


Bendigo Queer Film Festival 2008





baff

APRIL 4, 5, 6, 2008

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in association with the
Melbourne Queer Film Festival

making a difference... together...



www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.info

Welcome to this, the 5th Queer Film Festival held in Bendigo. Enjoy!!!

We're very proud of this achievement – to be one of the few regional centres Australia wide which hosts its very own film festival celebrating the genre queer.

From its inception and humble beginnings by Chris Walters four years ago to its current rich format, the festival is the result of a hard working committee, volunteers, local business sponsorship and the support of Melbourne Queer Film Festival, City of Greater Bendigo, Tourism Alliance Victoria and Friends Alike of Bendigo.

Bendigo Queer Film Festival is recognised as a significant event by the GLBTI community and by the City of Greater Bendigo. It brings numerous people to our wonderful city who not only enjoy the Festival and all it has to offer, but also the tourist attractions, architecture, gardens, cafes, restaurants, fine wines and produce from our region.

Our Festival continues to present high quality Australian and International Films thanks to the support of the Melbourne Queer Film Festival. MQFF's commitment to ensuring we have access to world class films is reflected in this year's selection.

Gold is the colour which emblazons the 2008 BQFF. It reflects our association with the rich history of Bendigo and the richness of the creativity of the GLBTI community. Our interpretation of gold (yellow from the rainbow flag) takes you on a journey to a lustrous, decadent era with more than a touch of Bollywood – affectionately known as Bendigollywood. We have taken the liberty of playing with this theme through everything we present over the weekend, including our own mini movie

highlighting Bendigo icons, our sponsors, advertisers and hard working committee. Enjoy the spectacle which is on offer as part of the entertainment.

Queer Country is an outstanding exhibition of visual art by regional queer identified artists. I'm confident you will be amazed by the array of works selected for this year's exhibition.

Friends Alike of Bendigo, our local GLBTI social support group, are once again hosting the infamous BQFF After Party at the Icon on Saturday evening.

We welcome our 2008 patron, Kristy Edmunds Director Melbourne International Arts Festival, and invite you to share breakfast with her on Sunday morning at the Shamrock Hotel.

BQFF is indebted to the businesses which have offered their support through sponsorship or advertisement. The strong connections which we forge with our local community ensure that this festival endures and grows. Please support those who support us.

A remarkable team of volunteers are responsible for this festival. Without their vision, dedication, assistance and hard work this event would not occur. I'm proud to have been able to work with this committee and commend them to you.

Sit back, relax and enjoy our little Bendigollywood. Go for gold!

Julian Regan
BQFF Convenor

Change your mind about someone....

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Melbourne Queer Film Festival

The Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF) is proud to co-present and curate the 5th annual Bendigo Queer Film Festival.

It seems only recently that we enjoyed the first BQFF, and here we are already at number 5. This achievement is a fantastic testament to the loyalty of the queer audiences of Bendigo and surrounding communities who have supported and encouraged the festival's growth from day one. We hope to continue to grow the festival with your continued support and patronage.

This year's Australian shorts package is an excellent selection of the latest in Australian queer filmmaking, while the boys' and girls' shorts packages contain eclectic explorations of modern queer life. Get in early to buy tickets for the outstanding features Shelter, Finn's Girl and Kiss the Bride – these films have been huge favourites on the international festival circuit.

So keep up the great work, buy your tickets early, and we look forward to working with Bendigo to deliver more outstanding festivals in the coming years.

Enjoy your festival!

Lisa Daniel

Curator: Bendigo Queer Film Festival

Director: Melbourne Queer Film Festival

6 Claremont Street South Yarra

Phone: (03) 9827 2022

Fax: (03) 9827 1622

www.melbournequeerfilm.com.au



Funded through the Community Grants Program and Major Events Unit

City Of Greater Bendigo

Welcome From the Mayor

I would like to welcome everyone to Bendigo for the Fifth Bendigo Queer Film Festival.

The City of Greater Bendigo is pleased to support this annual festival because it offers opportunities for a group which is often marginalised, to come together and share a positive and strengthening experience.

