

Ciao!

THE WORLD
OF
GAY
TRAVEL

October 1973
\$3.00

FOR ADULTS ONLY
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The Gay Life In

- Los Angeles
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Travel Tips
Book Review
World News
Recipes
Picture Gallery





Ciao! THE WORLD OF GAY TRAVEL®

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Color credits: Front cover, Bruce of Los Angeles. Page 28, Dudley. Page 29, Sunshine Beach Club. Back cover, Dudley.

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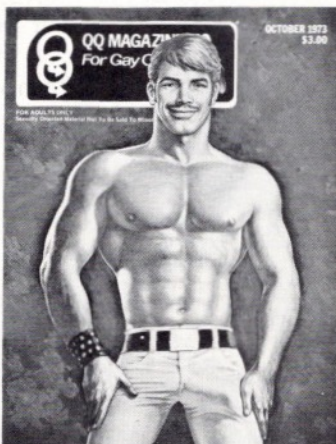
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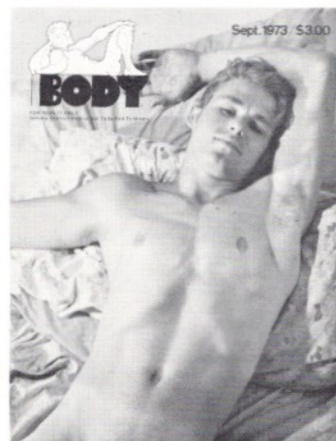
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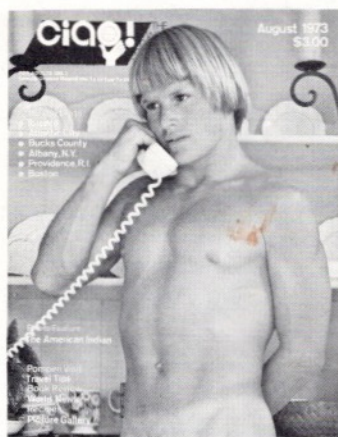
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Editorial

Our Expanding Sexual Horizons

By Jon Lorrimer

In summing up the majority opinion at the close of a recent *collegium sexualis*, a panel of America's most distinguished psychologists held that "the X-rated movie has proved to be the overwhelming social phenomenon of our time by creating a climate for a more mature attitude toward sex, not only in great cities already influenced to some degree by a somewhat more sophisticated European 'melting-pot' sexual ethic, but at the grass-roots level. It is something that could not have occurred so rapidly and with such a concerted drive in any other way."

An interesting sidelight of the colloquy was the opinion that "the heterosexual, far from abdicating his own basic sexstyle, has achieved a tolerance for homosexuals, and through such X-rated films and other media, has discovered such possible virtues in homosexuality that not to experiment with the total or holistic approach to sex from all these possible tangents is to miss out on something that could immeasurably enrich his life." Thus in drive-in theaters from coast to coast—from *The Boys In The Band* to *The Boys In The Sand*, and from *Deep Throat* to *The Green Door*, simple human curiosity about how the sexual 'other half' lives has caused heretofore unbending straights to first express an interest in, and then to test our way of life.

Naturally we want to cooperate, and to create sexual concord it is important to first gain the confidence of straights with free and casual good-fellowship . . . no hard sell. While the flamboyance of certain gay lifestyles does not—and possibly never will—relate to theirs, they find exciting flavors long missing from the recipes of their lives by mixing freely and casually with gay guys at gay discos . . . at parties that are gay

or mixed-to-gay . . . in being minority lookers-on at major performances in gay places . . . and—if they are conscious of their well-built bodies and proud of their super-male genitalia to at least a point of minimum narcissism—in gay baths, where their heroic equipment will be more appreciated than in staid heterotubs.

What is of even more importance is their mingling at 'on the verge' communities such as at Ocean Beach, just three miles from gay Cherry Grove on Fire Island. Here begins a striking, but quite orderly, transitional in gay thinking, orientation and experimentation . . . first the total straightness of Ocean Beach . . . then a gravitation to Fire Island Pines with its mixed but preponderantly elegant gay population . . . and thence, in the natural course of sexual curiosity, to the sudden whamminess of a Cherry Grove meat-rack roaring lustily with Saturday-night action. It's a challenge to a man's sexual thrust; one that many find hard to resist!

However, even if they don't go all the way, once a bond of genuine friendliness and respect has been forged through casual 'soft sell' or 'no sell' socialization, it's easy to have them in bed—usually as trade only. But often these hunky guys with the inquiring minds will want to make it mutual sex—even if only to test their reactions! What happens is not that a latent gay guy has been released, or a duality of sex established, but that in 'touching all bases' of the sex game he adds greater vitality to his own dominant heterosexuality.

There are also many gay guys who find straights a more exciting challenge, so they often vacation where straight guys predominate. Lake George Village in upstate New York is just such a happy hunting ground. Peopled 99% by horny straights who far outnumber the available girls, the gay guy has little difficulty scoring.

Sometimes the gay male seeks unisex or straight hippie communes where the inhabitants—vowing total sexual freedom—are instantly available. One of these is The Geysers, about 60 miles north of San Francisco.

Drive through Santa Rosa on U.S. 101 and you'll soon reach the town of Geyserville. Here road signs direct you to The Geysers. Around the turn of the century this was a fashionable spa for the rich who came for 'the cure' in the hot springs. The Geysers has lost its former glamour, but the Victorian-style bathhouses remain. It is now densely hippie.

Hippies come in camper-type vehicles or 'yoga buses' easily identifiable by their yoga and Zen signs. You may stay in a modern motel along the way and drive over to cruise during the day. The bathhouses are now integrated, and there is occasional sex. The area is a haven for swingers, and lots of terrific straights willing to make it camp along the river's edge.

While these have been but a few examples illustrating a rethinking of sexual approaches, we hope to report on more of them from time to time.

Castle of Dreams Bangkok's Legendary Oriental Hotel

By Frank Samuels

A Ciao! fan, delighted with our report on Japan's Festival of the Phallus (Volume 1, Number 1) asks, "While you are briefing your readers on orientalia, why not do a piece on Bangkok's fabulous Oriental Hotel? Surely anyone who lives for beauty and who grooves to exotic sex amid a riot of color will not want to miss this exciting place which is like something out of an oriental *Fantasia*." Of course he's right, and Ciao! hopes that any reader flying the Tokyo/Hong Kong vacation orbit this year will also elect to spend a few days in Thailand, particularly in Bangkok, and definitely at this legendary hotel.

Anyone who still thinks of Thailand as something out of *The King And I* via Yul Brynner, should reflect that the feudal kings of Siam are now a part of

history and that young with-it King Bhumibol—a Harvard graduate and a real jazz buff—has worked hard to update his country's image and bring it more contemporaneously into the near twenty-first century.

One of his notable achievements has wisely been to leave the Oriental Hotel in all its glorious original splendor—stone by untouched stone—inviting it to serve as a gracious facade for a magnificent new glass-and-steel building of wholly different, though wholly compatible, architecture. None of the color, the elegance or the period style of the Oriental has been changed. The great lobby is still serenely calm—a Sargasso Sea of white rattan in which a **pukka sahib** of Kipling's time would feel instantly at home, expecting—and getting—a gracious service of high tea at five in the afternoon, as indeed the great Kipling himself often did.

Since 1887 the Oriental has played host to great captains of industry . . . 'gentleman pirates' (it was, in fact, built with the piratical fortunes of two such men who—having achieved the respectability of great wealth—sought to build 'comfortable quarters for gentlemen of the sea') . . . smugglers of opium, and—even today—sellers, bidders and buyers of precious stones, particularly rubies. As a visitor to the Oriental you will likely be cajoled into buying "a genuine Burmese ruby, cheap." It will look truly genuine but make this test: dip it in alcohol and let it stay for a few moments. If the alcohol blushes an embarrassed pink you'll know how nearly you were had!

Great names in the world of art, literature and music stayed at the Oriental. Joseph Conrad wrote some of his greatest books here . . . Somerset Maugham brought his young lover here, and it was in his suite and at his table in the garden that he wrote the four stories to be later filmed as **Quartet**, that perennial screen classic that gave handsome Dirk Bogarde, championed by the great Maugham, his big chance in the films.

Here, too, Cyril Scott lived and composed some of his popular piano pieces. What gay pianist has

not reveled in Scott's **Lotus Land** . . . especially the 'rippy' section! The showy part of this piece comes when the pianist removes a silk handkerchief from his breast pocket, lays it fancifully across the black keys, and makes the **glissandi** with the backs of his hands so that there is no scuffing of skin or spilling of blood. It was Scott's young Siamese friend who gave him the idea. At an appropriate time in his frequent recitals in the Oriental Hotel (he was forever being asked to play **Lotus Land**) this beautiful boy would rise and drape a scarf of lavender silk across the keys to much 'ooh-ing and ah-ing' of his audience . . . sheer homodecadence. High camp—present at the creation!

Today, as throughout the entire Vietnamese war, the Oriental Hotel has been a dreamworld haven for gay soldiers who delight in coming to this peaceful oasis on 'R and R' periods to share their temporary freedom with an exciting young Thai. ("Thai for two" as the gaywaggag goes. Or, as another has it, "There's plenty of Bang and a lot of Kok in sexy old Bangkok.") There is . . . but there's a trick in finding out just where.



Oriental Hotel

Of course one really need not leave the Oriental to find someone interesting. The garden, lobby, grounds and riverfront on which the Oriental faces are all alive with handsome hustlers of

great elegance and sophistication. But if you like to work a little harder for your tricks—if there's a bit of the Klondike in you—you'll opt for the narrow lanes—mews, as they are Britannically called—back some distance from the hotel. What at first appears as only a maze of tiny passages is misleading. Venture inside and firecrackers of excitement are going off in all directions!

Everything! Little girls and beautiful nearly-nude boys practicing the traditional Thai dances (they'll come to New York and you'll pay upwards of \$10 to see them at a Broadway theater) . . . craftsmen making amazing things in bronze and copper . . . "expert massage boys," as they advertise themselves . . . porno-film actors (anything not pornoed in New York, Los Angeles or Sweden is filmed here!) . . . transvestites . . . monks in yellow robes . . . temple after temple burning fragrant incense . . . cruisers . . . and hustlers—rough/elegant, everywhere. **Ciao!** is giving fuller reportage on Thai sex-availability, but this may do for a starter.

Don't pass up this exciting place if you are doing the Asian thing this year. Book early at the Oriental. You'll be everlastingly sorry if you miss this one!

Philadelphia

By Ralph W. Davis

In an age of decaying tastes, Philadelphia remains a citadel of culture. This is not only made apparent by the city's numerous cultural activities, but also by an eagerness to preserve its historic landmarks with dignity. The "greene countrie towne" as it was called in William Penn's day may be gone, but the "towne" still lives in the area east of Broad Street and north and south of Market Street near the Delaware River. Here the traveler can visit the city's famous history-book shrines, as well as the old mansions and streets.

The shabby viaduct that was

CIAO!

once referred to as the "Chinese Wall" by most Philadelphians no longer carries trains into center city; in its place soars the imaginatively modern Penn Center complex of glass and steel. Nearby Rittenhouse Square, with its new apartment buildings and elegant old brownstones, may have the look of slightly fading gentility, but it still endures as the home of society and one of the places to dine or shop.

Gay guys will find this City of Brotherly Love not only interesting to tour, but also wide open to cruise. In a small area, all within walking distance, are enough bars and restaurants to satisfy most tastes.

West of Broad Street in the Rittenhouse Square area the bars and restaurants are:

Allegro, 1412 Spruce Street. This is one of the more popular bars with three floors and three bars. There is a game room, discotheque and a d.j. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8:30 p.m. a feature film is shown free. The music is continuous, and the light show good. Open Monday through Friday from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.; Saturday from 12 noon to 2 a.m. Closed Sunday. Sandwiches are served every Saturday for \$1 from about noon to 4 p.m. Good crowd.



Allegro

Miss P's, 418 S. 18th Street. Popular with transvestites who like to visit with their men. Dancing. Shows. Open from 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. I was told that if no one answers the door (usually locked), to turn the combination lock on the door from Roman Numeral IV to III, then to the left all the

way. This will either open the door or set off an alarm. Try it if the uncertainty excites you.



Miss P's

Westbury Bar, 271 S. 15th Street. The entrance is under the Bar sign and not through the hotel. Lunches are served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ask for Chuck. He serves great sandwiches. Open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Young crowd. Also some leather. Closed on Sunday.

Steps, 1526 Delancey Street. This is very popular with the young. There are three floors of jam-packed action. Discotheque with d.j. Sound and electric lights timed together. Continental cuisine. Hours every day from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday from 1 to 10 p.m. Shows.



Steps

247 Bar, 247 S. 17th Street. This is a western bar with ranch-type decor. I find this bar just a little too butch looking, and the true leather seems to prefer the Westbury. Leather crowd usually shows up after 11:30 p.m. Hot sandwiches are served from 11

a.m. to 9 p.m. Prices are from 35¢ to 70¢. Weekdays the hours are from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. and Saturdays from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. Closed Sunday.

Penrose Club, 1415 Locust Street (second floor). This is a private after-hours bar. You can always make contact with a member outside the bar or at another bar and get him to "sponsor" you. Yearly membership is \$2. Minimum on weekends is \$2. Back room is leather, front room is for dancing. Open from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m.

Dewey's, corner of S. 17th and Chancellor. Very popular late at night with the gays. This is just a typical hamburger and coffeetype place. The branch at S. 13th and Chancellor is also popular.

East of Broad Street the bars and restaurants are more abundant. They are:

Forrest Theatrical Lounge, 206 S. Quince Street. Here the attraction is the female impersonators. There is a \$3 minimum which goes toward two drinks on show nights. Shows are every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 10:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. Hours are from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Closed Sunday.

Foster House, 211 S. Quince Street. This bar-restaurant is popular with transvestites, hippies and way-out types. Five different rooms. Three bars. Pictures on the bar wall are of lovely looking nudes. Food starts at \$3.95 and is served from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Open daily except Sunday from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.



P.B.L.

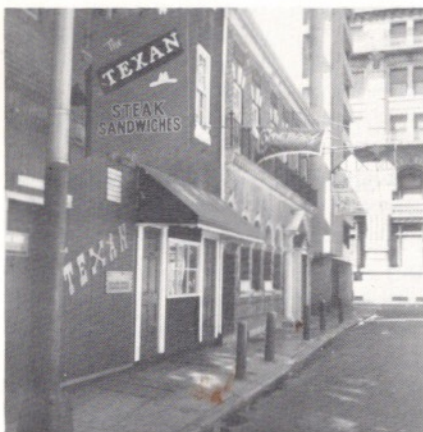
P.B.L., 204 S. Quince Street. This is another after-hours bar,

and like the Penrose, contact for entry can be made outside the bar or at another bar. Packed on weekends. Two floors. Private; same prices as Penrose.

Drury Lane, 1304 Drury Street (off 13th Street between Chestnut and Sansom). Very expensive. Open weekdays from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m. Sunday from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dining room is dressy. Bar is informal.



Drury Lane



Comeback

Comeback Bar and Restaurant, 1308 Drury Street. Very nice, conservative bar-restaurant. People can come here without having to brag about their latest trip or Bill Blass suit. The dining room is upstairs, and the brick walls and bar area are very nice, but I don't particularly like the poor copies of famous paintings. Reasonably priced and the food is good. Lunches (from about \$1.95 to \$3.50) are served from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is usually a mixed crowd for lunch. A nice place to take a straight friend for lunch. Brunch on Saturday costs about \$2.95 and is served from 1

to 3 p.m. The downstairs bar is open from 11:45 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily. Piano.

Maxine's Restaurant and Bar, 243 S. Camac Street (near Locust Street between 12th and 13th Streets). This is no longer a coat-and-tie bar-restaurant, but it does tend to be elegant. Good food. Prices \$3.95-\$7.95 for dinner; 5 to 11 p.m. daily. Piano. Sunday brunch \$1.75-\$2.75 from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday dinners from 5 to 9 p.m. from \$2.50 to \$3.75. Open daily from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday from 1 to 10 p.m.



Maxine's

Pirate Ship, 255 S. Camac Street. The name outside is **Venture Inn**, but it goes by the name of Pirate Ship. A very uninteresting crowd. Older, sordid type. Open from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Closed Sunday.



Pirate Ship

Midway, 256 S. 12th Street. Food is average. Prices \$3.25-\$5.95. Casual dress. Mixed gay crowd. Hours are from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily. Sunday from 1 to 10 p.m. Meals Sunday from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Other days from

5:30 to 11 p.m. No dancing.



Midway

Parker Hotel Bar, 13th and Spruce Streets. The bar is popular on Sunday afternoon only. Mixed crowd (gay and straight).

Club 13 (sometimes called the **Hideaway Club**), 13th and Locust Streets. Mixed crowd—all types from straights to transvestites to hustlers. Dancing. A fairly heavy black crowd. The same crowd goes to the **R.D.**, also at 13th and Locust Streets. The **Ritz Bar**, on the corner of N. 13th and Commerce Streets (half a block from Market Street) seems to be mainly black. Crowds are sometimes rough.



Club 13

Two bars, away from town, are:

Attic Bar, 5708 Germantown Avenue. This isn't the best area, consequently the bar isn't very popular. It is, though, a nice bar. It is done up like an attic with brick and plaster walls and shutters. Open from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Second floor.

C/R Bar, 6405 Market Street. Local bar in a nice area. Open

from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily except Sunday. Dancing.

BATHS

The only baths in the Philadelphia area is the **Club Baths**, 1498 Broadway, Camden, N.J. It is private and has the usual \$5 per year, \$3 per month membership fee. Identification with name plus address and signature is necessary for obtaining membership card, which is good at all Club Baths in the country. Rooms are \$6; lockers \$4. Free beer and pizza every Tuesday. The usual facilities.

MOVIES

Movie admission \$5. The two theaters are the **Art Cinema**, 1903 Market Street, and **Arch Street Cinema**, 1308 Arch Street. The usual gay-type movies. Very little groping. Strictly movies.

BOOK STORE

The **Adult Book Store**, 942 Market Street (second floor). A good selection of gay books, magazines, etc. Watch those steps!

OUTDOOR CRUISING

League Island Park at night, near the Philadelphia Navy Yard is the place for Navy men. But it is rough. So be careful.

S. Broad and Spruce Streets is the corner for hustlers.

Rittenhouse Square, inside the park during the summer.

The **'Merry-Go-Round'** is also popular during the summer. This is the area from 20th and Spruce to 21st and Spruce to Delancey and 21st to 20th and Delancey and then to 20th and Spruce Streets.



'Merry-Go-Round'

On **Spruce from 12th Street to the 'Merry-Go-Round'** is also good for car cruising and walking.

Penn Center (at the skating rink) is cruisy during the day and sometimes at night.

GAY SWITCHBOARD

If problems arise that need special attention, call the **Gay Switchboard** from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. daily. The telephone number is 978-5700. A variety of services are offered, from personal advice to medical referrals.

Philadelphia may be growing and modernizing . . . stepping away even further from that once "greene countrie towne" look of William Penn's day, but it still manages to retain a quaintness and charm which makes this City of Brotherly Love something special for gay guys to visit.

The recent Supreme Court ruling re: obscenity/pornography is forcing some porno bookshops and movie theatres to close. All the listings in CIAO! are updated as we go to press—but since police raids are a daily occurrence it is likely that several places discussed in this issue have been closed since publication.

