



gender illusionist

# Victoria

Victoria works at the bar ASIA SF in San Francisco

ASIA SF,  
201 – 9 St @ Howard, San Francisco,  
CA 94103 USA  
South of Market  
Tel: 415-255-2742,  
[www.asiasf.com](http://www.asiasf.com).

This is a lucky combination of a 3-Star Cal-Asian restaurant with colourful, strong drinks and pretty young Asian drag queens waiting tables and entertaining between courses. About once an hour, boys in sleek silk dresses, dance on the Chinese-red runway above the bar. The club refers to them as "gender illusionists." AsiaSF is popular with tourists. It's also the venue of choice for many local bachelorette parties. Reservations are suggested. Seating in the restaurant is timed. If you plan your seating wisely it is sometimes possible to see two shows. There's a downstairs room, if you want to dance the night away.

The NEW 12th Tranny Guide  
**The WayOut World**  
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from all around the planet  
(see advert page 9)

With thanks for pictures to  
Asia SF and Ms Bob



# Location

## Location Location by Andrea

**W**ant to do a photoshoot – but bored with studios? Well what about an alternative location – providing interaction with others in daily life, atmosphere and much more fun!

I took a walk around the shops and side streets around the Bethnal Green area where my make-up is done at Adam and Eve. With winter fast approaching I was looking for an indoor venue. A recent article in a newspaper magazine pointed me towards a lovely French restaurant, 'Le Trois Garçons', and after enquiring inside they directed me towards their office located a few yards away. What I found as a result was a startling Cocktail lounge-bar called 'LoungeLover' run by the same people. Lounge lover was an explosion of colour and themes.

Having arranged a meeting with their manager – my photographer, Don Allen, and I visited them with details of our previous shoots and the ideas that we were looking for in this shoot. It transpired that they were regularly approached for such shoots, (so much so that they are able to charge a considerable fee to TV companies and fashion/style magazines). However after some delicate negotiation, showing my previous contributions to *Utterly FABULOUS* magazine, they kindly agreed to waive their fees, ( just for this time !!).

LoungeLover opened in April 2003. It has a series of stunning themed areas combining baroque, rustic, oriental, 40s, 50s and 60s settings. Its popularity is such, that it's reputed to be "London's worst kept secret!" We arranged for our shoot the following week. With numerous outfits and the girls from Adam and Eve kindly assisting, Don soon had me working hard.

Unfortunately our stay at the bar to undertake a photo shoot to remember, did not allow the opportunity to sample LoungeLovers sublime cocktails, champagne and fine wines ( maybe a return visit one evening on a girls night out perhaps! )

Well the results of our shoot at this delightful setting are for here for you to see – and hopefully they will inspire you to attempt something similar – maybe it will be your pictures in the next *WayOut* publication.

**Acknowledgments:**

**Don Allen Photographic**

Tel. 07708 668886 [www.donallen.me.uk](http://www.donallen.me.uk)

**Adam & Eve Dressing Service**

Tel. 0207 729 7447 [www.adamandeve121.com](http://www.adamandeve121.com)

**Les Trois Garçons (restaurant)**

1 Club Row, London E1 Tele. 0207 613 1924

**LoungeLover (Special thanks to Craig)**

1 Whitby Street London E2

Tel. 020 7012 1234 [www.lounge\\_lover.co.uk](http://www.lounge_lover.co.uk)