One of the aims of the festival is to provide the BI, Lesbian, Gay, Transsexual and Intersexual community with an opportunity to celebrate their diversity of experiences through a shared social event in a public arena and although this event is very specific in its film content the general public is also very welcome to enjoy the occasion.

The City of Greater Bendigo celebrates cultural diversity because that's what helps us to make our city a strong, vibrant and supportive community and we are delighted to host this important festival which has become an exciting and much anticipated event on our annual calendar of events.

The Bendigo Queer Film Festival fits in well with our aim to continue to develop Greater Bendigo as a major regional arts, cultural and events centre.

I hope that that everyone enjoys our city's hospitality and all that this year's festival has to offer.

Cr David Jones - Mayor

Community & Cultural Development

City of Greater Bendigo

259 Hargreaves Street Bendigo

Phone: (03) 5434 6464

Fax: (03) 5434 6473

www.bendigo.vic.gov.au



Responding to Women's Needs

Women's Health Loddon Mallee

Women's Health Loddon Mallee is a non-government, not for profit organisation providing health services, information and support for all women living in the Loddon Mallee Region. Our inclusive approach to health services ensures that we celebrate diversity and promote acceptance, belonging and participation.

We recognise women's different needs and the inequities in women's level of power and our control over resources. We work to redress the balance by acting as agents for social change, and working to overcome deprivation, isolation and disadvantage experienced by some women.

We work in partnership with women, the community and health service providers. Our focus and commitment are to improve the health and wellbeing of rural women; and to strengthen our communities as we adapt to the challenges of climate change.

All women are welcome to use our free library, where you will find information on Lesbian Health and Wellbeing.

We are open Monday to Friday,
9am – 5pm.

47 Myers Street Bendigo Vic 3550.
Phone: (03) 5443 0233
and 1800 350 233
www.whlm.org.au

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Tourism Victoria is a vibrant and dynamic State Government statutory authority actively marketing Victoria as a premier tourism destination both domestically and internationally. It plays a key role in industry development, attracting investment in quality tourism infrastructure and improving Victoria's air services. Tourism Victoria is also committed to raising awareness of the importance of the tourism industry in the economic growth of the State.

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Melbourne
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www.visitvictoria.com



Tourism Alliance Victoria

Tourism Alliance Victoria is a peak industry body advocating for and supporting the development of a professional and sustainable tourism industry across Victoria. Tourism Alliance Victoria is a member-based organisation that provides outstanding benefits to its members and contributes to the professionalism of the tourism industry as a whole. Tourism Alliance Victoria's aim is to provide leadership, communication and marketing services to develop a professional and sustainable tourism industry in Victoria. Tourism Alliance Victoria represents tourism organisations and individual businesses working at the forefront of the tourism industry. Tourism Alliance Victoria's membership is both active and diverse, encompassing a wide cross section of tourism businesses.

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Phone: (03) 9650 8399
Fax: (03) 9650 8543
www.tourismalliance.com.au

Films

Campbell Theatrette, Bendigo Library,
256 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo

Queer Country Art Exhibition

Dudley House, View Street, Bendigo
(Next to the old Fire Station)

FABulous After Party

ICON, Howard Place, Bendigo
(Above Bazzani Ristorante & Bar)

Patron's Breakfast

Shamrock Hotel, Corner of Pall Mall
and Williamson Street, Bendigo

Disability Supports



The Campbell Theatrette, Dudley House and the Shamrock Hotel are wheelchair accessible. The Campbell Theatrette has a hearing loop and a sign interpreter is available upon request for the Patron's Breakfast. Please call Julian Regan on 0400 918 759 or email contact@bendigoqueerfilmfestival.info to discuss further. Please note - the Companion Card is recognised for film sessions only.



