

# Pink Ink

Email: pinkmonthly@hotmail.com Web Site: www.khsnet.com/pinkink Vol 1, Issue 6

## Venues to Open

Major venues are being planned for Silom's Soi 4, with the former Molly's Jump expected to reopen sometime this month as an open air bar with low-priced drinks, as well as a Chinese restaurant down at the end of the soi opposite Sphinx.

The restaurant will be called Little Hong Kong.

Molly's Jump, opposite Telephone, will be called Gallery or Balcony, according to rumour. Both are expected to begin operations this month.

## Get Pink Ink at these locations!

- Albury Angelo Babylon CAT
- Colony Crepes & Co
- G-Place Heaven Jupiter
- Malaysia Hotel New Man
- Obelisks Rome Sphinx
- SuperLex Telephone
- Top Secret Utopia V-Club

## Advertising Works!

Pink Ink is the one sure way to reach the gay and lesbian expat community in Thailand. Call today for reasonable rates and friendly service at 661-3150 ext 1515.

## Rome Club Set to Dazzle

Bangkok's most dazzling drag queens, clad in gaudy costumes and spacey big hair, will greet patrons to the Rome Club on Wednesday evenings beginning sometime in March for the most extravagant fun in town.

Rome invites you to "leave your scruples behind and come wallow in pure decadent paradise with fellow pleasure-seekers who aren't afraid to live a little."

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Party-goers will also be privileged to see the "tackiest films ever" about "Vegas glitz" including *Casino* and *Viva Las Vegas*.

Every week will feature a look-alike contest. Contestants will dress like glitzy Vegas celebrities and parade their personas for compelling prizes, Rome says. Contestants will need to sign up by Saturday to prepare for the following Wednesday's show. Upon signing up, contestants will receive a bio file with a picture, music recording and so forth on the celebrity they are impersonating. And the dress code? "Not naked" says Rome.



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SILOM

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## Pink Personals

We will forward your reply to the proper recipient free of charge. To place an ad: Rates are 100 baht for 40 words or less, 200 baht for 80 words or less, and 300 for 120 words or less. Sorry, nothing over 120 words! Send cash payment to above address by the 20th of the month for inclusion in next issue.

Would like to sell computer, stereo, CDs and a book collection, plus a set of golf clubs, microwave, and so forth. Box 1W.

**Lonely in Korat** and looking for fun, romance, and maybe lots more, but only for the right guy. Non-drinking, non-smoking only. Me: I'm GWM, 42, divorced, young at heart, enjoy working out, long walks, fishing, movies, quiet times. You: GAM, 20-40, similar interests. Send photo and letter, I will reply with mine. Box 1V.

**Do You** like red wine and pork chops just as much as cold beers and spicy fried noodles? I'm Thai, a sensitive singer from Korat, looking for a slim, foreign soulmate. Whether you're rich or poor - honesty is more important. Box 1U.

**Allan**, I'm missing you. You know who I am. Please call. Please?

**Thai Guy**, Thai-Chinese, 27, professional, looking for straight-acting GWM 20-40. I'm interested in fitness, travel and foreign culture. I am sincere, down to earth and would enjoy the companionship of interesting people for friendship and possibly more. BOX 1T.

## Queer Report

Weekend News

The Sicilian gay man who torched himself in the Vatican's **St. Peter's Square** Jan. 13 has died of his burns. Alfredo Ormando, 40, set himself alight then rushed toward the entrance to the basilica. Documents found in his nearby coat said he was protesting society's and his family's failure to understand homosexuals.

**British Columbia's** groundbreaking law giving gay and lesbian couples the same rights and obligations as heterosexuals in the areas of child support, custody and access took effect Feb. 4; Christian preachers and 50 of their supporters marched through downtown Nassau, **Bahamas**, Feb. 3 to protest a planned stop by a gay cruise at a private island owned by Norwegian Cruise Line; Two unnamed European men have become the first gays to receive aid from the **Swiss Fund** for Needy Victims of the Holocaust.

Marriage law and the month-old "Registration of Partnership" law are now virtually identical in **The Netherlands**. The government said Feb. 6 it is removing the only clause that made the two laws significantly different: Registered partners will now be permitted to adopt children.