Vancouver/ Victoria

By **Jerry Roberts
& David Bartel**

If you are foregoing high-priced Europe this year in favor of doing Canada from coast to coast, you'll probably want to begin your tour at the Atlantic maritime provinces and then go on to Quebec, Montreal and Toronto. Once you've played the happy hedonist in these Elysian fields to your heart's content—sampling the special flavors of each, as were detailed in previous issues of **Ciao!**—you may decide to press your luck still more . . . going farther toward the Pacific in the belief that everything 'west' will be coming up sexual roses. Unhappily you will find the pickin's so few and far between, that by the time you

reach Vancouver your tongue will be hanging out from nearly 3000 miles of sexual drought.

Don't let this dismay you, however. You, and hundreds of your gay brothers who have done the very same thing, are in for a delightful surprise. While at first you may think that—like the lemmings—you have come to beat your collective heads on the rocks of still another sexless western town, you'll bask instead in the warmth of a welcome so cordially gay, in a city so clean and beautiful and sexually palpitating, you'll wonder why on earth you saved Vancouver for last!



Vancouver

This gleaming, colorful city of the North has so many super-plus things going for it, one is hard put to choose a starting point in enumerating them all. With a population now nearing the one-million mark—she is the third largest in Canada—Vancouver is surely the cleanest city in North America. Air pollution, for example, is a term her citizens know about only from seeing televised pictures of New York City and Los Angeles engulfed in impenetrable smog.

Vancouver's climate is mild to temperate the year around, making a visit here anytime a total pleasure. While there is a rainy season during the months of November through January—with sometimes a bridal veil of light snow—temperatures rarely drop below 40 in winter, and even in February spring flowers begin to poke their pretty heads out with insatiable curiosity about summer.

The city is set off like a jewel on mountain-fringed Burrard Inlet, and if gay visitors with a sporting instinct will—in addition to phallus, poppers and pot—bring along rod 'n reel, bow and arrow and/or yachting cap, you'll find

great hunting, fishing and boating here. On the other hand, if your sport is cruising you'll find yourself at home—and spectacularly so!—in Stanley Park, a 1000-acre recreation area within a few minutes' drive from the downtown business section. More about this terrific place later.

Looking contemporaneously to the future as she looks fondly back to her frontier days—and as proud of her Indian genesis as she is of her noble British ancestry—Vancouver is steeped in culture. Each year in June her International Festival of Arts draws world-famous performers appearing individually and in concert with the crack Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Also the City Museum displays a fine collection of Indian artifacts, and the Art Gallery specializes in works by Canadians.

The first-time (indeed anytime) visitor here will be thrilled by the breathtaking chairlift ride of 30 minutes up Grouse Mountain that culminates in a heartstopping view of the city below and its great harbor. Then too, the Capilano Suspension Bridge in North Vancouver soars 230 feet above its rushing river in a nature preserve of huge Douglas firs and totem poles—an 'Indian Christmas' the whole year long.

VANCOUVER'S 'UNIQUITIES'

For gays especially, a unique plus of Vancouver is the non-harassment of our brothers. It may sound impossibly Utopian, but the managers of the city's gay clubs work cooperatively with the Vancouver police in maintaining a kind of 'let's live together' *modus vivendi*, or "don't come on like *The French Connection* and we won't play rough."

First, Vancouver's unusual gay clubs need special comment since their successful operation as an important part of Vancouver's gay life hinges on a devious but scrupulous adherence to the city's liquor laws. You must be 19 to enter a gay club, a gay baths (yes, the city recognizes that baths are run principally for gay people), or to buy a drink in a bar or pub. Bars and pubs open around noon and close at 1 a.m., remaining closed on Sunday, at which time

the only way one can get a drink is to have it served with food in a restaurant.

On the other hand, gay clubs stay open much later because they are social clubs that do not sell liquor or beer. How can such a place exist at all, then? An intriguing question. The answer is that gay clubs are run by gay, non-underworld-affiliated guys who have outside jobs, who are most sympathetic to other gays (there is a wonderful feeling of genuine gay brotherhood in Vancouver), and who really don't expect to do much more than break even on such an operation. Here's how this ingenious scheme works:

An admission fee of \$2 is charged, and that's every penny you pay for the entire evening. You bring your own bottle of liquor or a six-pack of beer and check it with the man behind the bar. He then writes your name on the bottle of liquor, or gives you a ticket for each bottle/container of beer you have brought. Then as you need refreshment you simply order a drink from your bottle, or surrender one of your beer tickets. Thus you and the owner have fully complied with the law. Neither has he sold, nor have you bought spirits in his establishment.

Odd as it may seem, there are decided advantages to this quirky subterfuge (you're really winking not at, but with the law!). It makes drinking far less expensive than it would be at a commercial bar or pub—gay or straight—and your bottle of liquor or beer ticket makes an effective 'calling card'. It's just good Canadian hospitality to offer anyone a drink at any time in a Canadian bar, but in a Vancouver gay club, with an attractive number seemingly 'drink-less', 'bottle-less', or 'ticket-less', what could be more neighborly than to offer to share your cornucopia with him? It is a far more effective get-acquainted approach than asking him for a match or the 'time of night'.

Tip: if you don't want to drag along a bottle of hooch in your shoulder bag, or tote a six-pack of beer—preferring to do as much outdoor cruising as possible before you enter a gay club—you can buy 'last-minute' beer at just

slightly more than retail price at the **Ambassador Bar** (quite gay), 733 Seymour Street, or the **Puss 'n Boots Pub** (partly, often very gay), 750 Granville Street. Both places are in easy walking distance of all except one of the gay clubs. Also they are at the hub of day-and-night gay action in Vancouver. As for liquor, it can be purchased only in stores licensed by the government. The liquor store nearest the gay clubs is at 755 Davie Street, quite close by.

BRASHLY GAY

Another of Vancouver's 'uniquities' is its youth-orientation. It is often called 'Canada's California' in that it draws a tremendous migrant youth population—more than any other city in Canada.

Possibly one reason for this, other than the city's warm hospitality to everyone—particularly the young—is its enormous outdoor space for sleeping/camping. With 14 miles of beautiful beaches, surrounding high, snow-clad mountain peaks, and its thousands of acres of beautiful park sites, handsome young Canadian guys by the hundreds (lots of gorgeous gay guys) descend on Vancouver throughout the year, particularly in summer. They simply unroll their sleeping bags and set the sex scene right away. Or else they stay in one of Vancouver's youth hostels. The city, in essence, is geared for youth. The police are most understanding and helpful. Also, to make things merrier, there are more than 20 discotheques for the young . . . each with its own rock group!

It must be said that guys from Seattle and Portland—whose own extensive gay life and expansive hospitality are legendary—like to spend weekends in Vancouver just for a change in sexual scenery.

HIPPILY GAY

Another plus for Vancouver is its young hippie population which swings to its own individual beat in a section of the city called Gastown. Gastown is quite unlike such hard-drug areas as San Francisco's Hashbury, or New York's East Village (although Vancouver quite definitely has its own drug problem, like every other

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large city).

The entire area is fascinating—very attractive, with lots of interesting shops and boutiques, good inexpensive restaurants, pubs and night clubs. Everything! It is situated along Water Street, and along East Cordova Street from Cambie Street, four blocks east to Carroll Street. Along these streets youthful musicians play their guitars and sing, and the area is a marketplace for arts and handcrafts. The favorite hippie pub in the Gastown section is the **Gastown Inn**. Always crowded with young people—lots of gay people, guys 'n gals. The huge **Spaghetti Factory** restaurant at 55 Water Street is crowded with them.



Gastown Inn



The Old Spaghetti Factory

GAILY CHINESE

Possibly one reason for Gastown's color and excitement is its proximity to Vancouver's Chinatown—the third largest (after San Francisco and New York) in North America. Located a few blocks east of Gastown on Pender Street, and extending for several blocks on Main Street, here are fantastic shops filled with beautiful Oriental things. And there are many excellent Chinese restaurants here as well. There are lots of gay Chinese in Vancouver. You've never seen anything like them. Gorgeous!

If you have sustained the impression from our words of en-

thusiasm that Vancouver is an absolute paradise in every respect, let us tell you forthwith that it has its seamy side . . . Granville Street south from Georgia Street for about five blocks. Some call it the Times Square of Vancouver and it is filled with dope addicts, pushers, prostitutes, some stray hippies who are somewhat too hard-core for Gastown and who pace the street from end to end begging 'spare change'. Moreover, anyone who looks even remotely gay on this street is a hustler. Lots of sharky, piranha types. Watch out!



Hustlers: Granville & Georgia

And so having given you a brief topographical and sociological introduction to Vancouver, here are the gay places that color this handsome, sparkling-clean, bouncy northwest city and give it a special life and verve.

OUTDOOR CRUISING

Stanley Park, located on the tip of West End Vancouver, compares favorably with the Bois de Boulogne and New York's Central Park. Its 1000 acres of beautiful gardens, rambling paths, many trails, its aquarium and display of authentic Indian totem poles, plus its expanse of thick, wooded terrain make it the Number One choice for outdoor cruising.



Sunset Beach Area

Begin your tour at **Sunset Beach** and go northwesterly to Stanley Park by way of **English**

Bay Beach. It's madly cruised during the day but never at night . . . too risky. Although Vancouver has never heard of air-pollution, it most certainly knows the full sinister meaning of the word 'mugging'.

The most active area in this great park is **Lee's Trail** . . . a quite picturesque footpath through the very tall trees. All along the Trail are places for action in the dense forest on either side. It is not marked by signs (or rather you won't find it so marked) because every time the signs are replaced gay guys filch them as souvenirs of a delirious sexual outing! However, you can easily find it. The Trail starts on the far side of the asphalt road behind the **Second Beach** snack bar. It's about a two-mile walk from the center of West End Vancouver and can be reached on foot by following any of the cruisy paths along the beach, starting at Sunset Beach and going northwestward to Stanley Park.



Lee's Trail

Another excellent area for outdoor cruising at **night** (after you have worked Lee's Trail all day) is **along the paths from Sunset Beach Park northwestward to English Bay Beach**, a walk of less than a mile. What makes it of even greater interest is that a number of gay guys live in the high-rise apartments facing the beach. Cruising is virtually non-stop from early evening until dawn. It goes on every day, no matter the weather. To reach this area on foot from West End Vancouver, walk along Burrard Avenue until you reach Beach Avenue . . . then one block along Beach Avenue until you arrive at the starting point, which is Sunset Beach.

Start your walk northwesterly along the path near the beach. The large rectangular parking lot

and beach house at Sunset Beach are not particularly cruisy, but look around just the same. You'll often find gay guys clustered along the grass here. Continue walking northwesterly along the beach path and you will arrive at **Crystal Pool**, 1490 Beach Avenue, an indoor pool open all year long. Since this is a very cruisy spot, stop for a while. Heavy cruising in the evenings until dawn behind the pool building, and in the curved parking lot . . . much action! This area is very safe. Little action inside the building, however.



Crystal Pool

From Crystal Pool continue still northwesterly along the beach until you reach **English Bay Boathouse**, keeping your eyes moving from side to side so as not to miss a possible trick. Cruising is terrific in the **men's room** during the day, and **on top of the boathouse** at street level at all times.



English Bay Boathouse Men's Room

In a very special and interesting way cruising is great on **Second Beach** in Stanley Park, mentioned earlier, along with directions on how to reach it. However, to orientate you a little more exactly, let's say it's just **behind Lee's Trail**. All along Beach Avenue which overlooks the park gay guys sit alone or in pairs on the big pine logs that have been washed up. An eternal vigil . . . waiting for a new friend to come along. Additionally, this is a favorite

place for young guys to pitch their sleeping gear and set up gay 'housekeeping' . . . and lots of swimmers crowd the beach during the day. You'll want to come here often . . . the whole area is so peaceful and quiet and there's just fantastically great sex all the time.



Cruising the Pine Logs

NUDE SUNBATHING

The University of British Columbia campus is situated on a bluff overlooking English Bay and the Strait of Georgia. Steep rugged paths lead down to **Wreck Beach** where nude sunbathing is communal. Gay guys have their own section. To get there take a No. 10 bus from Granville Street in downtown Vancouver. Get off at the Western Forest Products building . . . just a little past the totem poles.



Parking at Wreck Beach

While we are on the subject of higher education, may we recommend that you see **Simon Fraser University** on Barnaby Mountain. An architectural wonder, this ultra-modern university is of modular construction so that it can be easily moved!

BACK DOWNTOWN

All scenic places just described, major hotels, restaurants, bars, pubs, discotheques, movies and gay clubs are in downtown West End Vancouver on streets that run northwest and northeast and

are within easy walking distance, although this may be a mile in a few cases. For gay guys, Georgia Street is the principal northwest street and Granville the principal northeast street. Seymour and Richard Streets, where many gay clubs and baths are located, are next to, and run parallel with, Granville Street. Vancouver is easy to get around in, and with a map of the city streets you'll have no trouble at all.



Georgia Street



Granville Street

WHERE TO STAY



Pacific Youth Hostel

The YMCA, several good inexpensive hotels, as well as many

CIAO!

first-class hotels and motels are within easy walking distance of the gay spots. The airport bus (\$2) deposits you near, or right at the door of all the principal hotels. Beginning with the 'youngest' and least expensive, the **Pacific Youth Hostel**, 535 Homer Street sleeps and feeds very young travelers—and for free, if you qualify for rock-bottom Welfare standards. They even give you some pocket money! Now how's that for hospitality? Three floors. Supposedly no entry after 11 p.m. But lots of fun according to gay guys who have made the scene.

The **YMCA**, 955 Burrard Street. Three floors . . . \$5 single, \$9 double. Oddly this Y is not as active as others elsewhere.



YMCA

The **Castle Hotel**, 750 Granville Street. An excellent, clean, comfortable small hotel. Single \$7.50 and \$11 for a double. There are lots of hustlers in the lobby . . . but nice ones. No sharks, no piranhas. This hotel is closest to the gay clubs, and the Puss 'n Boots and Ambassador Pub are adjacent (the Ambassador is right behind . . . Puss is just next door). Highly recommended.



Castle Hotel

The **Ambassador Hotel**, with its adjoining Bar, is similar to the Castle, but somewhat quieter. Singles \$5.50—twin doubles \$8. A good buy.

The **Dorris Howe Motel**, 1060 Howe Street, is a first-class motel

with a cordial welcome for gay guys. This motel, by the way, is headquarters for gay people attending the wildly gay **Coronation Ball** held each year in March—Vancouver's Mardi Gras—to select the Czar and Empress of Vancouver.

More expensive and wholly luxurious are the **Hotel Georgia**, 801 West Georgia Street. Temperature control in every room, and there's an electric blanket furnished (just dandy for warming up a cold trick). Highly recommended at \$24 single. Also the **Hotel Vancouver**, Vancouver's largest. Rates about \$20 to \$37 a day. Medium-priced is the **Grosvenor Hotel**, 840 Howe Street at about \$14 to \$18 per day.

INDOOR CRUISING

The **johns** on the fourth floor, and—to a lesser extent—those on the second and sixteenth floors of the **Hudson Bay Store** at the corner of Georgia and Granville. Ver-r-ry active!



Hudson Bay Store

Also much cruising on the ferry from Vancouver to Victoria.

The **Castle Hotel** lobby, previously mentioned, which is not only cruisy itself, but has a vantage point. You can see what's going on from the street. Also the **Greyhound Bus Station** on Dunsmuir and Cambie Streets—usual cruising of its own genre.



Greyhound Bus Station

GAY CLUBS

There are six of these. The entry fee is about \$1 weekdays and \$2 weekends. In addition to the information about BYOB, let us say that soft drinks and coffee are available at about 25¢ each. There is dancing at all the gay clubs, and the clientele differs somewhat in each according to sexual tastes/preferences and lifestyles . . . leather, hippie, western, chicken. It's easy to connect in any gay club.

Faces, 795 Seymour Street, is hippie-head oriented. It has the best rock discotheque sound of all the gay clubs. Bisexuals and lesbians in minority numbers come here also. There are no chairs or tables . . . the walls are pine with a number of pictures. One sits on the floor or on the long bench in the rear. Packed with gay guys every night . . . they're really nice, too. Age group 19-25. Young gay guys own the place. Open every night . . . jammed Friday and Saturday. A wonderfully relaxed atmosphere and highly recommended for all.



Faces

Playpen, 1369 Richards Street. Leather club, and home of the Border Riders, a gay bike group. The Playpen is just for gay men, no gals or drags allowed. Age range 20-45. Although leather is not insistently worn, one is typed by wearing a Playpen T-shirt—cost \$2. John and Jim are the friendly owners and sex is 'subtly' emphasized by a wildly flashing colored light panel that goes SEX . . . SEX . . . SEX! There's also a dark back room where you can practice your sex technique rather than discuss the theory of it. And in the john a waist-high mirror helps you appreciate all the more the mysteries of group sex. The principal area is a long rectangular room with a big dance floor in the cen-

ter and a 55-foot bar. Not many chairs . . . it's a 'circulating' bar. Many dress in jeans, without underwear, so as not to miss a single quick moment. Over 300 come here on Saturday nights, and the Playpen beer tickets are good at the Corral Club, and vice versa. Bikers come from the United States regularly. Open Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 p.m. until very late. Entry fee \$1.50 Friday and Saturday and just 75¢ Thursday and Sunday. Not to be missed if this is your trip.



Playpen



Corral Club

The **Corral Club**, 887 Seymour Street. Western. Emphasis is on Western dress. Home of the Knights of Malta, a leather-levi social club. The club sponsors a Mr. Cowboy contest each year. Branches of the Knights of Malta in Portland and Seattle come up here often. The same, or nearly the same, type of gay guy comes here as to the Playpen.

The friendly owner is Bruce, usually at the door. Spatially it is the largest of the gay clubs, having a huge dance floor and bar, plus pool table and shuffleboard in the rear in the games room, plus a smaller back room for action. Seven days . . . 75¢ during the week and \$1.50 on Friday and Saturday. The club opens at 4 p.m. on Friday/Saturday, and at 8 p.m. on other days. You're typed with a lovely black T-shirt

with **CORRAL CLUB** superimposed in big white letters . . . \$3 for this deal.

B.J.'s, 339 West Pender Street. Biggest and best drag shows in the Northwest. Really a nightclub/show club. Couples and friends who sit in a darkened area at one of the many tables. Well-dressed crowd, age range about 19-30, although older gay guys are quite numerous. Some girls. Not terribly cruisy. Brian, one of the owners is the disc jockey. Jim is the other owner. Friday and Saturday from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Entry \$2.50. Very nice place, and obviously a place where drags congregate.



B.J.'s

Charlie's, 612 Davie Street. Nightclub style . . . large dance floor in the center, surrounded by tables and white cloths. Jukebox. Drag show weekends at 2 a.m. Much like the crowd at B.J.'s. A few hustlers. Some girls. Every day but Sunday . . . \$2 Friday and Saturday, \$1 weekdays.



Charlie's

Hampton Court, 1066 Seymour Street, is for the very young. Boys, straight . . . boys, gay . . . gay girls . . . boys/girls . . . drags—even sex changes! The club is a reconverted warehouse that was opened last April. A big room, many tables, lots of dancing space all powered by a jukebox. The decor is feudal; along the lines of an English castle—knights' shields and swords along the walls. Has

at times featured go-go boys and rock groups. The boys are easy to meet . . . a friendly beer will do the trick. From 10 p.m. nightly, \$2 on weekends, \$1 during the week.



