



MACT information Bulletin

Men of All Colors Together/New York, inc.

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February, 2012

Friday, February 3 Program

“That’s My Face” *(é Minha Cara)*



On Friday, February 3, MACT/NY will welcome the renowned black gay filmmaker **Thomas Allen Harris**, who will screen and discuss his recent film *That’s My Face*.

Winner of over eight international awards, *That’s My Face (é Minha Cara)* is a personal documentary offering a groundbreaking perspective on the maddening search for identity in the new millenium. In healing his own cultural yearnings, director Thomas Allen Harris journeys beyond the political movements of his day and into a spiritual realm where he finds much more than he expects.

Thomas Allen Harris embarks on a journey to

Friday Night Meetings

During our 30 years, MACT/NY has met at least once a week to work, to play and learn together. Our Friday night meetings at the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center at 208 West 13th Street are the core of this schedule. Sessions begin at 8:00 P.M. During the evening we take up a collection (\$5.00 recommended) for the room rent and organizational expenses. Refreshments are served. Our schedule for February follows.

Friday, February 3 @ 8:00 P.M. Thomas Allen Harris Discussing and Screening His Film *That’s My Face*. See the accompanying lead article.

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Brasil, seeking the identity of the spirits who haunt his dreams. Twenty years before, his mother had made a parallel journey when she migrated with the family to Tanzania, East Africa, in search of a mythic motherland. Shot entirely on silent Super 8mm film on three continents by three generations, *é Minha Cara/That’s My Face* features an innovative sound design that uses rap and hip hop strategies of multi-voice sampling *é Minha Cara/That’s My Face* is as much an artistic gem as a spiritual gift.

Friends of Dorothy

By A. Winkie

This month I will be printing only one letter, a letter on a very important topic. Before the letter, I want to share special Valentine's Day news as well as celebrate a landmark in the LGBT community's progress. So, without further adieu, let us move on to the meat of the matter.

On the weekend of January 14th and 15th New York's premier local 24 hour cable news station, NY1, honored the recently chartered Queens Pride Lions Club as New Yorkers of the Week. Aside from being a great honor for the Queens Pride Lions Club, it is a lovely feather in the hat for the LGBT community in New York City and at large.

The Queens Pride Lions Club is the first LGBT-powered Lions Club in New York and the East Coast. It is following in the footsteps of the other LGBT-powered Lions Clubs in the U.S.—the Castro Lions Club and the Visalia Pride Lions Club both located in California.

Founded in 1917, Lions Clubs International is a secular service organization with over 44,500 clubs and more than 1,368,683 members in 191 countries world-wide. Lions Clubs aim to meet the needs of communities on a local and global scale.

Barely a year old the Queens Pride Lions Club has already influenced the lives of people in the community. QPLC regularly conducts a clothing drive for Fashion On Gender, a clothing bank for transgender women. Lions Recycle for Sight has been a trademark project conducted by Lions for many years. QPLC has distributed eyeglass collection boxes throughout New York City. In December they participated in the Marines Toys for Tots campaign. Future projects include outreach to LGBT youth and seniors and making their presence known at the GLBT Expo during the weekend of March 17th.

On February 11, 2012, from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM the club is holding a Stupid Cupid Party at Queens Pride House. The address is 76-11 37th Avenue, Suite 206 in Jackson Heights, Queens. Take the 7, E, F, M, or R trains to the 74th Street Broadway stop in Queens (be sure to check MTA's website for service changes.) Once on the street level cross Roosevelt Avenue and walk on 74th Street to 37th Avenue (not 37th Road.) Turn right on to 37th Avenue and walk toward 76th Street. Queens Pride House is across the street from the MET

supermarket. The rainbow banners are visible from the street.

Admission to the Stupid Cupid Party is \$5.00 for Queens Pride Lions Club members and their guests, \$10.00 for non members. There will be food and beverages, dancing (music provided by DJ Cupid George), games and prizes, photo booth and a Valentine message board. Proceeds will benefit the Queens Pride Lions Club Administration Fund and Queens Pride House. Come out for an evening of campy fun and frolic. I will drink to that!

Queens Pride Lions Club's schedule and information can be found on their website www.queenspridelionsclub.org, on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Queens-Pride-Lions-Club/201679579877447> and on Twitter <http://twitter.com/queenspridelc>. Anyone interested in Lionism and serving the community may contact them through their website.

A.W.

Dear A. Winkie,

I was looking through the men4men ads on Craigslist this week. I saw this ad which bothers me.

DAY FUN come now til 8PM - m4m

Date: 2012-01-16, 1:40PM

email me DAY FUN HIT ME UP FELLAZ 3PM-8PM

ALL COLLEGE FELLAZ THIS IS IN JACKSON

HTS RIGHT OFF THE #7 TRAIN

Location: all of new york/jackson heights/LONG ISLAND CITY

I e-mailed the contact and received an address and code word to gain entrance to a sex party in the basement of a record store which also sells video games and t-shirts. The store is directly across the street from an elementary school. Note the time stamp is about 1:30 in the afternoon.