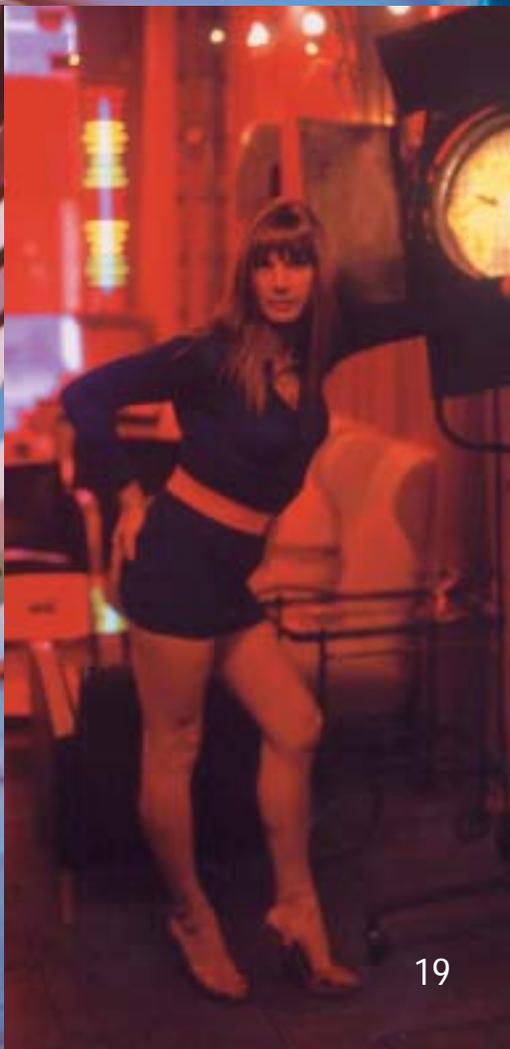
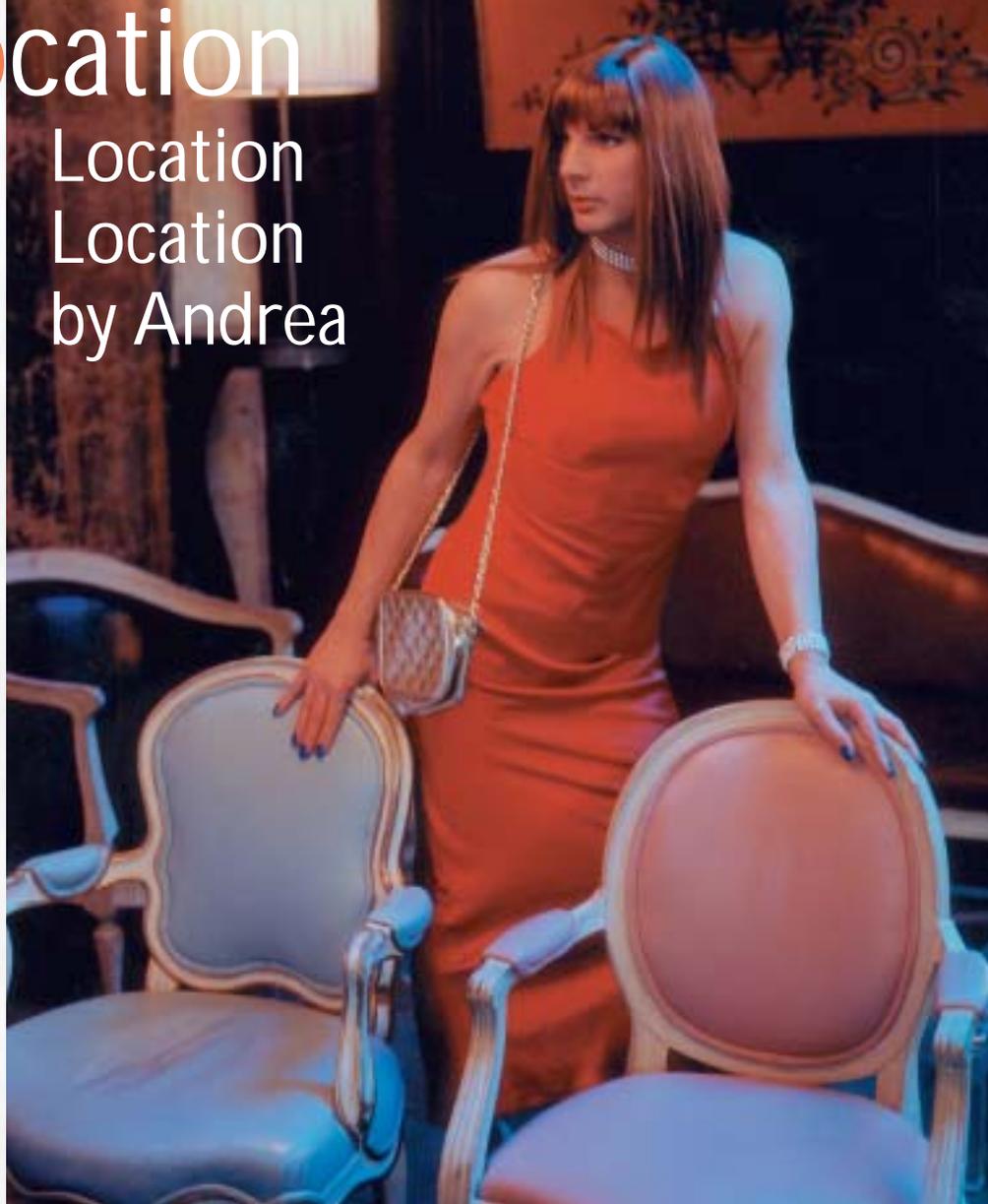
In the **NEW 12th edition Tranny Guide** book, (see advert page 9), you can see more pictures from this shoot and read an extensive article by **Andrea**, who explains in detail, all the considerations for finding, negotiating, lighting and using locations both indoors and out.

The book also lists the many dressing services and photographers who can help you achieve location shoots.



**Le Trois Garçons & LoungeLover REVIEW with Vicky Lee & Steffan**

The Restaurant and Cocktail Bar ARE both excellent, if a little expensive. Inspired by this article we had that "girls night out". Worth every penny for the exceptional choice of exquisite cocktails, interesting, friendly, company and amazing surroundings. The restaurant was even better with even more mad decor. The surroundings are a crazy eclectic, camp, collection of ideas which are a feast for the eyes. Friendly, cute waiters and every dish was perfect. Highly recommended.



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