Hampton Court

The **Thunderbird Club**, 856 Seymour Street, is Vancouver's only gay cabaret. Perhaps 'was' is the more correct word since it is now closed and the opening date is in doubt. Still, by the time you get to Vancouver it may be swinging again. Check.



Thunderbird

GAY RESTAURANT



616 Club

The **616 Club**, 616 Robson Street, is Vancouver's only gay restaurant. It is the only gay spot where one can buy beer or liquor on Sunday because it serves food—a legal requirement. It is more of a social club than for cruising, and it is popular with mature well-dressed gay guys who want to eat, drink, talk and dance! The Club is planning a Sunday smörgåsbord. Inexpensive drinks during the

'happy hour'. The Club opened in April 1973 and it has rapidly grown in popularity.

A large, well-furnished, carpeted square room lit by candles, with tables for 4-8. Large dance floor. A most relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. Food is excellent and inexpensive, with the prices only \$1.50 to \$3.75 (for steak!). Wonderful sandwiches.

AFTER-HOURS RESTAURANTS

K.G.'s, 1277 Robson Street and **Bino's Pancake House Restaurant**, 1143 Davie Street. While neither is directionally gay, gay guys come here for breakfast after camping it up at the gay clubs. K.G.'s exacts a cover charge of \$1 late at night. Service is slow. Bino's also has a few hustlers. Both open 24 hours.



K.G.'s



Bino's Pancake House Restaurant

GAY ORGANIZATIONS

The **Business Guild** is composed of the owners of all gay enterprises in Vancouver. They meet to discuss mutual problems and discuss ways to make gay life a bit easier for us all. A very forward-thrusting group with some great ideas.

Gay People Together, 1148 Thurlow Street (No. 33), meets every Saturday night at 8 for conversation. Run by Ray and Orvis, its rap thrust is an alternative to the bar scene.

Gay Alliance Toward Equality
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(GATE), is Vancouver's Gay Lib group. This brave group has picketed various spots which refused to serve gay people. It's active in politics where gay rights are involved. Formed in June 1971 it has about 50 members. The address is Box 6572, Station B, Vancouver 8, B.C. Telephone 681-4768.

The **Canadian Gay Activists Alliance (CGAA)** has a 24-hour phone service—685-4850—for the counseling of gay people. The address: Station A, Vancouver, B.C.

The **University of British Columbia**, mentioned earlier, has a gay group called the **Gay People of U.B.C.** which meets regularly in the Union Building on the University campus.

SEX TOYS

Ultra Love, 1150 Davie Street has a sex boutique, with interesting vibrators, toys and porno-books.

POPPERS/POT

Amyl nitrite is legal and can be obtained without prescription in British Columbia, unlike sophisticated New York. Try the drug-stores, the gay clubs. No problem. Hash and pot are smoked with some frequency in clubs and bars. Again, no real problem has developed in this respect.

MOVIE THEATER

X-rated heterofilms are shown at the **Kitten Theatre**, 1026 Granville Street. The john is cruised.



Kitten Theatre

GAY PRESS

Gay hippies, and those not gay, have their own paper, **Georgia Straight**. It's sold by them on the streets and is Canada's best hippie journal. It lists all the pop concerts at the Coliseum, and gives news of interest to all of

this life persuasion.

GAY BATHS

There are six baths of interest to gay guys in Vancouver, and all except Dino's are open 24 hours. Four are private gay clubs charging a small membership fee to visitors, and two are public and mostly gay. All are equally active and clean. Some gays alternate from one to another. In all honesty one can't say that one bath is better than another. It's just a matter of individual preference. All are jammed Friday/Saturday evenings . . . many sleep overnight. There is real friendliness and courtesy here. You'll like any of them.

Richards Street Service Club, 1169 Richards Street. The best-known to gay guys who have visited Vancouver. Wet steam room, TV lounge, 30 private rooms. Membership fee is \$1 for visitors; \$3 for a room on weekdays and \$4 on weekends for 24 hours.



Richards Street Service Club

The **Taurus Spa**, 1233 Hornby Street, is the place favored by the very young gay crowd. Extremely popular. Membership fee \$2. About 30 private rooms, plus complete bath facilities.



Taurus Spa

Adonis Health Club, 1055 Seymour Street, is Vancouver's newest baths. Features 22 private rooms, sauna, shower, color TV lounge. Carpeted halls. Mem-

bership \$1 . . . rates \$2.50 for weekdays and \$3.50 weekends. Nice, friendly, young staff.



Adonis Health Club

Nu-West Steam Baths, at 533 Front Street, is in New Westminster, just outside Vancouver. Wet steam, gym facilities and 25 nice rooms. A relaxed, pleasant atmosphere, it attracts those big farmer studs from nearby Fraser Valley . . . and students. It's often far wilder than other baths. The membership fee is \$2 . . . \$2.50 fee for 12 hours.

Dino's Vancouver Turkish Bath at 744 West Hastings Street is a public baths and the only one in the heart of the business district. Small heated pool, wet/dry steam rooms, plus 30 private rooms. Open 24 hours and the weekday rates are \$2.50 for a room and \$2 for a locker.

Drake Steam Baths, 636 Drake Street, is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. On Friday and Saturday it's open 24 hours. A public baths with 15 rooms and a sauna. Massage is \$6 and rooms \$2.75 on weekends. Not quite as popular as the others with gays.



Drake Steam Baths

The Quest Bath, 334 West Pender Street (next to B.M.'s Club) is scheduled to open this fall. Check, if you go.

GAY BARS/PUBS

The Ambassador Pub is the one

most interesting to gays. From opening time at 11 a.m. till midnight closing it's really active. The big gay rush is from 5-7 and later in the evening. Midafternoons are also good. A large carpeted room with lots of open cruising and an occasional embrace. The waiters are friendly. The Canadian custom of sending over a beer to someone who looks interesting works well here. Young hustlers here in the late afternoon and early evening. The hunky guys come in just before making the gay clubs. Fun and recommended highly.



Ambassador Pub/Hotel

Puss 'n Boots, 750 Granville Street, is the only other pub where gay guys congregate. Noon opening; 1 a.m. closing. It's now about 50% gay (gays are being discouraged). Not much activity during the day. Rock music. Good food, and if you don't find what you want at Puss, the back door leads to the Ambassador Pub just behind.



Puss 'n Boots

If we do not list other gay bars and pubs it's because there really are none worth mentioning. All that have the slightest gay atmosphere are so strongly lesbianic now, or so hippily introverted that the place has little or no meaning for active gay guys. When you reason that with terrific gay places like the special clubs, just described, where the only snag (if any) is in just bringing in

your own potables, and where there is every kind of sex and gay lifestyle one could possibly want, there would seem little reason for anyone to prefer a gay bar/pub, as would be the case in other cities.

So, with that rundown on what's cooking in Vancouver, may we invite you to visit Victoria, at least for a day, on your trip to Vancouver? Just to have the famous high tea at the **Hotel Empress**—a silver service, no less—like the Connaught Hotel in London, is to make your visit up here all the more memorable.

VICTORIA

The trip to Victoria is made by bus (or car, if you drive) and boat. The entire journey takes something more than three hours, half of which is spent on the boat, the rest on bus, or in car. The large and spacious ferry takes both you and your bus or car. You can make it an overnight stay, or come back the same day. A one-day round-trip will give you plenty of opportunity to explore this beautiful smaller city, the capital of British Columbia.



Ferry to Victoria



Victoria: Parliament

One should not go to Victoria with the idea that it is a swinging gay town. It's not, although there are lots of gay people there. It is the historic spots, the stately homes and the 30-acre Burchard Gardens 13 miles from Victoria that are the high point of any

CIAO!

visit here.

You should stay, if possible, at the huge, stately **Empress Hotel** on Government Street, near the Parliament Buildings. It's expensive, but so unlike any other hotel in North America—and so very much like the great hotels of London in Victoria's time—you'll find it a total delight. The rates are \$25 single and \$35 for a twin double. That fabulous silver-service high tea served midafternoon every day in the British tradition is \$1.75, including more cakes than you'll ever eat, and sandwiches so delicious you'll willingly forego any dinner, no matter how gourmet-inspired is the food!



Empress Hotel

Less expensive is the **Douglas Hotel**, 1405 Douglas Street. The rates are \$6 single; \$7 double . . . no bath in the room. A bath is available at a higher rate.



Causeway & Tourist Office John



Churchill Hotel

Outdoor cruising in Victoria is pretty much contained . . . the area is **Causeway Walk** by the
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waterfront along the **Empress Hotel**. The **john** under the Tourist Office next to the Esso Station at the far end of the Causeway Walk is generally cruisy. **Gay bars** are not explicitly so . . . gay guys, however, just 'know'. These are the **Churchill Bar**, 1140 Government Street, in the **Churchill Hotel** and the **Old Forge Bar**, 919 Douglas Street—in the **Strathcona Hotel**. The cruising here is of the discreet and very elegant type. Nothing very overt. The **Bengal Room** of the Empress gets the upper-income, very gay young crowd. And, believe it or not, **gay dances** are held every Saturday in **Columbus Hall** at 743 Fort Street!

So as you see, not everything is 'sobersides' in this handsome but conservative British-by-preference city. You will find it advantageous, when planning a day—or longer—visit to Victoria, to inquire about other gay places while you are in Vancouver. After all, things happen—and change—more often than one might think, and something wonderful might have evolved before this gets to print . . . and we'd hate you to miss it!

Los Angeles

By John Roberts

There is probably no other city in the nation that changes as frequently—as far as gay life is concerned—as Los Angeles and its suburbs. And consequently, it's difficult for outsiders to keep up with where to go and what to do when seeing the City of Angels.

Unlike so many other cities Los Angeles travel calls for a car. It's virtually impossible to hit many of the spots around town and environs without wheels. Unless you're pretty adept at hitching rides, you'd better drive to town or rent a car once you're here. Cab fare can be pretty expensive and buses run infrequently and not very late at night when you'll want to get around. And if the freeways don't throw you, you've got it made. Even though the

metropolis is gigantic and spread out, with the aid of a map you'll find your way around easily.

There are several areas of the city which boast sizeable gay populations, such as Hollywood, West Los Angeles and Silverlake, but it's likely you'll find cruising practically anywhere you go, even in the usual tourist spots. But unlike San Francisco, the police department does not approve of open gay contact, and discretion is the best policy.

The city has naturally attracted gays involved in the entertainment industry and the lifestyle is fast-paced, active, and is constantly changing. Travelers who visit the city expecting to be greeted as new faces and thus have their pick will be disappointed. Since there are so many gays and so many places they hang out, it's possible to be a new face even if you live in the city. And if you make the rounds of the bars, you'll be a new face all right, but then so will many others. Unless, of course, you go to a neighborhood bar with a regular clientele.

The city is not a party town so don't expect to be swept up in the whirl of the Hollywood orgy. It does happen, but not all that frequently. But if you've come to town to trick, you won't be disappointed. The majority of the locals, if they're not tied down (and sometimes even if they are) are after the same thing. The dress is as casual as the lifestyle, so make the most of it.

If you're tired of seeing the tourist traps, such as Disneyland and the Farmer's Market, you may want to sample the nightlife, so here's a brief rundown on the more popular spots. A complete listing of all the places gays congregate would be virtually impossible.

GAY BARS

Dude City, 836 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood, is probably the most popular spot for strangers in town, especially during the summer when the place is filled with college types and beach boys with golden tans; it's a virtual feast for the eyes. The large club features two bars, an outdoor patio, dancing, upstairs shops, a pool table and more. **Busiest**

weekends, but a decent crowd on some week nights. Right next door is the **Cabaret**, a swank supper club/entertainment. Dress up to eat here. But if you stick to Dude City, dress casual. One problem: The Dude is called a wax museum by some who have found it's not a great pickup bar, but rather a place where beauties stand around like mannequins.



Dude City/Cabaret

Falcon's Lair, 742 N. Highland, is about a block south of Dude, and one of L.A.'s oldest and most popular leather-oriented bars. But don't let that fool you—all types are welcome and go, from motorcycle freaks to cowboys to college students. Heavy cruising, pool and beer. Wear levis.



Falcon's Lair

Hub, 7864 Santa Monica Blvd., is a friendly, cruisy bar known for making out. Very active weekends, including late Sunday afternoons. Gets a regular clientele, but also much in-and-out traffic. Dark and relaxed.



The Hub

Jaguar, 7511 Santa Monica Blvd., a few blocks east of the Hub. Good only Sunday afternoons, and is the spot to go if you have a lazy Sunday to kill. Dark, active and heavy cruising, if not downright foreplay. All types. One dollar admission at the door gets you a drink or two, but you'll end up with a lot more. Expect a waiting line if you come after 3 p.m. or so. Wanna know what it's like to be a sardine?



Jaguar

Bunkhouse, 4519 Santa Monica Blvd., is a western-themed beer bar which has spotty cruising at times. Be sure and dress butch because everybody's on a masculinity trip.



Bunkhouse

Handle Bar, 5925 Franklin Avenue, is a neighborhood bar for the heavily gay-populated Hollywood Hills. A good mixed crowd on weekend nights when there's a \$1 admission charge at the door (good for a drink). Features dancing, a snack bar, and a pool table.

Woody's Hyperion Lounge, at 2810 Hyperion Ave., near Rowena in the Silverlake District. Another friendly neighborhood bar with a relaxed atmosphere and a somewhat older clientele, but not exclusively. Small, cozy, and packed on weekends.

Griff's, 5574 Melrose Avenue, across from Paramount Studios, is a very popular leather bar. If you like motorcycle types and

possibly rough sex, this is for you. Very busy many nights. Formerly the Arena.

Spotlight, 1601 N. Cahuenga Blvd., in the heart of Hollywood, is an old and popular watering hole for hustlers, and those who dig it. Sometimes rough trade, but okay if that's your bag too.



Spotlight

1170, at 1170 Western Ave., just off Hollywood Freeway, is one of the most popular motorcycle-leather beer bars. S&M too. Enter in the back. Also pool.

Hayloft, 11818 Ventura Blvd., in Studio City (Valley), is one of the oldest and most popular beer bars. Western-oriented decor, but attracts all types, old and young. Features full-length feature films most nights, especially on Sundays when it's jammed. Difficult to cruise while the film is on, but watch the eye-contact when reels are changed. Dress butch. Also packed after-hours on weekends.



Hayloft

DANCING SPOTS

After Dark, 8471 Beverly Blvd., is the largest and busiest dance spot in the city. Newly opened in what once was a dinner-theatre, it's worth the trip. Busy every night and too packed on weekends, it gets a good, mixed crowd. Three bars, an adjacent lounge with entertainment, and an enormous dance floor with great music played by a disk jockey. So much activity, though, that cruising is

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difficult.



After Dark

Oil Can Harry's, 11502 Ventura Blvd., in Studio City area, is a very popular dance hall with two bars. Packed on weekends and jumping. Admission charge on weekends. Not the best cruising, but plenty of looking at groovy numbers. Oh . . . those tambourines!



Oil Can Harry's

The Office, 13817 Ventura Blvd., in Sherman Oaks, down the boulevard, is another popular spot on weekends, including Sundays. Too much black lite and wall-to-wall mirrors, but exhibitionists might dig the decor. Attracts a somewhat older crowd than the other dance spots.



Bitter End West

Bitter End West, 8409 Santa Monica Blvd., in West Hollywood, is the freaky, far-out dance hall and the only one featuring live dance music. It's good if you're stoned, cause everyone else is. Some girls, and a lot of heads. A big dance floor, many bars, a pool

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room, plus a second complete lounge with live entertainment. Dress hip or you'll feel out of it. Admission charge weekends.

River Club, 3152 Riverside Dr., near Silverlake, is a large dance spot with two bars. If you're into Chicanos and Orientals, this is for you. Busy most nights, packed weekends, when there is no admission fee.



River Club

Starwood, 8151 Santa Monica Blvd. (across from Gallery Room and next to Paris Theatre). A sprawling nightclub with entertainment, dancing, booze, etc., which is basically straight, but is attracting bisexuals. Anyone over 18. Admission \$1 on Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday; \$2 Friday and Saturday when it's open until 4.

AFTER-HOURS BARS

Middle Earth, 7978 Santa Monica Blvd., formerly the popular **Farm**, is now primarily a black dance hall that's good after hours. Funky music, naturally. Admission charge after hours.



Middle Earth

Gino's, 8452 W. Melrose Ave., is the longtime after-hours spot featuring chicken. Many are affected and nelly, but if you prefer the young stuff, this is one of the very few spots you'll find them. Dancing, pool, but no booze. Admission charge.



Gino's

Tradesman, 7505 Melrose Ave., may be of special attraction since it's one of the very few bars in the city still showing porno films and nude go-go boys. All types, many hip, and usually busy only after hours on weekends. One-dollar admission fee gets you something to whet your whistle, but no booze.



Tradesman

Outcast, 4223 Santa Monica Blvd., is a popular spot attracting the leather and cowboy crowd among others who are out after 2 a.m. Busy most nights and admission charge (you get beer or coffee) on weekends. There's heavy cruising, pool, and a chain-decor. Some S&M.



Outcast

Goliath's, 7011 Melrose Ave., the only other spot still showing explicit sex films, as well as nude dancers. Attracts an older and sleazier crowd than the Tradesman, but worth the admission charge. Good flicks. Open after hours, but busy from midnight.



Goliath's/David's

GAY RESTAURANTS

Lillian's, 1149 N. La Brea Ave., known for good home-cooked meals. No booze. Small and cozy. Go only expecting to eat.

Arthur J's, Highland Ave. at Santa Monica Blvd., is the place to eat after the bars close. Coffee shop atmosphere and food, but with accompanying cruising. Notorious!



Arthur J's

Carriage Trade, 8077 Beverly Blvd., is one of the older dining and drinking spots. Good food, a relaxed atmosphere, and a clientele primarily over 30. Enter from the side on Crescent Heights Blvd.

The Gallery Room, 8100 Santa Monica Blvd., a spot quite popular with the show biz crowd and those who groove to it. Small, cozy, active. All types. Enter from the rear.



Gallery Room

David's, 7013 Melrose Ave., next to Goliath's (naturally). A fairly large dining place with two bars, one featuring live enter-

tainment. Attracts an older clientele, but all types welcome.

Four Star, 8857 Santa Monica Blvd., is one of the town's oldest gay bars and restaurants. A tacky decor including a fake tree in the middle of the place, but decent food and a busy bar some nights. Gets an older crowd from the surrounding gay-populated West Hollywood.

Por Favor, 8944 Santa Monica Blvd., across the street from the Four Star, features good Mexican food. Good atmosphere and bar, but not known for cruising. It's closed on Mondays.

After Dark, 365 La Cienega Blvd., on Restaurant Row, by the same name as the dance spot not far away. More elegant than others, so don't go grubby. Formerly **Oliver's**.

Garden District, 757 La Cienega Blvd., a couple of blocks north of After Dark, is also popular and has a small outdoor patio for dining.

DePaul's, 1729 N. Ivar, is the magnet for an older crowd. In the center of Hollywood, it is one of the longest-established gay bar-restaurants. Piano music.

