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weekly nightlife section in 



"I swallow mine."—Robert Sepulveda's explanation to the contestants on Finding Prince Charming. He was answering the question of shouldn't you spit out wine at a wine tasting. As we know, swallowing is something Sepulveda specializes in.

We filed our last column on the heels of the Emmy Awards. But there's still some unfinished business. One of Jimmy Kimmel's running bits was about the much-lauded Dame Maggie Smith, who has never shown up at an Emmy ceremony—despite having been nominated nine times, and winning three times. So Kimmel made a vow—to win the award, you had to be present! "If you want an Emmy, you better hop on a plane right now and get your Dowager Count-ass over here." When Dame Maggie did inevitably win, Jimmy stormed the stage saying, "No, No, No—we're not mailing this to her. Maggie, if you want this, it will be in Lost and Found." Maggie Tweeted: "I was very astonished and pleased to win the award. I feel the Emmys have been overly generous to me. If Mr. Kimmel could please direct me to the lost and found office I will try and be on the next flight. Love, Old Maggie."

Everyone wanted to know the identity of Kevin Spacey's fetching young date, who was wearing what appeared to be a cowboy hat (all the easier to ride the bull later). He is 43-year-old Evan Lowenstein—a name which I'm sure means nothing to you. But I vividly remember the now-talent manager as a member of the hot duo Evan and Jaron, identical twins who had a minor hit CD in 2000 that I still have.

I'm a big fan of Billy Gilman. Over the years, I watched him on the annual Jerry Lewis Telethon and saw him develop into a fine young man with a good voice—and he wasn't so bad to look at. While the perception is that he hasn't had many opportunities since coming out, that isn't quite true—the offers dried up long before his queer revelation. He's now resurfaced on The Voice singing Adele's "When We Were Young." He was great, and all of the judges vied for him (with him choosing Adam Levine as his mentor). While I'm happy for him, aren't these competitions designed for unknowns to get a break? American Idol didn't let people compete who previously had a recording contract. So Gilman is in a lull. Does that make it fair for him to compete against unknowns? What's next? Barbara Mandrell wanting to get away from her sisters and the County Fair circuit? Reba McEntire crying about her dead band again? We all have problems. While I'm rooting for Billy, I'm not completely sure it's fair.

Bradley Cooper was a guest on Ellen when Michelle Obama was co-hosting the show. Bradley said that when he was getting ready to attend a state dinner, the tux he had was a little snug. "So, I decided last minute to 86 the underwear." Ellen jumped in, "Because if it should rip, it's much better to not have underwear on." To which Michelle said, "It's good for us. Right, ladies?"

BTW, Cooper also confirmed that his long-gestating remake of A Star Is Born is going forward with Lady Gaga not only co-starring but also writing some new songs for the film. They are slated to begin filming early next year, which I presume means Gaga is out of the long-delayed Streisand-connected Gypsy—which may or may not ever happen.

Because this is a presidential election year, many stars are putting themselves on the line—but no one more so than Mark Ruffalo. He's so committed to Hillary (and so vehemently opposed to Trump), he's made a vow: If Trump loses, he'll



Out singer Billy Gilman is making a comeback—although Billy is not sure it's fair.

Lost in Translation Photography

go full-frontal nude on the big screen. That's what we call a win/win.

Whoopi Goldberg dropped a minor bombshell last week. During an appearance on The Wendy Williams Show, she was asked about her future with The View. Whoopi was vague and talked about other things she'd like to do. "So in September, when everyone comes back for the new season, you might not be there?" asked Williams. "No, probably not," said Whoopi. "I have to move on baby, because I have to go and grow. I got stuff to do, I got movies I need to direct, I got books I got to finish." You heard it here first ... er, OK, second.

Our requisite "Ask Billy" question about Finding Prince Charming comes from Trey in Laguna Beach: "I just want to know who at Logo Robert blew to get this gig? Someone must have known. I do love watching how when he is alone with each of them he makes them each feel good about themselves. Well of course he does—it's how he made a living. A whore is the perfect choice for a show like this ... which is why I think someone must have known."

You're certainly onto something. As I've said, the hooker mentality is pretty close to the reality-star mentality—you're selling a product, and it's all about romancing the right people. Does he have something more to offer? It's getting less and less likely. Aside from the numerous nasty videos of him you can find on BillyMasters.com, we now learn that prior to being cast on Finding Prince Charming, Sepulveda was served with eviction papers for failing to pay at least three months of rent on his one-bedroom apartment (the rent was \$2,200—a good rent for New York). I guess business was slow, and he didn't want to ask Marc Jacobs for help. He was forced to vacate once the judge ruled against him. So, he's not only looking for love—he's looking for a home!

Could it be that a certain Emmy winner (kinda) is spiraling down the drug drain? So say people who were shocked at the emaciated form this performer exhibited onstage during said win. Afterwards, this person was completely out of it and not sure about upcoming plans for the show. Here's how I think the next season will begin—at the funeral of the glue that held the motley crew together. After all, who wants to see all that suffering?

