She’s baazaazack! Everyone’s favorite Christmas turkey, Dina Martina, returns to Re-bar, and I couldn’t be happier! Year after laugh-out-loud year, Dina Martina raises the bar even higher with each holiday extravaganza and 2010 promises to be her best Christmas show yet!

I got the rare opportunity to interview Dina just days before her November 26 opening night at her home away from home – “Re-bar’s place,” as she calls it. And if the hilarious and outlandish way she answered even the most serious of questions is any barometer of just how ridiculously delicious The Dina Martina Christmas Show is going to be, then my advice is for you to hold on to your seats, ladies and gentlemen, because Dina is going to send us all on a rip-roaring sleigh ride to happy land!

Dina, who just recently returned to Seattle, the city she describes as “a real melting pot of white people,” told me she is ready to pass out jokes like ribbon candy.

“I’m a woman of the ‘90s with a ballpark figure who loves to sing, dance, and act,” Dina told Seattle Gay News. “You know what they call that in show business? They say I’m a full-contact comedian.”

Dina Martina

see MARTINA page 11
Legendary status – earned through over three decades in the music business – hasn’t changed Annie Lennox. Despite being a global superstar, first making an impression as part of the Eurythmics in the ’80s before going solo, she’s genuinely concerned about the human condition, as her tireless work toward promoting HIV/AIDS awareness – with her SING campaign, established in 2007 – demonstrates. She’s inspired the world through dialogue and travel and music, a platform Lennox uses to fervently convey her feelings on society with her sterling voice.

“Universal Child,” which Lennox originally performed on Idol Gives Back earlier this year wearing a shirt that said “HIV-Positive” (even though she isn’t), is yet another passionate plea – this time, to help heal the world. It takes on new life as it rounds out Lennox’s new, first-ever holiday album, A Christmas Cornucopia, which also includes traditional songs and unconventional carols. Its heart, however, is still intact.

On the phone, as Lennox speaks to us from her Scotland home about the long-gestating collection, she’s completely grounded, initiating the conversation by mocking how much time her people have given us: “This is your 15 minutes with Annie Lennox,” she opens with a laugh.

And so it is, as Lennox gets heated over issues dear to her heart: her opinion on the current state of HIV/AIDS, feelings about the bullying-prompted suicides, and why sexuality labels shouldn’t exist.

Chris Azzopardi: Why release a Christmas album now, after all this time in the business?
Annie Lennox: It was just the optimum moment. It’s something I’ve been longing to do for many years, and when you do anything in music it takes time. So every album that I’ve ever made has taken up most of the year that I’ve made it in. Then, finally, it came to the point where I was out of contract and I was like, “What’s my next step?” And then it just occurred to me very obviously, “Ah, this is when I do what I’ve wanted to do for years.” [Laughs.] So it’s just perfect. It’s a labor of love, this whole thing.

Azzopardi: It sounds like it, too, and it has some extra significance: Your 56th birthday is on Christmas Day.
Lennox: That is correct.
Azzopardi: Did you ever get gypped on gifts?
Lennox: When I was a kid, it was fine – I used to get double, and I felt very good about that. But I’m at a point where receiving presents is not really the most important thing to me. [Laughs.]

Azzopardi: Well, of course: You’re more about giving, right?
Lennox: I prefer to. It’s very nice to get a present, but I like to give. I do.
Azzopardi: I’m not surprised. How does “Universal Child” fit on A Christmas Cornucopia?
Lennox: You know, it was a very interesting thing. Basically, Island Records, or Universal, who I’m signed to, just loved the song so much; they just kind of said, “You have got to put it on the album. We really, really want you to put it on the album.” So it was almost like their insistence, because I wasn’t sure; I’d been doing traditional Christmas carols [and thought], “I wonder if this fits in.” But
15% Discount on Gift Certificates Purchased During the Month of December!
The Perfect Waste Free Gift!

THE ELECTRIC BOAT COMPANY
206.223.7476
www.TheElectricBoatCo.com

100% Organic Cotton and Wool • All Free of Pesticides, Herbicides, Formaldehyde, Fluoro-carbons, Chemical Bleaches and Dyes

All Natural Bedding for a Cozy Night’s Sleep

THE DINÁ MARTINA CHRISTMAS SHOW
A different kind of Christmas show

For tickets call: 1-866-838-3006
November 26 - December 31
www.brownpapertickets.com

Happy Holidays from the Seattle Gay News!
Holiday albums hit the shelves alongside Elton and Liza

by Chris Azzopardi
SGV Contributing Writer

MARIAH CAREY
MERRY CHRISTMAS II YOU

Sequelism usually sucks, but Mariah Carey’s isn’t going down with that sleigh as her cleverly titled offshoot to her Merry Christmas behemoth. That 16-year-old album spawned “All I Want for Christmas Is You,” a modern-day classic, whose new “Extra Festive” version conveys that something is off. More obviously, the diva’s “Auld Lang Syne” sounds ready to ring in the New Year on a Guy Taco deck, as its slow preface surges into an arms-up thumper. Beets percolate on first single “Oh Santa!” too, with its old school bounce and school-yard chant, but this wouldn’t be a Mariah album without big, goopy ballads – and one Child, one of two new tracks produced by Hairstylist composer Marc Shaiman, builds to a belting climax; there’s also opera singer mom, Patricia Carey, on “O Come All Ye Faithful” and some chilling-chill-propelling “O Holy Night.” But part two is no classic, especially with the awkward Michael Bublé borrowed “Here Comes Santa Claus (Right Down Santa Claus Lane).” The spirit’s there, though – and that goes a long way.

Grade: B-

INDIGO GIRLS
HOLLY HAPPY DAYS

That the Indigo Girls recorded their first holiday album in Nashville is only appropriate – they’ve never sounded more like downhome country. “I Feel the Christmas Spirit,” a bluegrass sing-along, is a toe-tappin’ good time. What follows is similar in style but stripped to their much-adored acoustic sound: “It Really Is (A Wonderful Life),” written by Chely Wright, adds a jazz twist, while “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” is simple and understated, intertwining Emily Saliers and Amy Ray’s voices like holly and ivy. Their happy day magic (Jans Jax, Brad Carlile and Mary Gauthier add harmonies to the album, too). But what’s really special about the refreshing Holly Happy Days besides the cool packaging with lyrics of the three new tunes written on ornament cut-outs) has more to do with the duo’s rarely recorded song selection. One of those, Bernice Reagon’s “There’s Still My Joy,” is stunningly bittersweet – just how we like our Girls.

Grade: B+

GLEE: THE MUSIC
THE CHRISTMAS ALBUM

Before Glee conquers the world (because it will), it’s conquering Christmas – the show, with a dude duo doing “Baby, It’s Cold Outside” together (aw, cute!). On the holiday-themed release from the cast of TV’s biggest, Queerest show, Kurt (Chris Colfer) and Rachel (Lea Michele) charm in a refreshingly Gay take on the classic. Otherwise, Glee plucks carols into the show’s formula for frothy bouncers and over-the-top ballads: a jazzified “Mingle Jingles,” pop fave “Last Christmas” and a soaring “O Holy Night,” sung by the brotherhood felt throughout, where both artists extract each other’s individual best and together, as her personality, but even with better-known favorites like Frank Sinatra’s “All The Way” and Nat King Cole’s “At Last,” she holds her own, reaching more for the song’s soul and less for its vocal carvethrows. The soft-sounding ease of it all could use more oomph, even with the zing of “You Fascinate Me So,” and is sometimes tediously muddied, but Confessions is still a mature and dignified way to keep Liza’s 60-year career rolling. Hell, we’d put a ring on it.