Etc., 1433 N. La Brea, is for those who want elegance both in prices and people. Passed off as straight, but gets many well-off gays and closet cases. Has good entertainment from a singer and band every night. Some celebrities drop in.

Gallery Inn, 11934 Ventura Blvd., in Studio City, by the people who brought Hollywood the Gallery Room. Has good food, a busy bar, and a somewhat older clientele (over 30).



Gallery Inn

Keith's, 11801 Ventura Blvd., across from the Hayloft, is one of the oldest eateries in L.A., with a bar, too.

Valli Haus, at 11012 Ventura

Blvd., also in the Studio City area, has always been a popular eating and drinking spot. Now it has an outdoor patio for summer dining and a mini shopping mall as well. Gets an older crowd, but not exclusively so.



Valli Haus

Casita del Campo, 1920 Hyperion Ave., in the Silverlake area, is supposedly straight, but there are so many gays living in the Silverlake Hills that on many nights it's very gay. And the management couldn't care less. A good, cozy atmosphere, live entertainment, an outdoor patio in summer, and the best Mexican food around!



Casita del Campo

Lloyd, 739 N. La Brea (north of Melrose Ave.), a fairly new restaurant that's catching on, especially with the Latin-American crowd. Girls too. Features dancing and live entertainment each night.

Cabaret, 836 N. Highland (next to Dude City) becoming very popular with the elegant crowd as a posh supper club. Dress up and be prepared for a fancy, expensive menu. Attracts straights and show biz types. Nightly entertainment.

SHOW PLACES

Queen Mary, 12449 Ventura Blvd. (Valley), is one of the oldest show-bars in Los Angeles. It features female impersonators on most nights. A show for a two-

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drink minimum.



Queen Mary

Redwood Room, 3372 W. 8th Street, is the oldest drag queen show room in L.A. Located in an area of town long forgotten as the center of activity moves farther towards Hollywood and the Valley. But it still has shows most nights, and a bar. Older crowd and some straights who come to gawk.

C'est La Vie, 11920 Ventura Blvd. (Valley) near the Gallery Inn restaurant. Features female impersonators.

Park, 4658 Melrose Ave., near the Hollywood Freeway, now has drag shows, but used to feature movies and nude go-go boys. Sleazy atmosphere and types that belong there. Formerly **Hollywood Music Center**.

Caesar's, 12179½ Ventura Blvd. (Studio City) features various performers such as impressionist Michael Greer, and attracts a large crowd towards the end of the week. Formerly **Blue Angel West**.

BATHS



Corral Club

Corral Club, 3747 Cahuenga Blvd. (Valley), is by far the most popular and busiest of the baths in L.A. Weekends are packed, afternoons are often good, and Tuesday and Thursday are discounted admission nights and jammed. All types, many groovy, but on busy nights it's hard to find a vacant

room even if you find a partner. And if you don't dig the orgy room, you may end up frustrated. Private membership, but it's usually easy to get a referral card from another member, as almost everyone belongs. Two floors of fun.

YMAC, 7661 Melrose Avenue, which stands for Young Men's Athletic Club, is newer than the Corral, but gaining in popularity. Two floors, including a Jacuzzi pool, and in summer, nude sunbathing on the roof. Also private membership, but referrals are easy to get. Busy late at night weekends after the bars close and often on early Sunday evenings.

Regency Club, 5729 Cahuenga Blvd. (North Hollywood), is one of the older establishments featuring a roomful of bunkbeds and a Jacuzzi pool with a giant replica of a penis in the center. Attracts an older crowd. Also by membership.



Regency Club

Serpent 8 Club, 4109 Burbank Blvd. (Valley), is a large, clean spa featuring a roomful of make-believe johns with appropriate glory holes for those who like them. By private membership also.



Serpent 8 Club

Of course there are baths which are open to the public (no membership) and action can be spotty. They include **The York Baths**, 5013 York Blvd., (off the Pasadena Freeway); **L.A. Tubs**, 4424

Melrose Avenue; **Glen's** in the Valley, 4653 Lankershim Boulevard; **Cypress Baths**, 3214 N. Figueroa; **Roman Holiday Baths**, 14435 Victory Blvd. (Valley), and 12814 Venice Blvd., in West Los Angeles.

In addition, L.A. also features one of the few male massage parlors—**Selma's**—5859 Melrose Avenue. For a fee you can be rubbed this way or that by a young male masseur. But as of this writing, the place is not doing a booming business. Visitors to the city who are in the mood for such services can find an unending array of various types of masseurs who advertise in the Personals columns of the local underground newspapers. In this way you can shop around by phone before deciding on the build you want your masseur to have. And he'll come to your hotel room, or wherever, unless he provides his own place. Subject to change each week.

GAY MOVIES

There are several gay movie houses for those who do not mind a \$5 admission charge. And it has been reported that cruising in the balconies and johns is heavy.

Paris, 8163 Santa Monica Blvd., is one of the best known and largest. It has an active balcony.



Paris

Las Palmas, 1642 N. Las Palmas, (just off Hollywood Blvd.), is smaller and less appealing than the Paris, but has films just the same.

Quickie Male, 8253 Santa Monica Blvd., is a small hole in the wall which has several hard-core shorts instead of so-called features.

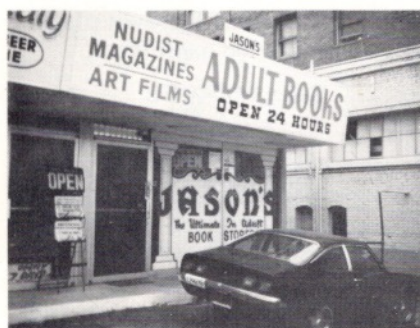
It might be noted that L.A. is also loaded with "straight" porno film houses, some of which charge only 99¢ and are open 24 hours. They show male-female films, but

for those who are adventuresome the challenge is there. It is not unusual for bisexuals to come here, and once worked up, consider a little action. But use discretion. Best after 2 a.m.

BOOK STORES

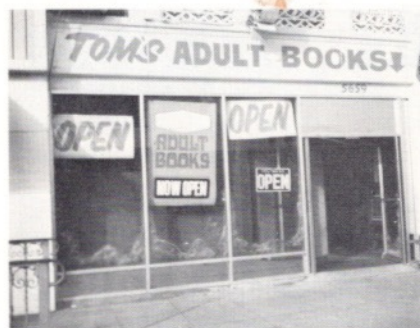
Guys visiting L.A. from small towns across the nation which have no adult bookstores, or are used to the good things being wrapped in cellophane, will have a field day in some of the adult bookstores. Most encourage you to browse, some for a small fee (50¢). And most have fairly large gay sections in which the 'browsing' isn't in the magazines.

Jason's, 1702 N. Western Ave. (just off Hollywood Blvd.), is really great. Books, films, toys. Admission 50¢, refundable with purchase.



Jason's

Tom's Adult Books, 5659 Hollywood Blvd., has a good and large gay section and his management is friendly. No admission.



Tom's Adult Books

Other really good book stores are **Book Bin**, 4459 Sunset Blvd., **Book Circus**, 8230 Santa Monica Blvd., **Paris Book Store**, 8165 Santa Monica Blvd., also the **Sandbox Book Store**, 4877 Lanekershim Blvd., and **Western News**, 5507 Hollywood Blvd.



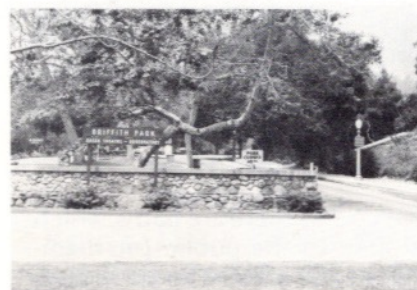
Book Circus



Western News

CRUISING AREAS

Griffith Park, on two sides. On Fern Dell Ave., as it begins uphill, near the last john. The johns, however, are locked for obvious reasons. Now the action is in the bushes, and trails lead everywhere. All types, and busy all day and into the evening. Closes at 10 p.m., but be out before then or you will be locked in. On the opposite side of the park, where Commonwealth and Vermont Avenues meet near the golf course and tennis courts, there is a very large gay section. Particularly crowded on weekends and during the summer, but busy all day. Closes at dusk. A road winds from Commonwealth all the way to the top of the park and you'll see car after car of cruising guys. Where the cars are parked is where the action is. Use caution as there are vice officers in plain clothes and some of them are young and groovy.



Griffith Park

Selma Avenue, just south of

Hollywood Blvd., and off Las Palmas. This is hustler haven and if you like them bought and paid for, here's your area. Be careful of rough trade though; you'll see them standing on the street corners, and sitting on the steps of the big white church. The going rate is usually \$10 or \$15, but this varies. Watch for police.



Selma Avenue

Robertson Blvd., south of Melrose. This is decorator row by day and cruisy by night. Much driving in circles and the possibility of a passing police car, but you can make out if you don't run out of gas.



Robertson Blvd.

WHERE TO STAY

If you're visiting L.A. and not fortunate enough to have friends to stay with, there are some good motels/hotels if you want to hunt for them. There are only two gay-oriented ones, and whether you should stay in them is questionable.

Bon Air, 1727 N. Western Ave., just north of Hollywood Blvd., offers both daily and weekly rates and looks clean, but it's rumored to have its share of shifters and hustlers.

Vine Lodge, 1818 N. Vine St., near the Hollywood Freeway, is old and rundown, and you may want to come here only with a quick trick.

So if you're not strapped for money on your trip to L.A., pick

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any other places. Nobody will hassle you if you bring home a trick and you can find any number of good, clean motels on the busiest streets in Hollywood. The **Holiday Inn** on Highland Ave., just north of Hollywood Blvd., offers a breathtaking view of the city from the upper floors, and the **Sheraton Universal** in Studio City (just off the Hollywood Freeway) has a lot of glamor and a bigger price tag. If you can afford it and want to overlook the Valley and Universal Studios, stay there.

So that's about it. Don't worry about a good season to visit the city. Since the weather changes are not that drastic, anytime is good. But if you like the beaches and want some sun you'll have to come in summer. And Easterners will be glad to know even in the deep of winter you need wear no more than a lightweight jacket or a sweater.

The recent Supreme Court ruling re: obscenity/pornography is forcing some porno bookshops and movie theatres to close. All the listings in CIAO! are updated as we go to press—but since police raids are a daily occurrence it is likely that several places discussed in this issue have been closed since publication.

Virginia

By Ralph W. Davis

Life passes leisurely in Virginia without any suggestion of the indolence of the Deep South. Old homes, surrounded by acres of well-maintained grazing and farm land, still dot the gentle, rolling hills and convey a lifestyle which is unhurried and easy. In 'horsey' Warrenton and Middleburg this is particularly evident. Even in the unpretentious, historic towns of Waterford and Leesburg, one immediately recognizes this unhurried and easy way.

Williamsburg, though, is probably the most fascinating for the tourist who wants to enjoy the charm of Old Virginia. This 18th century colonial town, carefully restored and preserved by the Rockefeller millions, has about 88

original buildings, homes, and shops. The employees, dressed in period costumes, demonstrate and explain their crafts. Besides Williamsburg, there are countless plantations and historic sights—from Mount Vernon to Jamestown—all carefully restored and preserved to give the visitor a true feeling of the charm of the old South.

Although Virginia is still a southern state, with lingering pre-Civil War attitudes, it is slowly changing. Blacks and whites move easily through Virginia now without the open tension sometimes visible in other states. Essentially conservative, Virginia isn't exactly wide-open. In fact, northern gays might even consider it repressive.

There aren't many gay bars in Virginia. The conservative ABC Liquor Board which issues licenses has been primarily responsible for this. By Virginia standards, it is illegal to run a business which engages in any immoral or obscene acts or for anyone to visit such a place. The definition of what is obscene or immoral, of course, is relative. In Norfolk, for example, the mere presentation of "Boys in the Band" was considered obscene enough in the Board's opinion to arouse its wrath. This seems particularly unjust since the movie version played at most of the local theaters without causing the slightest reaction.

Gay guys, consequently, are very defensive in Virginia, and are inclined to burst into anger very easily. Moreover, it is better to be careful when visiting this state; if the police arrest anyone, his name, address and occupation are published, and, like several well-known Richmond men discovered recently, this can cause considerable embarrassment as well as social ruin.

RICHMOND

Richmond, capital of Virginia since 1779, has a history as old as the birth of the New World. History-book memories spring alive in the homes of John Marshall or Robert E. Lee, and in the quaint St. John's Church where Patrick Henry delivered his famous "Liberty or Death" oration. These

memories of troubled times, however, recede easily into the past at the sight of the new skyscrapers erected on ancient hills, and the up-to-date shopping centers, manufacturing plants and residential areas. In spite of this blend of the old and new, Richmond is still a southern city with all the traditions and attitudes of the Old South. The city is changing, of course, but certainly not fast enough for the times.

Places Of Gay Interest

Lee Koury, who is straight, but who runs the Dial Tone Restaurant and the 409 Club, has been the main spokesman for the gays and has persisted in defending gay rights in Richmond. Anyone who may need advice can call him at his work number (355-9253), and he will gladly dispense any available information on the Richmond scene.

Most of the places are subject to sudden change, of course, because of the diligence of the police and the ABC Board, but as we go to press the following are still going:

Alexander's Bar and Restaurant, 206 N. 8th Street. This is a mixed restaurant-bar, which has been having some difficulties with the ABC Board recently. But it is now open and serving food.

Dial Tone Restaurant, 3526 W. Cary Street. A nice restaurant that's perfect for quick meals. The food ranges in price from \$1.25 to \$1.75. During the day it has a mixed crowd, but at night Lee Koury runs it almost strictly gay. Opens at 9 a.m. and closes at 1 a.m.



Dial Tone Restaurant

409 Club, 409 W. Broad Street.

This bar is also known as the **Broad Street West Club**. Although it is a private club, Lee will admit anyone whom he feels is gay. Recently he had to board the windows because certain straights disapproved of the bar and kept breaking the windows. In spite of this, though, it is a nice place to go on weekends for strictly gay entertainment. Admission is \$2. There is a band and an occasional floor show. Dancing. It opens at midnight and closes at 4 a.m. every Friday and Saturday. It is also open on special holidays like New Year's Eve and Halloween.

Travelers Grill, 317 N. Fifth Street. A mixed (gay and straight) black bar. Beer is served as well as food. Although it is not extremely gay, it may change if Alexander's doesn't straighten out its differences with the ABC Board. They are very close to each other.

Variety Book Store, 324 E. Broad Street. The usual films, magazines and groping.



Variety Book Store

Denmark Book Store, 5 E. Broad Street. Like Variety, the usual films, magazines and groping here. There are other book stores on E. Broad Street near the bus stations, but Variety and Denmark seem to be the most popular with gay guys.

White Tower, Third and Grace Streets. This is a typical hamburger and coffee shop. Late at night the gays come here and eat.

The johns at both the **Trailways** and **Greyhound Bus Stations** can be cruisy, as well as the area in front of the **Public Library** on Franklin Street between First and Second Streets. Also cruisy is the area from First and Franklin to

Second and Franklin to Second and Grace to First and Grace and back to Franklin and First . . . at night, though. This is also true of the Library; it is really cruisy only at night.



Public Library



Franklin Street

Byrd Park is also cruisy. The best area is by the shelter area near the Carillon Tower. But it must be emphasized that the parks are dangerous. The police have picked up many gays here. The john by the lake is not as popular as once, but there is enough activity here to warrant your time. The best john in the park is by the Carillon Tower.



John in Byrd Park

Bryan Park is quite gay, everywhere, particularly in the woods. Lots of car cruising and walking. But again it is dangerous. The police are always picking up gay people.

The **YMCA**, at 2 W. Franklin Street, is a nice, inexpensive place to stay. It is centrally located and in a good area. Nothing special gay-wise.

NORFOLK

Norfolk has always been fascinating to most gays because it is such a marvelous fusion of land and sea, of brick houses and boats, of civilians and sailors. Charming, busy, and overflowing with sailors (about 9000 are expected within the next few months) with nothing to do but drink and fuck. Norfolk has become the place for gays who like their men in uniform.

Although there aren't many gay bars in Norfolk as once, this will undoubtedly change in the next year. Tony Pritchard, who runs Cue, Ritz and Mickey's bars, has been fighting, as have other angry, local gays, the stranglehold of the ABC Board and the police. It is difficult to say for certain what the results of their efforts will be, but from all indications the city will burst wide open and the gays will have won another significant battle for gay rights through their combined force.

Places Of Gay Interest

Some of the places for food and drink are:

Cue, 4601 Killam Avenue. This is probably the best bar in Norfolk; maybe Virginia. The food is good and reasonably priced (from 50¢ to \$5.50). There is dancing to a shower of lights which are timed to the music. On Wednesday and Thursday nights there is a d.j. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights there is a live band which starts playing at 9. Sundays there are two floor shows at 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Impersonators, singers and the like. It is located in a nice area (factory-residential) within walking distance to the Old Dominion University and the naval base. Consequently the Cue attracts students and sailors in heavy num-

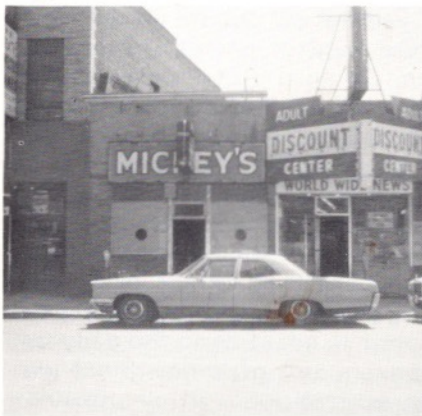
CIAO!

bers. Mixed during the day, but gay at night. Must be 18 or over, and show ID. Very busy on weekends.



Cue

Mickey's Tavern, 135 Brooke Avenue. Across the street from the former Navy YMCA (now the Union Mission, and **not** gay!). During the week Mickey's does a great business, but on weekends most of it goes to the Cue. Young Navy crowd. Beer. Dancing. The hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. (winters) and to 2 a.m. (summers).



Mickey's Tavern



Ritz Bar

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Ritz Bar, 131 Brooke Avenue. This is smaller than Mickey's and almost next door. Not as lively. Hours 5:30 p.m.-1 a.m. (winter) and to 2 a.m. (summer). All three bars are run by Tony Pritchard who makes a special point of selecting his help to appeal to the crowds.

Continental Restaurant, 111 Tazewell. The crowd is mixed (black and white), and a nice assortment of people. Open 7 days a week. Live entertainment on weekends. Band from 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Open from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. (winter) and 2 a.m. (summer). Moderately priced food.



Continental Restaurant

Raphael's, 426 Granby Street. Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. Food from 95¢ to \$5.00. The special is the club sandwiches. Heavy Italian menu. Most popular with gays after the bars close.



Raphael's

Occidental Restaurant, 209 Granby Street. This is a 24 hour restaurant, serving a black and white crowd. Mixed (straights/gays). Can be rough. Nothing special food-wise. Beer. Older set.

Village Books, 121 Brooke Av-

enue. The usual films, books, magazines and groping.

YMCA, 312 W. Bute Street. Probably the nicest, least expensive place to stay in Norfolk. It is located in a redevelopment area (old, interesting historic homes and shops), and within a short walking distance of downtown. The rooms have private bath and toilet and cost \$7 per night and \$35 per week. It is too new (recently built) to determine how gay it is. Hopefully it will be like the old Navy Y—fantastic!



