midsumma festival '94
melbourne's lesbian and gay festival 21 jan—13 feb

PREVIEW GUIDE
Brenton Geyer  
President  
Midsumma Festival

As we put this year’s festival program together it becomes clearer each day that Midsumma is an important part of Melbourne’s gay and lesbian cultural, political, and social calendar. We strive to offer a base from which community groups, artists, performers, writers, business’s, sports people, entertainers, politicians and egos-centrics of many kinds—all of whom belong to our lesbian and gay community—are able showcase and deliver their talents and messages in a safe environment free from homophobic backlash or moral censure. We are recognised by the mainstream community in cultural and political arenas, as being able to offer a strong, viable and diverse contribution. Whilst history has shown us that this is nothing new, it is most significant that we are now being heralded from the ‘closet’ by people who once would have viewed us as being morally and politically embarrassing. The Midsumma Festival is a vehicle which has the ability to change attitudes. Attitudes of homophobia and bias, and fear and misunderstanding. All who identify as part of Melbourne’s gay and lesbian community must take this festival as their own. We all have that right of expression—from drag to leather, from Spring Street to Porter Street—this is your opportunity to camp it up or butch it up, but above anything do it with pride and purpose. For it is a battle after all. A battle to overcome lingering mainstream attitudes and turn feelings of prejudice into feelings of acceptance and appreciation. For this to happen, the festival must grow, and so too must its clout. One day, when the battle is won, and the raison d’etre for Midsumma becomes socially, morally and politically obsolete, may we not need this festival of pride, presence, and profile?

Tony Keenan  
National President  
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations

On behalf of the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, I wish to congratulate the Midsumma Board, volunteers, and Melbourne’s Gay and Lesbian Community for the best Midsumma Festival yet. Community celebrations and unity are more important than ever in times of grief and loss. The Midsumma festival is a tribute to the strength, compassion, and diversity of our family—the Gay and Lesbian Community. Well done Melbourne.

Susan Harben  
President  
Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras

Each year Melbourne’s Midsumma Festival goes from strength to strength. It becomes bigger in size, broader in scope, and more and more lesbians and gay men are taking part. Because it belongs to Melbourne’s gay and lesbian community, Midsumma renews the community’s pride, colour, diversity and life. As it continues to thrive, each lesbian and gay man in Australia and overseas can feel proud. Your Successes are our successes. Have a great couple of weeks.

Sue Natraas  
General Manager  
Victorian Arts Centre Trust

Midsumma has become an important festival in Melbourne’s arts calendar. It highlights the depth of Melbourne’s creative talent and the responsiveness of our audiences in a wonderful carnival atmosphere. It deserves the support of us who are interested in our diverse cultural fare.

John Thwaites  
MLA for Albert Park

It is a pleasure to offer my support and congratulations to the Midsumma Board on the eve of their 6th annual festival. The gay and lesbian community is one which is diverse, vibrant, and talented, I wish all who are responsible for Midsumma ’94 the success due for their immense efforts in bringing this diversity and talent to the fore.
red raw
The ALSO Foundation presents Melbourne's largest dance party.
Shed 14 Victoria Dock Saturday 29 Jan DJ's Tony Siviola, Calvin Campbell, Peter McNamara, Sourd Minister $35 members/conc $45 preschool/65 door Tickets Hares and Hyenas, Central Station, Aus Boys, VAC, PLC, Austickets 131314. Info 0055 34234

Bridge
One session pairs Bridge competition. Fundraiser for Positive Living Centre. English Speaking Union, 146 Toorak Rd, West, South Yarra Sun 6 Feb 1pm—9pm $8 bookings 866 8521 or 693 6790

JOY Picnic
Forest Glade, (a private property) Mt. Macedon Rd, Mt. Macedon, BVO food, drinks, blankets Wed 26 Jan 12.30pm-5pm $5 each Pay at gate

Dinkl Di Day
Spend Australia Day with Dawn Syndrome, as she tours famous Aussie landmarks of Melbourne from the safety of a luxury coach. Meet Dinkl-Di, her 2 naughty boys, Harry & Willy, and along the way, an encounter with the estranged Cheryl! All guests will be treated to an 'Aussie Banquet' all inclusive. Dress as your fav. Aussie.
Wed 26 Jan Coach leaves 3 Faces at 3pm sharp Enq + tickets 826 0933