Eighty-two gay men, 42 transvestites and six lesbians were murdered last year in **Brazil** because of their sexuality, according to a new report from Grupo Gay da Bahia (GGB), which states homosexuals are the most hated of all minorities there.

"[According to] a survey carried out by DataFolha and Agencia do Estado: of all social minorities in Brazil, homosexuals are the main victims of prejudice and discrimination, more hated than blacks, Jews, women, indigenous or elderly people. Homosexuals are insulted and assaulted by strangers and relatives, thrown out of their homes, beaten by the police, rejected by churches and by the military," GGB said.

A gay shepherd in Africo Nuovo, **Italy**, was tortured and left for dead by the Ndragheta Calabrian Mafia Jan. 30, police said; **British** foreign-intelligence service MI6 has sent its first gay couple off on a spy mission; Gay groups and trade unions are staging The 1998 International Conference on Trade Unions, Homosexuality and Work in Amsterdam this summer prior to the Gay Games; Thirty-eight thousand people marched through **Melbourne**, Australia's, St. Kilda area Feb. 1 in the city's third annual Pride March.

## THE COLONY



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Weekends - Noon till close

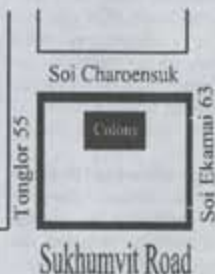
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## Quotes

Wockner News

"Any child can look at me and draw whatever conclusion they want to inspire them in their life. I do not mind being used that way. But I don't have a desire to do that for adults. I don't want to have some adjective preceding my name for the rest of my life, whatever it may be, however people want to pigeonhole me. Is that mildly vague enough?" - Rosie O'Donnell to *US* magazine, February issue.

"The private sector is huge and making a fat living off of AIDS. There is no recourse for people with AIDS to do anything about it." - Jeff Getty, who made headlines two years ago when he was injected with bone marrow from a baboon in a failed attempt to find a new AIDS therapy, to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Jan. 27.

"The word [barebacking] should be banished from the vocabulary of any person who truly cares about the direction of the AIDS epidemic. Gay men and those who work in and run AIDS agencies have a particular responsibility to stand up to the lethal seduction of this idiotic euphemism. We all need to start calling it what it is: unprotected, unsafe anal intercourse. If you must substitute a phrase for it, use a fair one that tells the facts. Call it 'death by stupidity.' Call it 'I'm going to throw away my life because I refuse to think of the consequences of my actions.' Call it what it is: irresponsible." - *Philadelphia Daily News* columnist Mubarak Dahir, Jan. 13.

"Gay chat rooms can be either a hunting ground for That One Special Someone, a means to 1970s-style fast-lane promiscuity (but with 1990s-style efficiency), or a venue for that most distinctive '90s phenomenon of all, cybersex. Gay chat rooms can bring out the worldclass fabricator in a person who never thought he was capable of deceit, yet also allow some people to tell their own deepest truths for the very first time. Indeed, with their wide-ranging coverage of sexual fetishes, chat rooms have made it possible for many people to discover deep truths about themselves. Meanwhile, the plentitude and popularity of chat rooms with names like 'str8 but curious' has bolstered suspicions that the percentage of people whose essential orientation is homosexual is not under but over 10%." - Writer Bruce Bawer in a Feb. 3 *Advocate* column.

## Monogamy or not to be

I don't believe in monogamy and this is why: it's restrictive, impractical and highly unrealistic. Your average guy is little more than a biological machine raging with hormones, and expecting such a one to remain "faithful" till death do you part is one sure way to get your heart broken. It doesn't happen. Am I being cynical? Perhaps. And just the same, perhaps I'm being pragmatic.

I've talked to lots of guys - young and old - and with few exceptions, strict monogamy is rare indeed. What they say, and what they do, are often two different things. Most opine that monogamy would be "nice" but they themselves are unable to abide by it.

As with so many things, one has to look to Mother Nature for a little guidance. Males most often make it their primary duty to get as many of their genes into the gene pool as possible - roughly translated, that means having sex with as many creatures as possible. The female, on the other hand, often saddled with the responsibility for the offspring, is far more choosy in her choice of a partner: she wants the best, strongest, most fit, healthiest, the most perfect partner available. And rightly so. She also has little interest in non-monogamous relationships because "sharing" her mate with others will lead to a loss of resources for herself and her offspring. (You can argue the sexism of this if you will, but this is standard biological fare.)