YMCA

For outdoor cruising, **Boush Street** is good after the bars close. **Greyhound** and particularly **Trailways** are great for john cruising.



Brooke & Boush Sts.

The public beach at the right of the Ocean View Amusement Park beside the fishing pier can be busy. Mixed primarily. Black crowd usually.

The two straight places which have **some** cruising are:

Sir Buddy's Lounge, 3315 Granby Street. Best Sunday afternoons. A good place to go if you like the closet-case games. Young college crowd. Nothing special.

Holiday Inn Midtown, 930 Virginia Beach Boulevard. A nice lounge which can be cruised on weekends.

VIRGINIA BEACH

Sun worshippers will love Virginia Beach with its more than 28 miles of free public beach, gaily dotted with umbrellas and chairs, and its cement boardwalk stretching 29 blocks along the oceanfront past cottages, hotels and amusement halls. Accommodations during the season can be expensive and anyone on a budget can save by staying in Norfolk (about 45 minutes away by Trailways and less by car) where the night life is gayer and cheaper. If anyone wants to splurge, there are enough hotels (Hilton and Holiday to mention only two) which offer all the luxury one can want in resort-hotel living.



Moons and Saxony



Grill on Virginian Beach Pier

The main bathing area for gays is on the sands in front of the snack bar which is wedged between the Moons and Saxony Motels (about 21st Street). This is probably the gayest area in Virginia Beach. Most of the gay

business seems to go to the snack bar, but this isn't to imply that it is a gay meeting place. Just a convenient spot to buy food. The only gay john in Virginia Beach is in the Grill on the Virginia Beach Pier . . . which extends into the water in front of the Peppermint Lounge. Many gays stop here for a beer and sandwich . . . even though it isn't gay, and use the john.

Atlantic Avenue which runs parallel to the cement boardwalk is the street for restaurants, bars and night clubs. At night this street is jammed with bronze gods who move up and down restlessly. With a little effort, some of these beautiful bods can be coaxed to your hotel room. Virginians, most gays will discover, are generally friendly and easy to meet. What happens next often depends on one's skills and the Virginian's inclination at that moment.



Atlantic Avenue

Virginia is beautiful and unspoiled with none of the overcrowded conditions or unfriendliness of the industrial North. Life passes so leisurely here, with such unhurried ease, that one actually feels as though he has stepped back in time to the days of the Old South.

The recent Supreme Court ruling re: obscenity/pornography is forcing some porno bookshops and movie theatres to close. All the listings in CIAO! are updated as we go to press—but since police raids are a daily occurrence it is likely that several places discussed in this issue have been closed since publication. It should also be noted that a few of our retail dealers (see ad inside back cover) may be out of business by now. QQ MAGAZINE, CIAO! and BODY are "soft-core" and really are not affected by the new law.

Wine Lines

By Tony Giordano

Gay guys everywhere else in the world drink wine as freely as we drink Coke, and yet as sophisticated as we have become about every other aspect of modern gay life, many of us still regard wine with a certain awe—as something to be served only on festive occasions such as Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner, or as that once-a-year glass of Champagne that helps us face the future—a little bolder—on a birthday that has made us a little older.

When one reflects that, to most of civilization, wine has always been as much the 'staff of life' as bread, by now no one should have the slightest reservation about serving it or enjoying it anytime or anywhere—almost as freely as water. It should be what it has always been elsewhere in the world: the **romance** of a fine meal, or—perhaps more importantly—as something that makes the most frugal meal more enjoyable.

Perhaps our qualms about wine are a kind of parental 'echo' of the Volstead Act no-no, which, during World War I, turned America into a nation of Maxwell Housers and Pepsi-poppers.

Gay guys, in greater proportion than straights, are men of acute artistic perception, seeing beauty that pedestrian others overlook. Yet, oddly, it is we who have been slower in adapting to the daily or frequent use of wine. Since we are perfectionists in all possible things and shudder at the very thought of being considered in-artistic, we often suffer real embarrassment when dining out—particularly with friends—if our lack of expertise in wine-selection is apparent.

Without some practical knowledge of (easily acquired) or experience in choosing wines . . . well "fools rush in where angels fear to tread" we say, expecting the worst. What we have done is build around, or into a wine a false 'mystique' that causes us to sacrifice the joy of a meal to our embarrassment over a possible mistake that need never occur.

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The first mistake, when taking friends to dinner, is to ask the waiter or captain "Do you have an especially good wine for our meal?" Of **course** he has . . . the most expensive, or—what is more likely—a bottle of that stuff he hasn't been able to even give away to others! This mistake is easily preventable with a knowledge of wine **categories** rather than a memorization of actual **brand names** you rattle off. ("Do you have an especially good **Burgundy**?" Ah, yes, much better . . . you'll have just what you want!)

Your first concern should be for

A WINE THAT 'GOES WITH'

There is that standard formula—so often repeated—that only **red** wine goes with red meat, **white** wine with fish/fowl, and **pink** wine with veal, roast pork, or as a sort of 'in-between,' "can't be really wrong," optional choice for anything else. It is a workable formula that can be adhered to about 95% of the time, but it can throw one for a loss . . . with lamb, for example. Here are some tips about this:

A hearty **roast leg of lamb** simply cries out for a hearty red Burgundy, or red Beaujolais (less robust than Burgundy, and a little fresher/fruitier). But at Easter, when the specialty in some restaurants (particularly French) is **hothouse baby lamb**, the picture changes dramatically. The richness of Burgundy and the fruitiness of Beaujolais can so mask the taste of tender lamb as to actually ruin the meal! Baby lamb, like a young boy, has a lot of 'puppy fat' . . . the meat is almost white, and so without indigenous or 'lamby' taste it must be gussied up with spices—notably garlic—otherwise what you'll have is lamb in name only.

Here a white Burgundy or a white Bordeaux goes better because it gives the merest touch of sweetness that complements the lamb, pointing up the seasonings better, bringing out more flavor, and relating the lamb to the other components of the meal, thus bringing it off with a real hurrah. So here is one meat that both red and white wines are happily adjunctive to. But there's more . . .

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more lamb, more wine:

Skewered lamb (shish kebab) needs a red wine or a heartier rosé that brings out the 'orientale' of its preparation. Hearty red Burgundy is too much, while white wine would emasculate its 'Tartar manhood' . . . or at least would be lost in the shuffle. Even if one serves kebabs of **beef** in a quasi-oriental preparation (as just broiled-on-a-skewer bits of meat with interstices of green pepper, mushrooms and tomato) it will feel more at home in your mouth with a wine from the country where the recipe originated.



You will find that the Greek rosé wine of the **roditys** category is the perfect complement. Roditys is a very popular wine and is to be found under many brand names. (Ask your waiter: "Do you have a good Greek **roditys** to go with our lamb?" His face will light up with appreciation of your choice . . . and you may be sure he'll bring you his best roditys. No need to fumble around with hard-to-pronounce Greek **brand names**.) Some believe that roditys wine has some of the characteristics of a dry red wine, like the Italian **chianti**, but it is very much its 'own man' and makes anything served with rice pilaff richer, bringing out its intriguing flavor, and making it gustatorily satisfactory in every way.

But there's still more about lamb . . . and about wine . . . and about, of all things, **beer**! If you have curried lamb you have still another challenge. If the curry is not accompanied by chutney,

you'll need a wine of sweeter character. A German Moselle wine (white) of the **Spatlëse** category (sweeter because it is pressed from grapes at the height of the harvest) will serve you well. Be sure to examine the label when the waiter brings the bottle. It must, by German law, state that it is Spatlëse. However, if chutney is served, obviously any sweet wine would be a too-muchness. Try beer!

Beer makes the dish very 'contrasty' and exciting. But not, mind you, just **any** beer. What is important is to choose an 'eating' beer rather than a 'drinking' beer. For example, almost any local American beer is a 'drinking' beer . . . created for the individual who simply likes to drink beer for its own satisfying individuality without relating it to food. 'Eating' beers are mainly European. Such a beer would likely not completely satisfy the devotee of sudsy American 'drinking' beers, but it does so complement certain dishes of Indian/Indonesian origin that it's head-and-shoulders over most wines.

You'll find that the Danish beer **Carlsberg** is perfect for curried lamb and other curried dishes—chicken, for example. It's not as heavy as German beers (which, although both 'drinking' and 'eating' beers, are more in tune with the former). You can't go wrong with Carlsberg, and any good restaurant priding itself on its curries should certainly have it. Ask for it, and see how instantly more attentive your waiter is! If Carlsberg is not available you may be sure that **Heineken's** will be. Heineken's is also excellent, and being a Dutch beer it has had a long association with Indonesian curries.

CATEGORIZING WINES

One good reason for not memorizing a list of European wines is that American wines—both California and New York—are in most cases superb . . . the equal of, and often superior to many European wines, particularly in the vintage-scanty years. Of special help to the puzzled wine buyer is the fact that American wine labels tell more specifically what the wine inside the bottle is all about.







A label may read "A dry white table wine." Now that's honest and right to the point, and if you plan to serve a dish or—in a restaurant—order a dish where this wine category is indicated, you have no problem. Everything should work out splendidly.

The principal consideration—after choice—is that of price. Don't buy American wine selling for less than \$3.50 a fifth nor any European wine selling for less than \$5.00 a fifth. (Import duty, and all that, you know.) You will be sure of only one thing; of getting an inferior product.

Never allow yourself to be taken in by a 'wine sale'. Junk! Such wines are invariably something that simply won't sell . . . something that the wine-cellar cat wouldn't touch. In the first place, they are of poor vintage—a bad wine year. But what is worse is that they're often combinations of poor vintages and there is no distinctive wine flavor. The vintner—American or European—is, above all, a hardnosed businessman who is simply not going to let a single drop of wine—of whatever quality—go unbottled, or, hopefully, unsold.

SIMPLIFY YOUR WINE LIST

When dining out, the 'nationality' of whatever restaurant you select will determine, almost to the bottle, what its wine cellar contains. So don't expect to find premium French wines in a German restaurant, nor Greek wines in French restaurants . . . nor Italian in Spanish . . . Spanish in Swiss, and so on. Each restaurant prides itself on its native/national wines—the wines it knows best—

secure in the knowledge that they are best for its particular cuisine, and—with the exception of Champagne—may not even know the brand names of certain wines you have assiduously memorized unless, of course, they are so well-known as to be household words, or simply 'must' wines that patrons are sure to ask for.

What is more practical is to go armed with your basic formula of wines by category . . . and here is a simple, handy list that will serve you well, and which you can memorize in less than a minute.

Red (for heartier roasts of red meat)—red Burgundy, if French; Valpolicella, if Italian; or any California red Burgundy (the climate, grapes, production, are almost identical with European). If a less robust red wine is desired, ask for a red Bordeaux, if French; Chianti, if Italian; or any New York State red wine, since the grapes are Concord, are different than California, and have a fruitier and less heavy texture. For an intermediate 'red' selection you can't go wrong with a good Beaujolais, French or American.



White (for fish/fowl, except roast duck/goose, for which a good 'eating' beer can prove more taste-rewarding). Ask for white Burgundy or Bordeaux, if French; Soave, if Italian; Riesling, if German (asking specifically for the *Spatlese* pressing) . . . and either California or New York State white table wine (both are excellent, although they have a somewhat different taste). Special tip: if you are entertaining with one of

those popular fondue suppers, remember that any good Chablis wine not only makes the better wine ingredient of the dish, but a glass of still more Chablis will accentuate its delicious 'cheesiness'. French and American Chablis will do beautifully.

Rosé (for 'saucy' dishes . . . spicy mixture-type dishes that need just a bit of 'cooling down' . . . for milk-fed veal done as scaloppine, Parmagiana or as Piccata). Since the California **Almaden Grenache Rosé** is so excellent you really need look no further. However, Portuguese wines such as **Mateus Rosé**, or Chilean Riesling wines such as **Lancers** are so popular, and are perfect in every way, you may prefer these since they also make wonderful 'socializing' wines.

CHAMPAGNES

Champagne is easily come by, and by familiar labels, in almost every good restaurant. French and American Champagnes are usually good—fine vintage Champagnes, of course, are peerless—a noble **Dom Perignon** is a soul experience! But the natural carbonation of Champagne, and its almost exclusive use as a convivial beverage, make one forget, or at least minimize the taste differences.

French Champagne is invariably drier than American (whether New York State or California Champagne, the taste will be just a little sweeter than French or the Italian Asti Spumante which, for purposes of classification, may simply be regarded as Italian Champagne). In the United States both **Korbel**, of California, and New York State's **Great Western** are excellent in every way, and far less expensive than imported brands which, of course, have import duty tacked onto the price.

WINE BY THE DEMI-BOTTLE

There is considerable intoxication in a regular-size bottle of table wine—too much for a solitary diner in a restaurant. And, since wine—once opened—should be drunk then and there and not be recorked, there is some understandable hesitancy in ordering a full bottle. You can't take the

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unused portion home in a doggy bag, and so one leaves the remainder on the table. The waiter is delighted by this . . . he will share it with the chef, and thank you, sir! Thus has come about the practice of bottling a wine in both full and half bottles. A half bottle will give four glasses and, unless your dining partner is a real wine toper, will be entirely adequate for the meal.

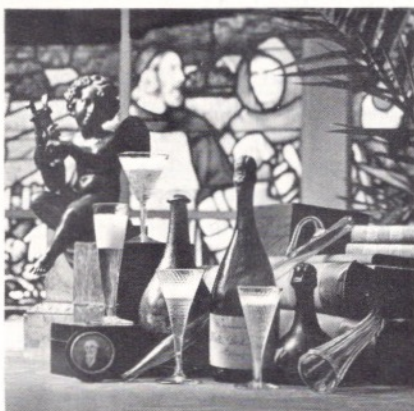
But half bottles of any wine are almost never of a premium wine. There is no really noble wine that is demi-bottled. So don't expect to make an impression with a half bottle. It will be good, perhaps excellent, but never great. You may be sure that the wine makers, with a canny regard for your repeat business, demi-bottle really good wines and it is extremely doubtful that you will be disappointed. Inspired, no . . . satisfied, yes.

Study the restaurant's wine list. Wines will be listed by the full bottle on the left side . . . half bottles, if any, on the right. Take the most expensive (usually about \$3) in whatever category. Then, too, many bistro-type French restaurants either have a carafe of wine ready for you on your table. You may pour from it as much as you desire. Invariably such wine will not be French, but solidly Californian. Also if there is no carafe awaiting your pleasure, and you'd like just a glass (plus repeat) of white or red (*vin blanc* or *vin rouge*), well why not? It is what the 'bistro' French do . . . what the working-class French do . . . the French peasant does . . . or just what any Frenchman who loves wine (is there anyone who doesn't?) usually does.

There are two excellent Champagnes that also come in small bottles and never fail to please. One is **Piper-Heidsieck**, the other **Moët et Chandon**. The former comes 6 to 12 'splits' per box and each split yields two glasses.

Moët et Chandon, a trifle less dry than Piper-Heidsieck, is obtainable in half bottles, yielding four glasses or a little more. This makes it possible for the single person or a couple to have Champagne more often than on Christmas or Easter without having to consume a full bottle and getting

riproaring drunk, or recorking the bottle. Champagne, once released from prison does not like to return to its 'cell'. It will taste flat, hard . . . even sour.



HOW TO POUR CHAMPAGNE

There is both a science and art in pouring Champagne. By following this simple formula you can be an expert host, never having to 'wrestle' the bottle to open it, and never having any of the glorious liquid spurt out in a wine-foam orgasm. Here's how to do it:

1) Place a napkin between your hand and the bottle (a safety measure in case the bottle should crack). Then with your other hand remove the foil and wiring.

2) Point the neck of the bottle away from yourself (and certainly away from anyone else!) because once the wire has been loosened the cork may explode outward. Be very careful if someone has just brought to you the bottle of Champagne . . . movement-(walking, handling) can set an actual volcano in motion! Let it set for several minutes before opening.

3) The technique is to twist the bottle **away from the cork**, not, as is too often the case, the cork from the bottle. In this way there will be no shattering of the cork. It remains stationary and as the gentle twisting of the bottle begins to loosen it, it should come out with that festive 'pop' we all love to hear! If, however, the cork seems disinclined to emerge, press it gently with your thumb, around and around and around, until it does loosen.

4) As you note the cork becoming released, point your bottle at a 45-degree angle, so that a

larger surface of wine comes in contact with the atmosphere. This prevents pressure building up inside the bottle . . . it prevents spillage and that gooey foam that invariably hits a guest smack in the face, hair, or on his best Pierre Cardin ensemble!

Finally, a word about serving Champagne. As a gay guy of taste and appreciation of art, don't, please, serve Champagne in one of those round sherbet-type glasses one customarily sees at a 'catered affair' such as a wedding.

Make a pretty picture of your service by pouring the Champagne into a fluted, tulip-shaped, or other triangular-shaped glass where the Champagne bubbles up from the thin, deep base. Sherbet-type or flat-bottomed glasses, allow the bubbles to disintegrate quickly and the Champagne develops a flat, bitter taste. Pour less, and more often, and delight everyone—including yourself!

Gay Dining

This Month: Joe's Mushroom

By The Editors

A restaurant built on, around, and with a mushroom? Fantastic, you'll say . . . and you're right. However, fantastic is but one superlative that describes the little restaurant in Reading, Pennsylvania known simply as **Joe's**. Once you dine there you will never again refer to that tasty, stubby little protuberance as the 'lowly' mushroom. Instead you'll think 'lordly' about the at-least six different kinds of mushrooms that Joe Czarnecki and his wife Wanda, along with several of their mycological friends from nearby colleges pick on 'mushroom expeditions' up in the hills surrounding Reading.

Almost every dish served in this amazing place is related in some important way to the mushroom . . . either the dried *Boletus edulis* Joe uses in his soups, or the *Tricholoma equestre*, *Tricholoma*

portentosum and **Tricholoma terreum**, all of which he uses in the preparation of meats . . . even the very tiny mushroom you'll find in the best Martini you've ever tasted. That's right . . . a Mushroom Martini, as 'mixologized' by Wanda. All you need are an iced-cocktail glass, a Wanda-type mushroom, a hint of vermouth and a lot of gin or vodka and you have **le cocktail fantastique** . . . a woodsily fragrant drink with a history of mystery. You see, this particular small mushroom is native to the Carpathian Mountains of Slavic Europe where Joe's ancestors lived, and of course everyone knows that the Carpathians are where Count Dracula lives and does all that Late, Late Show 'Bela Lugosi-ing'.

Following your Wanda Mushroom Martini you'll be appeased by more than 24 *hors d'oeuvres*—including Joe's warm **pirozhki**, which are small fluffy-flaky pastries filled with pureed mushrooms—salads, soups, sauces and meats, all of which are dominated by, have kinship with, or—like Wanda's Martini—have been playing hanky-panky with King Mushroom. None of the mushrooms used in Joe's Restaurant are that big, fat, tame-pussy kind one buys regularly at supermarkets. They are not commercially cultivated, but picked fresh in the heavily shaded forest areas within 50 miles of Reading . . . so like Joe's ancestral Carpathians where the soil is almost always moist.

