

ERATO

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Stockholm

April, 2008

ILGCN (International Lesbian & Gay Cultural Network) Information Secretriat

Stockholm event highlighting films, art, music, performances to combat discrimination



Rainbow Culture & HIV/AIDS on IDAHO Day in Stockholm

Stockhol m—Focusing on using rainbow culture as a weapon against discrimination and intolerance against LGBT people with HIV and AIDS, the ILGCN Information Secretariat in Stockholm and Tupilak (Nordic rainbow cultural workers) are marking IDAHO (*International Day Against Homophobia*) May 17 with music, theater readings, song, art work and films.

The "Rainbow Culture & HIV/AID" event will take place at the lesbian-run Hallongrottan cultural center on the city's southern island (a venue which won last year's ILGCN "Rainbow Iceberg" award for outstanding use of international LGBT culture).



Latvian & Eastern European Film Festival Organizer

APU theater poster

Special guest will be Andrejs Visockis of the Latvian LGBT organization, Mozaika and secretary general of the International Lesbian & Gay Cultural Network Film & Film Festival Secretariat – Riga speaking about HIV/AIDS in films and his work with the LGBT festival at home and (contined on page 2)



Mårten Klingberg, Piotr Giro as gay lovers in "Keillers Park"

Swedish Director to LGBT Film Festival in Latvian Capital

Riga – Swedish film director **Susanna Edwards**, will be attending the Riga LGBT film festival in early May — thanks to financial assistance from the Swedish Embassy in the Latvian capital — to talk about the screening there of her film "Keiller's Park" — based on a real-life murder of a young gay man in a park in the western Swedish port city of Gothenburg.

The film's gay character is forced to choose between his well-payed job and girlfriend on one side and coming out of the closet to share a life with a young immigrant on the other -- and is at first accused of the murder of his lover.

Nordic Delegation to Bucharest



The Nordic delegation to Bucharest Pride 2008 includes guitar-playing song writer, Anne Jaaskelainen, head of Helsinki's annual Tribade Night and Day Festival (this year including the ILGCN world cultural conference 1st stage), Rolf Solheim of the Nordic Rainbow Humanists and Norwegian master of ceremonies, and Bill Schiller of the ILGCN Information Secretariat - Stockholm.

Anne Jaaskelainen





Council of Europe Commissioner Horrified over Discrimination, Hate:

Using Video to Defend LGBT Rights

Brussels -- "Since I took up the office, I have been quite horrified by the extent of homophobia in a number of countries in Europe", says Swedish-born Thomas Hammarberg, the Council of Europé's Commissioner for Human Rights in a video message shown at a Conference organised by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats

Thomas Hammarberg for Europe (ALDE) on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons (LGBT). The April event was held in the European Parliament in Brussels.

The Commissioner raised several concerns regarding the effective respect of LGBT persons' rights, in particular to be protected from hate crimes and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. He also stressed the freedom of assembly when peaceful Gay Pride Marches are organised: they should not be obstructed by national and local authorities.

Hammarberg referred to widespread discrimination against LGBT persons and the need for comprehensive inclusive anti-discrimination legislation. "Regulations and laws should list all grounds for discrimination including sexual orientation which is not always the case". Finally, the Commissioner stressed the importance of the Yogyakarta Principles, a worldwide lawyers' initiative which analyses international human rights law through a LGBT persons' prism, and their relevance for future respect for human rights for all.

Rainbow Culture & HIV/AIDS on IDAHO Day....

(continued from page 1) with several other Eastern European Film Festivals. " The program will also include a drama reading from one of the APU (Aids Underground Theater) - Amsterdam - the ILGCN coordinators/ambassadors in the Netherlands -- focusing on AIDS and the risked-filled prostitution and traficing from Eastern Europe to the West.

In addition, the monologue: "Bo Jangles and the Angel" describing violence, rape and AIDS in American prison systems - similar to the situation in Brazil, South Africa ,Russia and elsewhere. "The Execution Drums" will be played by Peter Fröberg, former Swedish ILGCN cultural ambassador.

The event will also include and presentation of Tupilak's annual "Thor's Hammer Award" -- this year honoring work combating discrimination based on HIV/AIDS. Art work will also be displayed from the Tupilak & ILGCN Travelling Art and Photography Exhibit."