Consequently, when two men get together, their primary urge is to - surprise - have sex with as many people as possible. They may not understand this. They may not be aware of it. They are simply driven - by genes, by hormones, by all the things that make up the male species of any type of animal.

If you carry on with this line of thinking, you'll soon realise the pointlessness of trying to force two men to be monogamous. Fact is, they may very well be incapable of it. When Mother Nature calls, one tends to respond, willingly or not.

My point in making this point is simply this: why not acknowledge this to be the case and get on with it?

Sex and love are two vastly different things. Finding someone sexually attractive is not difficult; finding someone to love is. And when you find that someone, expecting them to be able to satisfy your sexual needs for the rest of your life is probably a bit absurd.

Far better - and far more practical - to acknowledge the fact that once in awhile you will feel that certain urge to go out and do that certain thing - and leave it at that. After all, how many times do you wake up in the morning next to that hot stud and discover you can't get rid of him fast enough?

There's something to be said for being generous enough to allow your partner some sexual freedom. As long as you know, at the end of the day, he'll come home to you, what *real* difference does it make? - *Nick Wilde*

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## Queer Resources

### Aids

**BODANG DROP IN CENTRE:** 830 Galaxy Lane, Rama 4, 236-8421, 236-8422. Provides services for people with HIV/Aids. F.A.C.T.: Aids Helpline 574-1100, 574-3461 9am-12am. Fraternity for Aids Cessation in Thailand.

**HIV/AIDS LAW & POLICY:** www.critpath.org/aidslaw  
**HOTLINE:** Counselling Centre and HIV/Aids Clinic, 145/6 Hotline Villa, Viphavadee Rangsit 20, BKK 10900, 276-2950, 277-7699, fax 691-4057.

**MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERS (DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS)** provides health care for people with AIDS in Bangkok. If you or your friend has HIV and is ill, please contact us. Our service is free, confidential and friendly. 375 6491.

**SEA-AIDS MAILING LIST:** South East Asia Aids mailing list aimed at bringing together those building and shaping the response to Aids in the region. Send a message to majordomo@lists.inet.co.th with the message "subscribe sea-aids Your Name <Your Email Address>" (without the apostrophes).

**THAI RED CROSS: Anonymous Clinic,** 1871 Rama 4, near the Snake Farm, Mon-Fri noon-7pm, Saturday 9-12pm. 256-4109.

**WEDNESDAY FRIENDS CLUB:** Hotline (66-2) 253-2666. Support and social organisation for people living with HIV/Aids in Bangkok.

### Books

**BULL DOG BOOKS,** PO Box 155, Broadway, NSW Australia 2007. Publisher of Thai Scene and others.

**DK BOOK HOUSE:** On Sukhumvit near Soi 12, this book shop has a few gay titles.

**FLOATING LOTUS COMMUNICATIONS CO,** PO Box 44, Ratchawithi Post Office, Bangkok, Thailand 10408. Also BUA LUANG BOOKS. Publisher of such books as Sex, Longing and Not Belonging, Dear Uncle Go, and The Men of Thailand.

**KINO KINURUYA:** In the new Grand Emporium just opened on Sukhumvit near the Queen's Park Hotel, this shop has a tremendous selection of gay and lesbian literature and we do mean tremendous. Worth a visit!

### Cyberspace

**APLB** is an electronic mailing list focusing on issues related to Asian and Pacific Islander lesbian and bisexual women open to Asian and Pacific Islander women only. Send email request to: aplb-request@kwasj.engr.sgi.com.

**COLONY SAUNA:** www.utopia-asia.com/colony.shtml

**CREPES & CO:** www.sala.net/crepes

**DJ STATION:** http://dj-station.com

**DREADED NED:** Guide to all things gay in Thailand. Easy to navigate. www.dreadedned.com

**FILIPINO QUEER DIRECTORY:** www.tribo.org/bakla/bakla.html

**GAY ASIAN LINKS:** Lots of links to sites for Asian gays and their fans here. http://members.aol.com/APXRDS/gal.html

**HEAVEN SAUNA:** www.utopia-asia.com/heaven.shtml

**PINK INK:** That's us! We're on the Web at www.khsnet.com/pinkink.

**QUEER SPIRITS:** Good site for gay Muslims at www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Heights/8977.

**SPHINX:** www.khsnet.com/sphinx

**SYDNEY GAY & LESBIAN MARDI GRAS:** www.mardigras.com.au

**TELEPHONE:** www.telephonepub.com  
**THAILAND GAY HOME PAGE:** www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Village/2288/

**UTOPIA:** Bookmark this one! You'll find lots of information about the scene in Thailand, as well as other countries in the region, personals, shopping and lots more at www.utopia-asia.com.

