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weekly nightlife section in



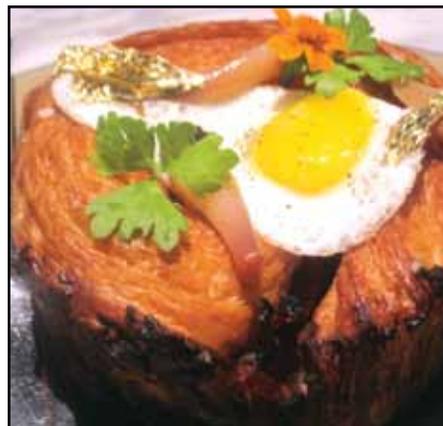
the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR Steadfast; Nonnina

BY ANDREW DAVIS

Located in the Kimpton Gray Hotel, **Steadfast** (120 W. Monroe St.; <https://www.steadfastchicago.com/>)—Fifty/50 Restaurant Group's contemporary American-style dining concept in the



Laminated brioche at Steadfast.
Photo by Andrew Davis

Loop—exudes style.

From the understated decor (including some very sturdy chairs) to the menu offerings, Steadfast seems to get it right.

And why shouldn't it? Fifty/50 Restaurant Group has been in the business for quite some time (almost a decade) and is behind a dozen restaurants and other spots, including Portsmouth, Roots Homemade Pizza, Apogee and, of course, the Fifty/50—so I could hardly blame a server who recommended several of the other restau-

rants to patrons at the next table. (By the way, I was told that Steadfast's name is a play on another Fifty/50 spot, Homestead on the Roof, and the word "steadfast" itself, indicating stability.)

Chef Ender Oktayuren has done himself and the group proud, as a recent lunch attested. The laminated brioche is a work of art—so much so that my dining companion and I were reluctant to tackle it; however, the mix of serrano ham, manchego, mustard, quail egg and caviar

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BLACK WEDNESDAY @ @MOSPHERE

Pre-turkey tipping.
Photos by Kirk Williamson

Sidetrack's OUTspoken! Series: December's featured storytellers



William Gordon



Pamela Meyer



Lisa Pearson



C. Russell Price



Gwen La Roka



Will Von Vogt



Dion Walton

The December edition of
OUTspoken! LGBTQ storyteller
series takes place Tuesday, Dec. 5,
at Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St.
Doors open at 6 pm, stories begin
at 7.

See www.outspokenchicago.com for
more info.

—**William Gordon** managed public libraries in Washington State, Idaho, Minnesota and Maryland and was then selected to be the Executive Director of The American Library Association, headquartered in Chicago. He was startled when he began to lose the use of his legs nearly twenty years ago and was diagnosed with a degenerative, progressive motor neuron disease. He has adjusted and is living a fulfilling and interesting life.

—**Pamela Meyer** hitched a ride to Chicago after working a season at the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival in Cleveland and 30-some years later, she is still here. Pamela's curiosity and love of working with creative teams led her to complete two Master's degrees and a Ph.D. in innovation and human systems. She is author of four books on learning and innovation and also teaches emerging leaders at DePaul University's School for New Learning.

—**Lisa Pearson** fell in love with the ocean as an angst-ridden teenager in San Francisco. She moved to Chicago—where there is no ocean—to pursue an MFA from The Theatre School at DePaul University and an MAT from National-Louis University. She is a writer, teacher, actor, director, singer, and photographer. She has shared stories at Live Lit events around Chicago (Write Club, Voice Box, Sad Clown, 9x10 Chicago and OUT Spoken).

—**C. Russell Price** is a Genderqueer Appalachian punk poet originally from Virginia. Their work has appeared in Court Green, Lambda Lit, Nimrod International, Story Club Magazine and elsewhere. Their chapbook *Tonight, We Fuck The Trailer Park Out Of Each Other*, was released in 2016 by Sibling Rivalry Press. They are currently at work on a poetry collection dealing with the Queer Apocalypse and a collection of essays.

—**Gwen La Roka** hit the comedy scene with an explosive energy that quickly led to performances at world famous comedy clubs. Gwen's honest comedic approach, meshed with her passion for social justice and her physical humor, enables her to bring together diverse crowds from all ethnic backgrounds in solidarity.

—**Will Von Vogt** is an actor, producer and host/curator of *Salonathon*, a weekly performance series every Monday at Beauty Bar Chicago. He is currently writing and producing a very gay web series and producing the second installment of *Angels in America: Perestroika*, happening this coming spring.

—**Dion Walton** has worked as a professional theatrical performer since the age of 19 in 1971. He has been an actress, actor, make-up artist, photographer, activist, teacher, writer, painter, and singer and not in that order. He truly loves the theater!



BILLY Masters

"I don't know why people keep telling me that Whitney's family asked her to sing. Whitney's family is also the reason Whitney's dead in the first place. Why y'all keep mentioning them to me like they know what's best? They don't. They didn't. Or she would be alive now. Happy Thanksgiving."—**Frenchie Davis** on the American Music Awards tribute to The Bodyguard.

