

Out  
on  
Screen



Lesbian  
& Gay  
Film  
Festival

May 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30

Locations: Robson Square Media Centre 800 Robson St.  
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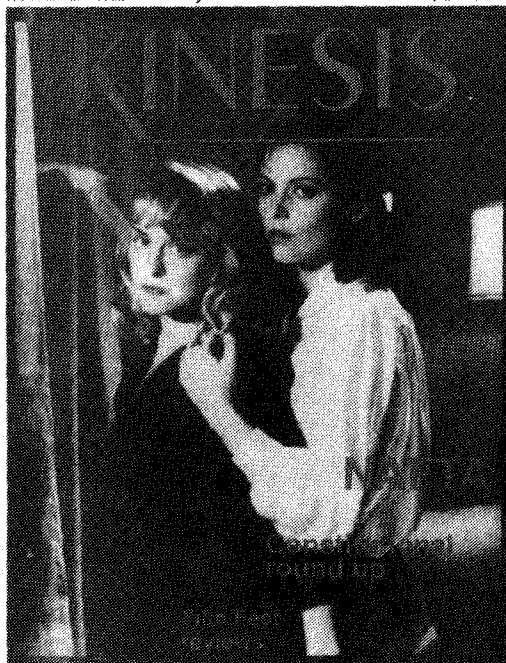
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## Welcome to OUT ON SCREEN

### Vancouver's 5th Annual Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

#### Who is Out On Screen?

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...and numerous volunteers who contributed time and energy invaluable to the production of this year's festival.

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March 26 - 30 marks the dates of Vancouver's Fifth Annual Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Five years! Where did the time go?! Where were you in '92? Have you been there, done that, seen all? If not, do we have some films for you.

Each year we move one step closer to professionalism and maturity. This year our giant step was hiring a full-time administrator and securing an office with a phone and everything. Our thanks to Gay Hawley (aforementioned administrator) for putting up with us, organizing the office and doing most of the hard work.

A sure sign of Out On Screen's growth was our decision to send Robert Rothern (one of our devoted programmers) to the Berlin Film Festival where he rubbed elbows with the "who's who" of gay and lesbian filmmaking and distribution. As a result, we managed to make some valuable connections and put a name on the map for Vancouver's festival.

Another big step for Out On Screen is the addition of two forums on gender crossover to the festival line-up. Both forums are free and will follow the 7 o'clock screenings at Robson Square. Keep an eye out for more details.

For all those people who complained about having to work late or drive in from the suburbs or take their Aunt Lidia's dog for a walk - we are selling advance tickets at the theatres 45 minutes before showtime. You will have to take your chances on opening night, but for all other screenings, check this programme and rush down to Pacific Cinematheque or Robson Square to get the best seats in the house.

By the way, how many of you entered our Instant Video Star contest? If you missed it this year, we were so impressed by the quality of the entries that we will be making it an annual event. All you have to do is come up with an idea that can be developed in five minutes or less. This year's winners will be screened during the festival.

On the subject of budding gay and lesbian filmmakers, Out On Screen has been talking about setting up a scholarship fund for gay and lesbian filmmakers since 1989. Well, this year we are doing something about it by donating the proceeds of our benefit screening to the fund. If you support the cause or just want to see *Sex Is...* and *The Dead Boy's Club*, set aside \$10 for Sunday evening's benefit screening.

My thanks to the board members, committee heads and volunteers who have put their hearts and souls into the organizing of the festival. And thanks also to the businesses and individuals who have sponsored films or advertised in our programme. Let them know you appreciate them by shopping at their stores or eating their food or using their services. Enjoy the films and videos, attend the forums and have fun watching your images on the screen.

