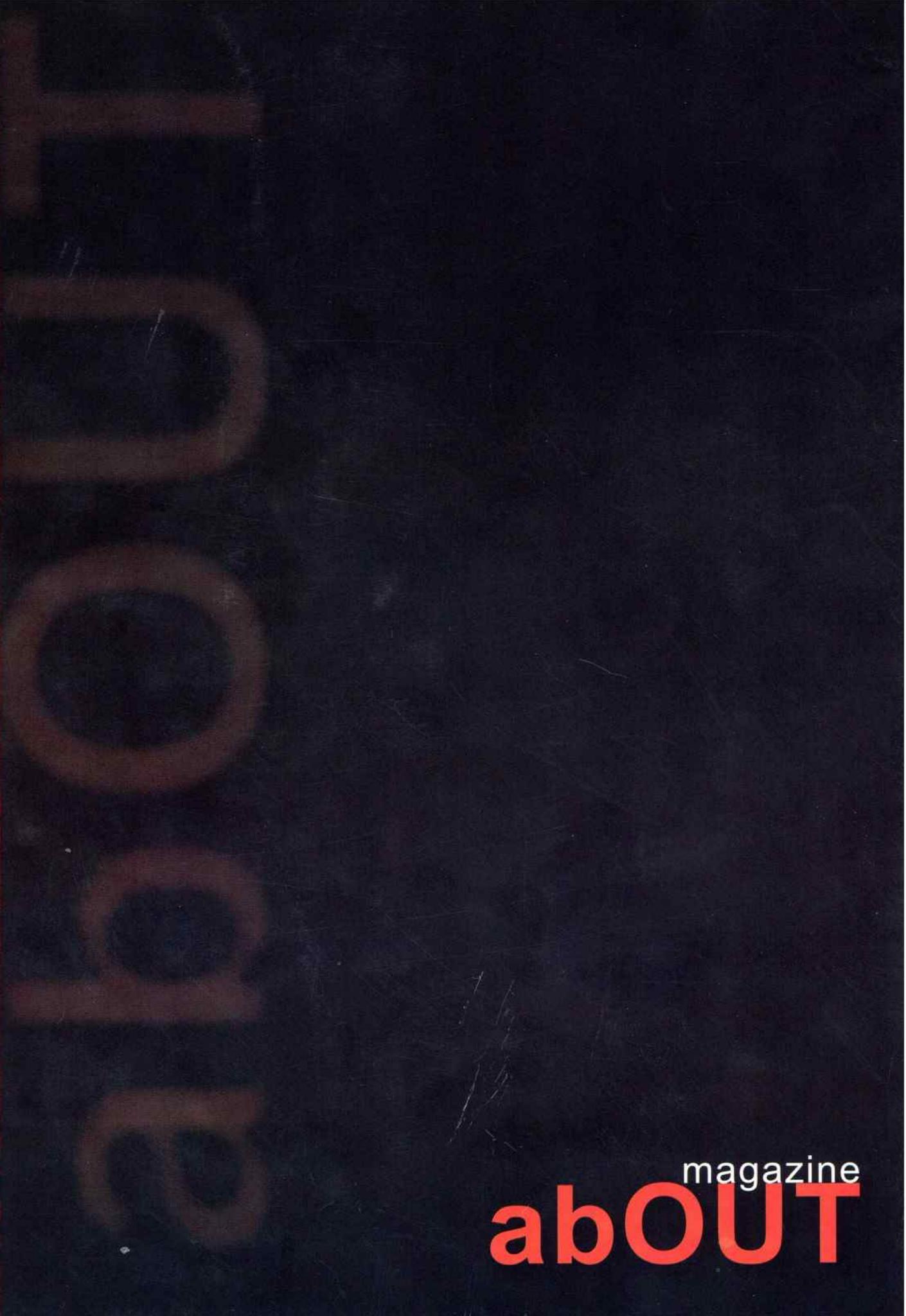
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