Friday 4th April

6:30 pm **Official Opening 'Queer Country'**
Art Exhibition at Dudley House

8.00 pm **Opening Film Sessions SHELTER**
at Campbell Theatre and a touch of
Bendigollywood

Saturday 5th April

1.00 pm Session 2 **BOYS' SHORTS**
3.30 pm Session 3 **GIRLS' SHORTS**
6.00 pm Session 4 **KISS THE BRIDE**
8.30 pm Session 5 **FINN'S GIRL**

Sunday 6th April

10.00 am **Patron's Breakfast** with Kristy
Edmunds at the Shamrock Hotel
1:00pm Session 6 **OZ SHORTS**

Ticketing

**9 CARAT
PASS**

1 Session
\$15 full, \$12 conc

**18 CARAT
PASS**

4 Sessions
\$50 full, \$45 conc

24 CARAT PASS

All Sessions including
Patron's Breakfast & FABulous After Party
\$100 full,

BUYING TICKETS

Patrons are advised to pre-purchase tickets to avoid disappointment! All tickets can be booked via our website at:

www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.info

It's quick and easy, totally secure and available 24 hours using **paypal**. Please note that all tickets purchased on the website will be available from the first session you attend, they will not be posted out to you.

A \$2 BOOKING FEE APPLIES TO ALL CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS

Tickets are also available at:

Bagwan Fashion for Men

Shop 12 Fountain Court Bendigo

Ph (03) 5443 1530

CASH AND COLLECT TICKETS ONLY

TICKETING RULES

1. All prices include GST, booking fees may apply.
2. A session ticket will be required to enter each film.
3. We encourage patrons to arrive early as seating is unreserved.
4. Laws governing film festivals mean that all audience members must be 18 years or over.
5. No refunds or cancellations given unless a session is moved or cancelled.
6. Valid concessions: full time students with student photo ID card, healthcare card holders.
7. Concession cards must be presented to receive concession rate.

QUEER COUNTRY

Art Exhibition Friday 4th April 2008

Official Opening Night:

Friday 4th April, 6.30pm

(celebratory drinks will be supplied by our sponsor Balgownie Estate. Lush finger food will be available)

Dudley Houses, View Street, Bendigo

Exhibition Dates & Gallery Hours:

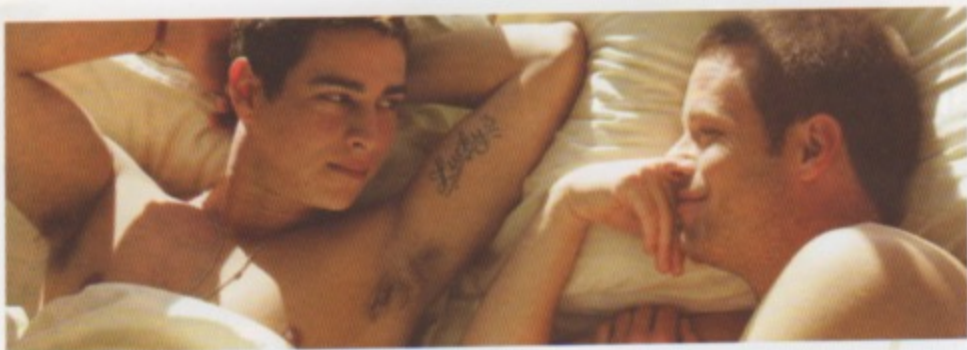
Friday 4th April 6pm-9pm, Saturday 5th April 10am-6pm,

Sunday 6th April 10am-4pm

For further information regarding the Art Exhibition contact Noel on 0417 557 548



Balgownie Estate



Dir: Jonah Markowitz, USA, 2007, video, 90 min

A favourite on the GLBTI film festival circuit, Shelter has picked up a swag of awards including Audience Awards for Best Film at the Seattle and Tampa Gay & Lesbian Film Festivals.

Forced to give up his dreams of art school, Zach spends his days working a dead-end cooking job and helping his needy sister, Jeanne, care for her 5-year old son, Cody. In his free time he surfs, draws and hangs out with his on-and-off again girlfriend, Tori, and also with his best friend, Gabe, who lives on the wealthy side of town. When Gabe's gay, older brother, Shaun, returns home, Zach begins to surf with him. However, it's not long before their mutual attraction turns the friendship on its head, and when Zach is encouraged by Shaun to start leading his own life, he's faced with a struggle to reconcile his own desires with the needs of his family.