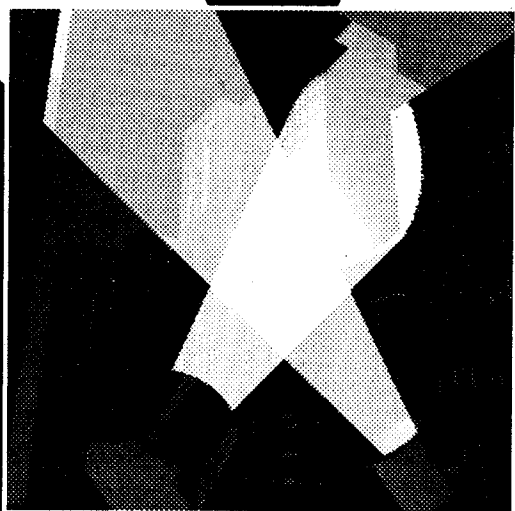
*Louise Pohl*

Louise Pohl.  
 President, Out On Screen



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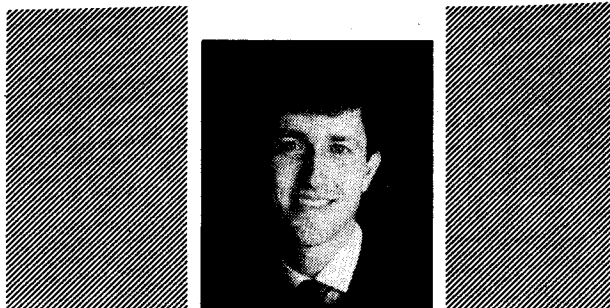
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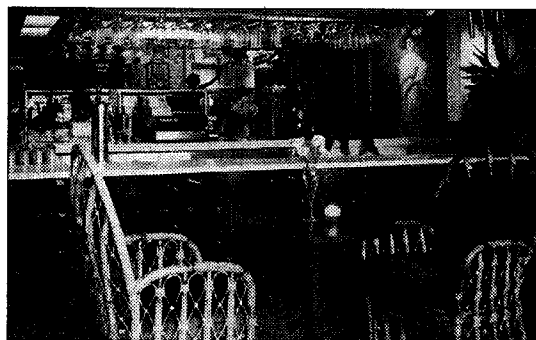
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## Introduction to Men's Programming

The men's programming committee has worked very hard to put together this year's program. It's a strong one, with an unusually wide range: from a Nazi musical to a really sexy AIDS documentary.

Speaking of AIDS, we can't help but sound a note of alarm over the fact that so many young independent gay filmmakers have HIV. We need to realize that filmmaking is a very time and money consuming form of expression, and that this means that all these young artists may only produce a handful of films. Perhaps this is what lesbian and gay film festivals can do best: present their films and celebrate their talents before they are taken from us, with many wonderful films unmade.

We were thinking a while back that cross dressing, and even androgyny, isn't quite what it used to be. Nonetheless, there's nothing like the idea of men in frocks to throw some of us into a male panic. After all, what you wear, or choose not to wear, is a manifesto of sorts. Wash and wear, or dry clean only, clothes are politics. Hence our decision to pay tribute to cross dressing in some of our films this year, and to organize a symposium (men on uniforms) on the issue.

Next year (we always like to dream about next year even before the current festival ends) we will be offering you a retrospective of Canadian films. Who knows if in a year's time we'll still be in a blue funk (pout?) about the national debt or about the prospect of La Campbell as prime minister. But if we are, or even if we're not, it will be a great opportunity to take stock of where we've come from, where we've been, and how our artists, both queer and straight, have represented us.

Thanks for coming, and enjoy. You can even hate it if you want to, just as long as you come back.

*Robert Rothon*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Robson Square Media Center is located at 800 Robson St  
Pacific Cinematheque is located at 1131 Howe St

As the program is subject to change, please check for final listings by calling the ARTS HOTLINE 684-2787 for updated information.

OUT ON SCREEN Memberships: \$1.00

Ticket prices: \$6.00 general \$4.00 seniors & students

Special Benefit Screening: \$10.00 (no discounted prices)

Festival Passes: \$40.00

Advance tickets can be purchased at the box office during the festival.

Passes are available at

Little Sisters 1221 Thurlow St and

Book Mantle 1002 Commercial Dr

## Women's Programming Introduction

This year we look at, think about, and comment on the way we dress. The perspectives are both personal as well as historical. Our theme also takes us into a conversation about gender and the role it plays in the way we look.