You'll especially want to try the baked Maryland lump crabmeat, or the thick, luscious filet mignon with the delicious **sauce duxelles**, still another kind of mushroom. Since no mushrooms are like these, it is impossible to find steak or crabmeat prepared in such a delectable way anywhere else in the United States. Or try the tiny shrimp **La Maze**, or the chunks of sizzling tenderloin of beef **en brochette** with other kinds of savory mushrooms. Oh, yes . . . and the Javanese steak with fried rice, as well as **Veal Rymanow**, named for the town in Poland where Joe's mother was born. And be sure to save some tummy space for a very special dessert—Wanda's almond cream cheesecake! Let the calories fall

where they may for this delightful once!

Ciao! recommends Joe's Restaurant as a real 'find' to our gay readers. Although it is not gay, nor has it any gay connotation, it is that special type of restaurant where gay guys who are good hosts like to take their friends for a real surprise treat, knowing that the food, the warm friendliness of Joe and Wanda Czarnecki, the simple, unaffected decor and lighting and the fresh, fragrant flowers will be a conversation piece for months to come.

Our gay friends from Philadelphia, New Hope and surrounding Bucks County are becoming familiar with this Reading culinary Mecca. You'll find many of them here. Come any day except Sunday, and of course never on Monday . . . that's the day Joe and Wanda go out mushroom pickin'.

Recipes From Around The World

Gathered By The Editors

Since most gay guys are constant waist-worriers, a gay host will keep this in mind when inviting friends to dinner. Of course the more gifted he is as a gourmet chef, the more he will be tempted to fly off on a culinary ego trip and enslave their tastebuds with his special goodies. However, consideration for his guests invariably triumphs over his baser instincts, and thus while serving something sinfully scrumptious but calorie-charged, he will try to balance this by limiting the number of courses, so that the entire meal comes off successfully to the delight of everyone . . . as magnificently prepared as it is artistically inspired . . . beautifully simple and simply beautiful.

Because we are still in thrall to summer, **Ciao!** believes that the omission of a soup will be wise, and so to begin straightaway with the meat course—particularly with

our special recipe this month—will get things going excitingly.



Chicken Shashlik

Chicken Shashlik, a highly-prized recipe of the Moghul Room of the **Oberoi Inter-Continental Hotel** in New Delhi is our **pièce de wow**. It is very perky and spicy, and so it should not be accompanied by cooked vegetables, but rather something on the fresh fruit side and so we have selected the recipe for **Cheese Cocktail Fantasie** from **The President Hotel** in Johannesburg.

The Chicken Shashlik is a dish of such varied surprises that bread is an unnecessary impediment; still—since there are those who simply can't eat without it, as a kind of crutch—may we suggest some lightly toasted sesame sticks instead? Italian or French bread is too spongy for the Chicken Shashlik and the temptation is to eat more of it. The sesame sticks, being quite dry, overcome this temptation.

Our dessert is a simple one—**Oranges Oriental**. If you visit London occasionally and dine at the famous **Caprice Restaurant** no doubt you've had Chef Brian Cotterill's popular fruit cup. It all adds up to elegant dining, and if you'll serve a very dry and delicious white Italian wine—**Fazi Battaglia**—with your Chicken it won't greatly interfere with the winey Oranges Oriental, which require either a fine tawny Port, or something really super like Harvey's Bristol Cream Sherry.

Dig in!

CHICKEN SHASHLIK

This recipe is for just one person. Double, triple, etc., for each additional guest.

- 1 green pepper
- 1 tomato
- 1 onion

6 ounces chicken per person
Salt
Pepper
2 tablespoons clarified butter
½ cup boiled rice
1 sliced tomato
1 sliced cucumber
1 sliced lemon

Remove seeds from the green pepper and tomato, and cut the pepper, tomato and onion into pieces as nearly the size of the pieces of chicken. Skewer alternate pieces of chicken and vegetables and sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper to taste. Roast for about 20 minutes at 275 degrees, basting frequently with the clarified butter. Serve hot on bed of rice with a garnish of the tomato, cucumber and lemon slices.

CHEESE COCKTAIL FANTASIE

This recipe serves four. Increase proportionately for each additional person served.

4 pineapples
1 pound Swiss cheese
1 can red cherries
1 cup mayonnaise
Salt
Pepper

Remove tops from pineapples, scoop out the fruit and cut into half-inch squares. Also cut the cheese into half-inch squares. Mix pineapple, cherries, cheese and mayonnaise with a pinch of salt and pepper. Return mixture to the pineapple shells and replace the tops.

ORANGES ORIENTAL

This recipe also serves four. Increase as needed.

4 large or 8 small oranges
1¼ cups sugar
2 tablespoons corn syrup
2 tablespoons Port wine, or
2 tablespoons cream sherry.

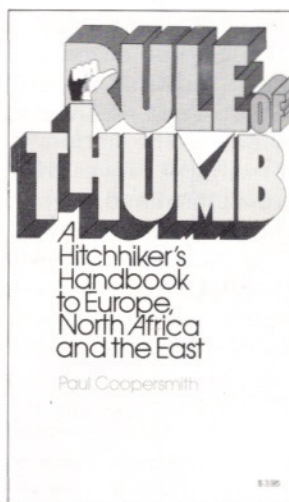
Peel the skin from the oranges with a potato peeler or sharp knife. Cut the skin into match-stick strips, and soak in salt water for 24 hours to remove bitterness. Drain and wash in cold water, then poach the peel in a light syrup made with 2 cups water, ½ cup sugar, 2 tablespoons corn syrup and 2 tablespoons of the wine of choice. Simmer slowly until peel is slightly brittle and

very sweet to the taste.

Remove all white membrane from the oranges with a sharp knife. Place in a basin. Make a syrup with 1 cup water, ½ cup sugar and the orange peel and boil gently until the syrup is heavy and sticky. Pour over oranges and marinate for several hours in a cool place. Serve the oranges with the candied peel on top. Garnish with orange water ice. The wine served with the Oranges Oriental should be the same as the small amount used in the preparation.

Book Review

By The Editors



Right off the bat the author says "This is not another of those 'Do Europe So Cheaply And Quickly Your Friends Will Have Instant Orgasm In Wonder' travel guides." Indeed not. It is a unique travel experience and by far the most ambitious book on the subject we've come across and in none of its nearly 500 fascinating pages will you find even one tired requotation of this "dear little hotel" or that "quaint little restaurant."

Rule Of Thumb by travel expert Paul Coopersmith (A Fireside Book published by Simon and Schuster, New York \$3.95) is, believe it or not, a hitchhiker's handbook, conceived on a freeway entrance outside Genoa one very rainy afternoon, and gestated through every country of Europe

from Portugal to Russia, and all the countries that lie on the way to the Far East from Tangier to Katmandu.

Now why should a book on the art of hitchhiking be of such deathless interest to the readers of **Ciao!** whose idea of a gay sexed-up, pleasure-filled vacation begins at least wrapped in the cotton-wool of solid comfort?

Rule Of Thumb, while by no means a gay book, is of significant relevance to gay guys because a trip abroad is almost invariably synonymous with a search for youth—either as a renewal of a first young acquaintance with Europe . . . or to get away from sex with one's chronological contemporaries to have a fling with younger guys in areas and situations that would likely prove embarrassing at home . . . or to—just for once—do something primal or elemental with a cast-off-your-chains freedom that would seem at least improbable where one lives the year 'round.

If you've ever taken a cruise on a foreign steamship—on German or Swedish/Norwegian liners especially—you'll remember that no sooner had you stepped aboard than there were all those terrific teens with the look of sex pinging 'n panging from eye to eye. And you were glad. And while perhaps 50% were gay, it was the other 50% who were humpy straights so eagerly available that intrigued you. How you made out! And how you hoped the cruise would never end!

Hitchhiker camps abroad are very much like that cruise ship . . . only here the young are even younger, the ready even readier, and the wild still wilder. Where all the youth/hitchhiking camps, areas and proximities are is detailed to the fullest in **Rule Of Thumb**. Mr. Coopersmith is such a gifted and colorful writer and knows his countryside so well that he can make the description of rush-hour at a tram stop sound as exciting as a 24-hour orgy. And if you'll read him through from cover to cover (indeed you'll be unable to put his book down until you've devoured every last witty and intelligent word), you'll discover that hitching is not something uncomfortable to contem-

plate, but very likely you'll be so entranced by its free-wheeling sexual possibilities, plus the simplicity and ease of it all, that you'll see hitching in a new light and begin packing right now.

Hold a moment, however! "If you intend traveling through Europe with a suitcase in one hand, forget it," says the author. "You may as well chain yourself to the nearest boulder for all the freedom of movement that'll give you!" And then, in chapter after fascinating chapter, he gives us the 'why' and 'how' of everything from gearing-up to getting the most from hitching. It's all pinpointed country-by-country and city-by-city, and how's this bit of practicality for a starter?

"You'll discover that the best way to hitch in Europe is not to have the huge back pack so common to American hitchhikers, but two bags: a medium-size knapsack without frame to carry clothes, plus a sleeping bag . . . and a canvas shoulder bag for everything else. Why? Because you can use the knapsack as a cushion while waiting for a lift (total comfort from the start, as you see!), and should it rain you can put the shoulder bag between your legs and throw your poncho over your head. Then, when one of those small European cars (and remember that they're all small these days) does stop, you can easily fit your gear into it since you've divided it into two lots. Few small cars will stop for someone with a huge backpack."

Finally, should you decide that you simply can't stand one more Gothic cathedral spire or one more museum, and would like to go off on a gay side excursion to some off-the-beaten-track hitchhiking gathering places (and they all are), you can park your car, throw all but the most essential items into the canvas bag . . . deposit it in a tourist office, hotel, or train-station luggage room, and set off with your knapsack—10 pounds lighter! This adds a great deal more excitement to a trip that is—*au fond*—somewhat more traditionally, conservatively, or predictably planned.

Rule Of Thumb is the best European travel guide since we

reviewed Manskoff's **Lusty Europe** a few **Ciao!** issues ago. You should get your copy quickly. It will give you travel ideas you never dreamed of . . . particularly **scoring** ideas!

Gay World News & Notes

By The Editors

Atlanta . . . In handing down the decision that the movie "Carnal Knowledge" was obscene the Georgia Supreme Court clearly illustrated that sex in general would be the target of lawmakers across the country. The Stanley Kramer production can hardly be considered "pornographic." Prior to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling it had been shown at major theatres in Georgia and received favorable reviews. The action is significant in that it proves the moralists are determined to make a clean sweep of sex. Anthropologist Margaret Meade believes that by 1980 this country will experience an era of sexual repression the likes of which were not even known in Victorian times. She claims this will come about by a wave of guilt feelings resulting from years of permissiveness, and it seems that the enforcement of a "clean America" brought on by Chief Justice Warren Burger's majority opinion is hastening that day. Many believe the gains made by gay liberationists in recent years will shrink back and that the obscenity ruling will affect lawmakers adversely with regard to easing existing sodomy laws—which could eventually force all homosexuals back into their closets of the 1950s and beyond.

Sydney . . . While things are getting tougher here at home sex taboos are being somewhat eased in Australia. **Playboy** is no longer banned (it was until recently) and lawmakers are pushing for more liberal rulings regarding sex. Attitudes are changing too. Just recently a construction union brought on a boycott in protest of the expulsion of a homosexual from a residential college at Mac-

quarie University.

Concord . . . Homosexuality takes a step backwards in New Hampshire. Governor Meldrim Thomson, Jr. recently called for the resignations of University of New Hampshire trustees who voted to recognize a homosexual students' group (Gay Students Association) on the Durham campus.

New York . . . A step forward for homosexuals. Thirty ministers and rabbis, in a statement recently issued by Rev. Robert E. Carter, a professor at Woodstock College at the Church of St. Francis Assisi, urged "those who share our religious convictions" to support the "gay community in whatever way they think appropriate."

Honolulu . . . As a highranking official of the American Psychiatric Association, who also teaches at the University of Southern California, Dr. Judd Marmor recently said that "homosexual relations between consenting adults do not necessarily hurt anyone" and that "to categorize such behavior as an illness in our psychiatric nomenclature constitutes a misuse of psychiatry." Dr. Marmor was speaking at the organization's 126th annual meeting.

More hot flashes next month.

Gay World Travel Tips

By The Editors

- Dry cleaning outside North America can be an iffy thing. Gay travelers are advised to pack a spot-remover stick and brush. Also a tiny bottle of rubbing alcohol—which works well when removing cum stains from dark clothing.

- If you enjoy outdoor markets (a good place to make contacts) get yourself a copy of Carol L. Cohen's **Streetmarkets** (Grosset & Dunlap, \$2.95), which highlights shopping centers in London, Paris, Rome, Florence and Madrid.

- A very soft mattress is not

CIAO!

conductive to good sex. If you expect to be at a hotel for at least a week and the bed is too bouncy then ask that a supportive bed-board be placed under your mattress. They are available at most larger hotels.

- The hottest show in Paris is at a small *boîte* called **La Grande Eugène**. Jet setters delight in seeing eleven male mimes in classy drag. The skits are funny and the costumes are beautiful. Even gay guys who have seen drag shows all their lives profess that La Grande Eugène is quality and not a "grab-ass show."



- It's a good idea to carry proof of citizenship in addition to your passport when you travel abroad. Also some extra passport photos. This in case your passport is lost or stolen. If it happens, report immediately to the nearest American consulate. Having some proof that you're an American citizen and photos will expedite securing a replacement passport. (Did you know that a stolen passport can bring a thief as much as \$2,500 on the black market—and that if it's used by a criminal and you fail to report it you stand to be involved in serious trouble?)

- Just as soon as you arrive at your destination, remove the tags from your baggage. Leaving them on when you board your onward or return flight can cause your baggage to be routed right back to the place you've just left.

- It's best to carry "specialty" metal objects such as popper cases and cock rings in your luggage. Bags are generally inspected by X-ray and small metal objects will be passed through. If the same objects are carried on your person and the X-ray alarm is triggered as you pass through the airport inspection counter you may be forced to empty your

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pockets—which can be embarrassing . . . especially if you're wearing a cock ring.

- There's a lovely hotel high up on the Fiesole hill overlooking Florence. The Villa San Michele was designed by Michelangelo as a convent. It's now a small hotel with 32 rooms, and a tranquil place to stay while in Florence. Rooms are about \$30 a day (meals included). For further information write to Villa San Michele, V. Doccia 4, Fiesole (Firenze) Italy.

- Everyone's heard of **Tree-tops** in Africa—but not too many know about **Tiger Tops** in Nepal. You view wild animals from both treetop lodges—but at Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge you also go out on elephant-back safaris to view wild tigers. The last elephant in line carries a bar atop its back should you get thirsty. Tiger Tops is not gay but since interesting people go you just might end up with exciting nights as well. For details, write to Tiger Tops, P.O. Box 242, Kathmandu, Nepal—or 226 West 47th St., New York, N.Y. 10036.

And on that wild thought . . . we leave you until next month.

Letters From Our Malebag

GAY CANADA

Dear Editor:

I can't tell you how much I've enjoyed your articles on Montreal and Toronto. I look forward to finding out more about my own country through your beautiful magazine.

I thought you might like to know that a new gay camp-grounds has just opened a short distance from Montreal. It has tent and trailer space as well as about 20 rooms for those who do not have camping facilities. There is a tiny restaurant, canoes, toilets, showers, etc. Most important, it is a private club for gay people only. Membership, which also includes space for a tent or trailer,

is \$400 a year for two or \$300 for one. By the day it's \$10, or \$5 if you're introduced by a member. By the week, \$60 or \$30 if a member brings you in. Visitors passes are \$3 a day for those who want to check things out. I suggest you write for details to Pleins Vents, C.P. 66, Montreal Nord, P.Q., Canada.

Also, Quebec City has its first gay baths. It's at 873 St. John St., on the 3rd floor of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Building. The place is open 24 hours a day and has the usual facilities for \$3 a room or \$2.50 a locker. You've got to be 18 to get in, and the age range is 18 to 35.

Continued success with **Ciao!**

Sincerely,

G.H.

Montreal, P.Q.

FREE INSURANCE

Dear Editor:

I thought your readers might like to know that the Austria Hotels of Vienna chain now protects all its guests with a health insurance plan free of charge. The policy covers a guest for up to 99 percent of any doctor's fee and as much as \$440 against hospital bills. So it might be wise if traveling to Austria to check with your travel agent concerning participating hotels. It was a great help to me; I was clobbered by a hustler and badly bruised. Treatment was entirely free. (Naturally, I said I fell in the tub!)

Sincerely,

Name Withheld

Chicago, Ill.

NO SURPRISES

Dear Editor:

In case any of your readers are planning a Caribbean vacation this winter I suggest they write to Robert Reid Associates, 1270 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020, for "Island Hotels of Distinction." It's a booklet that shows many hotels—including room interiors—thus enabling you to see exactly what you're getting before you go.

Yours truly,

F.D.

Allentown, Pa.