This really bothers me. How do you feel about it, Winkie?

Joel B

Dear Joel,

Thank you for bringing this to my and my readers' attention.

It is about time that LGBT people, especially gay men, shape up and understand their responsibility to the communities in which they live. For years we have been

the underdogs. Many of us have worked hard not only for acceptance, but to become integral parts of our neighborhoods. We want the guy at the corner store, the mail carrier, and our neighbors to know we are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. We appreciate the fostering of good will between each other on the common ground that each of us needs to be treated with decency and respect.

This ad reflects neither. Let me be clear. I have availed myself of settings similar to this. However, the hosts of sex parties I have visited have the discretion to set up shop in venues well removed from civic centers, houses of worship, and schools.

I sent a young friend of mine to it to check out this ad. Indeed it is a hook-up spot. Even he, who is as testosterone driven as any twenty-something year old gay man, found it disturbing that upstairs is merchandise for sale that appeals to pre-teens and teenagers while downstairs is a venue set up for casual sex.. An older friend of mine did a drive-by. He pointed out the neighborhood is a busy one. It is trafficked by families, LGBT and non-LGBT. Not only is there an elementary school across the street, but a synagogue, a post office, and Queens Pride House are within less than a block from this store. Queens Pride House is the LGBT community center of Queens. Its presence is significant considering it is across the street from the same schoolyard where Julio Rivera was brutally murdered on July 2, 1990. His murder was determined to be a homophobic hate crime.

Heterosexuals have sex parties as well and they are kept very discreet. However, there are times when gay men's quest for sex seems to override rational thinking. It is at those times hap-hazard, poorly conceived set-ups, like this Craigslist ad promotes, occur. I encourage sex parties. Many people enjoy them—but for Pete's sake, be responsible by being discreet! But a hook-up spot in the same premises as a retail store which sells t-shirts and video games and is frequented by children? Really?!

The actual url for this ad is <http://newyork.craigslist.org/que/m4m/2802740305.html> if you would like to contact the organizer to suggest he find a new venue. My recommendation is to state a calm case for the matter without threats or harsh language. He may completely lack common sense but he is still a small businessman helping our economy grow by staying in business. I am speaking of the legitimate aspect of the store. Jackson Heights is the district of openly gay council person Daniel Dromm. You can contact him at <http://council.nyc.gov/html/home/home.shtml>. City council members are in their district offices every

Friday.

LGBT people have fought long and hard to gain what rights we have. Yes, we have the right to have sex anywhere we please. However equal rights are for everyone. There are times when everyone must make concessions simply out of respect.

A.W.

If you would like to contact A. Winkie with your curious quandaries and conundrums, e-mail your letter to . If you don't have computer access you can send your dilemma to fodmactny@aol.com

Friends of Dorothy
c/o MACT
PO Box 237107
Ansonia Station
New York, NY 10023-7107.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you and helping to sort out your problems.

A.Winkie

The opinions expressed here are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of MACT or its members.

Here's My Two Cents

***By Stanley M. Reed
MACT/NY Cochair***

When I received A. Winkie's February column for inclusion in the newsletter I was quite dismayed about the situation presented. I am a long time Queens resident and have been active in many Queens based LGBT organizations. I am a founding member of the Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee that stages the annual Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade and Festival. The Parade goes right past the establishment referenced.

While I certainly am not anti-sex or a prude but someone operating a "play space" directly across from a school really galls me. Also the fact that the action is taking place in the basement of a legitimate record store whose clientele includes children and teens to me is quite irresponsible and, in my opinion, a recipe for disaster. We fought hard for acceptance in the community. Now all that work can be undone by a hook-up spot run in the basement of a record store. I intend to speak to Councilmember Danny Dromm about this establishment. Operating a sex spot in a business that attracts children and located directly across the street from a school will only cause divisiveness in the community.

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Metro Trannie

©2012 by *Salih Michael Fisher*

Portia said, To be a Drag Queen Trannie If you want to be
Truly a woman Takes a lot of bravery courage and balls
All wrapped up in one
Girl, Sista it is not always fun! Some people try to stick
It to you like a loaded gun It takes a special man
Excuse me! Woman to walk down these mean streets in six
Inch heels All gussied up dressed fly and neat
To dodge the bullets of looks and cat calls
Thrown against brick graffitied walls from people's
Hate and anger Your life sometimes put in moment's danger
From others females as well as males basically not colored
Like you Pale in comparison
It is hard to be always picked on for expressing your
Female self Hard for common people to reach out To reach
Out to you physically and mentally certainly when you feel
Like a Woman Feel like a woman look like a man judgments
Look at her hands Sometimes it is hard to deal with some
Cops get stopped frisked like a man against a building's
Wall Sometimes even harder to deal with Sadistic Tricks
Flossing big payments for slobbering their nightsticks
Of promised pleasure sexual favors You say Whatever!
Times hard to measure people wanting to harm do harm to
You Even when you set out to charm the World Sound the
Alarm that You have the right to live on the planet
Earth without being threatened or hurt, just plain harm

