

 /nightspots

 @nightspotschicago



nightspots

weekly nightlife section in 

the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR The Dearborn

BY ANDREW DAVIS

I'm going to predict that **The Dearborn** (145 N. Dearborn St.; TheDearbornTavern.com) will be around for years.

There are several reasons for this—including the cuisine, but I'll talk more about that later.

The airy, 8,000-square-foot restaurant (at the Loop's Block 37), which opened in June, has sisters Amy (an out lesbian) and Clodagh Lawless as its owners—and the siblings certainly know their stuff, having learned the business from brother Billy Lawless, who's behind everything from The Gage to Acanto to the buzzworthy Lake View spot Coda di Volpe. (Amy told WCT that it's been the sisters' goal for quite some time to open their own venture, calling it their "baby.")

And The Dearborn is already popular, thanks in part to its location, which is in the theater dis-



From The Dearborn.
Photos by Ed Negron

trict. The day WCT stopped by, it turned out that Hamilton creator Lin-Manuel Miranda had just left The Dearborn about 45 minutes earlier (and who knows who may stop by in the future?).

The location also lends itself to seeing some cool scenery (or people-watching). The front area is called The Picasso Room because it affords a view of the untitled sculpture in Daley Plaza. (It also pays homage to the "L" if you look at it from a different direction.) However, there are also The Tavern, The Lawless Room and a special-events area called The Rialto Room that pays homage to the now-demolished Rialto Theatre.

And then there's the cuisine. Among the highlights when WCT visited for lunch were the local



burrata, fig-and-avocado toast, and a BLT that is augmented with different items every day. (I had duck confit.) The desserts were almost beyond compare—especially the old-fashioned donut, which customers practically begged the owners to put on the weekday menu. (Other goodies range from king salmon to a bison burger—and I can't wait to hit brunch, which offers items including French toast and foie gras as well as duck confit and 62-degree eggs.)

"It's been so well-received at this location. It's just great," Clodagh said.

With everything it offers (food, location, service, etc.), I think The Dearborn will be well-received for quite some time.

Sidetrack announces 'Dragapalooza,' Oct. 26 and 27

Two nights, two stages, dozens of queens, sexy dancers, and burlesque entertainers will be taking over Sidetrack for a production like no other to benefit Equality Illinois. For over 20 years, Chicago's longest-running drag benefit, Night of 100 Drag Queens, has celebrated the campy, the beautiful, the avant-garde and the just plain "sicken-ing" Chicago drag community. This year the festival, celebrating all things drag, introduces its new name: Night of 100: Dragapalooza.

The show will take place for two nights only: Wednesday, October 26 and Thursday, October 27.

Directed by Jeffrey Lynch and hosted by Dixie Lynn Cartwright and Trannika Rex, Dragapalooza features a who's who of Chicago drag, including Chicago's own RuPaul's Drag Race favorites Dida Ritz and Jade Sotomayor. There will be solo acts, group numbers and highly choreographed production numbers. Queens come to Dragapalooza from such renown shows as Squad Goals, Geek Haus, Trannika's Most Wanted, Bio Hazards, Crash Landing and Dixie Wins a Talent Show, to name a few. A

special VIP reception will allow you in early to grab the best seats in the house and enjoy the sexy men of The Naughty Little Cabaret.

Miller Lite is the presenting sponsor and additional sponsors include Bacardi, Absolut Citron, Jägermeister and Hendricks Gin. All funds raised from tickets to the show go directly to Equality Illinois.

VIP tickets are \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door. Doors open for the VIP reception at 7 p.m. General admission tickets are \$15 per person in advance and at the door. Doors open for general admission at 8 p.m. Tickets are also available online at www.sidetrackchicago.com.

Dragapalooza is a benefit for Equality Illinois to support the work the statewide organization does on behalf of LGBT Rights. Equality Illinois is the state's oldest and largest organization advocating for full equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender ("LGBT") people. www.equalityillinois.us.

—From press release

Paula Sinclair
at 2015's
Night of 100
Drag Queens.
Photo by Kirk
Williamson



Nick Cearley and Lauren Molina of The Skivvies.
PR photo



The Skivvies at Uptown Underground, Oct. 17

"Undie-rock" comedy-pop duo The Skivvies are showing their stuff at Uptown Underground, 4707 N. Broadway.