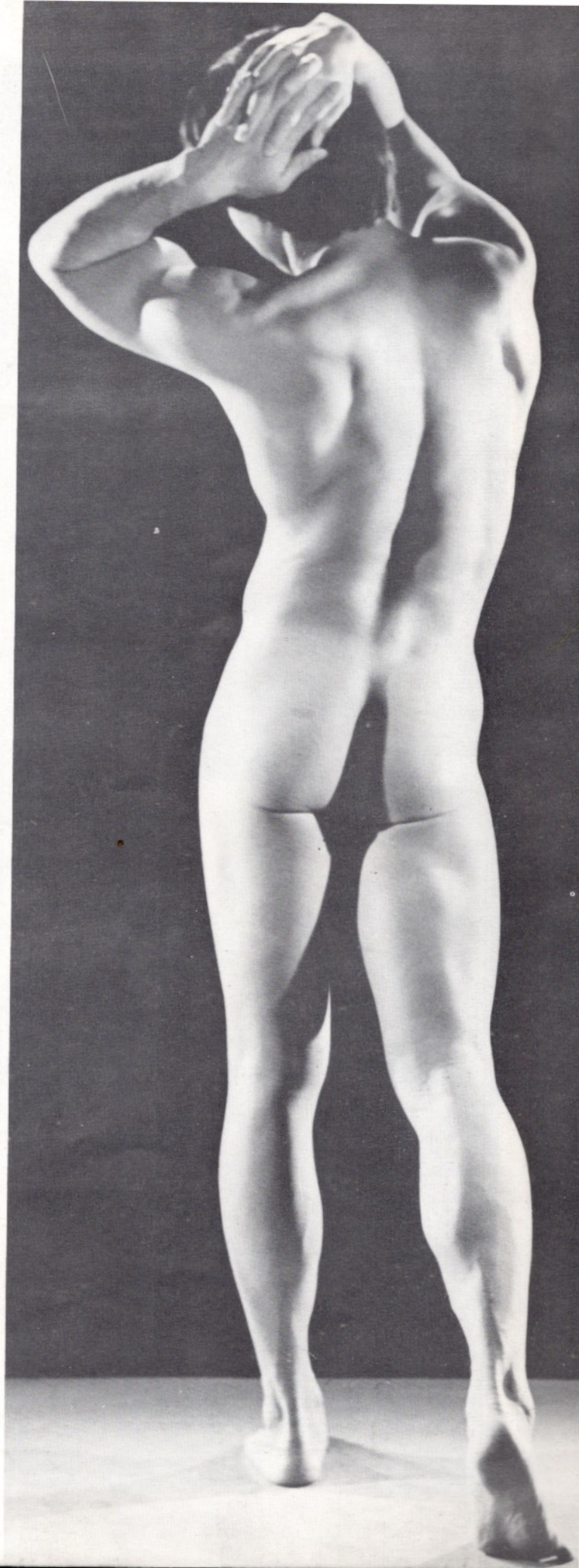
Photo Feature
Of The Month

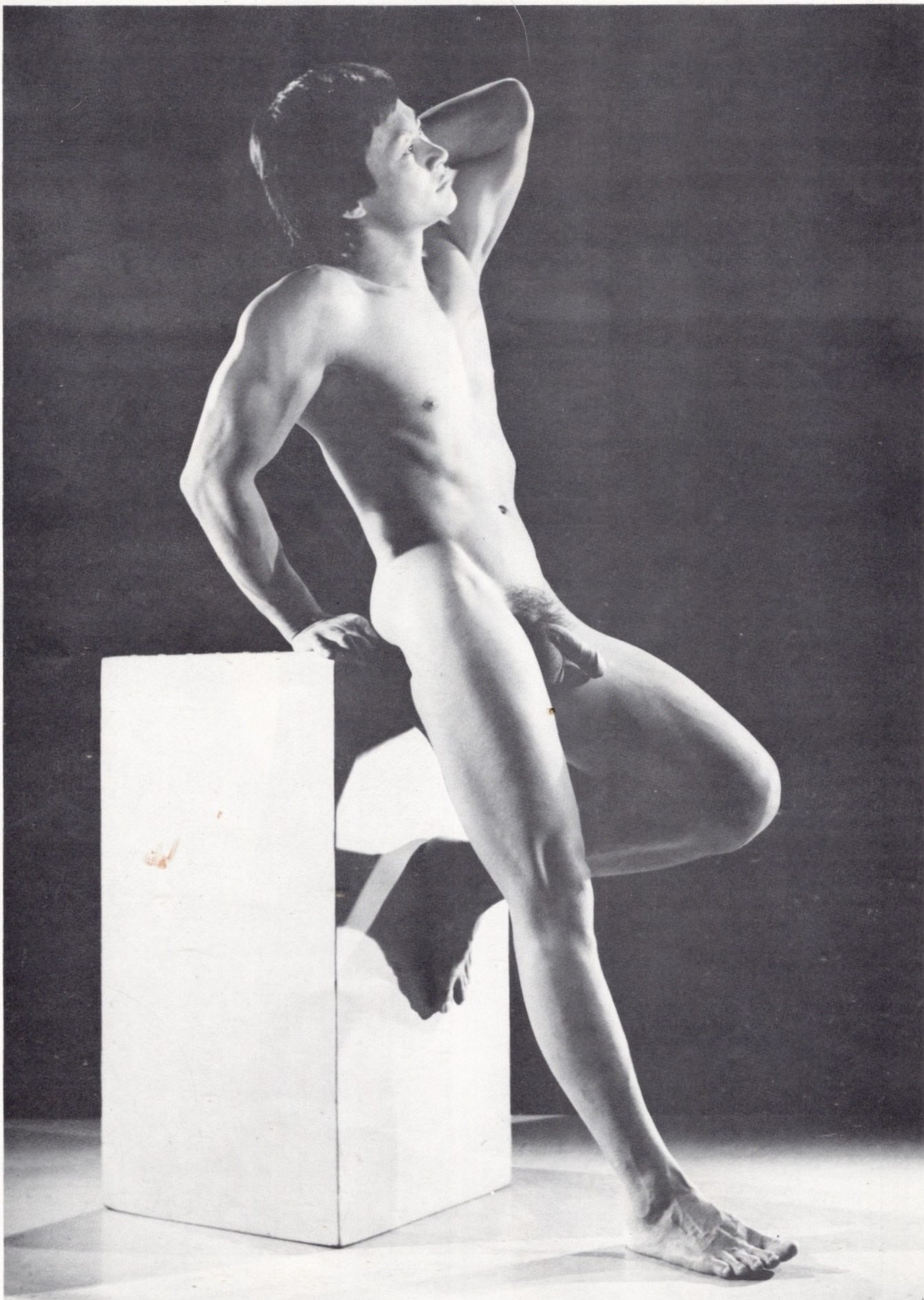
Salute To China

By Bruce of Los Angeles

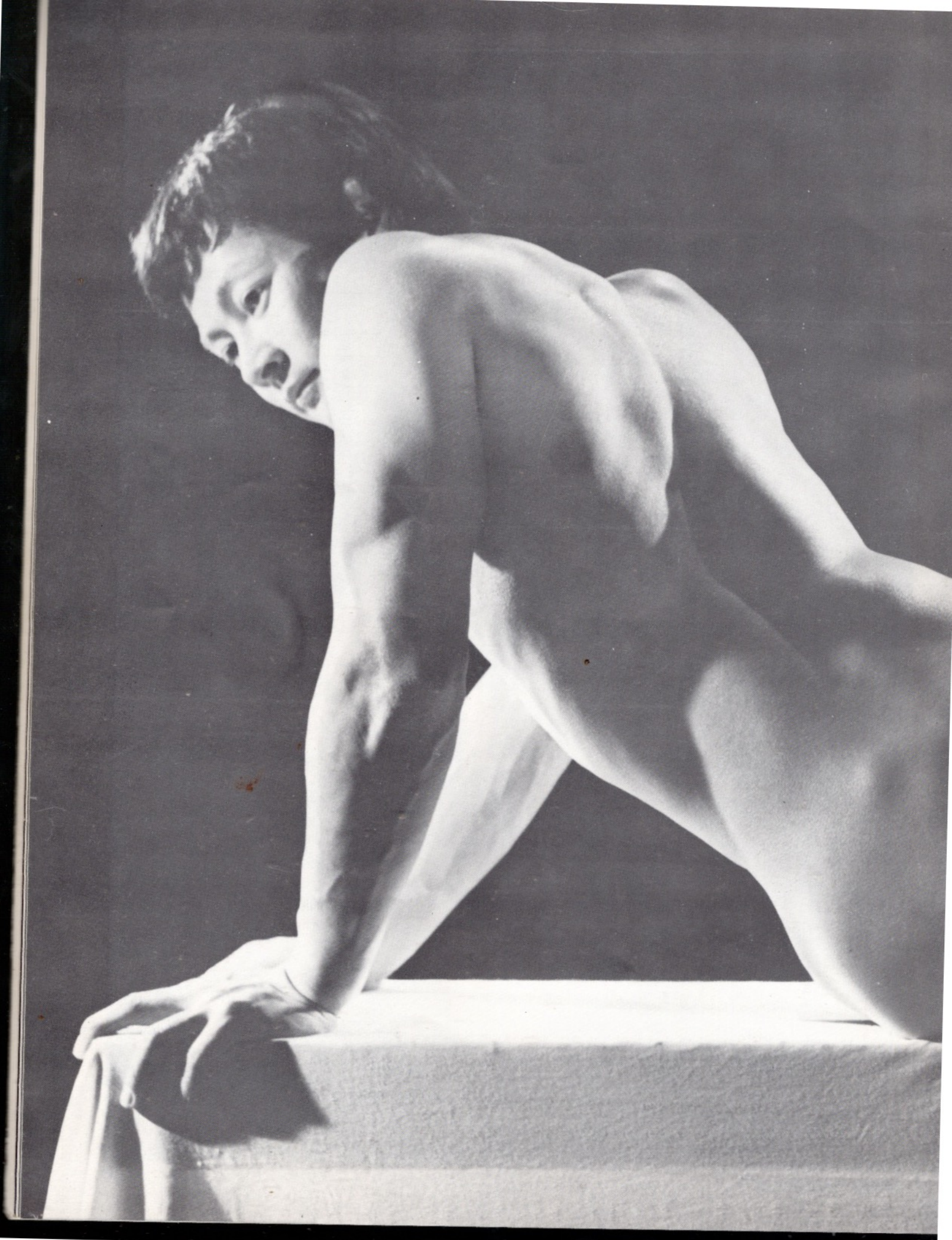


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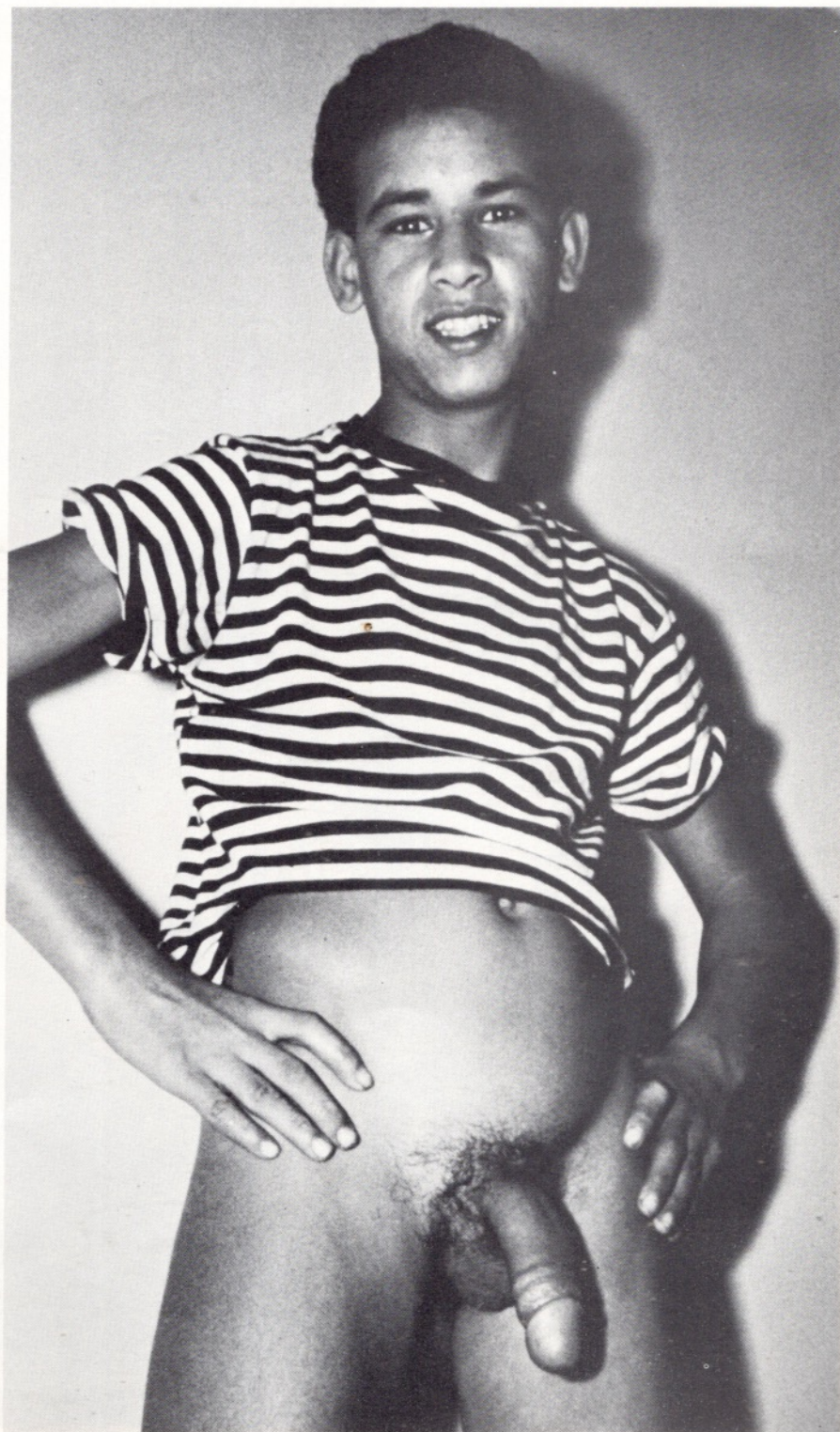
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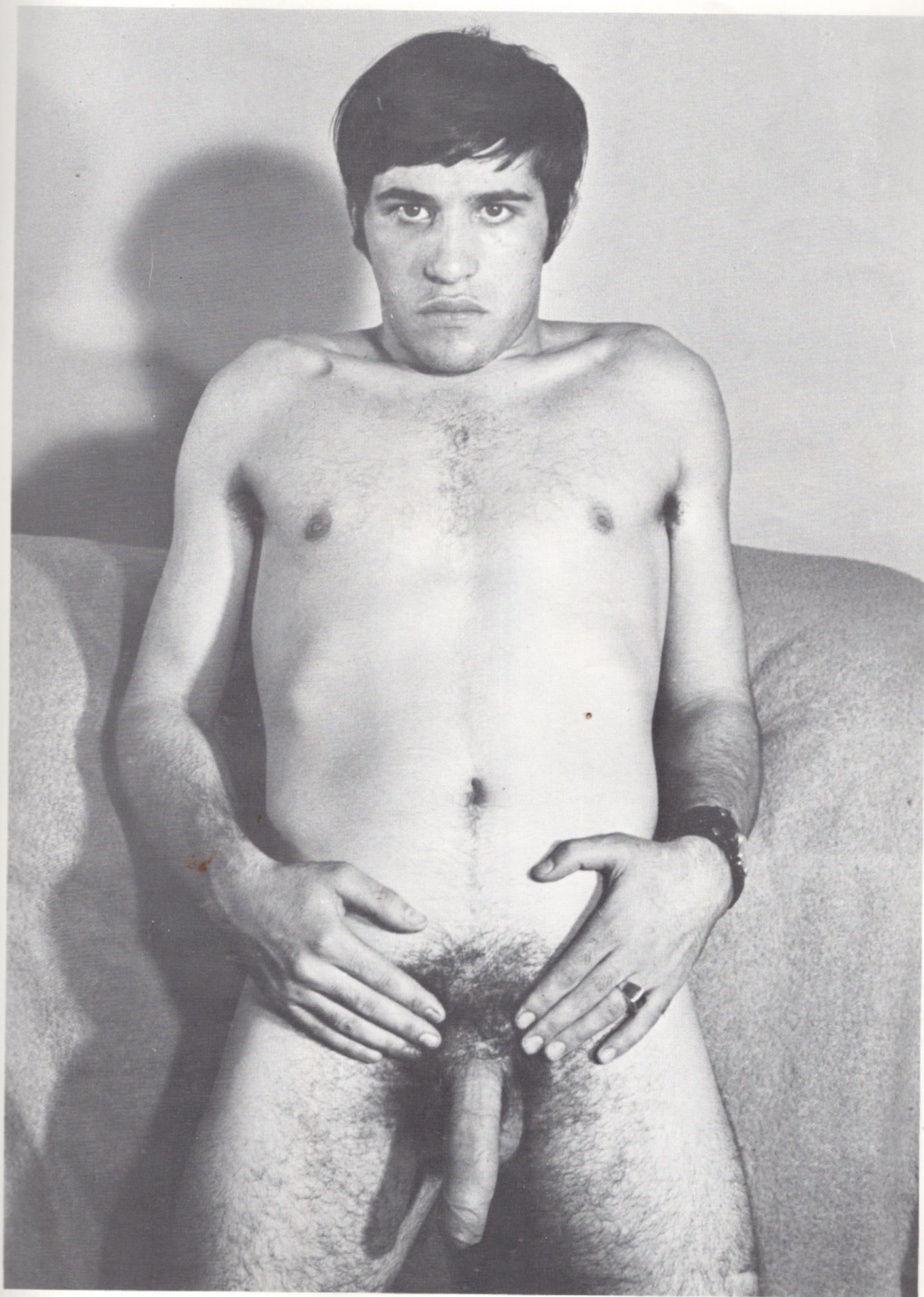
Ciao! Gallery

Super Studs Of The World
Compiled by The Editors

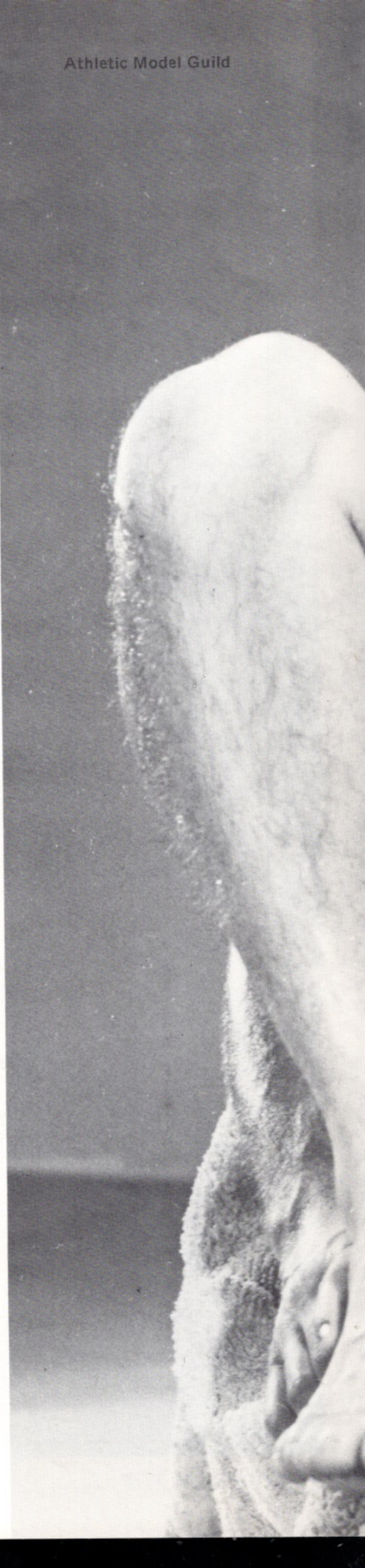


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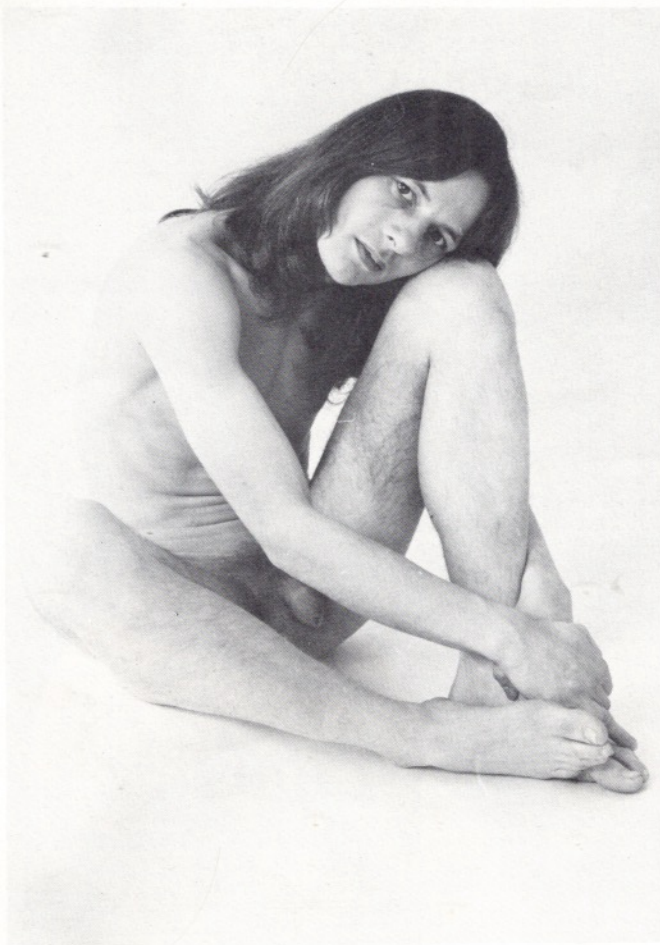
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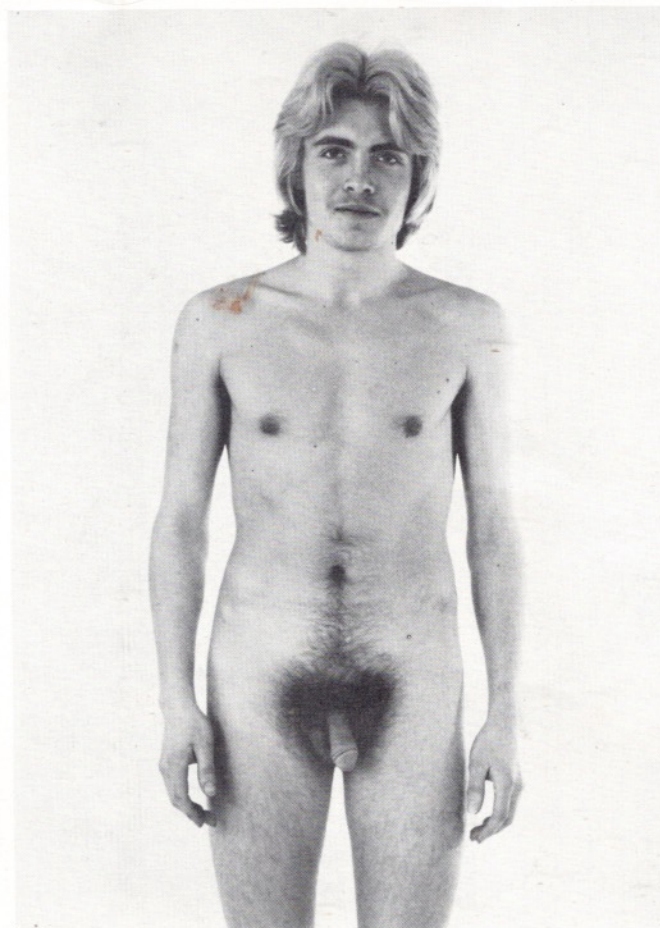