Grade: B-

ALSO OUT

THE SUPERIONS, DESTINATION... CHRISTMAS!

Something weird was expected from B-52’s Fred Schneider, whose side project with two other musicians – known collectively as the Superions – is one strange, creepy, homely, electro-fused spin. The perversely “Santa Je T’aime” answers the question, “Why did al’ Saint Nick favor Rudolph?” And other novelty songs are just as wacky. If Christmas got punk’d, this would be it.

KATHARINE MCPHEE
CHRISTMAS IS THE TIME TO SAY I LOVE YOU

Back to basics, and out from the trendy trend, is where the American Idol loser lands on her simple track list. The British trio on her third album, mostly made of classic carols, are structured to conjure pre-faddish heart and soul, and with sole original ‘it’s Not Christmas Without You,” pulls at ours.

THE PUPPINS SISTERS
CHRISTMAS WITH THE PUPPINS SISTERS

What did Christmas sound like in the ’40s? Like the Puppins Sisters third disc, with 10 tracks as fresh as new snow. The British trio (who aren’t really sisters) rework them with a worsen, jazzing up “Let It Snow! Let It Snow!” and putting the breaks on 1980s Wham’s hit “Last Christmas.” Even Mariah’s “All I Want for Christmas is You” is revived – in boogie-woogie style.

WILSON PHILLIPS
CHRISTMAS IN HARMONY

If you held on for one more day, then pay-off’s finally here: Wilson Phillips, the all-girl group who ruled the early ‘90s, are getting into the spirit with their first holiday LP. The title couldn’t be truer – harmonies are their thing, especially on songs like opener “I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day” – but the album’s as safe as giving a gift card.

LIZZ WRIGHT
FELLOWSHIP

Lizz Wright’s got some voice – a supple, rich contralto that on her new “secular gospel” album, sounds like she was hobbling to the finish line. Instead of pushing the idea of older diva-foes-younger-diva through to this studio album, her voice, since 1990’s Goodly, she embraces every day of her 64 years of age with a classier, more reserved style that plays to her strengths and avoids emphasizing her weaknesses. Her voice is even more incredible these days – doesn’t go for flash, but is understated and expertly varied, leaving the listener in awe.

Grade: A-

LIZA MINNELLI
CONFessions

Even Liza Minnelli knew her desire to embarrass herself, and her legendary career, with a “Single Lady” (Put A Ring On It). “I rematched this year was a bad move – she’s now grinning greatly, like she was hopping to the finish line. Instead of pushing the idea of older diva-foes-younger-diva through to this studio album, her voice, since 1990’s Goodly, she embraces every day of her 64 years of age with a classier, more reserved style that plays to her strengths and avoids emphasizing her weaknesses. Her voice is even more incredible these days – doesn’t go for flash, but is understated and expertly varied, leaving the listener in awe.

Grade: A-

Shontelle
GREAT GRAND UNION

Shontelle is stumped. Whatever Shontelle is seems irrelevant on much of her sophomore set, where she’s a pop singer left to imitate rather than initiate. Rihanna comparisons – especially on the daughter electro punch of “Take Ova” – are inevitable, but the Barbadian 25-year-old’s also doing her best to be the latest impression on “I Did Make Me Do It.” Even then, and even with a talented production team, she can’t make a hit. The end result, Shontelle sounds mostly outdated, cheap and lyrically shallow, but the lead single, “arpa” is a departure that she may still have a shot at defying Gravity.

Grade: B-

Roach Chris Azzopardi at chris@pridesource.com.
THE holiday party for the
Trans community & Friends
entertainment • dancing • celebration • food • friends

w/special guest Kate Bornstein & DJ Michelle Love
dec 4, 2010 7pm mt. baker community club
2811 mt. rainier drive s. seattle wa
tickets $25 at brownpapertickets.com #136601
$35 at door
ingersollcenter.org/snowball2010
Seattle favorite Anne Allgood sings with holiday cheer in

by Eric Andrews-Katz
SGN Contributing Writer

A CHRISTMAS STORY: THE MUSICAL!
5TH AVENUE THEATRE
NOVEMBER 26 – DECEMBER 30

Anne Allgood is a familiar face to the Seattle theater scene. Even before moving to the Pacific Northwest, Ms. Allgood had graced the Seattle stage in national touring companies. Last seen at the 5th Avenue Theatre’s highly acclaimed production of Candide, Ms. Allgood stole every scene she was in as The Old Woman, the lady with one buttock. The Seattle Gay News interviewed this talented and versatile actress, currently appearing as Mother in the premier production of A Christmas Story: The Musical!

Eric Andrews-Katz: What was it that got you interested in musical theater?
Anne Allgood: I come from a musical family. My grandmother was the church organist in her town and taught piano, so piano lessons were a given in my family. I first sang in church when I was 4. I did a play in the 7th grade (not a musical), but I was always a show-off kind of kid and made my neighbors friends dress up and perform.

Andrews-Katz: After performing several times on Broadway, how did you end up in Seattle?
Anne Allgood: I need a couple of hours to not think about what’s going on before and after the show. I need a little distance. I was living in New York and it was during the big show season. I was living in New York, and never got to audition for non-musical roles. I thought, “I’m going to go to Broadway, and I’m going to be an understudy in New York, and get known as a really good understudy.”

Andrews-Katz: What is it about musical theater that you love the most?
Anne Allgood: Mainly the fact that you have the audience connect with the story. I love the fact that I’m doing something that’s modern. It’s been done, but it has a contemporary sound to it. The music and songs are really a wonderful pastiche of the ‘40s, and yet they have this modern synchronization, a jazzy, splashy part that gives it a contemporary sound.

Andrews-Katz: What is your favorite part about playing Mother in A Christmas Story?
Anne Allgood: That’s a hard one, too. I love the family. I love the fact that John Bolton is my husband (I have a showbiz crush). I love that the mother just never stops trying to have some calm in her home and life. On one hand she is the calm heart of the home, and on the other hand she’s as wacky as the rest. They hate her and don’t listen well, but they love each other.

Andrews-Katz: What is it about A Christmas Story that you think the audience will connect with the most?
Anne Allgood: The appeal of the story is not that it’s from the past, but that we are reliving and watching it now. All the characters in the play are freaks out that it’s going to be Christmas. They are counting down the minutes and everyone is thinking, “How am I going to get everything done?” and being panicky. But they love Christmas – music and cookies, and all the things. I think the audience will have a blast with seeing something that most of them have seen, but in a different form. It’s not like the movie; it’s something different.