The Skivvies don't just strip down their musical arrangements, they literally strip down to their underwear to perform their distinctive mashups and eccentric originals for cello and ukulele, with touches of glockenspiel, melodica and a surprising array of under-used instruments. Award-winning Broadway singer/actors Lauren Molina (Marry Me a Little, Sweeney Todd, Rock of Ages) and Nick Cearley (All Shook Up) became YouTube sensations as The Skivvies, with living-room videos that displayed their powerful harmonies as well as their powerful abs. Those clips led to live shows that The Wall Street Journal remarked were, "Smart, sophisticated ... ingenious," and Out Magazine proclaims, "The Skiv-

vies have managed to carve out a niche that we never knew needed to exist: part Weird Al-parody and part sexy burlesque ... an unusual explosion of satire and sultry."

They will be joined by a cast of special guest stars who will strip down and rock out. Lauren Molina, currently starring in the Goodman's Wonderful Town will bring castmates Bri Sudia, Steven Strafford, and Jordan Brown. Other special guests include Hamilton's Joseph Morales, Ari Asfar, as well as Marya Grande, Meghan Murphy and Bethany Thomas.

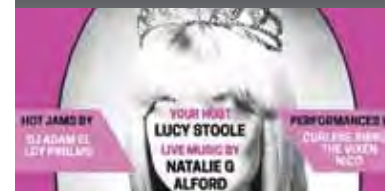
The show takes off Monday, October 17, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. See www.uptownunderground.com for more.

—From press release

nightspots the big TO-DO

OUR WEEKLY PICKS TO PLAN
YOUR NIGHTLIFE CALENDAR

Fabibat: Homecumming



Wed., Oct. 12, 11 pm
Double Door's Door No. 3,
1551 N. Damen Ave.

Break out those ball gowns and the three piece suits! Live music from Natalie Alford. Performances by Curlene Ribbon, The Vixen, Nico, and hosted by the reigning homecumming queen, Lucy Stoolie.

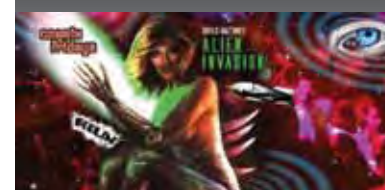
Just Dickin' Around: Third Anniversary



Thu., Oct. 13, 8:30-11 p.m.
Hydrate,
3458 N. Halsted St.

Open mic sign-up at 8. Show begins at 8:30. Hosted by Scott Duff. Showcase guests include Krista Atkinson, Mike Barton, Adam Bindert, Marla Depew and Elyse Nylin. Donations accepted and split amongst showcase guests.

Drag Matinee: Alien Invasion!



Fri., Oct. 14, 10:30 p.m.
Berlin,
954 W. Belmont Ave.

Chicago's wildest weekly drag show. Hourly performances, lqqs and twirls by Kat Sass, Nico, Lucky Stiff, Aurora Gozmic and host Trannika Rex. No cover before 11 p.m. Out-of-this-world lqqs encouraged.

OTTER: Chopped/Cropped



Sat., Oct. 15, 9 p.m.
The Sofo Tap,
4923 N. Clark St.

Fall is Otter Season. Get chopped and chopped. Host Andrew Bowman and Moose the DJ will be looking sharp and ripping cutting beats all night long. The Public Barber is offering \$5 off haircuts with David.



"We can say 'I do' when you can too!"—**Kylie Minogue** and fiancé Joshua Sasse vow to not get married until gays in Australia also have the right. While I appreciate the sentiment, the last high-profile couple who said that was Brad and Angelina—and we all know how that turned out!

As we go to press, the **Trump/Clinton** debate is beginning without an opening handshake. How could you blame Hillary? She's probably worried Donald will reach for her pussy. Yes, that's where the presidential race has gone. And it's all because of **Nancy O'Dell!** Comments Trump made to **Billy Bush** on a hot mike way back in 2005 somehow went public. Regarding my dear O'Dell, he said, "I did try and fuck her. She was married. I moved on her very heavily. ... I moved on her like a bitch, but I couldn't get there and she was married. And all of a sudden I see her and she's got the big, phony tits. She's totally changed her look." All the while, Billy Bush is giggling like a schoolgirl—he's since been suspended by NBC. But a different Billy is laughing now because the time Trump saw a transformed O'Dell was at the 2004 Emmy Awards. And who was with Nancy that night? Your humble scribe, that's who. And the photos are on BillyMasters.com.