### Organisations/S.E.Asia

**ANJAREE** is Thailand's lesbian organization. Their limited resources are aimed at Thai speakers, but they occasionally plan social, educational, or travel events that welcome visiting women. They also put out a Thai language newsletter. Contact them at: PO Box 322 Ratchadamnoen, BKK 10200. 477-1776.

**CLIC (Can't Live in the Closet):** Filipino Lesbian group. P.O. Box 2356, CPO Quezon City, 1163 Philippines. Email clic@phil.gn.apc.org

**GAYA NUSANTARA:** Indonesian gays and lesbians. Jalan Mulyosari Timur 46, Surabaya, East Java, 60112 Indonesia. Tel: 593-4924.

**JOINT COLLEGE QUEER UNION:** We welcome Hong Kong gay, lesbian or bi-sexual students. www.asiaonline.net.hk/~skjiu.

**LONGYANG CLUB:** East meets West in Bangkok for weekly outings and more. Membership fee. PO Box 1077, Silom, Bangkok, 10504. Phone/fax 679-7760.

**PEOPLE LIKE US:** Singaporean gay and lesbian group. P.O. Box 299, Raffles City, Singapore 911710.

**PINK TRIANGLE GROUP:** Malaysian gay and lesbian group. 23 Jalan Jati Kuala Lumpur, 55100 or P.O. Box 11859 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia 50760.

**10 PERCENT CLUB:** Hong Kong gay and lesbian group. P.O. Box 72207 Central Post Office, Hong Kong, 2692-7506.

### Pattaya

**ADAM & EVE COCKTAIL LOUNGE & MASSAGE:** Soi 2, North Pattaya. (038) 4246723. Cabaret at 24.00. Live show (Weekends).

**BOYS BOYS BOYS:** 325/91 Pattayaland Soi 3, South Pattaya. (038) 424099, 425145. Candle/Shower Show 24.30. Cabaret 01.00.

**BODYGUARD:** 325/77 Pattayaland Soi 2, South Pattaya. Cabaret at 22.00, 23.30, 01.00.

**CHARLIE'S BOYS:** 325/44 Pattayaland Soi 1, South Pattaya. (038) 429569, 428457.

**COCKPIT CABARET BAR & DISCO:** 325/106109 Pattayaland Soi 3. (038) 428888. Cabaret at 23.15.

**CRAZY PUB & DISCO:** 273/66 Soi Sunee Plaza, South Pattaya. (038) 410445. Exotic shows.

**LE CAFE ROYAL HOTEL:** 325/1025 Pattayaland Soi 3, South Pattaya. (038) 423515, 428303. Restaurant/Piano bar and terrace bar. Book well in advance, especially during the high season from November through February.

**MOONLIGHT HOUSE:** 325/120121 Thanon Pattaya 2. (038) 423595. Massage available.

**MANOMAN COMPLEX:** 8/46 Pattaya North Rd. (038) 4250813. Coffee shop, pool, lots more.

**MEMORY BAR:** 157/104105 Soi 18 (Soi Wong Amat) Thanon Naklua. Cabaret at 23.30. Live Show at midnight.

**NOBODY BODY CENTER:** 151151/1 Soi Anan Thakun, North Pattaya. (038) 370170. Massage. Traditional Thai skin cleansing massage.

