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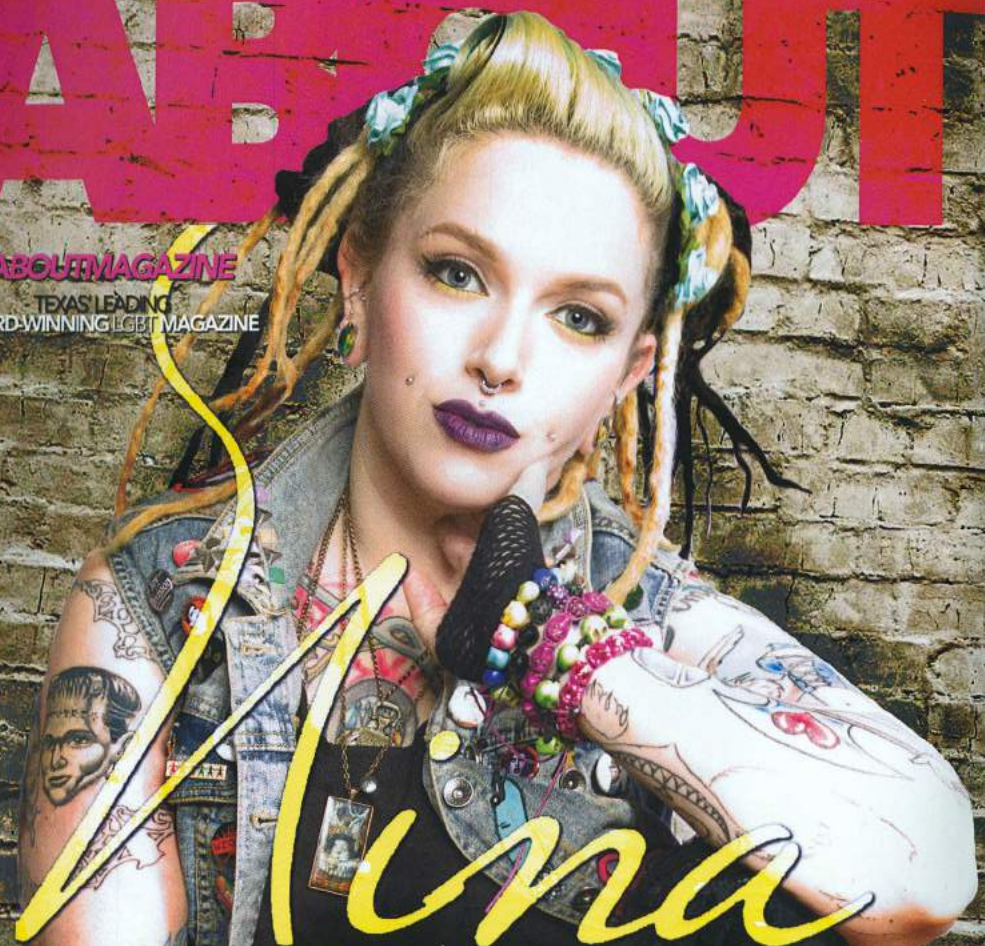