Getting back to that incriminating audio (made shortly after the Emmys), Trump sees actress **Arienne Zucker** and says to Bush, "Whoa! Whoa! I've got to use some Tic Tacs, just in case I start kissing her." If nothing else, this brought attention to Tic Tacs, a mint I think is as relevant as Certs with Retsyn! Trump followed up his Tic Tac comment with this: "I'm automatically attracted to beautiful [women]. I just start kissing them, it's like a magnet. And when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything. Whatever you want. Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything." It sounds like Miss Universe got off easily. In fact, it sounds like Trump gets off easily, but that's another story.

But that's not the most shocking story of the week from a Republican. That honor must go to **Mike Yenni**, a lieutenant with the US Navy Reserves and Jefferson Parish President. Last week, it was revealed that the conservative Louisianan had been sexting a 17-year-old boy. Two years ago, when Yenni was mayor of the city of Kenner, he met the boy at a Catholic high school graduation lunch. Yenni then tracked the boy down to his place of employment—a mall food court!

The two spent some private time making out in the mall bathroom, where Yenni presented the boy with some designer underwear. Yenni then sent a text asking if the boy had worn the underwear—and asked to see a photo of him modeling them! Eventually, Yenni proposes a sexual encounter. Then he suggests a three-way with an older boy. The now-19-year-old boy claims that they never had sex. Even if they did, it would not have been illegal, since the age of consent is 17 in Louisiana. The boy told Yenni when they started texting that he was 17. Yenni's response? "I know the laws." Reports now claim that Yenni sexted with at least eight males on parish-funded phones. Under pressure from his constituents, he is encouraging a full investigation and is refusing to step down ... for now.

Time for yet another **Finding Prince Charming** update. In last week's episode, our former rentboy planned a masquerade ball and asked the suitors to design masks that reveal a secret that they've kept hidden. Oh, goodie, goodie—finally Robert's escorting past will come out. And maybe



Another Billy column means another **Finding Prince Charming** update.

the guys will gather round to watch the videos you've all seen on BillyMasters.com. Although Robert doesn't want the guys to have any secrets, it becomes clear that he's not gonna reveal a thing.

But, wait—we travel back in time to 1996. Yes, because it would have to be at least 20 years ago that well-travelled gays in their 30s and living in a thriving metropolis would consider it a BIG secret to reveal they are HIV-positive. Of course it's still a big deal, but it isn't the death sentence it was two decades ago. So Eric (the hairdresser living in LA) makes this big revelation to Robert (the hooker). Of course, Robert picks Eric for the one-on-one date because, if he doesn't, he'll look worse than he is ... if that's possible.

On that date, Robert shocks us by making a big revelation of his own. He can identify with Eric's struggle because—get ready for it—Robert cared for an uncle who died of AIDS in the '90s. My God, he's the next Mother Teresa—give him the Nobel Peace Prize right now! And, in case we didn't know it was no longer 2016, Robert kisses Eric's hand not once but twice. Yeah, after Eric just revealed he is HIV-positive, Robert's kissing him on the hand didn't feel awkward at all!

John Stamos recently made his debut on *Scream Queens*. He grabbed our attention with a slo-mo shower scene in the first episode. The following week, he was once again in the shower, but this time totally nude with mega-hot **Glen Powell**. "I felt used and I loved it," says Stamos. You'll love it too, when you see it on BillyMasters.com.

Pietro Boselli, who is known online as the world's hottest math teacher, recently took part in a photo shoot where he wasn't wearing a stitch of clothing. The pictorial (called "Ladies & Gents N °57") also featured some chick named Ymre Stiekema. But you'll definitely want to get to the bottom of Boselli on BillyMasters.com.

This leads perfectly into our "Ask Billy" question. Terry in Rhode Island asks, "I heard the paparazzi got shots of **Tom Brady** sunbathing in the nude. True? Do you have the photos?"

True and yes. I hasten to add that Tom attempted to employ a well-positioned towel. But it wasn't that well-positioned, as we found a photo that captures what we're calling a dick-slip! There's definitely nothing deflated about his assets, which you can see on BillyMasters.com.