**RAINBOW:** 325/106 Pattayaland Soi 3, South Pattaya. (038) 428515, 428303.

**REBEL BOY BAR:** 325/85 Pattayaland Soi 2, South Pattaya. (038) 424128. An open-air beer bar with hosts.

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Home Page <http://ptty.loxinfo.co.th/~caferoy/>

**SKY BAR:** 146/82 Thanon Tapraya, roof of Mr. Mac Hotel, South Pty. (038) 4211112, 2508278. Live shows.

**STAR BOYS BOYS:** 194/2324 Thanon Pattaya 2, South Pattaya. (038) 249852.

**TOY BOYS NIGHT CLUB:** 325/100 Pattayaland Soi 3, South Pattaya. (038) 423304, 422952, 428737.

**WHY NOT:** 325/25 Pattayaland Soi 1, South Pattaya. (038) 424049.

### Venues/Bangkok

**AQUARIUS GENTLEMEN'S HOUSE (gay):** 243 Hutyanna Soi Sunplu 286-0217. Guest house with hosts.

**ALBURY (gay):** 71/1 Sukhumvit 11, 255-8920. NEW! Posh Men's Club on Sukhumvit with massage, gym, good food, steam room, 3pm to midnight daily. Elegant, private, parking.

**ANGELO SAUNA (gay):** 1025/1011 Thanon Phoenchit, 2529176, 2516291. Gym, private room, video room and more.

**BABYLON (gay):** 50 Soi Atthakarn Prasit, (near Malaysia Hotel), 213-2108. World class men's complex, one of the finest in Asia.

**BARBIERY (gay):** 35345 Thanon Surawong, 2351078. Favourite from days gone by, still drawing patrons.

**BIG BOY COCKTAIL LOUNGE (gay):** 1/34 Sukhumvit Soi 11 (Soi Chai Yot), 2533727, 2519582. Popular with ex-pats.

**BLUE STAR (gay):** 338/56 Soi Pratochai, Surawong, 2332121. Second floor. Popular, naughty, slightly sleazy.

**CAT (gay):** 450-452 Sukhumvit 22 (in Washington Theatre parking lot), 663-4031, 663-4098. Cory sauna, massage.

**CHARLIE'S HIDEAWAY (gay):** 8/5 Silom Road Soi 2. Quiet bar next to DJ Station. Classical music.

**CITY MEN PUB (gay):** 45 Thanon Sukhumvit 251-3262. Hosts. Popular with ex-pats.

**COLONY (gay):** 117 Soi Charoensuk (off Sukhumvit Soi 55), 391-4393, 7114507. Restaurant/Sauna. Young crowd, pool, gym in a charming setting. Massage. Open late.

**COLOUR BAR (gay):** 645/2526 Petchburi Soi 14, Petchburi, 2529221, 6536853. Hosts. Small bar.

**CREPES & CO. (crepes and salads):** 18/1 Sukhumvit Soi 12. Reservations: 251-2895, 653-3990. Gay-friendly hangout.

**DISCO DISCO (gay/mixed):** Silom Soi 2, 234-6151. Trendy disco popular with Thais, great music and atmosphere.

**DJ STATION (gay):** Silom Soi 2, 266-4029, 235-1227. Super-packed dance club. Cabaret at 12:15am daily.

**G PLACE (gay):** 1/2 Soi Sukhumvit 51, 258-0600. Food, drink and karaoke in a warm setting.

**HEAVEN SAUNA (gay):** 4/F Warner Tower, 119 Soi Mahesak, Silom (Soi opposite Holiday Inn, take right hand elevator as you enter the building), 266-9092.

**HENRY CLUB (gay):** Silom Soi 2. Hosts. Used to be called Harries. Pleasant, redecorated, some go go.

**J PARK (gay):** 8-3 Silom Road Soi 2, 233-3247, 235-1227. Popular with older Thai crowd, this pub features singers from 11pm onwards doing pop and Thai folk songs. Sanuk!

**JUPITER (gay):** 31/1-33 Surawong Road (next to Bangkok Bank), 237-4050 ext "Jupiter". Popular go-go, naughty, elegant, one of the best.

**KHUN (gay):** 39/2 Soi Anuman Ratchathon, Soi Thantawan, Surawong, Hosts. Small bar, hosts approach. English spoken.

**KHRUA MAMA (gay):** 39/1416 Silom Soi 6, 2354934. Afterhours hangout.

Continued... Page 11

# Tower of Babble

Whirlybird

You've just got to make your way to the **Rome Club** one of these fine Wednesdays (see our page 1 story!) for their outrageous party night. It promises to be fab - absolutely fab - and Whirlybird can't wait to see the hair, nails and fishnet stockings! On tap will be the tackiest films ever. "Come wallow in pure decadent paradise" - who can argue with that? Slated to begin sometime this month!

