

in the loop

BETTE'S BACK, OPERA & RUPERT'S LIT

Operatic Angels



First an award-winning play, then an HBO mini-series starring Al Pacino, Meryl Streep and Emma Thompson, now *Angels In America* is being performed as an opera at the Barbican as part of the bite Festival on 26 March. Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes* by American playwright Tony Kushner, it deals with America's late 20th-century nightmare: AIDS. Its admission, its concealment, its destructive power is told through a web of dreams and memories which is touched by reality as the lives of two troubled New York couples – Louis Ironson and his lover Prior Walter, and Mormon lawyer Joe Pitt and his wife Harper – become intertwined. The opera had its premiere in 2004 in Paris and will be performed at the Barbican by the BBC Symphony Orchestra, who are renowned for their skill at performing contemporary music

• **Angels in America is on 26 March at 7.30pm at Barbican Hall, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, Barbican, EC2Y 8DS. www.barbican.org.uk**

Manly Lit

One half of literary salon Polari, Rupert Smith, is launching his new book *Man's World* on Thursday 11 February at the Southbank Centre. Fittingly launched during Gay History Month, it's a story of gay life now and gay life 50 years ago, with two parallel lives coming together, revealing stark differences and some surprising common ground. Fellow writer Jake Arnott has described it as 'funny, dirty, deeply romantic.' Rupert will be reading from the novel and discussing his work with Tim Teeman of the Times and he told us, 'This is a very important book for me. I hope you can come and help me get the book off to a good start. I'll be reading from it, and talking about the historical background of gay life in London in the 50s and 60s.'

• **Man's World is on Thursday 11 February at 7.45pm at the Blue Room, Spirit Level, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, SE1 8XX. www.southbank-centre.co.uk**



MAN'S WORLD
RUPERT SMITH



Bette Bourne & Mark Ravenhill

Three Times Bette

We've got two tickets to see the hilarious, defiant and touching, *A Life in Three Acts*, a journey through the remarkable life of actor, drag queen and gay rights activist Bette Bourne. To win them, answer the question below. The bio-play moves across London - from a childhood in the postwar East End through Soho in the hedonistic '60s, to the birth of Gay Lib and life in a 1970s Notting Hill drag commune – it also becomes a celebration of the struggles and achievements of the gay movement. In the '80s his story moves to New York, from where his revolutionary drag troupe 'Blooplips' found fame on both sides of the Atlantic, and where Bette first experienced the heartbreak of HIV and AIDS. It's presented as part of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans Gender History Month, a nationwide celebration of the lives and achievements of the LGBT.

• **A Life in Three Acts is on from 8 - 27 February at Soho Theatre, 21 Dean Street, London W1D 3NE. 0207 478 0100 www.sohotheatre.com**

WIN! WIN! WIN!

To win a pair of tickets to see *A Life in Three Acts*, please answer the following question and send your email to competition@boyz.co.uk putting 'Bette' in the subject field.

In what year were the Stonewall Riots?

- A 1966
- B 1969
- C 1999

TOP TELLY

Alan Carr: Chatty Man

Thursday 04 February, 10:00pm - 10:50pm, Channel 4

It's a wonder Alan hasn't chatted himself silly, but we're glad he hasn't because it means a whole new series for us.

Hotter Than My Daughter

Thursday 04 February, 8:30pm - 9:00pm, BBC3

Liz McClarnon, Kerry Katona's old 'bandmate' from Atomic Kitten, looks at mums who think they're hotter than their daughters. Dysfunctional duos abound! We can't wait to see mummy 'Sharon' and her sequinned hotpants and DD boob job.

Six Nations Rugby: England v Wales

Saturday 06 February, 4:35pm - 7:05pm, BBC1

You only have to check out our Passions page to see that us gays love a bit of rugby, be it the game or Ben Cohen. Tune in to watch big men grabbing balls.



The Devil Wears Prada

Sunday 07 February, 8:00pm - 10:10pm, Channel 4

If rugger ain't your thang, then fashwarn surely is. Watch Meryl Streep doing her thinly-veiled impression of Anna Wintour. Then hire out *The September Issue* for the real deal.