When our winning hand features three asses, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Of course, you may need to use both hands when you're checking out www.BillyMasters.com—the site that always delivers at least five studs ... and sometimes an ace in the hole! If you have a question for me, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Trump takes down another Bush. Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

MILLER LITE PRESENTS
SIDETRACK
DRAGAPALOOZA
 NIGHT OF 100
 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26 & THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27
 HOSTED BY DIXIE LYNN CARTWRIGHT & TRANNIKA REX
 DIRECTED BY JEFF LYNCH
 TO BENEFIT EQUALITY ILLINOIS
 7PM VIP RECEPTION FEATURING NAUGHTY LITTLE CABARET
 8PM GENERAL ADMISSION
 PURCHASE TICKETS NOW AT SIDETRACKCHICAGO.COM
 Miller Lite BACARDÍ ABSOLUT CITRON Jägermeister
 3349 N HALSTED SIDETRACKCHICAGO.COM @SIDETRACKBAR

BLOND from page 32

want in the movie wouldn't be in the movie. And he was told that very clearly to his face and I was standing right there when it happened. He asked for that kiss with Salim to be taken out and she said no and that this will be the best lesson you'll ever learn in your life.

Now, I understand her stance. I understand how powerful her messages have been. I understand that leaving that kiss in the movie is amazing and that Gabriel would be proud of it now, and that it's changed people's lives—it's saved lives ... but at the cost of the well-being and emotions of my best friend.

WCT: Reijer, Gabriel's on-camera kiss with Salim and other private moments made famously public in Truth or Dare, a film (and tour) powered by the freedom of self-expression, is the paradox at the heart of

Strike a Pose.

RZ: Yes, definitely! The title of the film, *Strike a Pose*, gets a double meaning because *Strike a Pose* means to show yourself and be proud about it and dare to stand there, but at the same time it is about posing. And, maybe in that pose, you hide something of yourself as well and that is very much what our film is about. It's about the difference of the public message of expressing yourself and how hard it can be on a personal level to actually do that and to really not care. Don't we all care what people think of us? It can be hard to show that vulnerability.

Strike a Pose, part of the 2016 Chicago International Film Festival, screens Oct. 19, 22 and 23. Chicago native Carlton Wilborn is scheduled to appear on opening night. For more information, visit ChicagoFilmFestival.com/film/strike-a-pose/.

RAPP from page 29

any kinds of shifts in tone, it is key if the behavior is recognizable in some way where people do extreme things but you can feel the connection to the soul that's driving them. There's a consistency of emotional truth.

WCT: How does it compare to the experience of theater?

AR: I prefer theater overall but, if more film experiences could be something like this, it would be a little closer because theatre is so much more collaborative and so much more on the actor's back to carry the moment on a nightly basis. The way that the scenes played in this film was like that; like doing a play. Not every film is like that. I like going to see a fun, entertaining blockbuster but I don't know if I want to do them because it is a lot of standing in front of a fake screen. A lot of times it is a just a big machine.

WCT: And character and storylines take a backseat role to CGI. What do you think is

behind Hollywood's fear of real stories?

AR: It's this weird catch-22. If they invest more money in the film, they're going to invest more money in marketing to make it a success. If it's a small film, the studio system is not a great place for it because it's just going to get lost because they don't have enough at stake. So it's a weird, back-asswards way of doing it.

Back in the heyday of filmmaking in the '70s, studio films were being made intimately but the business wasn't set up in the same way so, if it was a smaller, mid-size budget film, they would still devote the resources to it. Today, it's as much as anything about economics and the fear of these huge corporations needing to have a profit. The place where the most interesting screen acting, wiring and directing is happening now is in television again. There's this huge renaissance so that, now, it's the kind of area where you can get into intimate story-telling with more vision, control and voice.

WE KNOW LEATHER
LEATHER64TEN CHICAGO
 • CUSTOM LEATHER
 • CUSTOM REPAIR
 • FURNITURE RESTORATION
 IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR LEATHER REPAIR/RESTORATION, OR MAYBE JUST LOOKING TO ADD A FEW NEW PIECES TO YOUR WARDROBE, LEATHER64TEN IS THE PLACE FOR YOU! STOP BY TODAY!
 6410 N. CLARK, CHICAGO, IL | 773.508.0900 | LEATHER64TEN.COM | [LEATHER64TEN](https://www.facebook.com/leather64ten)