Juggling Gender explores the fluidity of gender and raises important questions about construction of sexual and gender identity. This video is sure to have everyone talking about the issues as well as Jennifer Miller's wit and insight.

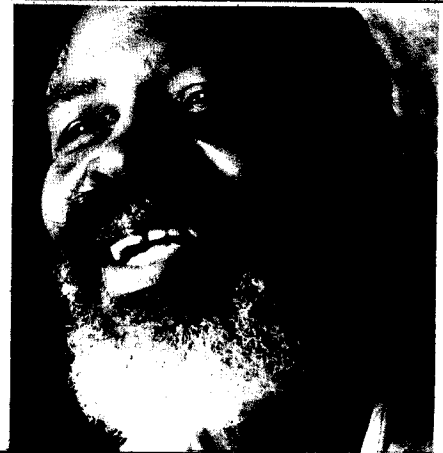
Did you come out in a time when what you wore said something to the world (or at least to the woman standing across the room?) Does it still? Framing Lesbian Fashion is one fascinating trip into the closet. And for what to wear to the bar check out Bar Jeder Frau.

Okay all you closet sci-fi lovers, and late nite types - this one is definitely for you. Flaming Ears is a pop sci-fi lesbian fantasy feature set in the year 2700 in the fictive burned-out city of Asche.

You will be amazed at what these women wear to the bar!

I hope this year's festival provokes thought, conversation, a sense of fun and most of all that you enjoy being Out to the Movies!


*Katherine Sharp*



**G**reetings and Best Wishes  
to the Fifth Annual Out  
On Screen Film Festival.

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WEDNESDAY MAY 26, 1993  
7:00 PACIFIC CINEMATHEQUE

Betty Baxter, federal NDP candidate for Vancouver Center will be our special opening night guest. Please note this is a programme suitable for mixed audiences.



**Viktor und Viktoria** 1933, Germany, english subtitles, 100 mins.  
directed by Reinhold Schunzel

This is not the Blake Edwards 1982 film of roughly the same name starring Julie Andrews (and a rather butch Julie Andrews at that): this is the original!

**Viktor und Viktoria** is the first German feature length musical comedy. Its musical idiom is unusual to say the least (Lehar goes to Broadway), and the story, with its tiny but rather wonderful lesbian subtext, is atypical for its period.

The story is that of a down and out cabaret artiste (Hermann Thimig) who launches a sweet young thing's career by turning her into a female impersonator. Renate Muller is a pretty femmy Viktor and has to warble some particularly ghastly songs. Thimig was a master of slapstick, and his audition scene, where he just murders Shakespeare (or is it Schiller?) is a classic, sweat-beaded brow and all.

Though not what you'd call a queer classic, **Viktor und Viktoria** introduces in a truly charming fashion this year's theme of androgyny and cross dressing.

## Out On Screen's Instant Video Star Contest

Entries to the video contest, open to any and all "camcording queers" ranged from the charmingly gaudy (a drag queen singing in the snow) to the totally cosmic.

Five winners in all were chosen: All of them will be screened on the opening night of the festival. The first prize, a course at the Vancouver Film School valued at \$600 goes to a woman who did a sensational Karen Carpenter impersonation, Janet Noude, for her entry **Hard to Get to Know**. Second prize of a membership at Video In goes to Linda Hancock for her entry **Odd Gals Out**. Congratulations.

WEDNESDAY MAY 26, 1993  
9:30 PACIFIC CINEMATHEQUE

Presentation of this programme is sponsored by the Vancouver Film School. Please note this is a programme suitable for mixed audiences.