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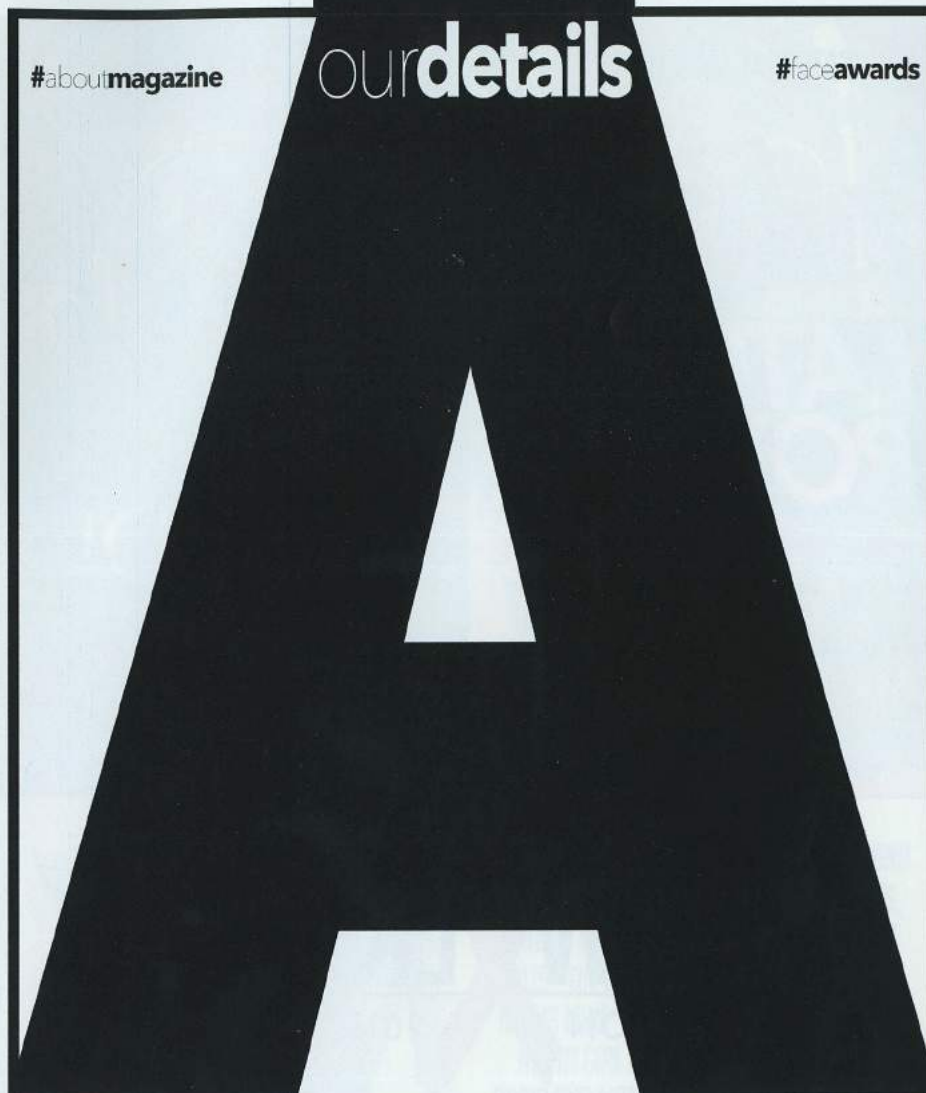