Before settling in Seattle, Ms. Allgood lived and performed in New York. Her Broadway career includes The Most Happy Fella (1992) and Carousel (1994). She’s performed with Audra McDonald and Michael Berresse, among other Tony Award winners. Her performances in Seattle include The Women, Das Barbecü, and Candide, among many other line performances.
HOLIDAY EVENTS CALENDAR

Compiled by Nick Ardizzone SGN Staff Writer

ARTS & CRAFTS

“Arboretum Foundation’s Gifts & Greens Galore Sale” 12/11, 12-2/12, 11am-5pm. Along with a great selection of fresh-cut greens, wreaths and tins. The Arboretum Gift Shop will be offering an expanded selection of gifts, plus gift wrapping, seasonal refreshments, live music and more! Washington Park Arboretum’s Graham Visitors Center, 2300 Arboretum Drive E, Seattle. 206-235-4510; www.arboretumfoundation.org. To donate fresh cut greens for the sale, visit the Arboretum Foundation website for details.

“Bastyr Holiday Bazaar” Looking to get all of your holiday shopping done in one place? Come to Bastyr University’s annual Holiday Bazaar craft fair from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on 12/1 at the Bastyr University Campus (4500 Juanita Drive N.E., Kenmore). Participating vendors will sell such items as paper-bead jewelry handcrafted in Uganda, locally created bead and silver jewelry, embroidered tows, locally produced honey, quilted jackets, flower essences, shawls and wraps, organic skincare, photographic art, magic tricks, and much more. Bastyr’s whole foods cafeteria will be open during this time as well. A portion of the proceeds from this event go toward funding scholarships for Bastyr University students. Vendors interested in hosting a table at this event, contact craf@sabstyr.edu. http://www.bastyr.edu/news/news.asp?NewsID=2150.

“Pratt Holiday Art Sale & Opening Night Parties” Don’t miss this chance to find unique holiday gifts for all of your friends and family. Featuring the works of local artists in glass, jewelry, painting and sculpture, you are sure to find something for everyone on your list! 12/1 Opening Night Party, 6-9pm - $50; 12/2-12/11 Holiday Sale, 10am-7pm - free admission. 155 S Main St. www.pratt.org

“South Park Arts Sixth Annual Art Under $100 Sale” 12/4, 10-1pm. South Park’s Old Fire Station, 2611 10th Ave. S. South Park artists will knock your socks off with original, edgy works that you can take home at a typical holiday sale. What’s more, everything is affordable, with nothing priced over $100! The event will showcase a diverse array of art including painting, sculpture, neon, jewelry, clothing, photography, glass, letterpress, and more. FREE entry; art raffle every 30 minutes - raffle ticket $5 or 2 for $8; enjoy an ever-changing atmospheric sound-scape throughout the event; sip on the 2nd Annual South Park Winter Ale and enjoy holiday shopping. All proceeds benefit South Park Art. www.southparkarts.org.

“Winter Festival” 11/27, 1-5pm. Pike Place Market, 1st Ave & Pike St, becomes a winter wonderland when the Market’s 20-foot holiday tree and thousands of lights on the Market’s buildings are turned on at 5pm. Starting at 1pm, Santa poses by the Market’s vintage farmtruck under the Market clock. Bring your camera and take a family photo! The Dickens Carolers roam the market, singing traditional holiday tunes dressed in beautiful Victorian attire. From 4-5pm, enjoy a holiday concert of classical music from the Seattle Chamber Brass Quintet on the stage set up near the Market clock.

“Great Fiyggy Pudding Street Corner Caroling Competition” 12/3, 5-8:30pm. It’s Seattle’s most heart-warming holiday tradition, attracting nearly 10,000 people every year. Immerse yourself in the holiday spirit as 40+ caroling teams sing their hearts out on downtown Seattle street corners in and around Westlake Center, 4th Ave & Pike St, on the sidewalks along Pine St between 3rd Ave & 7th Ave, and along 5th Ave near Pine St 5-6pm, pre-Fiyggy entertainment at the Fiyggy Main Stage by Captain Babypants and cast members from the 5th Avenue Theatre’s production of The Christmas Story: The Musical! 6-7:15pm, caroling competition – vote for your favorite team. 7:15-7:30pm, The Fiyggy Pudding Singers will present a holiday concert. 7:30-8:30pm, mainstage show & awards presentation. All donations benefit the Pike Place Market Foundation and Downtown Food Bank. www.figgypuddingmhc.org

FREMONT LENIN LIGHTING

“Fremont Lenin Lighting and Fremont Art Walk” 12/3, 5-9pm. Celebrate the lighting of Fremont’s Lenin statue at Red Triangle. Evastanche Avenue N & N 36th St. Santa arrives in Fremont, free Peet’s coffee and tea, Mighty O Donuts, and live bluegrass music by Rab-stew String Band. Grab your friends, family, and neighbors and check out our festive art event! Fremont First Friday Art Walk runs from 6-9pm.

GREEN LAKE PATHWAY OF LIGHT

“Green Lake Pathway of Lights” 12/11, 4-7:30pm. Join thousands of families, friends, and neighbors in this beloved Seattle tradition and travel the 2.8-mile path around the lake, taking in the warm glow of the luminaria. People are encouraged to bring their own lights or candles to add to the ambiance. Local musicians will perform at four sites around the lake: the Green Lake Community Center on the east side, the Green Lake Small Craft Center (the Aqua Theater) on the south side, the Bathhouse Theater (Seattle Public Theatre) on the north side, and The Arc on the east side of the community center/pool. Warm drinks and snacks will be available at those locations, as will donation bins for the non-perishable food items for Northwest Harvest. Admission is free. http://parkways.seattle.gov/2010/10/29/green-lake-pathway-of-lights-is-december-11/

SEATTLE CENTER WINTERFEST

“Seattle Center WinterFest” 11/26-12/31. Connect to the sights, sounds and spirit of the season at Seattle Center WinterFest presented by KOMO TV. Five weeks of FREE and affordable fun-filled activities and entertainment. Visit Center House – displaying its winter finery – or explore the enchanting WinterFest Ice Rink, Seattle Center’s largest! Enter Center House for tickets that include entry to the ice rink or to the Enchanted Forest, a 3.2-mile path around the lake, taking in the warm glow of the luminaria. People are encouraged to bring their own lights or candles to add to the ambiance. Local musicians will perform at four sites around the lake: the Green Lake Community Center on the east side, the Green Lake Small Craft Center (the Aqua Theater) on the south side, the Bathhouse Theater (Seattle Public Theatre) on the north side, and The Arc on the east side of the community center/pool. Warm drinks and snacks will be available at those locations, as will donation bins for the non-perishable food items for Northwest Harvest. Admission is free. http://parkways.seattle.gov/2010/10/29/green-lake-pathway-of-lights-is-december-11/