England

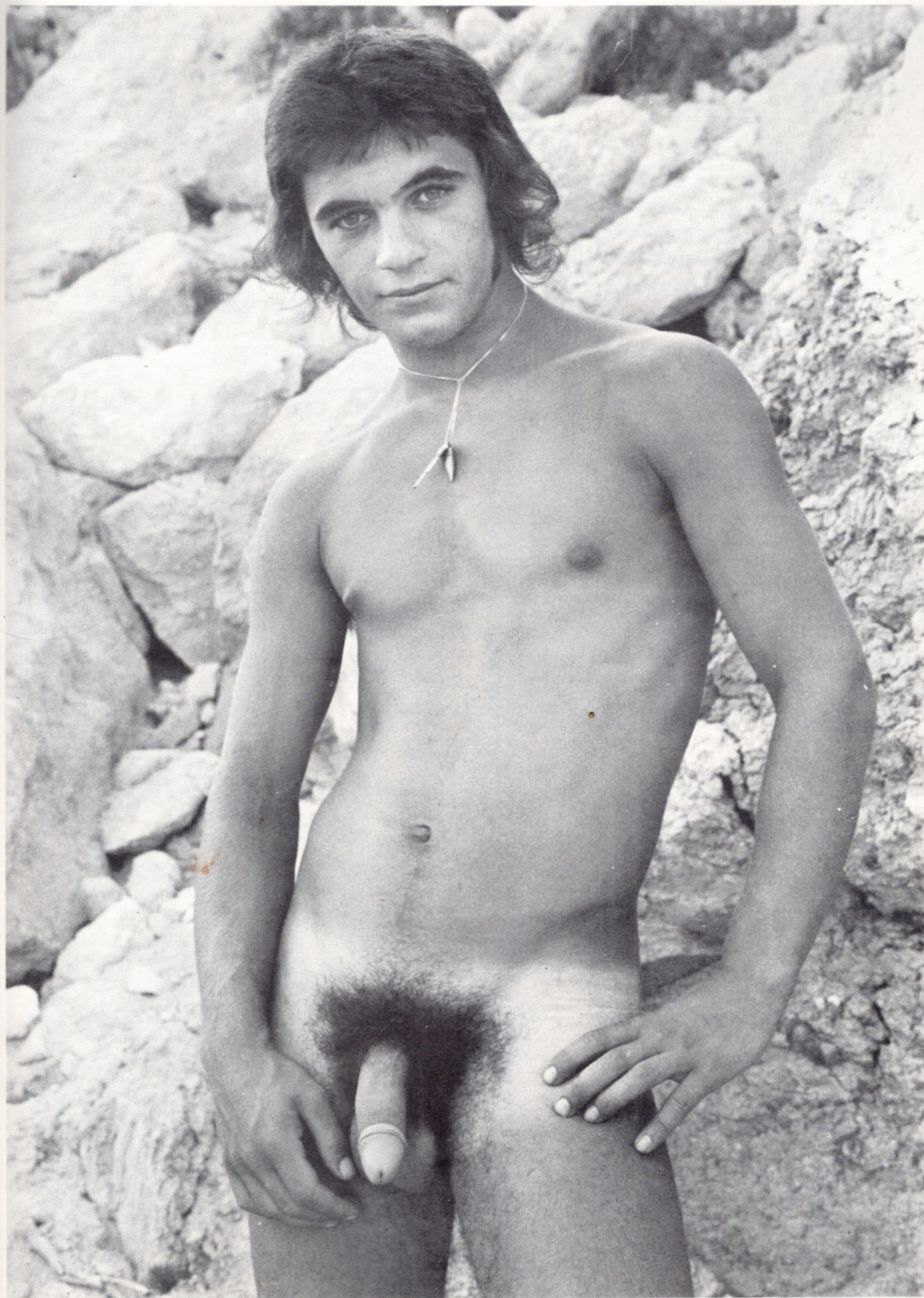


Puerto Rico

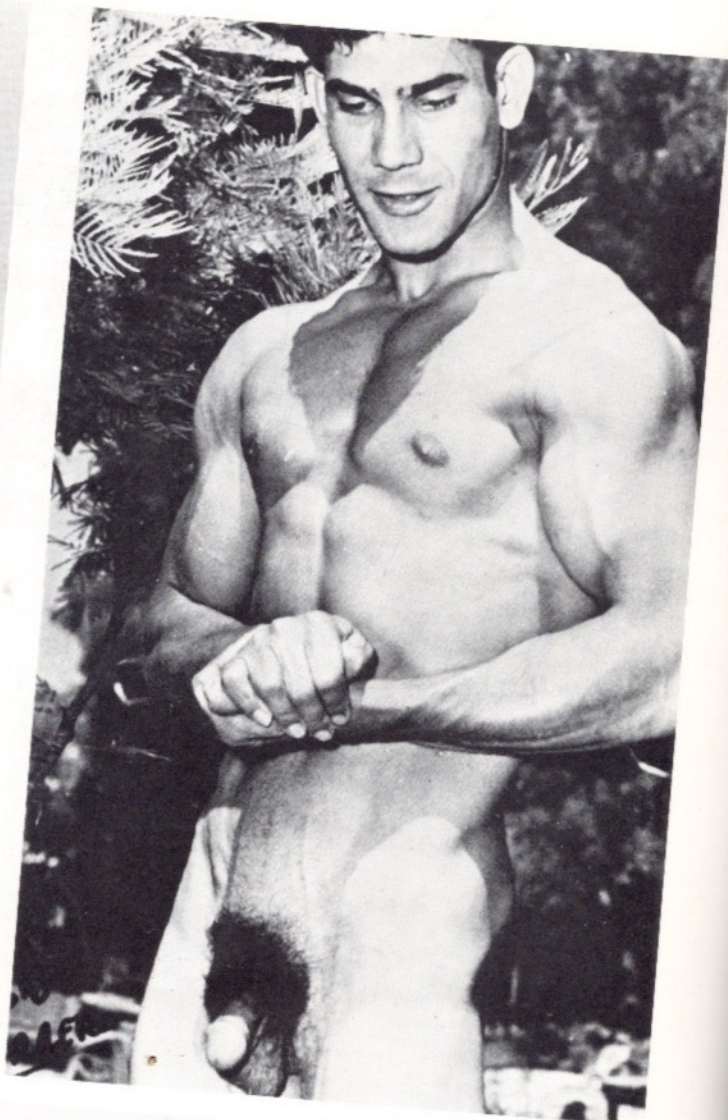
Sweden



Greece



Poland



Spain

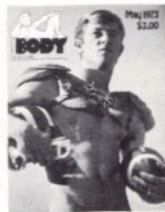
France



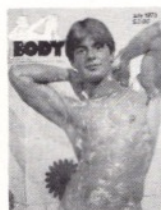
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No. 1



No. 2



No. 3



No. 4

No. 1 (January-February 1973): Munich; Japanese Phallus Festival; Gay Islands—Manhattan, Fire Island, Sylt Island, Ile du Levant, Puerto Rico, Capri, Mykonos; San Francisco; Turkish Wrestlers; Plus—News, Travel Tips, and a Gallery of International Studs

No. 2 (March-April 1973): Germany's Mad Castles; Washington, D. C.; Rome's Piazza Navona; New York Leather Scene; Prague; Florida (all major cities); Seattle; Buffalo; Plus—News, Travel Tips, Recipes, Book Review, Letters, and a Gallery of International Studs

No. 3 (May-June 1973): Stockholm; Baltimore; Italian Riviera; Provincetown; Portobello Road; Montreal; Acapulco; Plus—News, Travel Tips, Recipes, Book Review, Restaurants, Letters, and Gallery of International Studs

No. 4 (July-August 1973): Pompeii; Albany, N.Y.; Toronto; Atlantic City; Providence, R.I.; Bucks County; Boston. Plus—News, Travel Tips, Recipes, Book Review, Restaurants, Letters, and Gallery of International Studs.

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Of Physiques

Glenn Bishop

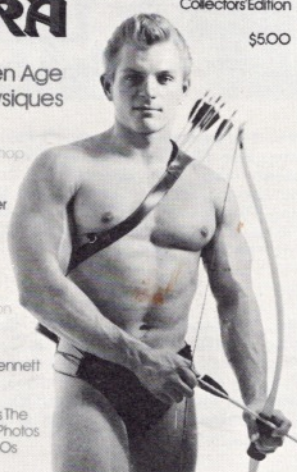
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The Juice Tube

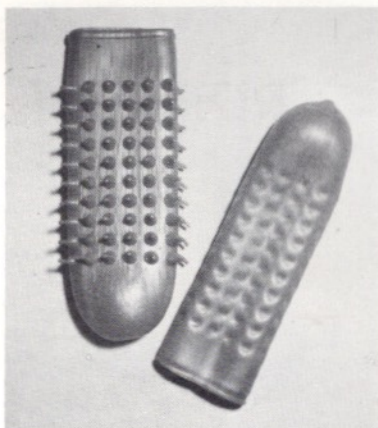


THE JUICE TUBE is a soft, hollow rubber tube which comes with two completely washable condom-like insert liners—one smooth, one lined with dozens of little "nipples." The main section is 4½" deep by 1¼" diameter. Because it is a tight fit its action is caused by squeezing which produces warm suction and friction. Must be used with lubricant. The top insert is a 1½" depression which can be used to accommodate a "finger vibrator" (sold at most drugstores) which is not necessary for use. Completely washable. Sold as a novelty to adults only (please state you are over 21). Sent via insured parcel post in a large, plainly-marked box.

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Shaky Stik

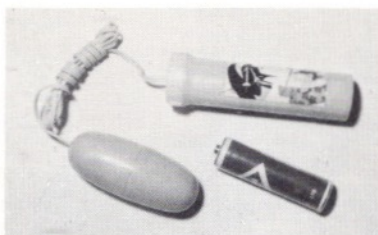


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The Sinker

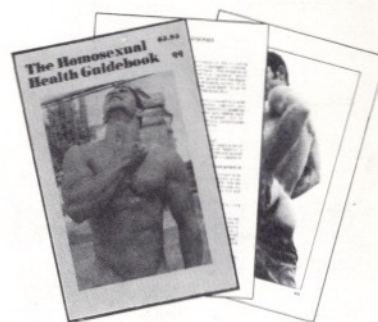


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The Gemini 18

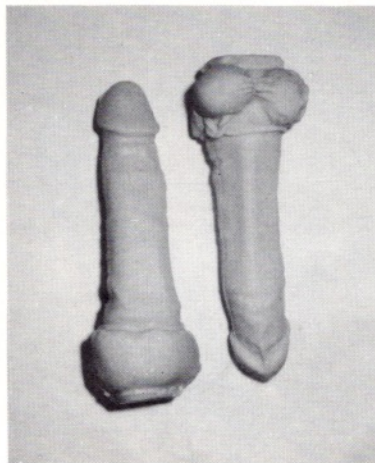


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The Titanic

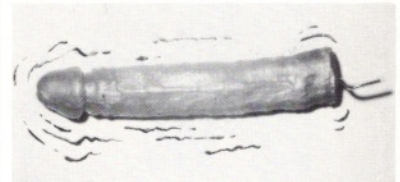


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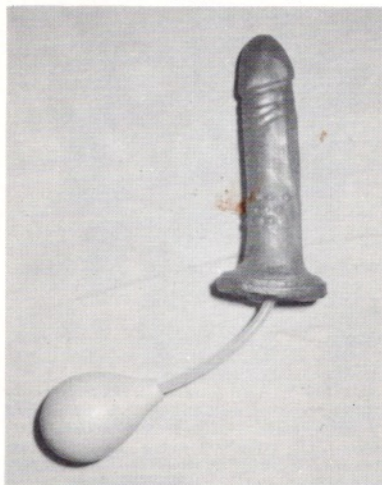


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THE BIG SQUIRT is more faithful than Old Faithful because you say W-H-E-N! Flesh-like, flesh-colored and 7" long. Bulb fills with your favorite hand lotion, etc. Solid rubber, completely washable. (May we suggest that you order an extra as a novel salad dressing dispenser? It will shock and amuse your guests.) Sold as a novelty to adults only (please state you are over 21). Sent via insured parcel post in a large, plainly-marked box.

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The Big Hole



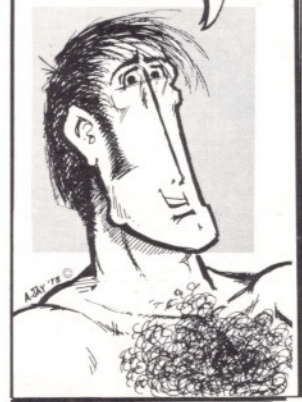
Bottoms up! If that corny expression makes us look like assholes—sorry, guys . . . but our new toy has our imaginations running 'fuckamuck'. This one's made of soft flesh-colored, flesh-like rubber (completely washable). Tight 1¼" hole (stretchable) which leads into a soft condom-like tube (1¾" in diameter, 6" deep, stretchable). Grease up and insert between box-spring and mattress, or anywhere (legs, etc.). Sold strictly as a novelty to adults only (please state you are over 21). Sent via insured parcel post in a large, plainly-marked box.

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Los Angeles, Calif.

Brutswick News
45 E. Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, Calif.

Fred's Health Club
1718 Broadway
Redwood City, Calif.

Jason's Adult Books
1702 N. Western Ave.
Hollywood, Calif.

Le Salon
1118 Polk St.
San Francisco, Calif.

The Locker Room
1951 University Ave.
Palo Alto, Calif.

Newsboy
7540 Topanga Canyon Blvd.
Canoga Park, Calif.

Paris Book Store
8165 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Pete's Smoke Shop
178 So. Murphy St.
Sunnyvale, Calif.

Sandbox Book Store
4877 Lankershim Blvd.
No. Hollywood, Calif.

Swingers & Squares
4539 Van Nuys Blvd.
Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Tom's Adult Books
5659 Hollywood Blvd.
Hollywood, Calif.

Tom's Adult Books
27 Long Beach Blvd.
Long Beach, Calif.

Tampa Book Store
19318 Van Owen
Reseda, Calif.

Western News
5507 Hollywood Blvd.
Hollywood, Calif.

COLORADO

Bachelor's Library
826 - 15th St.
Denver, Colo.

La Parisian
1620 E. Colfax
Denver, Colo.

FLORIDA

Fountainhead News Centre*
8 East Bay St.
Jacksonville, Fla.

ILLINOIS

B&E Bookstore
7639 N. Paulina
Chicago, Ill.

Larry's Bi-Way Books
2550 N. Clark St.
Chicago, Ill.

KENTUCKY

Book Bin
239 N. Limestone St.
Lexington, Ky.

LOUISIANA

Sidney's News Stand*
917 Decatur St.
New Orleans, La.

MASSACHUSETTS

Esplanade Paperback
107 Charles St.
Boston, Mass.

Nini's Corner
Harvard Square
Cambridge, Mass.

MISSOURI

Broadway News*
712 No. Broadway
St. Louis, Mo.

8th Street News*
119 No. 8th St.
St. Louis, Mo.

Magazine & Book Exch.*
1900 No. Union
St. Louis, Mo.

Olive Street News*
3608 Olive St.
St. Louis, Mo.

6th Street News*
208 No. 6th St.
St. Louis, Mo.

Time-To-Read News Co.
7 West 12th St.
Kansas City, Mo.

Washington Avenue News*
707 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

NEW YORK

The Beach Hut Boutique
Beach Hotel Deck
Cherry Grove, F.I., N.Y.

Legend Gallery
152 Seventh Ave. So.
New York, N.Y.

Midtown Bookstore*
138 West 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

News Stand
SW Corner
42nd St. & 7th Ave.
New York, N.Y.

Oscar Wilde Mem. Bookshop*
291 Mercer St.
New York, N.Y.

Oscar Wilde Mem. Bookshop*
15 Christopher St.
New York, N.Y.

Pick-A-Dilly
Dock Walk
Cherry Grove, F.I., N.Y.

Priapus*
111 E. 12th St.
New York, N.Y.

Studio Bookshop*
500 Hudson St.
New York, N.Y.

Studio Bookshop*
166 W. 72nd St.
New York, N.Y.

Village Variety
3 Horatio St.
New York, N.Y.

NORTH CAROLINA

Parker's Newsstand
117 E. Green St.
High Point, N.C.

OHIO

Fantasy Bookstore
113 N. Erie St.
Toledo, Ohio

Paperback Book Store
10200 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio

PENNSYLVANIA

Adult Book Shoppe
942 Market St. (2nd fl.)
Philadelphia, Pa.

PUERTO RICO

Lion of St. Mark's Baths
152 Tanca St.
Old San Juan, P.R.

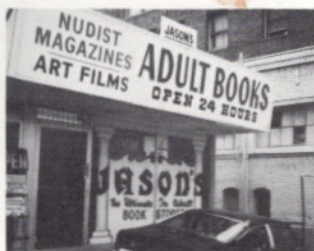
TEXAS

Commerce Street News
1513 Commerce St.
Dallas, Texas

AUSTRALIA

Robert
P.O. Box 17
Brooklyn Park
So. Australia 5032

The Venus Shop
26 Bayswater Rd.
Kings Cross, Sydney
New South Wales



Jason's, Hollywood



Village Variety, NYC



Esplanade, Boston



Midtown, NYC



Oscar Wilde, NYC



Studio (Downtown), NYC



Legend, NYC



Tom's, Hollywood