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Cade Michals **Publisher** Cade@about-online.com

Lance Wilcox **Creative Marketing** Lance@about-online.com

Nathan Anderson **Director of Operations** Nathan@about-online.com

Donald Trahan **Director of Photography** Donald@about-online.com

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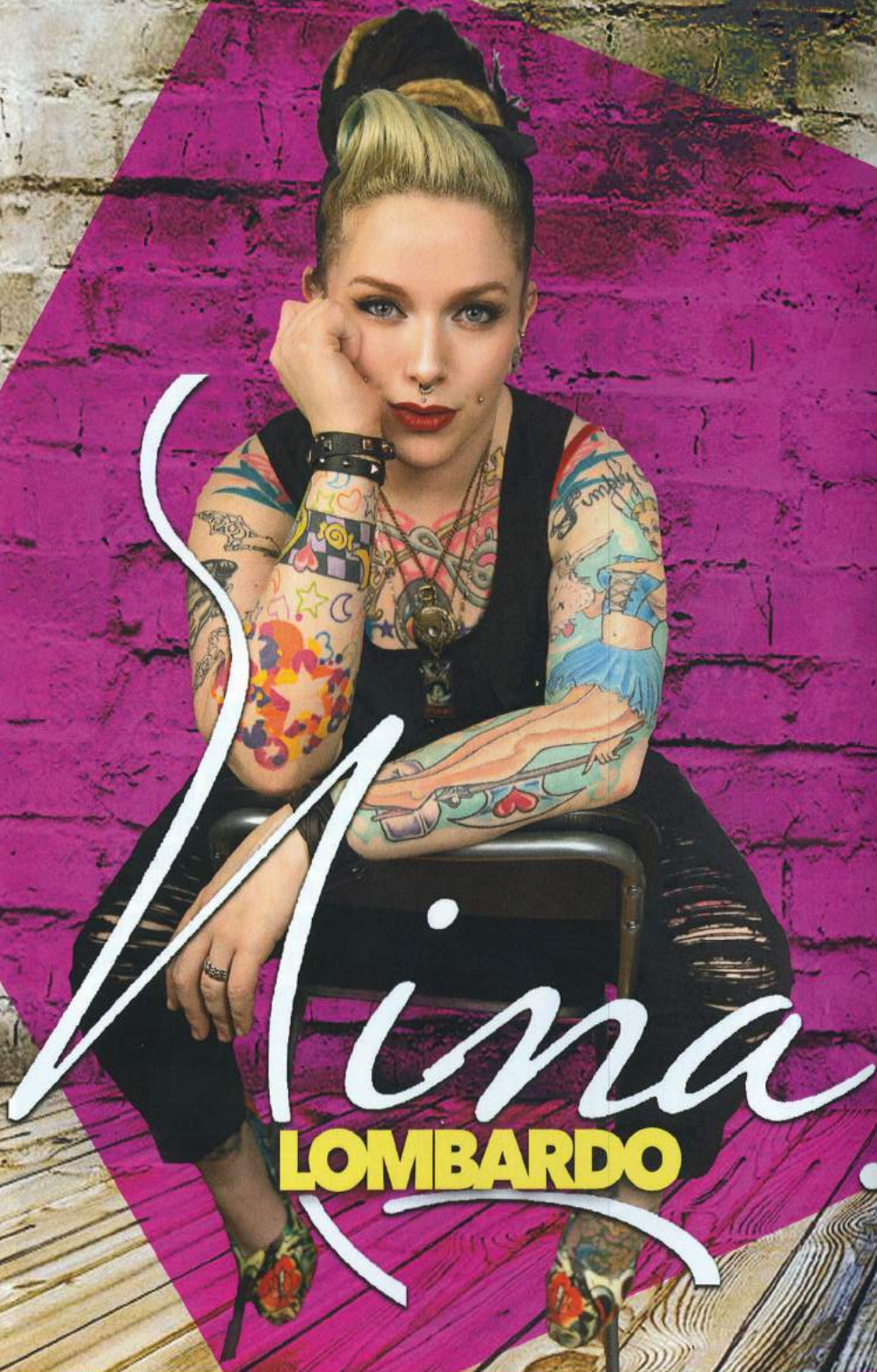
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"New Kids On The Block" she says with a smile when asked her what was her first concert she ever went too. "And I'm proud of that." She sits across the room on a couch drinking hot tea. The doctor has dianosed her with strep throat. In between questions I try to count the tattoos. She has more than 30 piercings, all over!

by nathan anderson
About Magazine | About News
Photo: Donald Trahan

LOMBARDO'S

YEAR

At 32 years old, the 'Queen of Karaoke' has big plans for 2016. She has a new look, and is ready for a change. It's the year of Nina, Nina Lombardo. "I am in a new jean size, the smallest I've been in six years," she exclaims.

You most likely have seen her Thursdays or Sundays at Jr's Bar and Grill, hosting karaoke or Pearl Bar hosting The Sushi Show every 3rd Wednesday of the month. *Sadly there is no 'sushi' involved!*

Looking at Nina, one might think she is super-hardcore, some fearless girl. And believe it or not, that's some of truth. Sorta! She describes herself as "Tattoos. Dreadlocks. Music. Moxie. Crafty. Queer. Virgo." But...there are a few exceptions. "People seem to always be surprised to learn how many silly little phobias I have." Nina says. She refuses to get in water that she can't see her feet. Don't you dare attempt to drive in a tunnel with her in the car. It's not gonna happen! And for those clowns? "Supper uncomfortable."

But she's also a cooker, a lover of designing and decorating. "I have a thing for baking. And my personal theory is that if I'm sharing the sweets with those around me". Nina explains. She also loves glitter. She was also a finalist in the 2010 Pride Superstar singing competition. December 2015 she became Entertainer of the Year at the FACE Awards. Nina is a community favorite.

Her love from music comes from her favorite Aunt. "I remember growing up hearing my Aunt Felicia sing beautifully," Nina recalls when she was younger.