Macy’s Holiday Parade & Star Lighting with Westlake Tree Lighting Ceremony

Macy’s Holiday Parade & Star Lighting 11/26, 8-8:45am parade, 5pm star lighting and fireworks program, weather permitting, with tree lighting ceremony at Downtown Macy’s and Westlake Center, 4th Ave & Pike St. Considered Seattle’s official kick-off for the holiday season. Macy’s Holiday Parade will feature some 20 balloon floats and inflatables, local high school marching bands, 500 costumed characters, and community drill teams. It concludes with San-francisco fireworks program, weather permitting, at the Pier 35 Fireworks Display. Macy’s Holiday Parade will perform at four sites around the lake: the Aqua Theater on the south side, the Bathhouse Theater (Seattle Public Theatre) on the north side, and The Arc on the east side of the community center/pool. Warm drinks and snacks will be available at those locations, as will donation bins for the non-perishable food items for Northwest Harvest. Admission is free. http://parkways.seattle.gov/2010/10/29/green-lake-pathway-of-lights-is-december-11/

SEATTLE CENTER WINTERFEST

“Seattle Center WinterFest” 11/26-12/31. Connect to the sights, sounds and spirit of the season at Seattle Center WinterFest presented by KOMO TV. Five weeks of FREE and affordable fun-filled activities and entertainment. Visit Center House – displaying its winter finery – or explore the enchanting WinterFest Ice Rink, Seattle Center’s largest! Enter Center House for tickets that include entry to the ice rink or to the Enchanted Forest, a 3.2-mile path around the lake, taking in the warm glow of the luminaria. People are encouraged to bring their own lights or candles to add to the ambiance. Local musicians will perform at four sites around the lake: the Green Lake Community Center on the east side, the Green Lake Small Craft Center (the Aqua Theater) on the south side, the Bathhouse Theater (Seattle Public Theatre) on the north side, and The Arc on the east side of the community center/pool. Warm drinks and snacks will be available at those locations, as will donation bins for the non-perishable food items for Northwest Harvest. Admission is free. http://parkways.seattle.gov/2010/10/29/green-lake-pathway-of-lights-is-december-11/

Macy’s Holiday Parade & Star Lighting 11/26, 8-8:45am parade, 5pm star lighting and fireworks program, weather permitting, with tree lighting ceremony at Downtown Macy’s and Westlake Center, 4th Ave & Pike St. Considered Seattle’s official kick-off for the holiday season. Macy’s Holiday Parade will feature some 20 balloon floats and inflatables, local high school marching bands, 500 costumed characters, and community drill teams. It concludes with San-francisco fireworks program, weather permitting, at the Pier 35 Fireworks Display. Macy’s Holiday Parade will perform at four sites around the lake: the Aqua Theater on the south side, the Bathhouse Theater (Seattle Public Theatre) on the north side, and The Arc on the east side of the community center/pool. Warm drinks and snacks will be available at those locations, as will donation bins for the non-perishable food items for Northwest Harvest. Admission is free. http://parkways.seattle.gov/2010/10/29/green-lake-pathway-of-lights-is-december-11/

THE GREAT Fiyggy Pudding Street Corner Caroling Competition XXIII

“The Great Fiyggy Pudding Caroling Competition” 12/3, 5-8:30pm. It’s Seattle’s most heart-warming holiday tradition, attracting nearly 10,000 people every year. Immerse yourself in the holiday spirit as 40+ caroling teams sing their hearts out on downtown Seattle street corners in and around Westlake Center, 4th Ave & Pike St, on the sidewalks along Pine St between 3rd Ave & 7th Ave, and along 5th Ave near Pine St 5-6pm, pre-Fiyggy entertainment at the Fiyggy Main Stage by Captain Babypants and cast members from the 5th Avenue Theatre’s production of The Christmas Story: The Musical! 6-7:15pm, caroling competition – vote for your favorite team. 7:15-7:30pm, The Fiyggy Pudding Singers will present a holiday concert. 7:30-8:30pm, mainstage show & awards presentation. All donations benefit the Pike Place Market Foundation and Downtown Food Bank. www.figgypuddingmhc.org

MUSIC

November 27

“Bach and Friends” Four members of the Seattle Baroque Orches-ta will present an intimate program that
celebrates the musical camaraderie between J. S. Bach and his favorite contemporaries. Ingrid Matthews (violin), Byron Schnenk (harpsichord), and Whisker Whittaker (cello), Jason Fisher (viola), 11/27, 8pm, at Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave. Tickets $40, $35 seniors, $25 students under 25. www.earlymusicguild.org.

“Christmas in England: A Ceremony of Carols”
Back by popular demand, the Renaissance Singers will kick off the Christmas season with their annual Christmas program in the intimate acoustic setting of Trinity Episcopal Church (609 8th Ave.) on 11/27 at 7:30pm and 3pm. The program will feature various types of English Christmas carols and motets, including music by John Rutter and selections from Benjamin Britten’s “A Ceremony of Carols.” Suggested donation $17, students and seniors $12. www.therenaissancesingers.com.

“Holiday Glee”
Seattle Men’s Chorus Holiday Concert - 11/27 at 8pm with special guest Kelli O’Hara at the 11/27 & 11/28 concerts only. Gleeks and non-Gleeks alike will flock to Benaroya Hall for SMC’s homage to Glee. The show’s unscripted anthem; “Don’t Stop Believin’” has been re-worked as a parody, with holiday-themed lyrics. In individual Chorus members will represent several of the main characters. Benaroya Hall, 3rd Ave & University St. Tickets $25-365. 206-388-1400; www.flyinghouse.org.

November 28

“Christmas in England: A Ceremony of Carols”

“Holiday Glee”

December 3

“Claudio Monteverdi: 1610 Vespers”
In celebration of the 400th anniversary of Monteverdi’s immortal masterpiece, Early Music Guild and Seattle Baroque Orchestra will present Seattle’s first period performance of the “1610 Vespers” in over 30 years. Presented in partnership with St. James Cathedral, Stephen Stubbs directs Pacific Musicworks, an all-star ensemble of musicians who have had intimate involvement with special guests, Europe’s premiere cornett and sackbut ensemble, Concerto Palatino. The vocal music for this performance include sopranos Terri Richer and Yulia Van Doren and tenors Ross Hauck and Jason Syman. 12/3 and 12/4 at 8pm. St. James Cathedral (804 9th Ave.). Tickets $40, $35 seniors, $25 side sections. Tickets see www.earlymusicguild.org.

“Holiday Glee”

December 4

“A Cathedral Christmas: Through a Child’s Eyes”
The Seattle Choral Company’s 39th season begins with the third annual “A Cathedral Christmas.” The concert theme this year is “Through a Child’s Eyes,” and is geared toward the young and the young at heart. The renowned Seattle Girls Choir will appear with us in John Rutter’s “Mass of the Children” along from 1993 features the Chorus with a chamber ensemble of woodwinds, soloists, and four-hand piano. Three outstanding soloists join: soprano Christina Kowalski, mezzo-soprano Kathryn Welden, and tenor Stephen Rumph. Other pieces on the program retell the story in the voice of composers from many ages. Music of Michael Praetorius, Gustav Holst, Benjamin Britten, and Moses Hogan are included, as well as another audience favorize – the carol sing-along. 12/4 7:30pm at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church (7500 Greenwood Ave. N.) and 12/5 3pm at Plymouth Congregational Church (1218 6th Ave. nwwчеа5). www.northwestchamberchorus.org.