Leather Pride
A week of leather orientated events, workshops, exhibitions.
11 Feb—15 Feb Various locations For full schedule of events contact 885 7159

Men of Cloth
Aspects of Queer Culture Works by Michael Glover, Matthew Finn, Michael Hop & Douglas McManus Craft Victoria, 114 Gertrude St, Fitzroy 20 Jan—6 Feb Tue-Fri, 10am-5pm Sat 12-6pm free

Group Photo Show '94
Exhibition of local photographic talent at the Melbourne, 119 Sturt St, Sth. Melbourne. 22 Jan—4 Feb free

More Menu
An exhibition about the body and its myths Marlos Cafe, 303 Brunswick St, Fitzroy 16 Jan—14 Feb 7am-10pm daily free

Juan Davila
3-D Semblance Recent Works by Juan Davila Tolomo Galeries, 121 Victoria St, Fitzroy 1 Feb—26 Feb 11am-6pm Tue-Sat free

Diego Moliner
Erotic, fetishistic, portraits inc. leather, bondage, dildos, high heels and lipstick. Australian Centre for Contemporary Art 22 Jan—13 Feb 11am-5pm Tue-Fri 2pm-5pm Sat/Sun free and more Davila
A showing of recent work by Davila Hares and Hyenas Bookshop 135 Commercial Rd, Sth. Yarra From 9 Feb free

Team Melbourne Swimming Carnival
This is an event not to be missed. For swimmers and would-be alike, it's the 'unique' event of Midsummer.
Prahran Pool Saturday 12 Feb 7pm $5 pay at the gate Enquiries to David on 646 1619 (no glass containers or alcohol allowed)

Tennis Tournament
A weekend of court competition for the tennis enthusiast. Elsternwick Park Tennis Centre, Glenhuntly Rd.
Morning singles Saturday 22 Jan Afternoon doubles Sunday 23 Jan $12 per event Bookings and enquiries to Alison at Elsternwick Park Tennis Centre Ph. 531 6328

Melbourne Spikers Volleyball Tournament
Collingwood Education Centre, McCutcheon Way, Collingwood Saturday 29 Jan 9.30am—5pm $15 includes lunch Bookings and enquiries to Martin or Jonathan on 654 1217 (AH).

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Galas Gay Games Sports Breakfast
Team Melbourne and Melbourne Star Observer present a Galas Sports Breakfast to support our team of lesbian and gay sports people for the Unity '94 Gay Games in New York.
ritz Hotel, Fitzroy St, St, Kilda Saturday 5 Feb 10am approx $20 Bookings and enquiries to David on 646 1619

Did you meet any Malagas?
Author, Dino Hodge, will be signing copies of his book, Did you meet any Malagas?, and speaking on 'recording a cross cultural queer history—thoughts on involving aboriginal, ethnic, and mainstream communities.'
25 Jan, 8pm Hares and Hyenas 135 Commercial Rd, South, Yarra. Enq: 824 0110

JOY Melbourne
90.7 FM
Broadcasting every weekend between Midnight Fridays and Midnight Sundays.
Featuring interviews with Midsummer event holders, and crossovers to events and the Midsummer Carnival.

3CR Community Radio
695 AM
Presenting the L&G Show, Wednesdays at 10.30 pm. and In Ya Face, Fridays at 4pm. and Sistematic, Sundays at 3.30pm with interviews with Midsummer event holders, and crossovers to events and the Midsummer Carnival.

Radio National
621 AM

4 Women and their writings
A reading by four women of their writings.
Curated by Miranda Robertson and Kelly Gardiner.
Tue 1 Feb. 8pm Hares and Hyenas 360 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Enq: 824 0110
Software VI
Software, a Midsuma institution, showcases our communities’ versatile and ever changing talents.

Napier St. Theatre, 199 Napier St. St. Melb.
Prog 1: Wed 26 – 30 Jan
Prog 2: Wed 2 – 6 Feb
8pm $12/$10conc.
Bookings 699 8500

RE-JOY-CE
Fundraising Variety Concert
3 Faces Nightclub, 143 Commercial Rd.
St Yarra
Mon 7 Feb. 7.30pm-2am
$10 or $8 Members of JOY

Lady Boy
Lady by night, boy by day.
“Battle of Performers Show Girl”
Copin Hall
Sat 22 Jan 7pm
$14 inc. light meals
eng: 571 3225 AH

Desire
A celebration of sexuality.
“It’s rude, funny, sexy, exploitive, and exploitive!”
Carron Courthouse, 949 Drummond St. Carlton.
27 Jan – 5 Feb (not Mon)
8pm plus 10.30pm Fri/Sat
$128
Bookings 347 1808

A Midsuma Night’s Music
Asounds
Melbourne’s Gay Choir
Collingwood College
19 Feb, 7.30-10pm
$12/10 concession
eng: 380 5539 or 534 0419

Hybrid Fruit
Post modern, Pornographic, Parody.