"I wanted to sing along." Nina says since then 'people pretty much can't get a word in edge-wise if I'm in a vehicle -- because I will FIND a song to sing.'

"When I was younger and all of my friends talking about how excited they were to turn 21" Nina explains "All I could talk about was how excited I was to turn 18 so I could get tattooed." She tells me after I guess she noticed me looking!

"I got my first on my 18th birthday. Each piece that I have means something to me."

"I remember growing up hearing my Aunt Felicia sing beautifully"

"Being tattooed has helped me work through some of the hardest times in my life, and now I have something beautiful in place of the pain." Nina tells me she is always in the state of evolution, becoming a better version.

gayborhoods

360° GUIDE



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202 Taum, Houston, TX 77006
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617 Fairview, Houston, TX 77006
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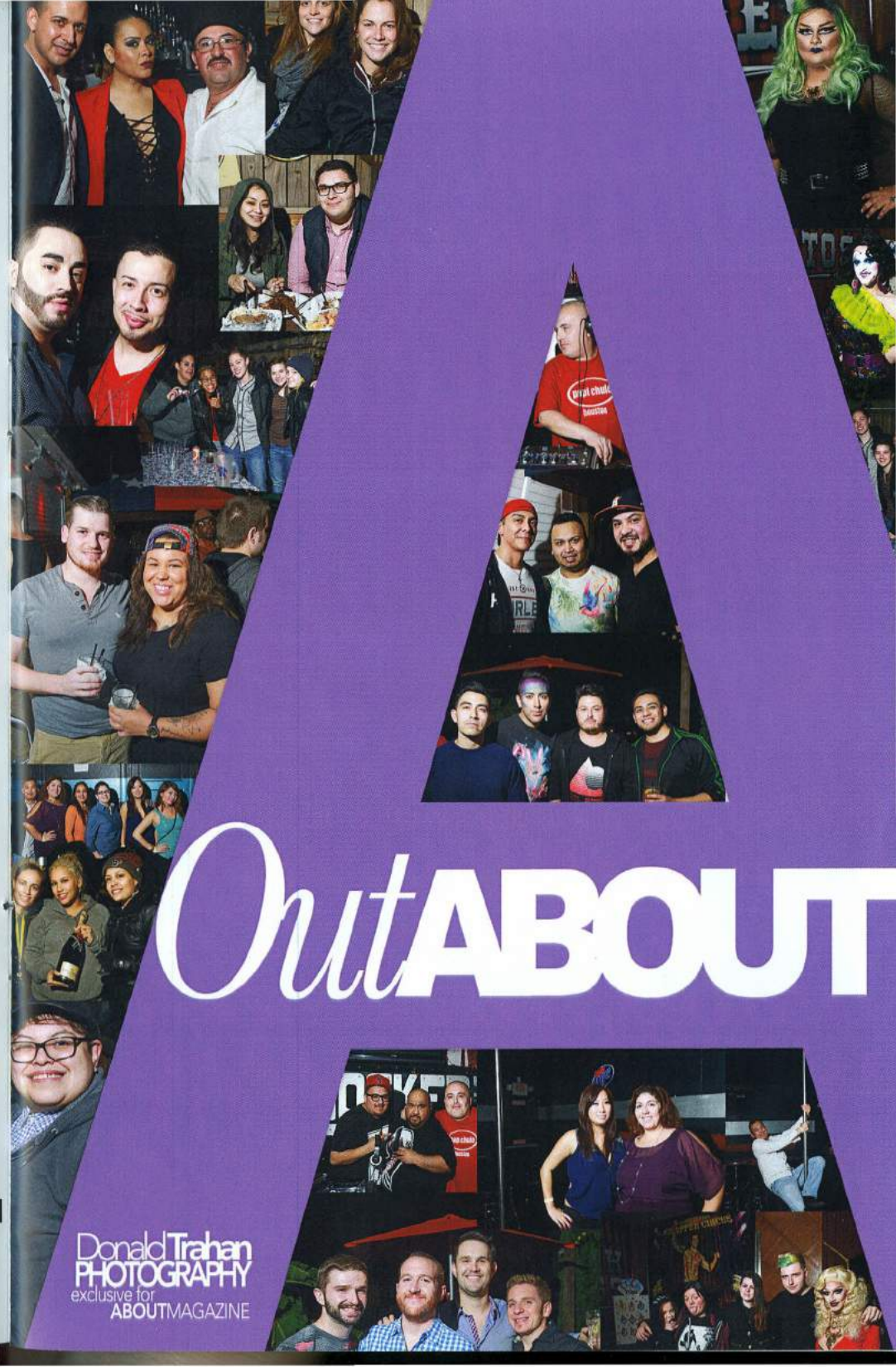
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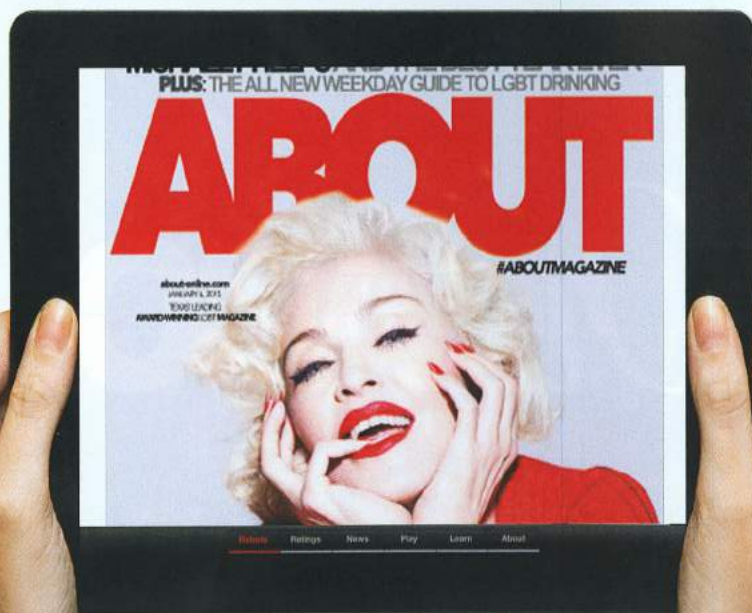
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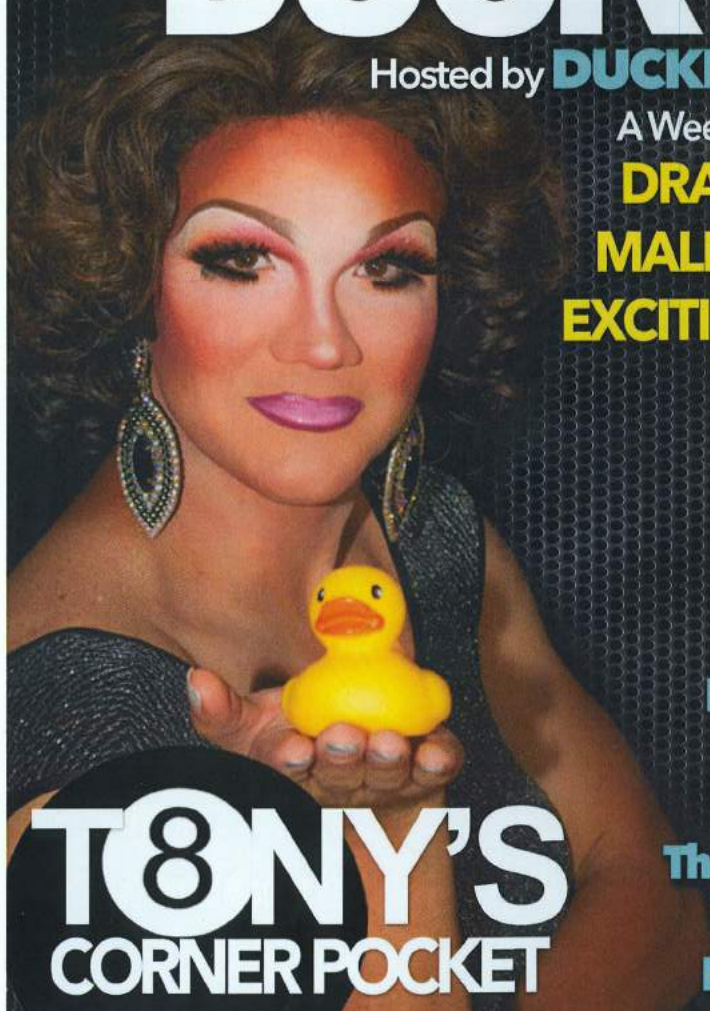
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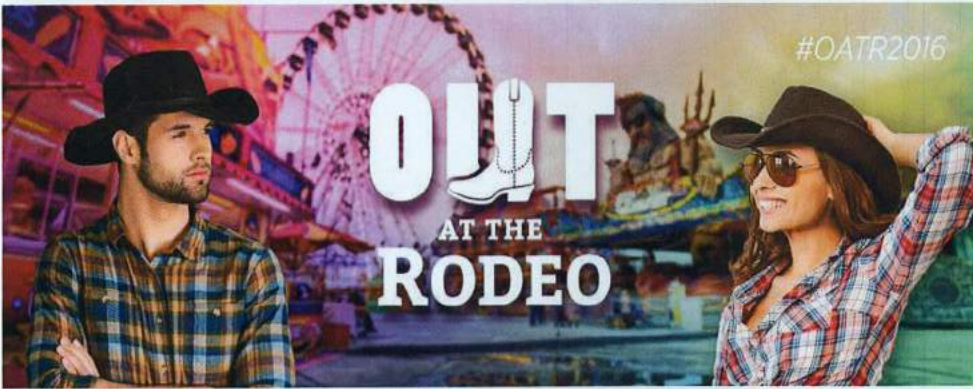
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Bunnies