December 5

“Holiday Glee”

“Handel’s Messiah”
Presented by Orchestra Seattle & Seattle Chamber Singers, 12/5 at 3pm. First Free Methodist Church, 3200 3rd Ave. W. Tickets $20 general; $18 senior; $10 student; FREE-youth (7-17 with accompanying adult). 1-300-838 3006; www.oscs.org; www.flyinghouse.org.

“Northwest Chamber Chorus - Land to the Nativity”
www.medievalwomenschoir.org.

“Northwest Chamber Chorus: Land to the Nativity”
The Seattle Choral Company presents the radiant “Laud to the Nativiy” by its brilliant founder, Bernard Rumph. Other pieces on the program retell the story in the voice of composers from many ages. Music of Michael Praetorius, Gustav Holst, Benjamin Britten, and Moses Hogan are included, as well as another audience favorize – the carol sing-along. 12/4 7:30pm at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church (7500 Greenwood Ave. N.) and 12/5 3pm at Plymouth Congregational Church (1218 6th Ave. nwwчеа5). www.northwestchamberchorus.org.

December 6

“Holiday Glee”
Seattle Men’s Chorus Holiday Concert. 12/6 at 2pm. Ballard Branch, Seattle Public Library (5614 22nd Ave. NW). Seattle Greetings! It’s time for the Seattle Men’s Chorus’ annual FREE holiday concert at the Ballard branch of the Seattle Public Library. The library’s performance space is one of our favorite places to play. We’ll present Christmas in Holy night favorites from here at home and around the world. We may even invite the audience to sing along on a few selections. Bring the kids! We look forward to seeing you there. www.seattlemandaloin.org.

December 12

“Holiday Glee”

“Joy!”
Join the Rainbow City Band for a holiday celebration the whole family will enjoy. The Sounds of Christmas, and work of Rosa Parks. Tickets $25, $20 general; $18 senior; $12 student. At the heart of the holiday concert will be a brand-new piece for the band sure to delight at 12/12 at 3pm at the Edmonds Center for the Arts (410 4th Ave. N., Edmonds). There’ll be something for everyone as they fill ECA with such timeless works as Leroy Anderson’s “A Christmas Festival” and energize the hall with the contemporary sounds of Man chael Raimondi. The 12/12, 7:30pm concert will feature a sing-along for children and families and in-clude the audience to sing along on a few selections. Bring the kids! We look forward to seeing you there. www.seattlemandaloin.org.

December 18

“Christmas With Seattle Pro Musica”
Seattle Men’s Chorus presents the radiant “Laud to the Nativity” by its brilliant founder, Bernard Rumph. Other pieces on the program retell the story in the voice of composers from many ages. Music of Michael Praetorius, Gustav Holst, Benjamin Britten, and Moses Hogan are included, as well as another audience favorize – the carol sing-along. 12/4 7:30pm at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church (7500 Greenwood Ave. N.) and 12/5 3pm at Plymouth Congregational Church (1218 6th Ave. nwwчеа5). www.flyinghouse.org.

see HOLIDAY CALENDAR
Music makes a holiday gift

by Albert Rodriguez
SGN A&E Writer

Let them buy their own sweaters. Instead, fill their stockings and entertainment shelves with new CDs, DVDs, and books this holiday season. It’s a mixture of suggestions, including a jewelry item currently being sported by a famous pop star, shop to for or add to your personal wish list.

Glee: The Complete First Season
(The Glee Edition)

TV’s runaway hit of the 2009-10 season is captured in its entirety, including the “Power of Madonna” episode that finds McKinley High’s glee club covering “Like A Virgin,” “4 Minutes,” and “Vogue.” The Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild-win- ning series, helmed by Najack and Ryan Murphy, is more than weekly ear/eye candy, centering on issues like homophobia, teen pregnancy, prejudice and promiscuity, it’s an entertaining, at times emotional glimpse into the lives of young people with lots of great music, performed by the actors themselves. The “Glee Edition” includes all 22 episodes of season one, plus two full hours of never-before-seen extras. Emmy-winner Jane Lynch and Emmy-nominated Chris Colfer are on two publicity outings who star on Glee.

Burlesque (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)

Chris Pine, Aguilera and Cher

We don’t yet know if Christina Aguilera can act, but there’s no doubt she can sing–actually, she belts it out quite wonderfully. She can act, but there’s no doubt she can sing–act. She’s among the A-list talents for the biggest album of all-time, Michael Jackson’s posthumous The King of Pop project. Burlesque, coming on the heels of his 20-year career. In total, 39 tracks are offered to fans on three discs, including a brand new single titled “Shame.” And we are offered to hear anything from one UK hotshot Gary Barlow, plus a grouping of B-sides and rarities, all bound in a 20-page book package.

Love Me Back
Jazmine Sullivan

She’s back, and thank goodness! R&B sensation Jazmine Sullivan, a Best New Artist-Grammy nominee two years ago, returns with her sophomore album Love Me Back. The collaborators on this CD are top-notch–Missy Elliot, Ne Yo, Salam Remi, and Ryan Leslie. “10 Seconds” appears to be the leadoff single, although the singer-songwriter’s website currently allows fans to download another track, “Holding You Down.” Selected to receive Billboard’s 2010 Rising Star Award in early December, it’s further evidence of Sullivan’s musical climb, and that she’s here to stay.

Olympia
Bryan Ferry

20 years have gone by since Bryan Ferry released his first solo hit “Kiss and Tell,” off 1990’s Dlector Band. His Roxy Music ex-frontman is at it again with his newest CD Olympia, featuring the initial single “You Can Dance.” There are bet- ter tracks, however. Not “Shameless,” the mysteriously sounding autopilot, but the slow-paced “Me Oh My,” where his shivering vocals pull us through a dramatic background.

Revolution
Miranda Lambert

Aside from Lady Antebellum and there could be a better 2010 in country music than Miran- dala Lambert. The Texas native won Album of the Year and Top Female Vocalist/Artist of the Year at the Country Awards that honor the genre’s top brass, ACMs and CMAs. Her ninth album, Revolution, is her best yet. “White Lie” is a spunky, vengeful num- ber with a modern, strong woman in mind, while “The House That Built Me” is a beautiful written song that could become Lambert’s signature hit. Expect the Grammy-nominated artist’s thoughts during the recording process and preparations for her live performances. Much like her music, Feist appears soft-spoken and shy on stage. Her sixth album, Feist appears soft-spoken and shy on stage. Her sixth album, “Metals,” is the sweeping numbers, “My Favorite Things” and “Do-Re-Mi” – set against an Austrian countryside – that ensure The Sound of Music will outlive any modern musi- cial (are you listening, Bar- Burke?).

Christopher Plummer, plumming along tracks for those who want to release their inner Maria, are just a few of the special features included in this limited-edition package. But it’s the sweeping numbers, “My Favorite Things” and “Do-Re-Mi” – set against an Austrian countryside – that ensure The Sound of Music will outlive any modern musical (are you listening, Bar-Cone?).

On Producing
Robbie Williams

He’s a musical legend, largely responsible for the biggest album of all-time, Michael Jackson’s Thriller. He’s worked with countless musicians, from jazz to hip-hop, assemb- ling many of them on his Grammy-winning project Back on the Block, not to mention co-helming the ’80s mega hit “We Are the World.” Seattle native Quincy Jones shares his production skills and musical teachings in the book On Producing, a vital tool for aspiring artists of every genre.