When Spacey's "young date" is 43, it's definitely time to end yet another column. We ran SO long this week, I barely have time to remind you to check out www.BillyMasters.com, the site that always delivers. If you have a question for me, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Maggie Smith appears on Jimmy Kimmel Live! Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

"CONSISTENTLY GREAT STORIES...GROUND-BREAKING." -WBEZ



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Reeling Film Festival opens with Bianca Del Rio



Bianca Del Rio (left) with Naomi Smalls. Photos by Jerry Nunn



A movie running in Chicago Filmmakers' Reeling 2016: The 34th Chicago LGBTQ+ International Film Festival brought director Matt Kugelman and Hurricane Bianca herself, Bianca Del Rio, into town for the debut of the film on Sept. 22 at the Music Box Theatre. The line stretched down the street for the popular RuPaul Drag Race winner.

There were many surprise guests attending the red carpet in front of the venue, like RuPaul's Drag Race's Naomi Smalls. Both director Carly Usdin and star Brittani Nichols, from the movie Suicide Kale, showed up before the screening.

Tickets and schedule can be found at ReelingFilmFestival.org/2016/. Films running this week include the real-life crime thriller King Cobra, which stars James Franco and Christian Slater.

Photos and text by Jerry Nunn



Director Carly Usdin and star Brittani Nichols, from the movie Suicide Kale.

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the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Nonnina

BY ANDREW DAVIS

I have to admit that I cried inside when I heard that Piccolo Sogno Due was closing earlier this year. The Italian restaurant—a spinoff of the famed eatery Piccolo Sogno—had two things patrons could count on: great food and the smiling face of Chef Tony Priolo.

Well, a few months later, another Italian restaurant has sprouted at Due's spot—and, fortunately, those two items are still there. At **Nonnina** (340 N. Clark St.; NonninaChicago.com), Priolo and co-business partner **Ciro Longobardo** have brought in Executive Chef/Partner **Chris Macchia**. (Also, the effervescent **Ricardo Brizuela** is there as a general manager/partner.)

By the way, make no mistake: Nonnina is nothing like Due—a fact Priolo emphatically stated during a recent visit I made. And, certainly, Nonnina—in terms of decor—is nothing like its pre-



The Neopolitan at Nonnina.
Galdones Photography

decessor. The area that was a bar in Due has been transformed into a more casual space with items to go; in addition, there's a row of velvet booths in the main dining area, and there's a sleek bar that fronts depictions of Priolo's, Longobardo's and Macchia's grandmothers (or "nonnas").

The cuisine is also unlike Due's, as the menu reflects the nonnas' old-school cooking techniques and offers what people would expect during a Sunday Italian dinner. (In another nod to the restaurant's name, even the cocktails are named after past and present staffers' grandmothers.)

Lunch started with a wonderfully dry Franciortata Brut prosecco as well as tasty appetizers in the form of baked artichokes and arancini moderni. The arancini were especially delicious, with pasta replacing the rice on the inside, almost giving the

balls a quality of creamy mac 'n' cheese.

For entrees, my friend and I ordered, respectively, veal involtini and bucatini carbonara. The veal was a solid performer, and the bucatini lived up to similar dishes I've had at other restaurants (although it didn't surpass them).

Last, but certainly not least, we concluded with Nonnina's fine desserts. The budino di cioccolato (dark-chocolate mousse, extra virgin olive oil, sea salt, white chocolate shavings and fiori di latte) was lovely, both in terms of vision and taste. However, the crostata di arance rosse (blood-orange curd tart, whipped meringue) was the superior dessert, with just the right amount of tang.

So, diners, take heart. Piccolo Sogno due is gone—but be thankful Nonnina is here.

DANCING ABOUT ARCHITECTURE

BY MARC 'MOOSE' MODER



Someone special on your twelve-inch

The history of the extended (12") 33 RPM version of the traditional 45 RPM 7" single is ironically not as long as its mini forefather, but with much more depth. Since its birth in the '70s with Donna Summer's "Love to Love You Baby," the

obscurity.

Before **Madonna** signed to Sire and catapulted to fame with her self-titled debut, she hung around the studio with then-boyfriend **Jellybean Benitez**, with whom she recorded the classic "Sidewalk Talk." When Jellybean was asked to remix **Naked Eyes**' "Promises Promises," someone had to deliver the actual promises on which Naked Eyes complained. About three-quarters of the way through the 12", that familiar voice chimes in with a list of promises sweetly delivered with all the coo she could muster.

Afterwards, Madonna's fame gave her the clout to get any special guests she could possibly round up, and she went right to the top. While it's relatively common knowledge that **Prince** duetted with her on Like a Prayer's atrocious "Love Song" and played keyboards on the playful "Keep It Together," it's not as commonly known that the Purple One played guitar solo on the title track. That's because, unless you paid attention enough to the opening of the video (that version not released on vinyl), or were a DJ, you didn't hear it. In the video, at the very start you hear a bit of it, you get a double whammy on the DJ-only 12". Not only does the B-side, "Act

the 12" version is an epic jam tonally night-and-day removed from the version you know: A giant extended jam session featuring the wonderful Sheila E. and her band plus Wendy. Besides the commercial extended jam, if you dig deep on the web, you can find the 26- and 31-minute versions as well, if you want to be tortured or pleased.