Next stop - Bucharest Pride, May 20-25, 2008

Tupilak & ILGCN Travelling Art & Photography Exhibit



Willi Reichhold, Austria/Sweden

Ek

Isias Fanlo, Spain

a Papinashvili, Georgia/Sweden



Andrius Privetas, Lithuania



Belarus, Swedish, Latvian NRC Participants in Riga

NORDIC RAINBOW COUNCIL to MEET in HELSINKI, STOCKHOLM

Helsinki/Stockholm -- Once again the annual meeting of the Nordic Rainbow Council is to be shared by two Nordic capitals -- Stockholm and Helsinki -- to make it easier for delegates to attend at least one of the events to discuss Nordic co-operation and not just communicate "via e-mail."

The Stockholm session will take place as part of the "Baltic Solidarity Days" July 18-19 in the Swedish capital, including seminars and performances at Södra Teater, while the Helsinki event will be part of the ILGCN (International Lesbian & Gay Cultural Network) world cultural conference -- stage 1 (the 2nd stage of the world conference will be in Minneapolis-St. Paul, USA, September 19-21, 2008) as part of the Tribade Days & Nights Festival held every year in the Finnish capital.

The main themes this time will be increasing co-operation with colleagues on the barricades in Eastern Europe and the use of rainbow culture as a weapon against homophobia and silence -- especially in such places as Lithuania where the rainbow flag is still banned from public places," says Bill Schiller, the Nordic Rainbow Council's international secretary.

Strengthening Membership within the ILGCN, ILGA

The meetings will also review decisions and strategy worked out at earlier Council sessions in Riga, Tallinn, Stockholm, Vasa and Gothenburg, and discuss increasing ties with other members of the ILGCN and the ILGA (International Lesbian & Gay Association).

The ILGCN "Arco Nordica" award for outstanding achievements across Nordic borders will also be presented at one of the sessions. The last award honored the Swedish Pol-Balt Network promoting co-operation between Swedish LGBT groups and rainbow colleagues in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.

The Council is open to LGBT organizations, activists and cultural workers in the Nordic region -- from Greenland to Lithuania, from the Faroes to Finland, from Iceland to Estonia. Members unable to send delegates to meetings are very welcome to send proposals, recommendations and suggestions via the internet.

ILGCN Annual Awards: (Proposals welcomed at a Il Secretariats)

Rainbow Iceberg -- (international work)

Orfeo Iris (research in Nazi 6 neo Nazi persecution of homosexuals)

Grizzly Bear (work in ferocious homophobic situations)

Orfeo Musica (international musical co-operation)

Sappho in Paradise (libraries, publishing)

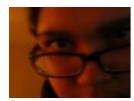
Arco Nordica (Nordic co-operation)

Orfeo Imago (graphic art & photography)

Clio's Silver Cup (LGBT history)



Raids on Krygyz Magazine and Turkish Office



Reports have reached the Information Secretariat that state police have raised the Kyrgyz Labrys LBT Magazine and on the same day the office of the Turkish Lambda organisation and its LGBT publication, KAOS – both highly regarded publications and both recipients of the ILGCN "Sappho in Paradise" award for outstanding literary and publishing achievements -- handed out together with the London-based Paradise Press.



Confirmation of the raids is being sought and preparation for protest actions and letters from the ILGCN as well as other LGBT organizations.

Irish Project: Silver Stars --Older Gay Men's Lives in Song

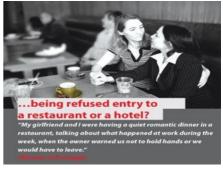
Dublin -- A new rainbow performance is being created this year at Project in Dublin – a result of discussions, workshops and imagination. When songwriter Seán Millar took a taxi from Limerick to Dublin, the driver's stories sparked an idea, and Silver Stars was born.

Seán has long been an explorer of ideas and ideals in his songs, including ideas of manliness. Over the years, the Project has offered opportunities for many older people to give voice, to bear witness to the power of creativity, openness and passion.

ILGA Campaign vs. Discrimination



ILGA-Europe's campaign to ensure that sexual orientation is included in new EU anti-discrimination directive is making fine use of texts and photographs from Portugal, Ireland, Poland, Sweden and elsewehre to underline the visibility of LGBT people all over Europe. Information officer Juris Lavrikovs encourages ILGA members to help spread the campaign around the world.



From Portugal



ILGCN World Cultural Conferences

Helsinki, Finland -- September 14, 2008

Minneapolis/St. Paul, USA - September 19-21, 2008

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