In and Out of Consciousness - The Greatest Hits 1990-2010
Robbie Williams

Former boy band member Robbie Wil- liams has never caught the attention of U.S. audiences, unless you count the warped ver- sion of “Angels” gargoled by Jessica Simp- son. The Take That alum, a superstar in his native England and several European coun- tries, releases a greatest hits package span- ning his 20-year career. In total, 39 tracks are offered to fans on three discs, including a brand new single titled “Shame.” And we are offered to hear anything from one UK hotshot Gary Barlow, plus a grouping of B-sides and rarities, all bound in a 20-page book package.

Looking at What the Light Did Now
Indie darling Feist did the next logical thing following the success of her debut solo album; she made a Best New Artist-Grammy nominee the thoughts during the recording process and preparations for her live performances. Much like her music, Feist appears soft-spoken and shy on stage. Her sixth album, “Metals,” is the sweeping numbers, “My Favorite Things” and “Do-Re-Mi” – set against an Austrian countryside – that ensure The Sound of Music will outlive any modern musical (are you listening, Bar-Cone?).

The Suburbs
Arcade Fire

We expect great things from Arcade Fire, and they always deliver. So do Arcade Fi- re. The Suburbs, the Montreal ensemble uses its everything-but- the- dance “Sons and Daughters” as a marvelous set of tracks, highlighted by the punkish “Ready to Start” and the danceable “Sprawl II (Moun- tain Men)”, the latter featuring the wacky vocals of Regine Chassagne. If your list includes young colleagues for an office gift exchange or nephews who listen to KEXP, Arcade Fire is sure to please.
MARTINA
continued from cover

call that a ‘threat!’

When I first saw the advertisements for her 2010 Christmas show, I must admit (as with most Dina promotions) I was a bit confused, yet intrigued as to why she would use the styling of the Rocky Horror Picture Show — complete with Dina Martina lips — as a poster for a holiday show. What is with the Rocky Horror theme?

“There isn’t one. Isn’t that neat? I just liked the way it looked on the posters and flyers,” she said. “I try to avoid themes, because they encourage the audience to cultivate expectations. But isn’t it wonderful that all the shows on TV are doing Rocky Horror episodes? Glee and … wasn’t there another one? I think Houdini is doing one. The Rocky Horror Picture Show!”

Oh, come, all ye faithful! Dina says she absolutely loves the fact that each holiday season, her legions of loyal fans return to Re-bar to see her show. When asked about her fans, she quickly answered, “OK, now you’re gonna make me cry — I love those guys. There are two ‘F’ words that are so important to me, and one of them is ‘fans’ — the other is ‘Funyuns.’”

Always one for nostalgia, Dina told me, “I started doing Christmas shows in Las Vegas in the early ’70s — I think 1971. Then a number of years in rural Las Vegas, then a couple of years in outer rural Las Vegas, then a short stint on Easter Island, then I started here in Seattle at Re-bar’s place in ’97.”

Have you been to a Dina Martina show? Confusion and laughter is the recipe of the night. I’ve had the pleasure of watching Dina on more than one occasion and found myself wondering how she comes up with this shit. Don’t lie — so have you!

“Well, I used to write a bunch of random words on little pieces of paper and then pull them out of a hat and then go from there, but a friend showed me how to eliminate the ‘hat’ stage, so now the process is a little more streamlined,” joked Dina.

At a Dina show, the comedian sings, dances, and shares stories with the audience about anything and everything imaginable. Joining Dina onstage is accompanist Chris Jeffries. Re-bar has been home to Dina and her fans for years.

“Re-bar’s place is like a big, welcoming mud room,” she said. “It’s loaded with free radicals, which coat your skin and save it for a later date, and just walking in the door is like getting your own personal beer bat-facial. It’s also the only place I can think of where you don’t feel too bad if you spill your drink.”

So what is Dina Martina’s idea of a perfect Christmas? “Every year, my daughter Phoebe and I prepare a gorgeous feast at home — just the two of us,” she explained. “Phoebe’s adopted, so we usually start with Top Ramen, but I’m a foodie, so it gets pretty wild from there — graham crackers, cocktail onions, you name it. I try to eat a diet rich in sodium to give my face that ‘bigger than life’ look, and I think it’s working. I’ve been tryin’ to eat more brie, too, but it’s hard with my schedule. Then, to make room for dessert we put on bigger clothes.”

The song content is always a treat because you never know what holiday tune Dina is going to butcher. “Asking me what my favorite Christmas song is is like asking me which of my children is my favorite! It’s hard to choose one over the others,” she explained. “Did you see Sophie’s Choice? It’s like that. I’ll just say that two of my favorite artists are Anna Maria Alberghetti and Van Gels.”

This year, Dina said she has some very important news to share with Seattle Gay News readers: “I’d like the ladies to know that depilatory creams eradicate protein, which is not only the main ingredient in hair and skin, but also meat. So they should really store their Nair away from any lunchmeats they may have. And I’d like the men to know that I’m single.”

Oh, jeez. How I love Dina Martina!
Seattle’s Largest Fleet of Taxi Cabs!

YELLOW CAB

(206) 622-6500

24-Hour Dispatched

Eastside
(425) 455-4999
S. King County
(253) 872-5600

$28.00 Flat Rate
From Downtown Seattle to Sea-Tac Airport.

(206) 282-8222

Seattle Symphony

GERARD SCHWARZ, MUSIC DIRECTOR

PROKOFIEV’S

romeo & juliet

DECEMBER 9–11

Thursday sponsored by Microsoft / Friday sponsored by American Express

Stéphane Denève, conductor
Kelley O’Connor, mezzo-soprano
Seattle Symphony

Friday’s Rush Hour concert features an early start time, no-intermission format and a pre-concert happy hour.

TICKETS FROM $17

215.4747 SEATTLESYMPHONY.ORG

“The Infection monologues

Monday December 6 at 7pm
Erickson Theater Off Broadway
1524 Harvard Ave

Directed by Manny Cowaling
Written by Eric Rofes & Alex Garner
with additions by Vincent Kover,
Chad Goller-Sojourner, and Cole Arden Peake

Because the story’s not over.

General Admission: $15
Students & Seniors: $10
Info: www.gaycity.org
Kolenu Presents

LIGHT THE NIGHT
A GLBTQ HANUKKAH

December 5th, 7-9pm
The Lobby Bar, 916 East Pike Street

Celebrate the miracle of Hanukkah as we honor community leaders who have been influential in our local fight for equality. Candle Lighting. Latkes. Dreidels. Free.
baritone vocalist Everett Green of the Count Basie Orchestra plus alto vocalist Nichol Eskridge, top-dancer Alex Dugdale, and the Northwest Chamber Chorus presented by Earshot Jazz Sunday this concert sold out all 900 seats in 2009, so early ticket pur- chase is recommended! This special concert honors Ellington and what he called “the most important music he’dever written.” 12/26-7:30pm, Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave. Tickets: $15-$34. www.brownpapertickets.com/event/121675; www.earshotjazz.org.