Video Contest Winning entries

**Hard to Get to Know** directed by Janet Noude

**Odd Gals Out** directed by Linda Hancock

**Icarus Landed** directed by Kenneth Sherman

**ABC (My Alphabet)** directed by Csaba Tamasi

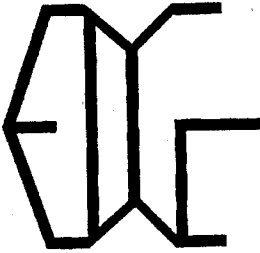
**Beads** directed by Andre Tardif and Randy Pierce

**Nitrate Kisses** 1992, USA, 67 min.  
directed by Barbara Hammer

Elder lesbian love scenes and erotic gay sex are cut with reconstructions of gay history in Barbara Hammer's visually mesmerizing experimental style. Utilizing outtakes and clips, interwoven with an assortment of other materials, including footage from German narrative feature films of the thirties, interviews, period music and shots of three couples making love, she offers a different set of images about gay and lesbian life than those which have previously emerged. **Nitrate Kisses** is a representation which operates on many levels, including allegorical, historical and erotic.



We give heartfelt thanks to the jury who spent a sunny Sunday evening watching the entries and choosing the winners. The jury members were: Clark Antonich, free lance writer, Peter Birnie, Vancouver Sun film critic, Don Haig, Executive Producer and Centre Director of the National Film Board of Canada, Pacific Centre, Lynn McNamara, reporter at BCTV, Katherine Monk, Vancouver Sun film critic, Colin Thomas, Georgia Straight theatre critic, and Cornelia Wyngaarden, video artist.

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THURSDAY MAY 27, 1993  
7:00 PACIFIC CINEMATHEQUE

Dr. Philip Sestak sponsors this programme, dedicating it "to all persons living with HIV and AIDS".

SEVENTIES DRAG - MONTREAL STYLE



**Il Etait une Fois dans L'est**  
(Once Upon a Time in the East) 1974, Canada, english subtitles.  
directed by Andre Brassard

With its screaming east end Montreal drag queens in hot pants and lace up sandals, *Il Etait une Fois dans L'Est* serves as an introduction to the world of Quebec playwright Michel Tremblay. Long considered French Canada's leading playwright, Tremblay has written almost exclusively about scathingly depressed working class women and exultantly defiant drag queens.

*Il Etait une Fois dans L'Est* mixes and matches characters and plot lines from several of his plays. The plot most familiar to Vancouver audiences will be the one about Hosannah heading off to the ball in his best Liz Taylor as Cleopatra outfit. Roughly contemporary with *Outrageous*, *Il Etait une Fois dans L'Est* has now found a new lease on life as a classic of the gay and lesbian film festival circuit.

**Madame Simone** 1992, Canada, 12 min.  
directed by Martin Allard

Twenty years down the road, it's more joie de vivre in drag with the outerspace queen of the Montreal scene. A modern day Joan of Arc, Mme. Simone hears voices in her head and follows them, tottering on her platforms, to wherever they might lead her: Will Wigstock the same?

THURSDAY MAY 27, 1993  
9:30 PACIFIC CINEMATHEQUE

SHORTS FOR WOMEN



**Safe Sex is Hot Sex** 1992, Canada, 3 min.  
directed by Maureen Bradley

Safer Sex is here to stay but putting safer practices into our lives is a difficult transition for many. Nobody gets turned on by lists of do's and don'ts. This tape eroticizes safer practices and latex use for a plurisexual audience.

**She Thrills Me** 1993, Canada, 12 min.  
directed by Maureen Bradley

So, dykes don't talk about sex enough? "*She Thrills Me*" shows women speaking their sexuality, speaking their pleasure. From vanilla to SM, women articulate what thrills them.

**Lovie's Legacy for Dyke Dates** 1993, Canada, 8 mins.  
directed by Katherine Sharp

As Lovie makes her way to the Home For Unwed Lesbians she realizes she has a responsibility to leave a legacy for the dykes that follow behind her. A humorous and musical video that offers dating tips and techniques for keeping her entertained as well as exhausted.

**Transportations** 1990, Australia, 12 min.  
directed by Amanda Walliss

This stylish black and white film takes us through the surreal world of two lovers contemplating love in the bedroom and beyond.

**Bar Jeder Frau** 1991, Switzerland, 6 min.  
directed by Katrin Barben

Wondering what to wear to the bar? Where to stand when you get there? How to sip your drink? This witty and humorous short teaches you the rules of the game!