on the Bayou

by nathan anderson



The resurrection is not the only thing that happens on Easter Sunday that might you feel the 'holy ghost.' This year, on Sunday, March 27th marks the 37th annual Bunnies on the Bayou.

On a sunny Easter Sunday in 1979, a small group of friends gathered for a birthday celebration at a small apartment complex on Clay Street. It must have been one hell of a party, because word spread of the event. Because the following year, the group set up a sound system and sent out invitations. This was the beginning of Bunnies on the Bayou.

In the mid-80's AIDS was taking a terrible toll on the community, and the hosts decided to help their friends by charging an "admission"- a bag of food for local charities was required to enter the event.

During the 90's the event grew again, and the location changed to the Wortham Center. Instead of food, Bunnies began to raise money for local charities.

This will mark the 37th anniversary for the largest cocktail party in Texas.

Filled with creative costumes, the LGBT community, and never-ending cocktails, Bunnies on the Bayou brings tons of fun and excitement to the park outside the Wortham Center in downtown Houston.

The fete features fan favorite DJs and other local and sometimes national entertainment. The once small bunny tail party has now grown so big that visitors from across Texas and as far away as New York and California come to celebrate the season in true bunny fashion.

The official Bunnies After Party is at F Bar this year. We have learned the Bunny Crew will resurrect the 'Bunny Shuttle' to transport all y'all 'Bunny Tail Chasers' to and from the event.

The most important question is not whether or not you're going. It's for charity! The most important question is what you are going to wear.