Shelter is, at its core, gently observed and beautifully acted, especially by a wonderfully natural Brad Rowe, who made a splash in Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss, and Trevor Wright as Zach.

(Paul Tonta, 18th Melbourne Queer Film Festival)



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But wait there's more

Kaye Sera & Luke Gallagher

Kaye and Luke are on a full-voiced, full-throttle tour

FABulous After Party!

along the musical highway... and they don't even need a bus!

Saturday 5th April 9.30pm till late

ICON - Howard Place Bendigo
(Above Bazzani Ristorante & Bar)

Entry: \$10

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in partnership with BQFF 2007

41 SECONDS



41 Seconds (41 Sekunden)

Dir: Rodney Sewell, Germany, 2007, 35mm, 4 min
German with English subtitles

What do you do when your girlfriend says your best friend kisses better than you? You find out.

Serene hunter

Dir: Jason Bushman, USA, 2007, video, 13 min
French with English subtitles

A randy gay Parisian moves in with his new boyfriend - just as an old flame from Los Angeles comes back into town.



Center of the universe

Dir: Jarrah Gurrie, USA/Australia, 2007, video, 13 min

Haunted by a past relationship, Oscar embarks on a late night search for intimacy. Unsuccessful, he decides to attend an early morning 'Cuddle Support Group' where he meets Aida, a woman determined to solve his problems.

Communicator

Dir: Bjorn Schurmann, Germany, 2006, video, 11 min
German with English subtitles

A father shows up at his son's apartment to give him a birthday present. Dad wants to role-play about their mutual interest in sci-fi but the son has something else on his mind.



Groucho

Dir: Angel Almazan & Medardo Amor, Spain, 2006, video, 20 min
Spanish with English subtitles

Sixteen year-old David approaches his neighbour with the excuse of helping him with his shopping bags, but as it turns out, he has ulterior motives.

Gay zombie

Dir: Michael Simon, USA, 2007, video, 20 min

Sometimes love means never having to say you're dead...



The soul has no gender.

Patron's Champagne Breakfast at the Shamrock

You are invited to a fundraiser breakfast where you can relax, recoup and enjoy a gorgeous breakfast with great company and our special 2008 Festival Patron

Kristy Edmunds



Artistic Director of the Melbourne International Arts Festival

As an artist, curator and Artistic Director, Kristy Edmunds has been a leading advocate for furthering innovative and contemporary art. In addition to her vast experience of involving a range of artistic organisations in both the United States of America and Australia, Kristy is currently serving in the prestigious post of Artistic Director of the Melbourne International Arts Festival, for which she has achieved vast popular and critical acclaim.

Sunday 6th April 10.00am
Cost \$25

at the Shamrock Hotel - Corner of Pall Mall & Williamson Street, Bendigo

Limited Seating
Bookings Essential!!

Phone Vikki on 0448 913 242

Note: Breakfast inclusive in price, Champagne sold by the glass or bottle.



Heartcut (hjerteklipp)

Dir: Anne Sewitsky, Norway, 2006, 35mm, 27 min
Norwegian with English subtitles

Eva is 16 years old, has recently lost her mother and falls head long in love with her father's new girlfriend Inger.

Pages of a girl (paginas de menina)

Dir: Monica Pallazzo, Brazil, 2007, 35mm, 17 min
Spanish with English subtitles

Ingrid is a young woman whose life opens up to new options when she meets her older, more experienced book store manager Sylvia.

Vibracall

Dir: Esmir Filho, Brazil, 2006, video, 3 min

2 young women take a 21st Century approach to sex ed.

Spinning

Dir: Heidi Arnesen, Norway, 2007, video, 8 min
Norwegian with English subtitles

Saucy shenanigans transpire when the lights go out in the gym change room.

