

Subject: Update

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Conversation: Update

NEW BANNER AD – CD “COME OUT” by RIZI NASELE TIMANE

Rizi challenges the Status-quo and encourages the LGBT Community to continue to move towards achieving FULL Human Rights, while at the same time, asking our opponents to stop their hatred, ignorance and persecution of our community. Her lyrics in the single, “**Come Out**” and songs like, “**Do You Know**” provide a direct confrontation to the religious fundamentalist notion that God/Bible condemns homosexuality, and strives to educate the public about what the Bible really says and does not say about homosexuality.

Rizi’s 30 second TV commercials promoting this important message are airing locally in California.

*Please watch the TV commercials, and find out more about **Rizi Timane** by clicking on her banner ad on the ChristianGays.com website at <http://christiangays.com> which will take you to her website, “**The Gospel Truth Music**”.*

NEW SONG – “LOVE AND LET LOVE” by JOHN LONG

John is a “straight, retired, married guy with kids, who believes in our cause”. He has written and recorded a beautiful song, and has given us permission to use as we wish.

I have uploaded the song to the **Gay Marriage** page for your listening pleasure as you browse through the articles.

*Please listen to, and enjoy John’s song, “**Love and Let Love**” at <http://christiangays.com/marriage.shtml>*

ART EXHIBIT – RICHARD AMSEL RETROSPECTIVE - PHILADELPHIA

Featuring artwork by Hollywood's most highly-acclaimed illustrator, the **first-ever Richard Amsel Retrospective** runs at the Rosenwald-Wolf Gallery at **The University of the Arts**, April 15 - May 14, and will be featured as the **10th Annual Art Exhibit** during **Equality Forum 2009**, April 27 to May 3 in Philadelphia. The 10th Annual Art Exhibit at Equality Forum 2009 is the **longest running annual exhibit of gay and lesbian artists**.

The free exhibit, which includes over 50 pieces, is the **first major exhibition of Amsel's work since his death from AIDS**. The Richard Amsel Retrospective features sketches and illustrations from the artist who created movie posters for 30 major motion pictures including "**Raiders of the Lost Arc**," "**Hello Dolly!**" and "**The Sting**," illustrations for pop stars' album covers, including Bette Midler's "**The Divine Miss M**," and **37 TV Guide covers**.

Amsel, a native of Philadelphia, began his career as a student at Philadelphia College of Art and Design (now The University of the Arts) when he won a national competition among art schools to create a poster design for the movie "Hello Dolly!" Later in his career, Amsel won a **Grammy Award** and the **Key Arts Award** from the **Hollywood Reporter**. Richard Amsel died in 1985 from AIDS complications at age 37.



Read more at **The Equality Forum** <http://equalityforum.com/2009/event.cfm?id=21>

NEW PUBLICATIONS – FOR PURCHASE OR DOWNLOAD

The **Religious Institute on Sexual Morality, Justice, and Healing** has recently

released two new publications, ***A Time to Every Purpose*** and ***Sex and the Seminary***.

A Time to Every Purpose: The Language of Sexual Morality, Justice, and Healing is a compendium of progressive theological statements on a range of sexuality issues, including marriage for same-sex couples, assisted reproductive technologies, abortion, adolescent sexuality, sexuality education, and sexual and gender diversity.

Sex and the Seminary is based on a survey of 36 leading seminaries and rabbinical schools of diverse size and geographic location, representing a range of Christian, Jewish and Unitarian Universalist traditions. Each institution was evaluated on criteria for a sexually healthy and responsible seminary. These criteria measure sexuality content in the curriculum; institutional commitment to sexuality and gender equity (e.g., the existence of anti-discrimination, sexual harassment and full inclusion policies); and advocacy and support for sexuality-related issues.

The survey revealed that:

- More than 90% of the seminaries surveyed do not require full-semester, sexuality-based courses for graduation.
- Two-thirds of the seminaries do not offer a course in sexuality issues for religious professionals.
- Three-quarters do not offer a course in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) studies.
- Seminaries offer three times as many courses in women's and feminist studies as they do in LGBT studies or other sexuality-related issues.
- The next generation of scholars is not addressing sexuality issues.
- Sexuality-based courses are taught by senior professors or adjunct faculty, not by upcoming faculty seeking tenured positions.

Both publications are available for purchase or download from the Religious Institute's website: <http://www.religiousinstitute.org>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - PROSTATE CANCER STUDY

My colleagues and I are currently conducting a web-based survey of gay men with

prostate cancer and their significant others/partners to document the impact of cancer on these men's lives and relationships. Our goal is demonstrate the need for programs that specifically target the gay men's community to provide information about cancer screening and treatment, as well as how to survive and thrive after treatment. Shockingly, there is no published research documenting the impact of prostate cancer on gay men, even though it is expected that over 1,500 men in our community develop prostate cancer each year.