**Rosebud** 1992, U.K., 14 min.  
directed by Cheryl Farthing

*Rosebud* is a sexy, savvy short about desire and voyeurism. A young artist named Kay who moves into a new apartment soon finds herself unexpectedly drawn to the open sexuality of the lesbian couple who live next door. Images of women begin to color her fantasies and show up in her paintings. As Kay's imagination runs wild, she begins to see lesbians everywhere. She soon sets off to make her fantasies reality.

**Rules Of The Road** 1993, USA, 30 min.  
directed by Su Friedrich

*Rules of the Road* tells the story of a love affair and its demise through one of the primary objects shared by the couple: a beige station wagon with fake wood paneling along the sides. Thousands of its imitators continue to prowls the streets of the city, haunting the woman who no longer holds the keys either to the car or to the other woman's heart.

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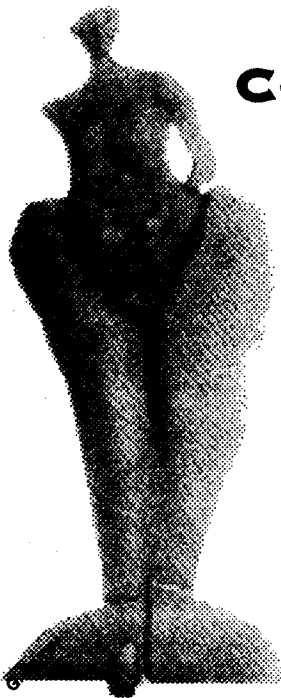
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FRIDAY MAY 28, 1993  
7:00 ROBSON SQUARE

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**HIRSUTE, HER SUIT**



**Body Hair** 1989, Canada, 10 mins.

directed by Carla Wolf

An investigation of personal, social and political realities of white, middle class women and their body hair. What gets shaved, plucked, bleached, and what gets permed, primped and glorified. Interviews with several women are interwoven with ads and research into the history of hair removal.

**Juggling Gender** 1992, USA, 27 min.

directed by Tami Gold

A loving portrait of Jennifer Miller, a lesbian performer who lives her life with a full beard. Miller works as a performance artist, circus director, clown and as the "bearded lady" in one of the only remaining sideshows in America. In public she is often mistaken for a man, an experience she handles with the wit and intelligence that characterize her stage performances. Her lifestyle suggests the impossibility of defining anyone as truly feminine or masculine. **Juggling Gender** explores the fluidity of gender and raises important questions about construction of sexual and gender identity.

**Framing Lesbian Fashion** 1992, USA, 59 min.

directed by Karen Everett

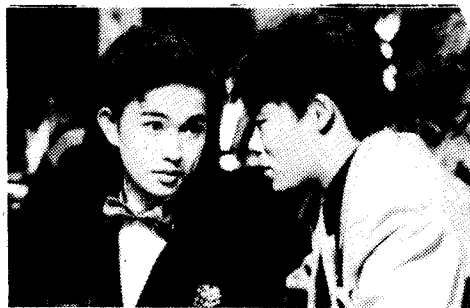
In **Framing Lesbian Fashion**, viewers take a fascinating time trip through the evolution of lesbian dress codes and identities - butch/femme, flannel, androgyny, cross-dressing and drag, queer fluorescence, S/M and leather, lipstick, and more.

**Followed by Symposium HIRSUTE, HER SUIT**

A panel/audience discussion following up on some issues raised in the screenings such as codifying lesbian identity, fashion, crossdressing, gender identification, butch/femme, and images and representations of lesbians.

FRIDAY MAY 28, 1993  
9:30 ROBSON SQUARE

**ASIAN PROGRAMME I**



**Okoge** 1992, Japan, subtitled, 120 mins.

directed by Takehiro Nakajima

Funny, sad, satirical, poignant, and well-acted, **Okoge** is an insightful look at gay life in Japan today. This candid, intimate story of the ups and downs in an affair between a married salary-man and his younger, self-employed lover, is seen through the eyes of the young woman who lets them use her bed when they have no place else to go. In Japanese the word okoge is the slang equivalent to the English term "fag hag". Literally it refers to the crust of rice that sticks to the bottom of the pot.