Sometimes it is hard to deal with other Trannies Drag
Queens those that are self loathing Always trying to
Bring you down On sight being so damn mean
Some vicious evil Queens trying to physically in jealousy
Ms Thang try to beat you to the ground with words and
Frowns Put you down! As you in response say, Queen you
Don't 'know me! Please!
Some in spite when opportunity is right looking for a
Fight will steal your man in a minute on general principle
On heroin While others are loving Sistas be they
In essence Butch Queen or mista, mista

It's hard to be a Queen Shave your face so close and
Clean shave the pube to bare bone When Momma or Daddy
Isn't home Put on a bra while trying talk to your beau
While talking on the cell phone Giving monetary loans
To the boys them never paying back you saying, Listen
Black I am not Citibank! Wash your feet they stank

Wash up if you donna lay up in my house put your legs
All over my couch Ouch! Damn, Baby take it easy that it!
Easy baby my coochsie is not a big pit
Get over the fact after oral sex You get hexed his semen
Freshout your mouth Spit truths when vexed truths spit
In the winds of time Having an axe to grind you say to
Them Don't take my kindness for weakness certainly after
I have given too many drops of free wine

At times it is hard to comfortably tuck the prick
The long ass dick Sometimes in drag you need to scratch
The good doesn't always match the bad
Sometimes you feel happy then somewhat sad Mad
Sometimes more man than woman more butch than fem
Certainly sometimes when you get with him
Those that flip flop like old mops like tortillas in sex
Copper frying pans turning into automatic bottoms
Before claiming to being the last man
You don't mind being flexible being a top fem
Doing him But you say to him Homeboy don't lie
About what you want! Flaunt your maleness when you want
To be all Woman

You see it is not always easy to be a Drag Queen
Sometimes you have to be evil and mean
Nasty like Janet Jackson Screaming like her brother
Michael in getting your swag on
You gotta play the homeboys' tricks and other Queens
Some Gays before they play you Read those bitches fast
Right on cue Sometimes in survival in urban life it is
Something you gotta do to keep away, the urban family blues

February 17 Discussion

Going to the Chapel?

On June 24, 2011, New York became the sixth state along with the District of Columbia to allow same-sex marriage. It was a momentous event. The law went into effect on Sunday, July 24, 2011, and same-sex couples across New York State from Niagara Falls to Staten Island jumped into the land of matrimony. Our detractors say same-sex marriage is a mockery of the institution of marriage. Well in my opinion, spending a reported \$10 million on a wedding for a marriage that

lasted 72 day makes a mockery of the institution of marriage.

On Friday, February 17, MACT will explore Marriage Equality in NY. The discussion will be held at 8:00 PM at The Center located at 208 West 13th Street in Manhattan. There is a \$5.00 suggested donation. We're interested in hearing your thoughts on same-sex marriage.

—Stanley M. Reed

New Novel**Chulito***by Charles Rice-Gonzalez*

This is a coming of age and coming out story with vividly drawn characters, lots of local color (set in Hunts Point), and some moving passages of sex and romance. It left this reader feeling optimistic, positive about life's possibilities. Other reviewers include Pulitzer Prize-winning author Junot Diaz: "A tremendous debut . . . full of heart and courage and a ferocious honesty."

—Bill Burns

MACT/NY Statement of Purpose

Men of All Colors Together/ New York is a multiracial, multicultural organization of gay and bisexual men committed to addressing and combating racism and discrimination in the lesbian and gay male community, and to providing a supporting environment for non-oppressive multi-racial relating among gay men.

Friday Night Meetings*(Continued from Page 1)*

Friday, February 10 @ 8:00 P.M. MACT/NY Board Meeting at the home of Arthur McLean, 159-34 Riverside Drive West, #7C/90. Telephone (212) 923-7729. This meeting is open to all members. Call for directions..

Friday, February 17 @ 8:00 P.M. Discussion: Marriage Equality. Coordinated by Stanley Reed. See the article on Page 5.

Friday, February 24 @ 8:00 P.M. Newsletter Mailing. An evening of folding, envelope stuffing, stamping and socializing.

My Two Cents*(Continued from Page 3)*

I must say I totally agree with Winkie. The LGBT community has fought long and hard to gain the rights we've acquired. And yes, we do have the right to have sex anywhere we please. But honestly speaking would you, as an adult, have sex in your parent's living room in the middle of the day with them drinking coffee in the next room? I think not! There are times when we need to put our libidos in check and think about how our actions affect those around us.

Editor & Desktop Publisher: Tom Wirth. Contributors: Bill Burns, Salih Michael Fisher, Stanley Reed, A Winke, .

Contributions to the March *Bulletin* are due Tuesday, February 21. Call Tom Wirth at (908) 289-3714 or send material to him at 241 Hillside Road, Elizabeth, NJ 07208. Email final copy to: tw@firepress.com.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN MACT/NY!