



nightspots

weekly nightlife section in

WINDY CITY TIMES



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DANCING ABOUT ARCHITECTURE

BY MARC 'MOOSE' MODER



We're SO into songs of summer

Sweetest Day, Record Store Day, Small Business Saturday and the Summer Movie splurge are all made-up events produced by industries to get you to spend money. While all seem silly at first, after as much pummeling, we all eventually buy into them, somehow making them legit. Much like the UK's "Christmas #1," documented in the legendary Love Actually, we seemed to have been conned/coerced into believing "The Summer Single" is a thing. In the past five years or so, debate arises annually in radio and print music press over what will be the song that best defines summer with hopes of being iconic. Past examples include "California Girls" by Katy Perry, Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" or LMFAO's "Party Rock Anthem." All are cemented into our noggins as summer jams that will be spun at every wedding until long after you're gone, which means ongoing cash for labels and artists. 2016's crop—with many pop stars going sultrier and down-tempo—seems a bit shallow, but not without its charms.

A song doesn't have to be released in summer—or even spring—to be a song of the summer. "Uptown Funk" by Bruno Mars and Mark Ronson came out in November 2014, but stayed in the top 10 for a staggering 31 weeks, finally dropping below 10 in July 2015. So it's not an impossibility that DNCE's "Cake By the Ocean," released in November of last year, and to radio in January, could do it. Try to get through a day where his ode to getting

ass at sea isn't misplayed on the Food Network or Today Show in reference to cake or oceans. It's still ubiquitous and in the Top 20, right above Jonas Brother Nick's "Close" (with Tove Lo), which, while a bit too sexy, also has legs.

When it hit the web a few weeks ago, Justin Timberlake's "Can't Stop The Feeling" lit up the world and was crowned immediately, but now, languishing at #3, the song already feels overly simplistic and tired, if you ask the general population. Blocking JT from the top of the singles chart is Panda's "Designer" (every summer has one oddball hip hop/reggae novelty that shouldn't be taken seriously: Harlem Shake; Cheerleader; etc.) and Drake's



"One Dance." While not as catchy as "Hotline Bling," "One Dance" is undeniably great and catchy. I wouldn't say no to this one, or to Drake in a bath towel at my front door, right ladies?!

But my pick for the summer is Ariana Grande's single (that's not even a single, per se), "Into You." With the dull "Dangerous Woman" still being worked for radio, the far catchier "Into You" has been making the rounds as her second offering off the new album, with a super sexy concept video in tow. If you'd asked me a month ago about what was the ladies' best bet, I'd have said the "Work From Home" earworm by Fifth Harmony or Britney's new (now delayed) new single. "Work From Home" can't hold up to the pop hooks of "Into You" and Britney pushed her single back until summer itself, so that's out. That leaves one pony-tailed Disney brat to take the summer song crown. We're so, so into it.



JACKHAMMER

Open wide for the "Best Worst Drag Show," every Monday night at ridiculous-o'clock.

Photos by Kirk Williamson



PrideFest
MILWAUKEE 2016

SARAH SILVERMAN & FRIENDS
FRIDAY JUNE 10

BIG FREEDIA
CRYSTAL WATERS
DEBORAH COX
SATURDAY JUNE 11

BLONDIE
with GGOOLDD
SUNDAY JUNE 12

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TO-DO

OUR WEEKLY PICKS TO PLAN
YOUR NIGHTLIFE CALENDAR

Pride Idol semifinal

Wed., June 8, 8-10 pm
The Glenwood,
6962 N. Glenwood Ave.

It's a sing-off to decide who moves on to the finals. Contestants include James Sims III, Stacey Lee Spears, Aaron Smith, Paul G. Miller, Zachary Kropp, Andrew J. Leonard and Owen Maggio.

Come Play with Team Touche



Fri., June 10, 10 pm
Touche,
6412 N. Clark St.

Live jockstrap auction at midnight. Chinese raffle, Jell-O shots, drink specials and more. \$5 select Smirnoff flavored vodka vocktails (100% donated to Team Fund). Proceeds benefit Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN)/Ride For AIDS Chicago (RFAC).

The Joans at Midsommarfest 2016



Sat., June 11, 4-5:30 pm
Summerdale stage,
Summerdale Ave. and Clark St.

Chicago's own Joan Crawford-themed punk band returns to get you "Mad at the Dirt." Rock out to classics and new tracks during the annual Midsommarfest outdoor street festival, a gem of Andersonville's summer season schedule.