Another must-see is the new Men's Club called **Albury**. Located off Sukhumvit 11 (go down Sukhumvit 11 to the end of the soi, turn right, and then immediately left at next soi) this classy facility has inexpensive food, an impressive troupe of massuers, weight-lifting equipment, elegant rooms - you'll have to see for yourself! Albury is open daily 3pm to midnight and there is no entrance fee. Lots of parking in a very private, cosy location. Beautifully done.



Barbara Streisand's new recording *Higher Ground* is, well, yucky. Except for superb duet with Celine Dion. Better luck next time!

**Utopia** has added many more tables to the downstairs cafe. Do drop by for good food, reasonable prices and a bit of shopping. The personals on the Utopia web site, by the way, are enormously popular. Pay a visit to <http://www.utopia-asia.com>.

Speaking of Web sites, you'll want to point your bubbly browsers to the **Crepes and Co** site at <http://www.sala.net/crepes> for the low-down on this charming restaurant. Be sure to visit **Telephone** too at <http://www.telephonepub.com>. You'll be glad you

did: let's see, there's gossip (can't get enough of that, now, can we?), personals, a bit of music here and there and much more. You'll also want to check out nearby **Sphinx** at <http://www.khsnet.com/sphinx>. Sphinx, by the way, has a slew of cocktails and shots (B52s and Blow Jobs are the most popular) on offer. They continue to add to the marvelous decor and the fresh flowers are fabulous.

Telephone is busy revamping the kitchen and new menu items are being planned for this month. Neung's art hanging is finishing with lots of pieces sold (Whirlybird was seriously tempted!).

**JJ Park** packs them in on the weekend with sanuk fun shows. The singers continue to croon good stuff. It's a relaxing change of pace from hectic neighbour **DJ Station**, which also continues to pack them in. For a bit of karaoke, head over to **Zoom** on the left side of the soi.

During the first day of **In & Out** at the World Trade Centre, those bringing same-sex partners got in two-for-one. Amazing Thailand indeed!

If you've got a friend in town looking for a place to stay (apartments being what they are, your friend will probably appreciate it!), check the gay and lesbian friendly hotel off Sukhumvit 22. Singles are 1,100 baht nightly, and doubles are 1,200 baht. Swimming pool, sauna, coffee shop and business centre, plus a breakfast buffet are part of the deal. Contact Utopia or visit their web site for more information.

A bit farther afield: if you're going to Chiang Mai check out the new **Sparoma** gym and sauna. Call (053) 243-992 for more information and directions. Sparoma features a sauna, steam bath, restaurant, jacuzzi, movies, massage and much more. It's on the 7th floor of Silvers and House.

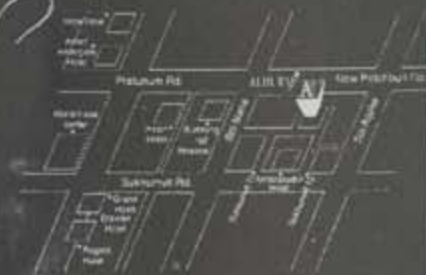
Spotted at a second hand shop in Sydney: "We exchange anything. Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain?"

# ALBURY

## MEN'S CLUB

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**KHRUA SILOM** (mixed): 10/20 Silom Road (Silom alley near Soi 2), 2382967. Young Thai gay and lesbian scene. Jammed and hopping until late. Karaoke upstairs.

**KITCHENETTE** (mixed/lesbian): 1st Floor, Dutchess Plaza, 289 Sukhumvit Soi 55, 381-0861. Cafe, live music Fri, Sat nights.