bunniesonthebayou.org



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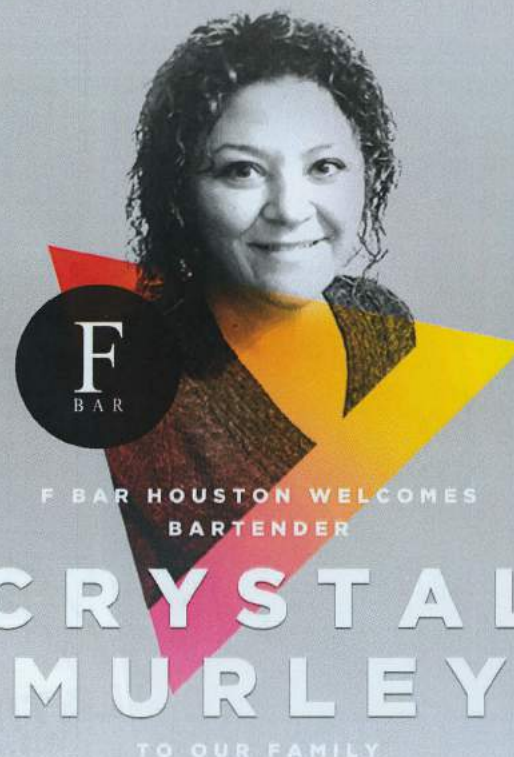
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