

DRAG DIVA - Fonda Boyz

SISTERS of PERPETUAL Gossip

Icons of Individuality

In August this summer I was pleased to co-host, with my stunning sister Stephanie Starlet, 'Icons of individuality' exhibition at BAG Gallery in Brighton - for our good friend .photographer Frederike De Jonge



Much of her work has been published in (amongst many others) the Tranny Guide, including the covers of the 8th and 9th. This exhibition showed a range of individuals that she has captured with her lense from the famous such as Iggy Pop to Quentin Crisp to the totally unknown behind their Carnival of Venice masks and of course ME.



Frederike says of her work "During the course of the last eight years I have photographed many people who stand out in a crowd. Some famous, some notorious and some infamous.... What I have found is that they are all part of a unique family of individuals who are not always understood by the masses because of that very reason.... They carve and sculpt their various guises from thin air.... Pure artistry. The guises they take on may defy gender but have very little to do with sexual preference. Our sexuality is only a small part of our personal make-up. I have documented this lifestyle in various ways, celebrating and applauding their beauty".

The opening night was a huge success filled to capacity with Brighton's arty farty folk who seemed to be enjoying not only the art but also the wine. £200 was raised for Brighton's Gay Pride fund by auctioning one of miss De Jonge's print. We can't wait for the coffee table book.

Frederike's work can be viewed at www.deadringers.com

Steffan

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We were very lucky to have an Utterly FABULOUS visitor from New Zealand to the UK for five months through the summer of 2003. At home in NZ she is a star and in short time she was with us she won our hearts and became a London DRAG DIVA



WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR FAB NAME ?

When I first started drag as most, even all, Girls do, I was not sure what name to use. It's a hard job coming up with a name that means something to you, and has that 'something special' that puts you out there. So when i started searching for a name I knew it had to have that "x-factor", I searched high and low but no avail. But I remembered when I was a wee little Drag Princess - I saw this amazing movie 'Touch Song Trilogy', It changed my life! Yes it was one of those moments in your life when things start of fit into place, when you feel like you belong, cause you know that there are many more out there doing the same thing. So in tribute to the movie I chose 'Fonda Boyz', a name that's light hearted and fun, but also very straight forward and direct. And that what I am!!

WHAT DID YOU GET UP TO IN LONDON?

My Dear, what didn't I get up to while I was there. I had amazing 5 months. There was the London and Brighton Pride, there was

the men, the competitons I entered at 'The WayOut Club', the men, performing at WayOut Club and Trade's 13th Birthday Bash, the men, all the wonderful people I met and last of all I must not forget to mention the MEN ! A big thank you to everyone who made my stay such a memorable one.

HOW DOES THE LONDON DRAG SCENE COMPARE WITH HOME IN NZ?

The first thing that you notice when comparing the two is, London's Drag / Tranny scene is three or even four times the size of Auckland's. But I do have to say that Drag is Drag is Drag all over the world. We are all so similar. Here in Auckland we have two nightclubs that have Drag stage shows. Most of the girls work on a roster basis so we all have a chance to strut our stuff on a stage. We also have two popular drag cabaret restaurants. Both very similar but both very different at the same time, between the two they would employ a total of 15 girls. After the smash hit movie 'Priscilla' Drag just took off here in New Zealand, so we took off and haven't looked back, and for such a small country at the bottom of the world is very amazing. I will tell you much more in a report in Miss Vicky Lee's next Tranny Guide book.

WE HEARD YOU ARE FONDA NEWS READERS WHAT'S THE GOSSIP?

That was an old piece of tabloid gossip. I met up with one television news reader, had a very nice time on a few occasions. Somehow the gossip columnists found out, next thing you know your dirty panties are plastered all over the local GAY newspaper. I didn't mind at all, I love the attention, but the news reader who was not yet out of the closet wasn't to happy about it. He soon got over it and I moved on to bigger and better things like the celeb I am.

ARE YOU PLANNING ANY MORE TRIPS TO THE UK?

I would love to come back again, being there only five months I realised I didn't even scratch the surface, I'm sure there are alot move adventures for me to be had in merry ole England. Then right next door you have the continent...Drag times galour!