This is a study conducted through the Department of Psychology at Ryerson University, in conjunction with Dr. David Latini, at Baylor Medical College in Houston, Texas. This will provide a unique opportunity to compare the experiences of gay men with prostate cancer and their partners in Canada compared to the U.S.

Men who are interested in the study will be screened to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements:

- Self-identify as gay or bisexual
- Be diagnosed with prostate cancer within the past 4 years
- Be able to read and write English
- Be able to complete the web-based survey

Eligible men will be emailed a link to the survey website. The survey takes about 45 minutes to complete and can be completed at any time. Upon completion of the survey, men will be sent \$20 for participation. If men who take part in this project have a significant other/partner, he may also be eligible to complete a separate web-based survey about his experience as a partner of a man with prostate cancer. All information is private and confidential. If you have any questions please call my research coordinator, Laura Katz, at 1-866-643-7604, or email us at CancerOutcomes@psych.ryerson.ca.

Thank you for your cooperation,
Stacey Hart, PhD

Clinical Psychologist
CIHR New Investigator in Gender and Health

NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS - April 1 - 30

April 2: Danish fairy tale writer **Hans Christian Andersen**, 1805

April 3: Actor **David Hyde Pierce**, 1959

April 4: Actor **Anthony Perkins**, 1932

April 7: Songwriter and singer **Janis Ian**, 1951

April 8: Comedian and activist **Robin Tyler**, 1942

April 12: Indigo Girl **Amy Ray**, 1964

April 14: Actor **Sir John Gielgud**, 1904

April 15: Renaissance artist and scientist **Leonardo da Vinci**, 1452; blues singer **Bessie Smith**, 1894

April 16: Rocker **Dusty Springfield**, 1939;

April 17: American playwright and novelist **Thornton Wilder**, 1897

April 19: Actor **Dick Sargent**, 1930

April 20: Actor and activist **George Takei**, 1937; writer and editor **Katherine V. Forrest**, 1939; Canadian painter and figure skater **Toller Cranston**, 1949

April 21: Writer, and filmmaker **John Cameron Mitchell**, 1963

April 23: Playwright and poet **William Shakespeare**, 1564; U.S. **President James Buchanan**, 1791; fashion designer **Halston**, 1932

April 25: **Edward II**, King of England, 1284

April 26: Blues singer **Gertrude "Ma" Rainey**, 1886

April 27: Mexican painter **Luis Zapata**, 1951

From gltq.com

UPDATE ON MARY

For those who are interested and know about my fluke accident on Feb 1 while walking my dogs, here is the latest update.

Life is good. God is good. I am in a wonderful rehab hospital where the food is five star, and the staff is delightful. If I ever have to go to a nursing home, this is where I'd like to go.

At age 64, I'm the spring chicken on the first floor. Most of the residents are in their 70's and 80's here. They get older and more infirm on the second and third floors. There are only 17 of us who are rehab patients. The rest are permanent residents.

My children visit me often, as do my friends. I am blessed.

I am healing much faster than anyone expected. I'm sure that God is intervening in this whole healing process.

I am able to bend my knee 80 degrees. 135 degrees is full flexion. I'm hoping to be able to ride my bicycle by late summer.

I am able to put 30 lbs of weight on my bad leg and can walk with a rollator (walker with four wheels). I'm fast but don't have a lot of stamina yet.

I have my next fracture clinic appt on Apr 20th to determine if I will be able to fully weight-bear. Once I am able to fully weight-bear I will be able to start walking with a quad cane (cane with four legs), but the rollator will be my main mode of moving any distance. Hopefully I will be able to go home on April 29.

On Thur I am going to stay at my dog sitter's house overnight. There will just be Stella (dog sitter), Sadie (my beagle), and me. We will watch a movie and perhaps order a pizza. I will come back here on Friday after breakfast. This is a way of introducing me to "life outside the institution". My house is a bit of a zoo with all the people, kids and animals. I went home for a couple of hours about a month ago and it was quite stressful. I was so afraid that the dogs or kids would run into my leg, so spending the night at Stella's will be a good introduction to the world outside, and it will allow me some time to bond again with Sadie.

So that's the latest. You may have noticed that the "Store" has been taken offline because I can't fulfill orders while I'm in hospital. I'll put it back online once I get home.

Thank you all so much for all your prayers. They are so much appreciated!

A LITTLE BIBLICAL HUMOUR

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?

A. Ruthless.

Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?

A. German Shepherds.

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?

A. The area around Jordan. The banks were always overflowing.

Q. Who is the greatest baby-sitter mentioned in the Bible?
A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?
A. Joshua, son of Nun.

Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?
A. Because Noah was standing on the deck. (Groan.)

PS... Did you know it's a sin for a woman to make coffee?
Yup, it's in the Bible. It says . . . 'He-brews'

KEEP SMILING!!!! GOD LOVES YOU BUNCHES AND BUNCHES!!!!
Friends are God's way of taking care of us.

(Thanks Frank!)

God bless,
Mary

Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!
<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

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