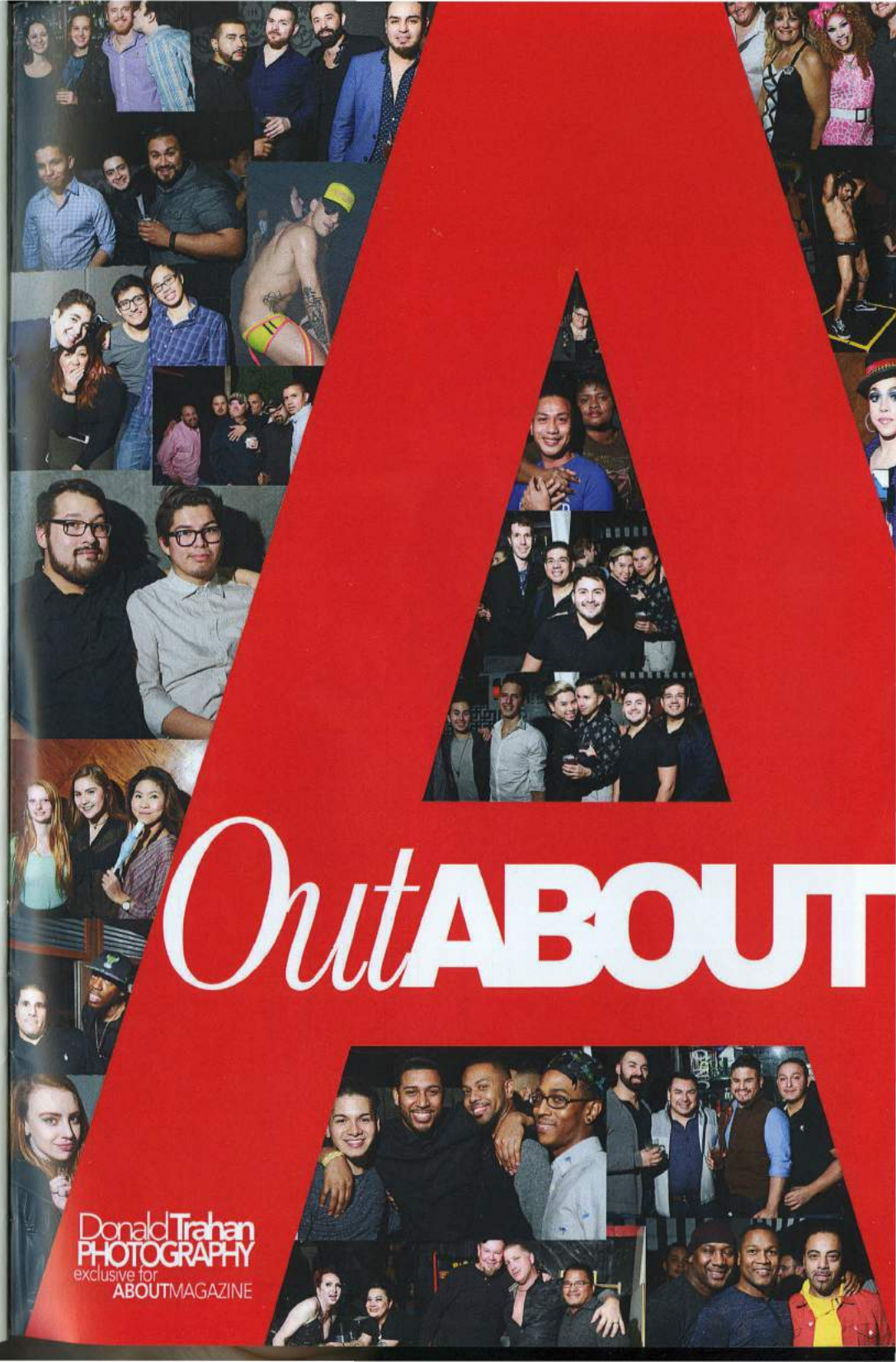
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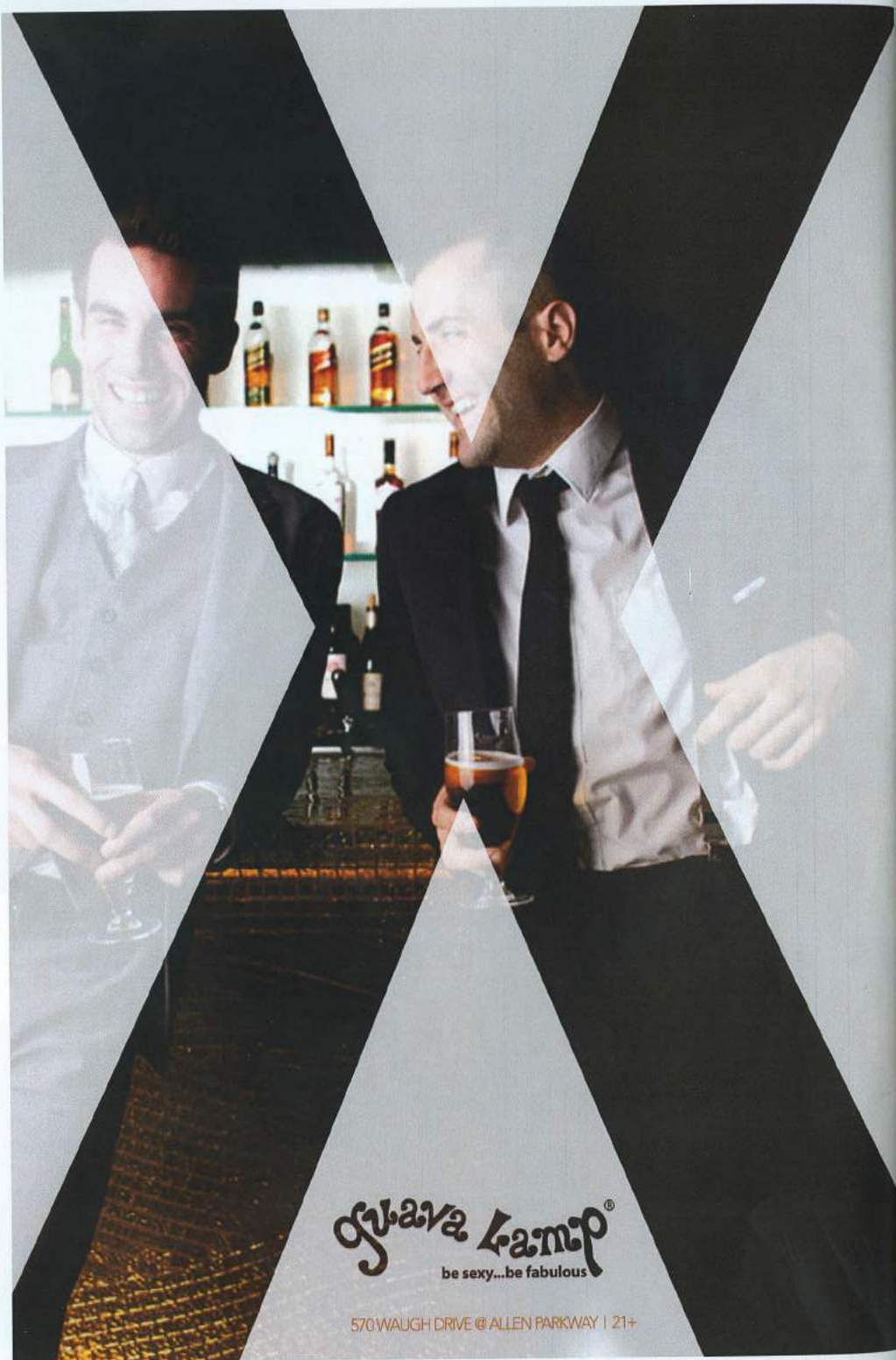
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