The Pet Shop Boys are probably the most prolific in the format, taking cuts like David Bowie's "Halo Spaceboy," Rammstein's "Mein Teil," Bloodhound Gang's "Mope" and Blur's "Girls and Boys" and completely re-recording them with their vocals dubbed into and over for great effect and club consumption.

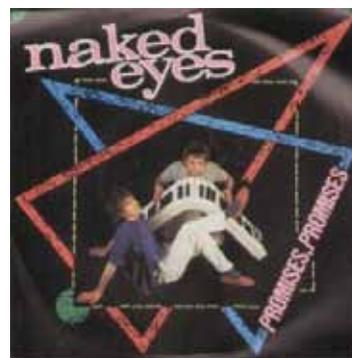
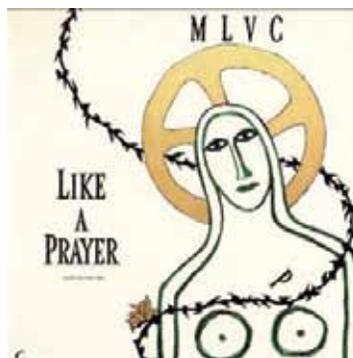
But not all extended mix guest spots are for the dance floor. **Marc Almond** needed a boost for his cover of the **Gene Pitney** song from the album *The Stars We Are*, so for the extended single he got the original '60s crooner to duet with him, giving the Soft Cell singer his first solo #1 hit in the UK with "Something's Got a Hold Of My Heart."

And for probably the biggest and gayest guest of them all, look to **Boy George and Culture Club**, who got the one **Dolly Parton** to toss

MARC ALMOND



Something's Gotten Hold Of My Heart
Featuring Special Guest Gene Pitney
GENE PITNEY



12" went from a DJ-only necessity (due to time constraints) to a music nerd go-to for special versions "not pop enough" for the passive music fan and an enticement for you to buy one more version of your favorite song. While it's more common for songs to be remixed and extended by DJs for 12" mixes, the tradition created in the first decade of the format was a complete re-recording of the track (see Duran Duran's "Night Versions"), sometimes with special guests. These re-recordings yielded some interesting star appearances you may have overlooked in their

of Contrition," feature his distorted jam, but the rare Extended Immaculate contains a more traditional solo at the eight-minute mark of the A-side's nine-minute epic, rarely heard outside the club who dared to play it.

Prince himself also loved to mess around with the format and none was more glorious or unexpected than "I Would Die 4 U." The 7" was what it was, as you know from its top 10 success, but the 12" was a completely different song. Not re-recorded post-success, but given to Warner Brother from his rehearsals for tour,

in her co-lead vocals on their 1999 comeback single, "Your Kisses are Charity." Unlike Marc Almond's attempt, Dolly did nothing to assist Boy and friends in their road back, but it was a fun ride. Like all these guest shots, it was lost to time, leaving us who do the work for our musical pleasure motivation to dig deeper in the crates.

DJ Moose spins these and other nuggets at Kylon's 12" DILF, this Saturday at 9 pm at The Sofa Tap.

nightspots the big TO-DO

OUR WEEKLY PICKS TO PLAN
YOUR NIGHTLIFE CALENDAR

Touche presents fifth annual Club Rush Party

Fri., Sept. 30, 10 pm
Touche,
6412 N. Clark St.

Touche proudly announces the 5th annual Leather/Fetish Club Rush Party, to be held Friday, September 30, at 10 p.m. Besides being home to the Leather Archives & Museum and International Mr. Leather, Chicago boasts over 15 local leather/fetish clubs, some for play, others strictly social. This Club Rush Party allows those interested in the club scene to meet members from many of these clubs and talk about their group's activities and membership.

Chicago has had a vibrant leather and fetish community for many years prior to IML and the "coming out" of leather that followed in the success and growth of the contest each Memorial Day weekend. A few of these clubs have been in existence for many years, while others came together in recent years as interests in other fetishes, such as rubber and puppy play, have developed.



Participating clubs include
(clockwise, from top left) Chicago
Water Buddies, Windy City Boys
Troop, Trident International Windy
City, M.A.F.I.A., Windy City Bondage
Club, ONYX and Bluf Chicago.

Club activities vary greatly: Some clubs are focused mainly on sexual play; others are more socially oriented. Either way, these clubs do offer their members opportunities to connect with others of similar interests locally and across the country. A few of these clubs take a leading role in our community, spearheading fundraising and food drives and providing volunteers for other events around Chicago.

Touche has been a home bar for many clubs, past and present, and has hosted visiting clubs as well. The back bar area of Touche is named The Club Room and the walls are lined with the colors of past and present clubs in Chicago and across the Midwest.

Traditionally, leather clubs are men-only, but a few have opened their membership to all, men/women and gay/straight. Anyone that may be interested in the leather scene should check out the local clubs that are a big part of our community.

For more information, contact David Boyer at touchechicago@gmail.com

—From press release