MIDNIGHT FRIDAY MAY 28, 1993

PACIFIC CINEMATHEQUE

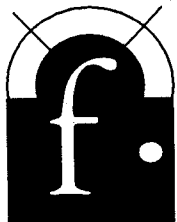
**THE CYBERDYKE MOVIE**



**Flaming Ears** 1991, Austria, english subtitles, 81 min.

directed by Angela Hans Scheirl, Ursula Purror, Dietmar Schipek

**Flaming Ears** is a pop sci-fi lesbian fantasy feature set in the year 2700 in the fictive burned-out city of Asche. It follows the tangled lives of three women - Volley, Nun and Spy. Spy is a comic-book artist whose printing presses are burned down by Volley, a sexed-up pyromaniac. Seeking revenge, Spy goes to the lesbian club where Volley performs every night. Before she can enter, Spy gets into a fight and is left wounded, lying in the street. She is found by Nun, an amoral alien in a red plastic suit with a predilection for reptiles, and who also happens to be Volley's lover. Nun takes her home and subsequently must hide her from Volley. It's a story of love and revenge, and an anti-romantic plea for love in its many forms. An avowedly underground film which was shot on Super 8 and blown up to 16mm, **Flaming Ears** is original for its playful disruption of narrative conventions, its witty approach to film genre, and its visual splendor.



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**Saturday May 29, 1993**

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**TOO HOT TO HANDLE PART II -**

**Men's Programme**

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SATURDAY MAY 29, 1993  
7:00 ROBSON SQUARE  
MEN ON UNIFORMS



**Split - William to Chrysis, Portrait of a Drag Queen**

1992, USA, 58 min.

directed by Andrew Weeks, Ellen Fisher Turk

When asked what fascinated her the most about Chrysis, the subject of *Split*, producer Ellen Fisher Turk answered: her breasts. You'll understand why once you've seen this film.

*Split*, an unusually tender portrait of a drag queen who was an all American show girl and Salvadore Dali's muse. The film's almost new age sweetness is a far cry from the Kamikaze tragic bitchiness more typical of the genre. A labour of love, which according to director Andrew Weeks took up most of Ms. Turk's alimony.

**The Jane Show** 1992, Canada, 39 min.

directed by Mozi Mossanen

With its wonderful opening a la Mary Tyler Moore Show, *The Jane Show* proves itself to be a great starring vehicle for Toronto playwright Sky Gilbert. A cross between a TV talk show and a poetry reading, *The Jane Show* was originally commissioned by the CBC. The CBC brass didn't like what they saw. But we did.

**Faerie Tales** 1992, USA, VHS video, 20 min.

directed by Philippe Roques

No, they don't all wear tie-dyed tutus and yes, they do seem to have this thing about goat rituals. Children of nature, radical faeries have this uncanny capacity to unnerv urban, straight identified gay men. *Faerie Tales* is an amiable meander past some truly interesting fashion statements and their ideological underpinnings. In a playful way, this film challenges our assumptions about masculine behavior and appearance.

**Followed by Symposium MEN ON UNIFORMS**

A panel/audience discussion following up on some issues raised in the screenings such as cross dressing, drag, leather, fashion and transgender issues.

SATURDAY MAY 29, 1993  
9:30 ROBSON SQUARE  
FOR GIRLS WHO LIKE GIRLS



**The Sluts and Goddesses Workshop or How to be a Sex Goddess in 101 Easy Steps** 1992, USA, 56 min.

directed by Maria Beatty and Annie Sprinkle

The Sluts and Goddesses Transformation Salon grew out of a workshop described as "an enlightening, guided, self-discovering, dress-up event for women. The viewer is guided by Annie Sprinkle and her team of "Transformation Facilitators" and encounters the more exotic (and sometimes subcultural) side of pleasure: flagellation by oak leaves, ritual body painting, gender bending, passionate safe sex, and more.

**War On Lesbians** 1992, USA, 32 min.

directed by Jane Cotts

*War On Lesbians* is a witty critique of the invisibility of positive images of lesbians and a satire of talk show television and radio self-help programs. It features supposed experts on sexuality being interviewed by a television talk show anchorwoman. These "experts" espouse the many, often ill-formed theories presented to explain homosexuality. Intercut with the drama are actual recordings of a radio talkback therapist and documentary interviews with lesbians.