Willing, dance, projected images, and music explored in a provocative and original way. A visual spectacle from the group that brought you “A Queer Reader”, 1993 Fringe Festival Hit up anit ballet, Marcus O’Donnell, Gerard Morissey, Vin Pitcher, and Daron Pope.

Theatre works
14 Aslind St. St. Kilda
3, 5 Feb 8pm, 6 Feb 5pm.
$9/6
Eng: 534 4879

Karen Finley
A certain Level of Denial
Direct from New York, this controversial performance artist mixes blunt wit, audacity, futuristic aggression, and hypnagogic zeitgeist-utilised chartering-her performances elicit an impassioned response.

National Theatre, Carlisle St. St. Kilda
Fri 11 Feb. 8pm
$30/bfr or $27/bfr ACCA members
Austickets 131314

Summer Awakenings
A Midsuma Musical Event
A chamber and choral concert including the first Australian performance of Gareth William’s Requiem Mass for those who have died of AIDS.

A fundraiser for Fairfield Hospital Interfaith Chapel.
St. Mark’s Church
George St. Fitzroy
Sat 12 Feb 8pm
$18/14/10
bookings: 280 2330

Solomons Sideshow
A walk through performance installation using the form of the turn of the century sideshow phsyocodela. Delving into gay male mythology and eroticism, creating an illusionary world, stimulating the senses of sight, sound, scent, and touch.

Panorama Cinema
Brunswick St. Fitzroy.
2-6 Feb
between 8-11pm
$6/ticket at door

Back to the Closet
A series of free screenings of 60’s classics for members of the MGF&VF. Films include:
VICTIM,
MACCHEN IN UNIFORM,
and THE LEATHER BOYS.

Melbourne Film Festival
Theatrettes
207 Johnson St. Fitzroy.
Thu 27 Jan, 10 & 24 Feb
Memberships available at screenings $10/6conc.
Check the gay press for times or call 826 1317.

When You Need More Than Straight Answers
Photography exhibition presented by the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard.
Hares and Hyenas, 135 Commercial Rd. St. Yarra.
26 Jan – 8 Feb
11am-8pm free

Midsummer Wank Party
Melbourne wankers recovery parties—jack off for men.
Club Spa, Caulfield
Mon 31 Jan and 14 Feb
arrive between 7-8pm $10

Gay and Lesbian Travel Forum
The 4th Melbourne Community Groups Forum presents a discussion on travel, including a Team Melbourne New York movies and discussion, and a talk by the manager of the Bayside Council’s Tourism Group, and Tourism Expo.

Midsummer ‘host tent’
Midsumma Carnival
13 Feb
Cnr. Auhghe Dve & Fitzroy St. St. Kilda
5-6pm free

Switchbitch
A fundraiser for the PCV. Some of Melbourne’s most twisted and notorious Drag Queens join forces for this gala charity performance, including Miss Candies, Rite, Stella, Domen, Sabrina, Min Sing, Storm Warning, and Yvonne Gardner, followed by the lesbian band “Mary on the Dashboard”.

Prince of Wales Hotel
Saturday 6 Feb 9pm
$10 at the door.
Proceeds to fund safe sex equipment and dispersion.

Beatnic ‘94
A bike tour of some inner-city beats.

Join the Beats Outreach Team to see some of the more illustrious sites and find out more about us.


Gladboat
GLAD cruises the Yarra in an evening of music and comedy featuring TIDAS.

The Yarra Queen
Fri 4 Feb 7-10pm
$19/6
Bookings: 419 1412

A Chorus Line
A Gala Charity Performance of A Chorus Line will be held to raise funds for the HIV Assistance Association.

Her Majesty Theatre
Sat 22 Jan
8pm
$49 includes A Reserve seating, and Champagne on arrival.

$10 from each ticket goes toward the HIV Assistance Association.
CARNIVAL
The highlight of the festival, and winner of the Rainbow Award Event of the Year, the Midsumma Carnival, is simmering to a slow boil.