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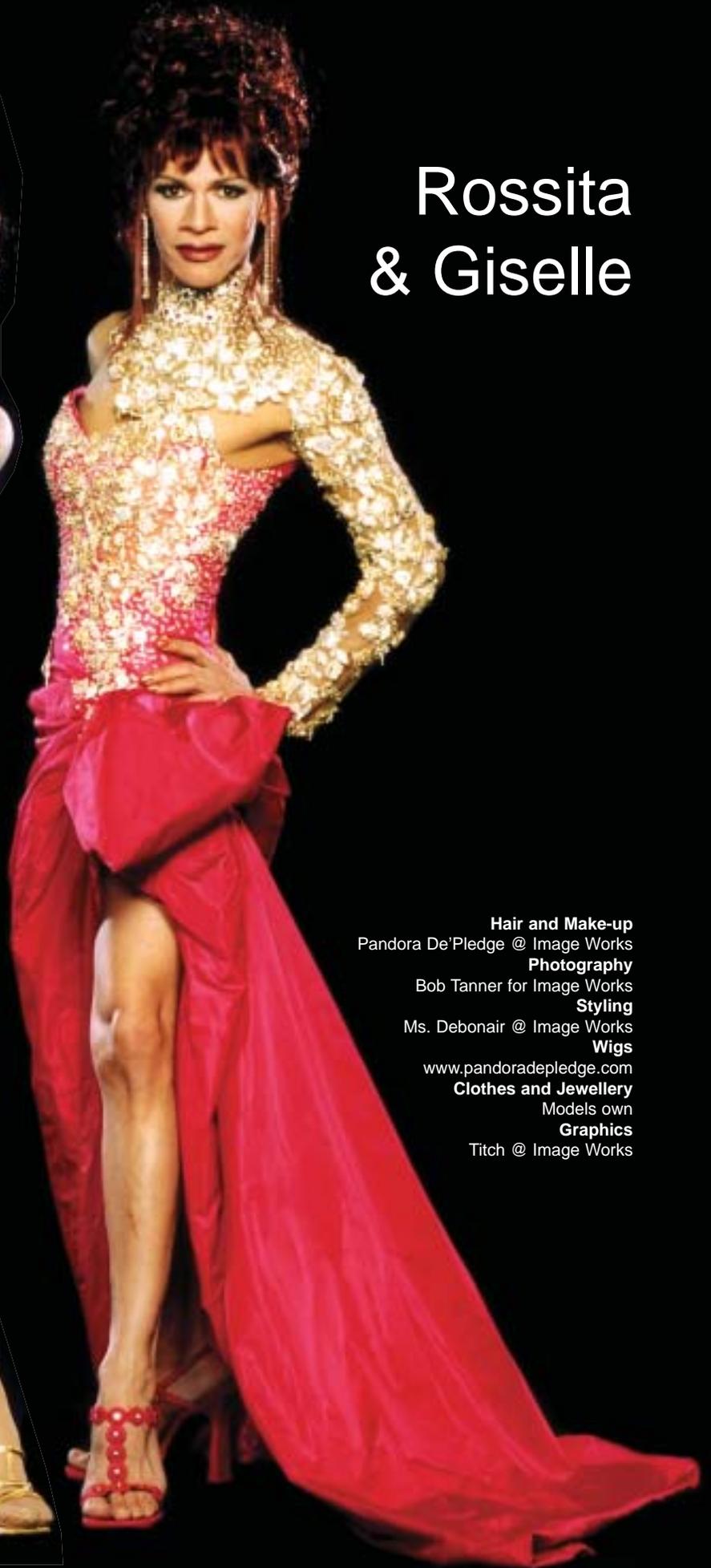
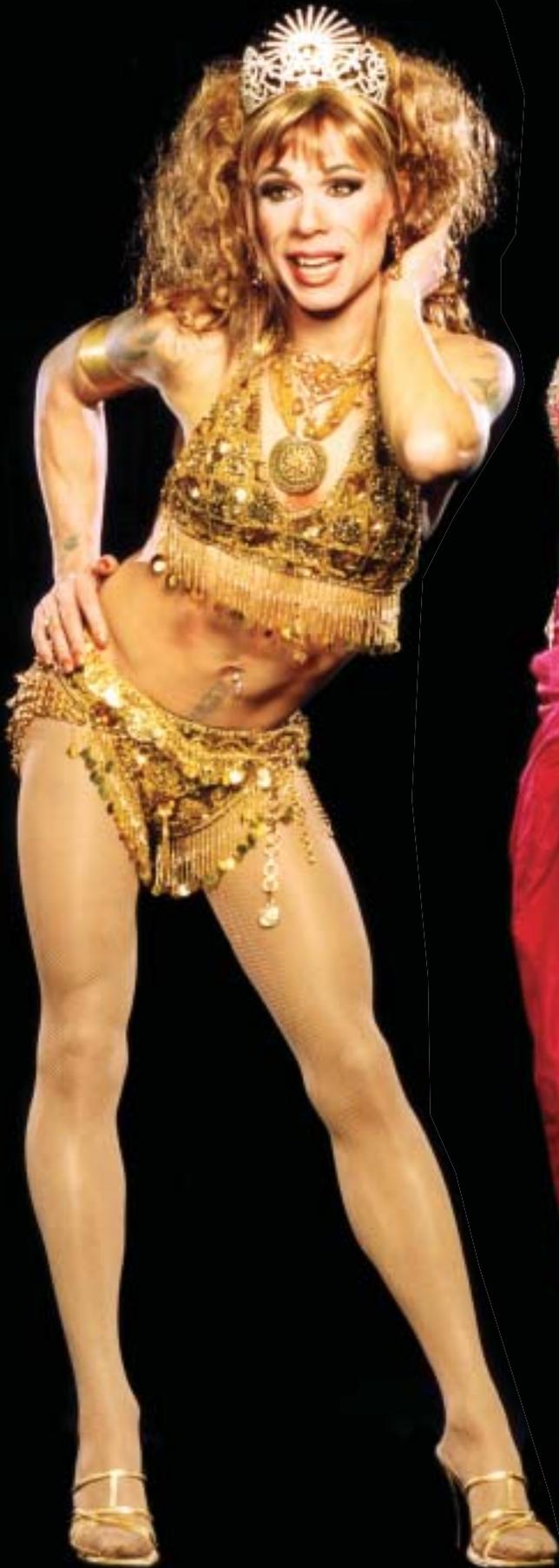


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