Tat Tuesday SoundSessions: Feli's Going-Away



Tue., June 14, 7 pm
Replay,
3439 N. Halsted St.

Organized Grime's weekly ink party wished "Bon Voyage" to Feli Marvel with Brain X. Sargis and special host DiDa Ritz.



SIDETRACK

Woof! No, really. Sidetrack ushers in the Dog Days of summer, June 4. Wag your tails at the next Dog Day Saturday, July 9. Photos by Jed Dulanais

the DISH
Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Doodle's Doughnuts; LUXBAR

BY ANDREW DAVIS

Creativity is the name of the game at **Doodle's Doughnuts** (1419 N. Wells St.; DoodlesDoughnuts.com), which earns its name for at least three reasons.

First, there's a long chalkboard table that diners can use various pieces of chalk (supplied) to write or draw items. Second (and more deliciously), people can purchase the special Doodle Doughnut—a vanilla-topped delicacy on which people can use various flavored piping (for an additional charge) and draw their own designs.

As for said doughnuts, overall, they're quite decadent. Some of the flavors include double chocolate cake, cinnamon twist, old-fashioned glazed, pink lemonade and maple bacon. There are also gluten-free items, including double chocolate orange and blueberry lemon.

By the way, Doodle's also sells bacon by the slice—because Chicagoans can never have too much bacon. They come in candied, smoky and honey sriracha versions.

Oh, and what's the final reason the place earns its name? "Doodle" is the nickname of owner Dana Lanier, a lifelong baker.



Doodle's Doughnuts.
Above photo from Facebook page
Below photo by David Turner



LUXBAR beats the heat

LUXBAR (18 E. Bellevue Pl.; Luxbar.com), situated in Chicago's Gold Coast, is a great spot for people-watching—and is also a pretty cool spot for summer dining and drinking.

I was fortunate enough to take in some of LUXBAR's recently unveiled summer fare on a gorgeous day. Sitting outside, I sipped on a dangerously delicious drink called I Think I Can Beat Mike Tyson. (The bartender is apparently a fan of '80s songs; besides this one, by DJ Jazzy Jeff and The Fresh Prince, there are Purple Rain and Thriller.)



Halibut crudo at LUXBAR.
Photo by Andrew Davis

Chef Jose Sosa's items are pretty tasty, too. The halibut crudo was incredibly refreshing, as was the crustacean-stuffed lobster roll. In addition, I thoroughly enjoyed the steak salad—and the peanut butter trifle was positively sinful. (Don't worry, though: LUXBAR still has favorites like buttermilk fried chicken and the Snickers pie.)

Note: LUXBAR is also offering a new rosé cart that beverage director Lawrence Kobesky selected. All wines are priced at \$10/glass and \$40/bottle.



ROGERS PARK SOCIAL

Rogers Park Socialites relaxing after a job well done. Photos by Antonio Jefferson



BILLY Masters

"I like to think of myself as more than a head of hair or a set of looks. It's demeaning. Yes, in some ways you could argue I've been employed for a look I have. But there's a sexism that happens towards men. At some point during photo shoots when I'm asked to strip down, I felt that. If I felt I was being employed just for my looks, I'd stop acting." —**Kit Harington** from Game of Thrones. While he never got naked on "Thrones," he's making up for it in London's West End with Dr. Faustus—and you can see what he's been hiding on BillyMasters.com.

The sad saga of **Richard Simmons** continues. Days ago, Simmons' housekeeper noted that her boss was "acting strangely." She called 911 to report "bizarre behavior," and paramedics were dispatched from the LA Fire Department. They determined he should be brought to the hospital for further evaluation. Reportedly, he was released the next day and returned home. Shortly thereafter, a string of posts appeared on his Twitter account regarding disjointed subjects like the killing of gorilla Harambe or the release of some new emojis. Stay tuned...

The story of Christian rocker **Trey Pearson** is an interesting one. He's the lead singer of the Columbus-based band Everyday Sunday, which he founded in 1997. He's also married to a woman and has two kids. But he always felt something wasn't right. And as time went on, less and less was right. His relationship with his wife was strained and a proposed tour with his band was abruptly cancelled. Trey tried to make ends meet by driving for Uber. During one of his trips, he met a writer and just began telling his story. That's how it all started. "I never wanted to be gay. I was scared of what God would think and what all of these people I loved would think about me," he wrote in his coming out letter. As a result of his revelation, he's getting a flurry of attention—and a gig! Everyday Sunday will be headlining Columbus Pride on Friday, June 17.