Melbourne’s largest and most talked about gay and lesbian community event will open with an explosion of entertainment and events at 12 noon and will roll along until 8pm.

Corner Fitzroy St. and
Auchter St. Kilda.

Sunday 13 Feb

The Dog Show
Now a Carnival institution, the dog show is an opportunity to showcase your canine family under the critical eye of our judging panel. Fluff them up, drag them up, or both them up, and be at the Carnival ‘Drag Strip’ (centre of oval) 2pm.

Wrestlefest
Bring your bathers because the ‘Memorial Doug Lucas Pool’ featuring the infamous ‘slippery pole’ will be on-site again!

Wigstock
Brush up your bonnets because Barbra Quicksand, Melbourne showgirl legend, will once again be conducting a search for Melbourne’s best and worst drag artistes in the only event of its kind in Australia!

Wigstock is open to both boy and girl cross-dressers, BYO tape, sunglasses, and attitude and turn up at the ‘drag strip’ (centre of oval) at 3pm for your chance to become Miss/Mr Wigstock ’94.

the DISCURIO stage
The main stage will feature a line up of lesbian and gay entertainment all day! Included are Iva Big One, Albino Black, the Lipstick and New Wigs on the Block, Jazz Squad and Buzz Club.

Transport
Car parking will be limited. Trams 15 and 16 and light rail 96 will deliver you to the Carnival with ease.
Midsumma '94
1994 heralds the 10th Midsumma Festival. With that comes a level of maturity and sophistication which has been built upon over the past six years. We are able to offer you, the lesbian and gay community of Melbourne, an opportunity to showcase your individual and specific talents under one umbrella and in turn, project a sense of pride, purpose, and unity toward the broader community. Whether it be through the arts, sport, the media, social or political, community-based, or business and enterprise, Midsumma is your vehicle of expression—a celebration of your's and our sexuality.

Midsumma is engineered and executed by a Board of Management, a team of working group coordinators, and a further team of volunteers who see to the running of the festival at every level. None of these people are paid. We wish to thank all of these people for their time and commitment to the festival. We would also like to thank those individuals and organisations who have supplied goods and services, and donated time or items in an economic environment which makes it particularly difficult to do so.

Thank you to (in no particular order) Ron Oliver Lee Holmes Michelle Truckerbooth John Speirings Craig Brudner Alan Smith Bronda Rhodes Dick Burke Tim Mann from DiscounGeo Spurrell from Broadcast Sound Services Lou Missos Share Bridges and the Cosmopolitan Stella Constellation Ken Hale Ross Appleton Clint McDonald Stephanie Skin Fitness Launce Lane Hira Jiran Sam Zanildin and the Street Cafe Daniel from Worksense Party Pulp Sasha Cunningham Dulce DuJour Barbara Quicksand Susan Harben John Thwaite Tony Keenan Sue Nattress Martin James Kay Arthur Jon Nichols Charlie Kyra Ana Budl Happy Solutions Fantasia Stephen Jones and 3CR Brian Dowsett and ALSO The stars of our poster Tea McKenzie Jim Hyde Chris Hazel and VAC/GMHC

Miss Information Will Walton and M&O Bill Calder and Brother Sister Bent TV Crusader Hills and Rowland Thompson Claire Williamson Paul Ross Leather Pride Toheys Beer Bluestone Media Michael Mitchener International Directions Team Melbourne Adam Carr All of the event holders All of the Carnival performers and stall holders And thank you to all those who will assist after the production of this guide. There will be many. Special thanks to Cafe Cosmo, Vittorio Coffee, Stoklosa Vodkas (all of which provide essential fuel for the running of the festival) and an all round thank you to Robert Luciano who is holding the office together while Midsumma ignites around him.

Midsumma is:

Brenton Gayer
President
Kerry James
Treasurer
Nicholas Janides
Secretary
Mark Whearem
Board Member

Lisa Trevorlock
Board Member
Richard Martin
Board Member
Ian Cameron
Carnival Producer
Charlot Kryza
Designer
Jon Nicholls
Merchandising
Martin James
Publicity
Kay Arthur
Publicity
Anita Budai
Event Production
Robert Luciano
Office Assistant

Office
Cosmopolitan Motor Inn
6 Carlisle St.
St Kilda VIC 3182

Telephones
Festival
03 534 0781 ext 199
Carnival
03 525 4746
Facsimile
03 525 4779