“A Christmas Carol” ArtsWest, 4711 California Ave. SW. Tickets: $19-$37. acttheatre.org

“A Tuna Christmas” Presented by the School of Acrobatics & New Circus Arts (SANCA). The tale begins with the opening of a restaurant. Lassette Vide has all the elements necessary for a fine dining establishment - great location, excellent ambiance, highly skilled staff, a fancy French name. Only one thing seems to be missing: the chef. How long can the maitre d’ and wait staff keep the patrons entertained in the absence of a delectable meal? A Feast of the senseless is a joyous celebration featuring acrobatics, tightwire, unicycle, aerial art, and juggling. 12/11 at 3 and 7pm and 12/12 School of Acrobatics & New Circus Arts (674 S. Orcas St.). Tickets $19, $14 for 12 and under. www.brownpapertickets.com/event/138053

“An Improvised Christmas Carol” Unexpected Productions takes the Charles Dickens classic and re- plays it based on suggestions given by the audi- ence throughout the play. A holiday favorite for over 20 years. Runs 11/26- 12/30. Market Theatre, Pike Place Market, 1428 Post Alley. Tickets: $10. 206- 587-2414; www.unexpect edproductions.org

“Black Nativity” Directed by Jacqueline Moscou and choreographed by Donald Byrd of Spec- trum Dance Theater, “Black Nativity” is a celebration of faith, expressed through exu- berant performances of song, story and dance, reaching audiences of all ages, back- grounds and beliefs. The first act of “Black Nativity” re- tells the Christmas story through the words of the great American poet Langston Hughes. This year’s production will feature actors Earlhy Dean, Josephine Howell, Past or Alphonzo Meadows, and Pastor Patrinell Wright in the leading roles. The production features gospel performances by the Total Experience Gospel Choir and the Black Nativity Choir and modern and traditional Christmas music performed by a variety of dancers. Runs 12/9-12/26. Moore Theatre, 1932 2nd Ave. Tickets: $35-$55. 877-784-2787; www.artswest.org

“A Imperial Christmas Show” Unexpected Productions given by the audiences of all ages, back- grounds and beliefs. The first act of “Black Nativity” re- tells the Christmas story through the words of the great American poet Langston Hughes. This year’s production will feature actors Earlhy Dean, Josephine Howell, Past or Alphonzo Meadows, and Pastor Patrinell Wright in the leading roles. The production features gospel performances by the Total Experience Gospel Choir and the Black Nativity Choir and modern and traditional Christmas music performed by a variety of dancers. Runs 12/9-12/26. Moore Theatre, 1932 2nd Ave. Tickets: $35-$55. 877-784-2787; www.artswest.org

“A Honeybee and a Honeymoon” Powered by the civil rights movement of the 1960s, Elling- ton’s wonderful “Sacred Music” is both serious and swinging, a rev- erent and hip body of jazz compo- sition for jazz big band, vocal and instrumental soloists, gospel choir, and tap dancers. The 23rd annual Duke Ellington Sacred Music con- cert, featuring the SKRO with guest


“Homo for the Holidays” An unforgettable all-star cast brings you innovative burlesque and cabaret performances to help you beat the holiday blues. “Homo for the Holidays” is a hearty holiday fruitcake packed with dancing reindeer, sexy sugar cookies, ghostly visitations, a Hanukkah pageant for dummies, and new ways to define coming home. It’s not Christmas in July, it’s Pride in December! Light your menorah, stuff your stockings, and join your favorite company in celebrating our favorite wisner holiday. Featuring local sensations: Ben DeLaCreme, Ms. Honeyuckle Hype (via satellite), Fuchsia FeXX, Ibs traur, Paris Original, and Cherdonna & Lou, with special guests. Runs 11/25-11/17, 12/2-12/12, and 12/24 at 8pm. Tickets: $15 advance: $20 at the door. West Hall, Odd Fellows Building, 915 E Pine St, 2nd Floor. www.brownpapertickets.com/event/90561.

“Irving Berlin’s White Christmas” Based on the beloved film, this heart-warming stage adaptation features seventeen Irving Berlin songs and a book by David Ives and Paul Blake. Veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis have a successful song-and-dance act after World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duet of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge, which just happens to be owned by Bob and Phil’s former Army commander. The dazzling show features well-known standards including Blue Skies, I Love a Piano, Deep How Is the Ocean and the perennial favorite Santa Claus Is Comin’ To Town. Runs 11/26-12/19, Tacoma Musical Playhouse, (7116 6th Ave.). Tickets $27, $25 senior/student/military, $12 and under. http://tomp.org/mainstage.aspx#show2

“It’s a Wonderful Life – A Live Radio Play” Twelfth Night Productions presents the classic 1946 Frank Capra film comes to life as a live 1940s radio broadcast. The ensemble of characters bring the town of Bedford Falls to the stage, and George Bailey to the fateful Christmas Eve when, as he contemplates ending his life, he finally realizes what a difference he makes in the lives of others. Runs 12/3-12/17 at 7:30pm, Kenyon Hall, 7904 135th Ave. SW. http://www.twelfthnightproductions.org

“The Judy Garland Christmas Special” Open Circle Theater is pleased to announce the return of the hilarious holiday disaster “The Judy Garland Christmas Special.” It’s 1963 and the producers of Judy Garland’s TV show have decided she needs a nice Christmas special with the whole family; lovely Liza, cutie Lorna and little flamboyant Joey.


“Nuttercracker” The Pacific Northwest Ballet’s “Nuttercracker” has been dazzling the young and the young-at-heart each holiday season for 27 years. Treat your fam-"y and friends to the memories and magic of PNB’s inimitable “Nutcracker.” Created by PNB Founding Artistic Director Kent Stowell and world-famous chil- "dren’s author and illustra- ior Maurice Sendak (Where the Wild Things Are), “Nuttercracker’s” brilliant blend of costumes, sets and choreography creates a magical storybook world enjoyed by children and adults alike. PNB’s master- ful holiday production is the highlight of the holidays. Runs 11/26-12/27, Marlon Oliver McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer St. Tickets: Call or check website for ticket prices. 206-441-2424; www.pnb.org; in person at the PNB Box Office, 301 Mercer St; 206-292-ARTS; 781-9707; www.taproottheatre.org. 

“The Pacific Northwest Ballet’s Nutcracker” The Pacific Northwest Ballet’s “The Nutcracker” has run every Christmas Eve to keep the spirit of Santa alive; and Grace Paley’s lovely “The Loudest Voice” in which a Jewish girl’s vocal stamina makes her the ideal narrator of the school Christmas play; Ron Carlson’s li- morious and moving “The H Street Stealing Record” about a fa- ther who tosses horse manure on the roof every Christmas Eve to keep the spirit of Santa alive; and Grace Paley’s delicious “The Ser- aph and the Zambesi” – in which an angel falls in love with a misbegotten colonial Christmas pageant. Featuring actors Frank Corrado, Julie Briskman, and Jean Sherrard, with special guests Paul Dorpat and steel gui- tarist John Owen. Runs 12/9-12/18. Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave. at Seattle Center). Tickets: $20-$42. 206-216-0877; www.taphousetheatre.org.