Family reunion (godir gestir)

Dir: Isold Uggadottir, Iceland, 2006, video, 20 min
Icelandic with English subtitles

New York lesbian Katrin struggles to come out to her relatives back in Iceland, but revelations at a family reunion challenge all her assumptions.

A marriage like any other

Dir: Anne De Lean, Canada, 2007, video, 5 min

An argument between a couple takes on an unsuspecting twist when the topic turns to the situation with their neighbours.

Long ago

Dir: Christy Wegener, USA, 2007, video, 13 min

A hairstyle that won't go away mirrors the difficulty of moving on after a romance has ended.

*In every
community beats
a queer heart*

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Life is, after all, a journey.



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Dir: C. Jay Cox, USA, 2007, video, 100 min

**"You know what's great about sucking cock?
It doesn't taste like wedding cake."**

Meet Matt, the editor of a successful San Francisco queer magazine, who is smack bang in the throes of putting together a 'gay wedding issue'. He's young, successful and handsome, but he's unable to hold down a steady boyfriend, so when he's invited to the wedding of Ryan, his first schoolboy love, he hightails it back to his hometown, in the disguised hope that Ryan's gone to seed. Of course Ryan hasn't put on 50 kilos and gone bald, in fact he looks like he goes to

the gym 4 hours a day and moisturises twice daily. And he loves his fiancé, Alex (Tori Spelling). But when the boys meet up, the 10 years between drinks fades away and the sexual tension between them reignites. However, Ryan resists the temptation... but will he be able to hold back for long?

The new film from Latter Days director C. Jay Cox is a snappy comedy with plenty of eye-candy, and some great supporting performances, especially from Joanna Cassidy (Six Feet Under) as Alex's constantly drunk mother who tries to hit on Matt. (Paul Tonta, 18th Melbourne Queer Film Festival)

*A person does not fall in
love with a man or a woman
a person falls in love
with a soul...*



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Short Bits

Calling all Local Amateur film makers! Do you want to be seen in 2009? Here is your chance to show Your Short Film in the 2009 BQFF Short Film programme, "Short Bits".

In 2009, the Bendigo Queer Film Festival will introduce a new, innovative branch of the BQFF Program. Short Bits is a new incentive of BQFF to showcase the talents of our local amateur film makers. You could be an amateur film maker, a film or multimedia student, or even keen to give film making a try. You could be a student, or just in it for fun. You don't have to be queer, but you do have to come from the Greater Bendigo region, and have access to your own film making and editing software and equipment.

Your short film will be shown as part of the BQFF program, and will be seen by a potential audience of up to 1500 film goers. **This is YOUR CHANCE to BE SEEN! So get out there and GO FOR IT!** You never know, this could be your first break into a professional film making career.

Start Planning NOW! The films must be filmed, edited and ready to screen by March 2009.

Dare to be seen in SHORT BITS. For entry criteria, and to obtain a brief for Short Bits 09, contact BQFF on 0431 424 626. For information about the Bendigo Queer Film Festival, visit our website, www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.info

bqff Festival Patrons

2004 Judy Small
2005 Rodney Croome
2006 Sue Ann Post
2007 Anton Enus

bqff Festival Covenors

2004 Chris Walters
2005 Robyn Bull



Dir: Dominique Cardona & Laurie Colbert, Canada, 2007,
35mm, 88 min

Dr Finn Jefferies is a thoroughly modern lesbian, her family is pure 21st Century: two mothers, two careers and a kid. Nothing had ever rocked Finn's passionate, committed life until the untimely death of her beloved partner, Nancy. A brilliant gynaecologist, Finn dedicates herself to running Nancy's abortion clinic, despite the potential dangers and threats from picketers and pro-life campaigners. Finn, seemingly still lost in her grief, takes risks that jeopardise her relationship with the only person she really loves – her and Nancy's daughter, 11-year-old Zelly, and is seemingly oblivious to her child's attention-seeking

antics - shoplifting, smoking dope and skipping school. When Finn is the subject of a sniper-attack at the clinic, police officer Diana Peris is assigned as protection. Intrigued by Finn and concerned for Zelly, Diana devotes overtime to her task, and for the first time since Nancy's death, Finn feels drawn to someone she might be able to lean on and maybe even love. (Paul Tonta, 18th Melbourne Queer Film Festival)

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Look Sharp

Dir: Amy Gebhardt, Australia, 2006, 35mm, 9 min

A woman confronts relationship dynamics with her camera after making a dangerous deal to get the shot she wants.