**MIDNIGHT SATURDAY MAY 29, 1993  
PACIFIC CINEMATHEQUE**

This presentation is sponsored by Champions Video of Canada.

**TOO HOT TO HANDLE II**

**Too Hot To Handle**

This steamy programme for men is TBA.

Please call Arts Hotline 684-2887 for updated information.





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SUNDAY MAY 30, 1993  
7:00 ROBSON SQUARE

ASIAN PROGRAMME II



**The Twin Bracelets** 1990, Hong Kong/Taiwan,  
english subtitles, 100 min.  
directed by Yu-Shan Huang

A subtly lesbian version of *Raise the Red Lantern*, *The Twin Bracelets* tells the story of Hui-hua, a bright-eyed rebellious teenager of a Chinese minority tribe. Growing up in a fishing village under oppressive ancient traditions, she shamelessly seeks love and escape in the arms of her childhood buddy Hsiu, despite a looming arranged marriage. The beautiful detailing of village life in China and the atmospheric cinematography make this remarkable film a visual feast, written and directed by women.



SUNDAY MAY 30, 1993  
9:30 ROBSON SQUARE

Sponsorship of this screening is by Dr. Luc Magne and Dr. Marc Raper.

Svend Robinson, MP for Burnaby-Kingsway will be our special guest for tonight's gala closing.

Benefit Screening: Proceeds will go to the establishment of the OUT ON SCREEN FILMMAKERS FUND.

Special price \$10.00.

Out On Screen is pleased to present the Canadian premiere of *Sex Is...*



**Sex Is...** 1993, USA, 80 min,  
directed Marc Huestis and Lawrence Helman

Voted most popular gay film at the Berlin Film Festival, *Sex Is...* is a powerhouse documentary about gay sex and sexuality in the age of AIDS and HIV. The film comes as a welcome antidote to the demonization of sex by the religious right (sex is bad, gay sex is fatal) in North America.

*Sex Is...* is comprised of in-depth interviews about monogamy, casual safe sex, HIV status and sexual practices (some of which are graphically illustrated). The common thread is that these men love sex and love talking about it.


An uncompromising portrait of the ups and downs of gay pleasure from the forties to the seventies to the nineties.

**The Dead Boys' Club** 1992, USA, 25 min.  
directed by Mark Christopher

This film has more charm than it knows what to do with. First seen in Vancouver at last year's International Film Festival, *Dead Boys'* tell the story of a young man who inherits a pair of magic shoes. Unlike Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, our hero doesn't end up in Kansas when he clicks his heels.

Relive a seventies world of promiscuity, hot guys and glitter balls, and go home humming its disco theme song (which by the way, would make just a dandy bondage music video).

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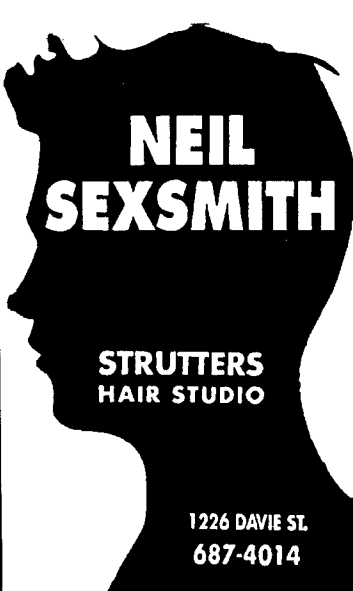
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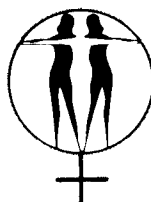
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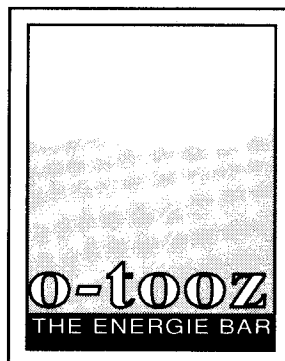
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