Bette Midler is doing her due diligence in preparing the role of Dolly Levi. While she has watched virtually every filmed performance of Hello, Dolly at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, she also went to the horse's mouth by visiting **Carol Channing**. Now, THAT'S how you do your research. The fact that Channing won the Tony for "Dolly" over Streisand in Funny Girl, only to have Babs snap up the film version of "Dolly" adds to the circuitous nature of life in the theater (to say nothing of Bette doing her remake of Gypsy 23 years ago).

Streisand has just been added to the list of presenters for the upcoming Tony Awards. I'm sure the fact that she has a tour and CD coming out is just happenstance. What surprised me is that this will be Streisand's first appearance at the awards since she won her Tony in 1970. I'm sure many you are wondering what on Earth did Babs do to win a Tony Award in 1970. She's only done two shows on Broadway—I Can Get It For You Wholesale in 1962 and Funny Girl in 1964. And she lost both of those Tonys. In 1970, the Tony committee came up with some fakakta award called "Star of the Decade"—an award never given out before or since. They probably did it to ensure Barbra would show up. Maybe they're giving her something else this year—"Star of the Century!"

One production that didn't get many Tony nods was Disaster: The Musical. While that disappointment led to its premature shuttering, it meant that **Seth Rudetsky** would be available to per-



Game of Thrones' Kit Harington is showing another side of himself, Billy says.

form in Provincetown this summer. He will be returning for his sixth year at the PTown Art House for a season filled with fabulous folk from the world of Broadway. Seth is hosting concerts with **Vanessa Williams, Megan Hilty, Judy Kuhn, Matthew Morrison, Gavin Creel, Audra McDonald** and **Will Swenson**. The Art House will also present people like **Steve Grand, Judy Gold, Marilyn Maye, Jinkx Monsoon**, and our pals **Varla Jean Merman** and **Well-Strung**. You can get all the specific dates and deets at PTownArtHouse.com.

It was just announced that more than 100 props from the film Dirty Grandpa are being auctioned. When the film came out, we were flooded with photos of **Zac Efron** in that bumblebee jock strap (and a few inches of what was underneath popped up on BillyMasters.com). So we were intrigued when we saw Lot #99: Jason Kelly's Stunt Hornet Jock Strap (Jason Kelly was the name of Zac's character). Here is how the item is described: "A wardrobe tag reading 'Stunt Jason w/Hornet' is included. The item shows minor wear and dirt stains from storage after filming, but remains in good condition." You know what that means? With scientific technology advancing, you might be able to get some DNA out of those stains and grow your very own Zac Efron—or, at the very least, his stunt double! Either way, count me in!

Nyle DiMarco is reading my column. Either that or it's just a coincidence that he suddenly addressed his romantic status days after I wrote about it. Whatever the reason, he wants the world to know he is "VERY single." He's also still sexually fluid, which means he's opening the door (so to speak) for both guys and dolls. But, he's not in any hurry: "A relationship is not a priority of mine but, you know, I'm hoping soon enough!" You know what that means? He wants to have sex with as many people as possible. And good for him!

Our "Ask Billy" question comes from Cody in New Mexico: "You haven't mentioned HAWT Broadway star **Nick Adams** in a while. What is he up to? And does he have a boyfriend?"

Last weekend, Nick performed a special Pride concert with the Boston Gay Men's Chorus. (He went to school at the Boston Conservatory of Music.) Next up is a San Francisco show at Feinstein's at The Nikko on June 10-11. As to his romantic status, he is in a relationship with Kyle Brown, who he met during his time in Priscilla. (Kyle was in the ensemble.) When Nick was cast in the national tour of Wicked as Fiyero, Kyle was his understudy. Kyle is currently in An American in Paris and, it must be said, gives Nick a run for his money in the physique department—as you'll see from the photos on BillyMasters.com.

When the understudy has snagged the leading man (to say nothing of his part), it's definitely time to end yet another column. Between news about the Tonys and Provincetown, it's clear that summer is around the corner. Of course, it's always hot on www.BillyMasters.com, the site that knows no season. If you have a question for me, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com, and I promise to get back to you before we get our hands on Zac's stinger! So, until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

ALL THINGS WEDNESDAY JUNE 15 /
BEYONCÉ
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DANCE TO QUEEN B ALL NIGHT! 9PM-2AM NO COVER

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SAYA NAOMI
COCO SHO-NELL

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