Filled With Water

Dir: Elka Kerkhofs, Australia, 2006, video, 5 min

Anoka's empty life is transformed by a kiss.

The Manual

Dir: Sarah Spillane, Australia, 2006, video, 15 min

Sonny is sent away from home at the tender age of eight to 'cure' his gay tendencies and returns home twenty years later to find most things haven't changed.

Snap

Dir: Georgio Versluis, Australia, 2007, 16mm, 11 min

Petra's life is turned upside down when a chance meeting leads her to consider denying her true feelings.

Love Bite

Dir: Craig Boreham, Australia, 2008, video, 3 min

Noah and Gus hang out and smoke weed after school. As the munchies kick in Noah feels compelled to share a secret desire that has been tormenting him.

Every Other Weekend

Dir: Tim Slade, Australia, 2007, video,
15 min

Roger (Damian De Montemas - Secret Life of Us) and his recently ex-boyfriend struggle to negotiate a new parenting reality that will suit both of them, and their daughter Jess.

My Last Ten Hours With You

Dir: Sophie Hyde, Australia, 2007, video,
15 min

Two men stay together until the sun rises. At 6am Jeremy is leaving. Mark is staying. Over one hot night they wait it out... screwing, drinking and fighting their way around each other.

Mirror Mirror

Dir: John Winter, Australia, 2007, video,
11 min

After so many years together, Joe faces life without Jana. Saying goodbye is never easy... Stars Roy Billing.

Rope Burn

Dir: Melvin Montalbin, Australia, 2008,
video, 8 min

A love triangle is precariously set above the stage of a sexy trapeze circus.



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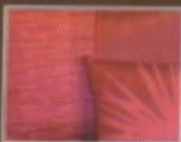
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Expressions of Interest Invited
Enter **YOUR** short film in BQFF's
Short Film Festival 2009
Contact Naomi on 0431 424 626
For further for details

Lesbian Bi Sexual Gay Not Sure?

The Bendigo Queer Film Festival

Is it for you, do you need support? As a BQFF committee member, I'm happy to discuss your concerns and issues in a **COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL** setting. It's **FREE** & no pressure, just a quiet chat.

You may like to meet others in a similar situation. If you are a little hesitant, why not give me a call – Julian Regan (mobile) 0403 319 916

OUR BQFF SURVEY

Complete the **2008 BQFF Survey Form** for a chance to win a prize from one of our great sponsors **Balgownie Estate** valued at \$54

Drawn Sunday 6th April
at our Patron's Breakfast



Balgownie Estate



Typhoon are offering **\$13 meals** between **Film Session 4 & 5**

Orders taken on the day

95 Mitchell Street
Bendigo

5443 3111

Auction



• One

Original Canvas Painting by Darren Casey valued at \$500

• Two

A balloon flight from Balloon Flights of Bendigo valued at \$250

• Three

A balloon flight from Balloon Flights of Bendigo valued at \$250

• Four

Boys Bits - A Gift Basket for the guys from Bagwan Fashion for Men valued at \$250

Final auction bids close at 8.15pm on Saturday 5th April (just prior to film Session 5)



darren casey
artistic design



Credits

Festival Co-Ordinator

Julian Regan

Festival Committee Members

Mark Dean - Secretary
Daniel Borton - Treasurer
Clare Anderson
Raul Arregui
Robyn Bull
Vikki Cameron
Justin Di Caprio
Marcus Gardner
Naomi Hallam
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Lisa Daniel
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Raul Arregui

Special thanks to:

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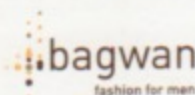
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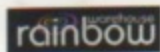
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