**LIDO CABARET** (gay): 82/9 Thanon Ratchaprarop, Pratumam, 2450014. Three shows nightly.

**MAMBO** (mixed): Sukhumvit Soi 31, 66204413. Cabaret. Reservations suggested, classy, professional cabaret.

**MASK** (gay): 5 Patpong Soi 2, 2nd Floor, 2365004. Naughty show about 12-00am.

**MASTER CLUB (HARRIE'S GYM)** (gay): Silom Soi 2. Upstairs on the third floor above the Henry Club. Workouts.

**MY WAY** (gay): 944/4 Thanon Rama 4, 2339567, 2351868. Ranked as having the best go go in the city.

**NEW MAN** (gay): Soi Pratoochai, Surawong, 2361616. Classy interior, pricey drinks, good show, attentive staff.

**NO BODY CENTRE FOR MEN** (gay): Sukhumvit Plaza, 4th Fl. (near Soi 12), 251-4367. Massage.

**OBELISKS** (gay): 39/3 Sukhumvit Soi 53, 662-4377-9. Elegant 11-storey sauna complex.

**RELAX** (mixed): Sukhumvit 23 (Next to Jet Set). Karaoke and restaurant.

**ROME CLUB** (mixed) Silom Soi 4. Great music, dancing, drinks. Cabaret at 1am daily.

**SPHINX** (gay): 98-104 Silom Soi 4, 234-7249. Cozy, romantic atmosphere, and attentive service have turned many visitors into regulars. Huge list of cocktails, great food.

**SUPER LEX MATSUDA** (gay): 39/1416 Silom Road Soi Tantara, 2361633. Thai-oriented, subtle, shower shows.

**STUDIO 982** (gay): 982 Thanon Sukhumvit, Prakanong,

3916545. Friendly, quiet, just pass the bus station.

**TAWAN** (gay): 2/2 Soi Tantara, off Surawong, 234-5506. Hosts with Go Go. Popular with Muscley Marys.

**TELEPHONE** (gay): 114/11 Silom Soi 4, 234-3279. World-famous gay pub, 2 floors plus popular outside patio.

**THUMB UP** (mixed/lesbian): Sukhumvit Soi 31. Cooking on Friday evenings. Karaoke.

**TOP MAN** (gay): 8/9 Silom Soi 2, 2nd Floor, 6328934. Cabaret show every Friday and Saturday night at 11:30pm. Friendly.

**TURNING POINT** (mixed): Across from Utopia on Sukhumvit 23, 66211034. Started as a host bar, it has become a popular late-night place for Thais to sing and drink.

**TWILIGHT** (gay): 3840 Thanon Surawong, 2353876. Live sex and cabaret shows, the first gay go go bar in Bangkok. Sleaze is the word, and hosts are aggressive.

**TOP SECRET** (gay): 116/1 Sukhumvit 23, 2nd floor. NEW! Gay pub with massage. Above Utopia.

**UTOPIA GAY & LESBIAN CENTRE**: 116/1 Sukhumvit 23 (enter Sukhumvit Soi 23 and take first right turn), 259-9619, email [utopia@best.com](mailto:utopia@best.com). Gay shop, gallery and cafe. Open daily from noon until midnight. General information on the gay scene.

**V CLUB** (gay): 52/1 Soi Aree Phahonyothin 7, (on right side), 279-3322. Massage, friendly staff, cafe and gym. Enjoyable atmosphere.

**ZOOM** (gay): Silom Soi 2, 2333247. Karaoke in the heart of Soi 2.

(Complete listings can be found at the Pink Ink Web site [www.khsnet.com/pinkink](http://www.khsnet.com/pinkink) or at Utopia [www.utopia-asia.com](http://www.utopia-asia.com) and DreadedNed at [www.dreadedned.com](http://www.dreadedned.com). Visit these for complete listings, maps, and comments on the venues, plus lots more. Also see "Men of Thailand" guide book.)

## Queer of the Month



It was through Plato's *Symposium* and *Phaedrus* that Socrates has exercised his most potent influence on the gay imagination. In these two dialogues, Socrates examines how love begins in the erotic passion of an older man for a beautiful boy. The passion of a man for a boy is a kind of divine madness - in its grip, we neglect our material needs, we act generously, without regard for mercenary calculation.

Although philosophers have - even to this day - studiously attempted to ignore the forthright homosexual love that is the basis of the *Phaedrus* and *Symposium*, gay readers have always found their way to these texts. What they have discovered there has often struck them with the force of revelation.

Socrates was born in 469 B.C. in the Greek city-state of Athens. In 399 B.C. he was tried on charges of corrupting the morals of Athenian youth and for religious heresies. He steadfastly denied guilt and was executed by poisoning.

I rank Socrates as the most influential gay person in history because of the essential philosophic underpinnings he provided - and has continued to provide - for gay men and women's search for identity and self-knowledge. Who we are began, in a sense, with him. - *The Gay 100, Paul Russell*



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