“Short Stories Live: Christmas Classics” In a holiday celebration of litera- ture and theater, professional actors from ACT Theatre will read excerpts from Christmas classics. An afternoon of delightfully unconven- tional Christmas stories, poems, and musical cheer, includ- ing Grace Paley’s lovely “The Loudest Voice” in which a Jew- ish girl’s vocal stamina makes her the ideal narrator of the school Christmas play; Ron Carlson’s li- morious and moving “The H Street Stealing Record” about a fa- ther who tosses horse manure on the roof every Christmas Eve to keep the spirit of Santa alive; and Grace Paley’s delicious “The Ser- aph and the Zambesi” – in which an angel falls in love with a misbegotten colonial Christmas pageant. Featuring actors Frank Corrado, Julie Briskman, and Jean Sherrard, with special guests Paul Dorpat and steel gui- tarist John Owen. Runs 12/9-12/18. Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave. at Seattle Center). Tickets: $20-$42. 206-216-0877; www.taphousetheatre.org.

Seattle Gay News 15
Lennox: I didn’t intend to write a song for the album, but one day I had this idea for “Universal Child” and I just started playing around with it while we were recording something. And basically, I was like, “Ohhh, wow, there’s a really interesting thing happening here.” So we stopped recording what we were recording and we carried on with “Universal Child” and finished it in the same evening. Sometimes it’s so strange like that: You write a song and it all comes at once. So there was a thread of connection that ran through all the songs, you see.

Azzopardi: How did the song come about?

Lennox: I don’t think anybody could have had a chance to visit before, and it blew my mind.

Lennox: [Laughs.] It means lots of Gay men and women like me! It’s a funny thing. I don’t wake up in the morning and think, “Oh my goodness, I’m a Gay icon!” Not at all. But you see, I’m not part of the Gay community myself, so it’s not part of my direct experience. But I certainly am a liberal-minded person, and I actually really almost resent all these labels.

Lennox: I was watching on YouTube the other day a man – or a woman, I should say, now – who was saying, “Please don’t label me as Transgender. I don’t want to be labelled. I’m sick of all these labels.” And I’m thinking, “I’m with you.” I mean, OK, you’re sexual-orientation oriented one way, this way or that way or another way, but I want to get rid of labels. I think we want to get to the point of evolution, where it makes no difference if you’re straight, Gay, Transgender, whoever – just be inclusive. We need to see ourselves as absolutely human beings, first and foremost.

Lennox: It really belongs because the focus of all the other songs goes to the nativity. It goes to human life in many places is worthless.

Azzopardi: Right – back in 2003 when you participated in the launch of Nelson Mandela’s HIV/AIDS foundation. How has that healing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talking- about finding solutions, only ping away from it is a travesty. What we need to do is to take ownership of the word “feminist” and we need to reinvent it so that people embrace it again. It’s a travesty that feminism is looked on as something that they should recoil from.

Azzopardi: You had a genie in a bottle, what would be your three wishes for the world?

Lennox: Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremisms in the world that leapt immediately to arms and to war- fare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

Lennox: I don’t even know if it’s going to be possible for us to be human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Chris- tians, Muslims, whoever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at, we talk about global warm- ing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talk- ing. But I’d like to see the government re- ally taking more responsibility on a global scale.

Lennox: If you had a genie in a bottle, what would your three wishes for the world be?

Azzopardi: If you could have a genie in a bottle, what is your three wishes for the world?

Lennox: Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremisms in the world that leapt immediately to arms and to war- fare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

Lennox: I don’t even know if it’s going to be possible for us to be human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Chris- tians, Muslims, whoever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at, we talk about global warm- ing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talk- ing. But I’d like to see the government re- ally taking more responsibility on a global scale.

Lennox: If you had a genie in a bottle, what would your three wishes for the world be?

Azzopardi: If you could have a genie in a bottle, what is your three wishes for the world?

Lennox: Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremisms in the world that leapt immediately to arms and to war- fare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

Lennox: I don’t even know if it’s going to be possible for us to be human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Chris- tians, Muslims, whoever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at, we talk about global warm- ing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talk- ing. But I’d like to see the government re- ally taking more responsibility on a global scale.

Lennox: If you had a genie in a bottle, what would your three wishes for the world be?

Azzopardi: If you could have a genie in a bottle, what is your three wishes for the world?

Lennox: Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremisms in the world that leapt immediately to arms and to war- fare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

Lennox: I don’t even know if it’s going to be possible for us to be human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Chris- tians, Muslims, whoever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at, we talk about global warm- ing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talk- ing. But I’d like to see the government re- ally taking more responsibility on a global scale.

Lennox: If you had a genie in a bottle, what would your three wishes for the world be?

Azzopardi: If you could have a genie in a bottle, what is your three wishes for the world?

Lennox: Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremisms in the world that leapt immediately to arms and to war- fare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

Lennox: I don’t even know if it’s going to be possible for us to be human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Chris- tians, Muslims, whoever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at, we talk about global warm- ing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talk- ing. But I’d like to see the government re- ally taking more responsibility on a global scale.

Lennox: If you had a genie in a bottle, what would your three wishes for the world be?

Azzopardi: If you could have a genie in a bottle, what is your three wishes for the world?

Lennox: Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremisms in the world that leapt immediately to arms and to war- fare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

Lennox: I don’t even know if it’s going to be possible for us to be human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Chris- tians, Muslims, whoever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at, we talk about global warm- ing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talk- ing. But I’d like to see the government re- ally taking more responsibility on a global scale.

Lennox: If you had a genie in a bottle, what would your three wishes for the world be?

Azzopardi: If you could have a genie in a bottle, what is your three wishes for the world?

Lennox: Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremisms in the world that leapt immediately to arms and to war- fare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

Lennox: I don’t even know if it’s going to be possible for us to be human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Chris- tians, Muslims, whoever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at, we talk about global warm- ing, about pollution, and we do a lot of talk- ing. But I’d like to see the government re- ally taking more responsibility on a global scale.

Lennox: If you had a genie in a bottle, what would your three wishes for the world be?

Azzopardi: If you could have a genie in a bottle, what is your three wishes for the world?
LEAP INTO THE HOLIDAYS!

BILLY ELLIOT

"BEST MUSICAL OF THE DECADE!"

TIME MAGAZINE

MARCH 22 - APRIL 3, 2011
THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE • 207-518-4TGX • STGPresents.org
Groups of 10 or more, call 888.214.6856
BillyElliotTour.com

10 2009 TONY AWARDS

BEST MUSICAL
Seattle AIDS Support Group

Christmas Tree Sale

21st Annual

Nov. 26 - Dec. 23  9am - 9pm
303 17th Ave. E. at Thomas St.

www.dunsheehouse.org  206-322-AIDS

Happy Holidays from the Seattle Gay News!
During the month of December, many of your favorite Capitol Hill bars and restaurants will join together to help prevent teen suicide.

Please take a moment and join the Seattle Gay News and this establishment to donate to the Youth Suicide Prevention Program of Washington state in our efforts to stop these tragic events.

Take action and become part of the “Tree of Life” today.

Take Action