Did anyone not predict **Jordan Fisher** would win *Dancing with the Stars*? Not that he wasn't great, but I'm tired of these professional dancers competing. There has to be someone between Alfonso "The Tap Dance Kid" Ribeiro and Steve "Two Left Feet" Wozniak. Next season might be interesting. For the first time, all of the contestants on DWTS will be from one profession—sports. Of course, some of athletes will have an edge. Surely, figure skaters and gymnasts will master dance moves quicker than, say, a pole vaulter or bobsledder. On the positive side, this could finally be the year **Greg Louganis** gets to compete. How many years does he have to beg?

With **Kathy Griffin's** world tour soon coming to an end, she continues to assert she has no paid work when she comes back to the States, nor can she get on any shows. So, someone stepped up and tried to change that. **Bill O'Reilly** invited Kathy to be a guest on his podcast—a PODCAST. Oh, how the mighty have fallen! Not only did Griffin turn down the offer, but did so publicly. "I'm not that desperate, Bill McRapey." Try back in a few months.

On a recent episode of *Watch What Happens Live*, **Macklemore** revealed that he has a nude painting of **Justin Bieber**. He said, "I bought it on Etsy as a white-elephant Santa gift that at the end of the night just stayed at my house. No one ended up taking it. I'm very proud of it. And it's become a huge headline—like, 'Macklemore owns a naked Justin Bieber dick pancake painting.'" And it comes in handy. He added, "It goes right above my bed and whenever I'm with my wife intimately, I can always stare at it if I want to control my orgasm. Just slow it down." What is a "dick pancake?" It must be seen to be believed—at BillyMasters.com.

That leads perfectly into **Billy's Holiday Gift Giving Suggestions**—where I share some items which will make your holiday not only bright but also gay. First up, the long-awaited (and feared) memoir of **Jenifer Lewis**. The black-ish star names names and holds nothing back in *The Mother of Black Hollywood*. Her raw honesty and outrageous humor douses every page. Be forewarned—it is racy. Actually, it's nasty! But, if you like your divas salty and over the top, Jenifer Lewis is your gal. You can grab either the book or



Stuff your stocking with **The Warwick Rowers Team** calendar, one of Billy's gift-guide suggestions.

the audio version at Amazon.com.

I love a sexy calendar and, for the sixth year in a row, the members of the **Warwick Rowing Team** are destined to be well-hung near my bed. As with each previous year, sales of the calendar are donated to Sports Allies, a group working to remove homophobia from athletics. It's a worthwhile cause, and they're a hot group of guys—a win/win. You can grab them—and not in the icky Kevin Spacey way—at WarwickRowers.org.

And it's time for another installment of Faye-watch. We haven't heard from **Miss Dunaway** since she proclaimed *La La Land* the winner of Best Picture at the Oscars. Oh, Faye, we've missed you. But, like the phoenix of ancient Greece (which may have been her childhood pet), she has risen from the ashes. I missed the story about Faye getting extensions at New York's posh Marie Robinson Salon. After the pros worked their magic on Faye's tenuous tresses, they presented her with the bill—\$3,000! "I'm not paying that—I can't believe how expensive this is," said Faye. Instead, Dunaway paid half—likely rationalizing that her hairline starts halfway up her scalp. When asked by the *New York Post* for a comment, she said, "I'd prefer you not run that. I've now paid the whole thing—but I will not be going back there because it is not the price they said it would be. So, I don't know what to say to you except I didn't throw a fit. I was just very alarmed at the amount they were charging me for the very small amount of hair work that they did. I am a normal human being and don't expect special favors, but I was shocked to be charged the same I had previously paid to get what was now a hair correction. I felt it was very extravagant and inappropriate." That's a pretty long quote—she probably had to leave it on multiple voicemail messages!

Our "Ask Billy" question comes from Neil in Chicago: "What is *Future Man*? And does **Josh Hutcherson** really have a gargantuan penis? I can't find this series on any network. Is this a joke? It's gotta be, right? Right?"

Wrong: It is, in fact, a series on Hulu. In it, Josh sports a penis roughly the size of a Louis-



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ville Slugger. If that's a reference you don't get, then picture a large eggplant, or two zucchinis ... eh, just picture all of the ingredients of ratatouille. To make matters more complicated, in the series premiere, he appears with himself. Yes, two Josh Hutchersons. I know what you're thinking—ratatouille for everyone! Except one of them has a more natural-looking appendage. How much is real? Josh says, "It's a combination of me with camera lock-offs, and also a stunt double, and a lot of prosthetics as I'm sure you may have noticed." You can see it on BillyMasters.com.

When I'll take an order of Hutcherson with everything on it, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Damn—now I'm hungry. Or am I horny? While I call the Warwick Rowing Team, make a sandwich and put on a condom, you can check out BillyMasters.com, the site that fills a variety of needs. If you have a question for me, send it to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Macklemore commissions a painting of Hutcherson's eggplant parmesan! Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

You're invited to our
Holiday Party
Friday, Dec 15
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