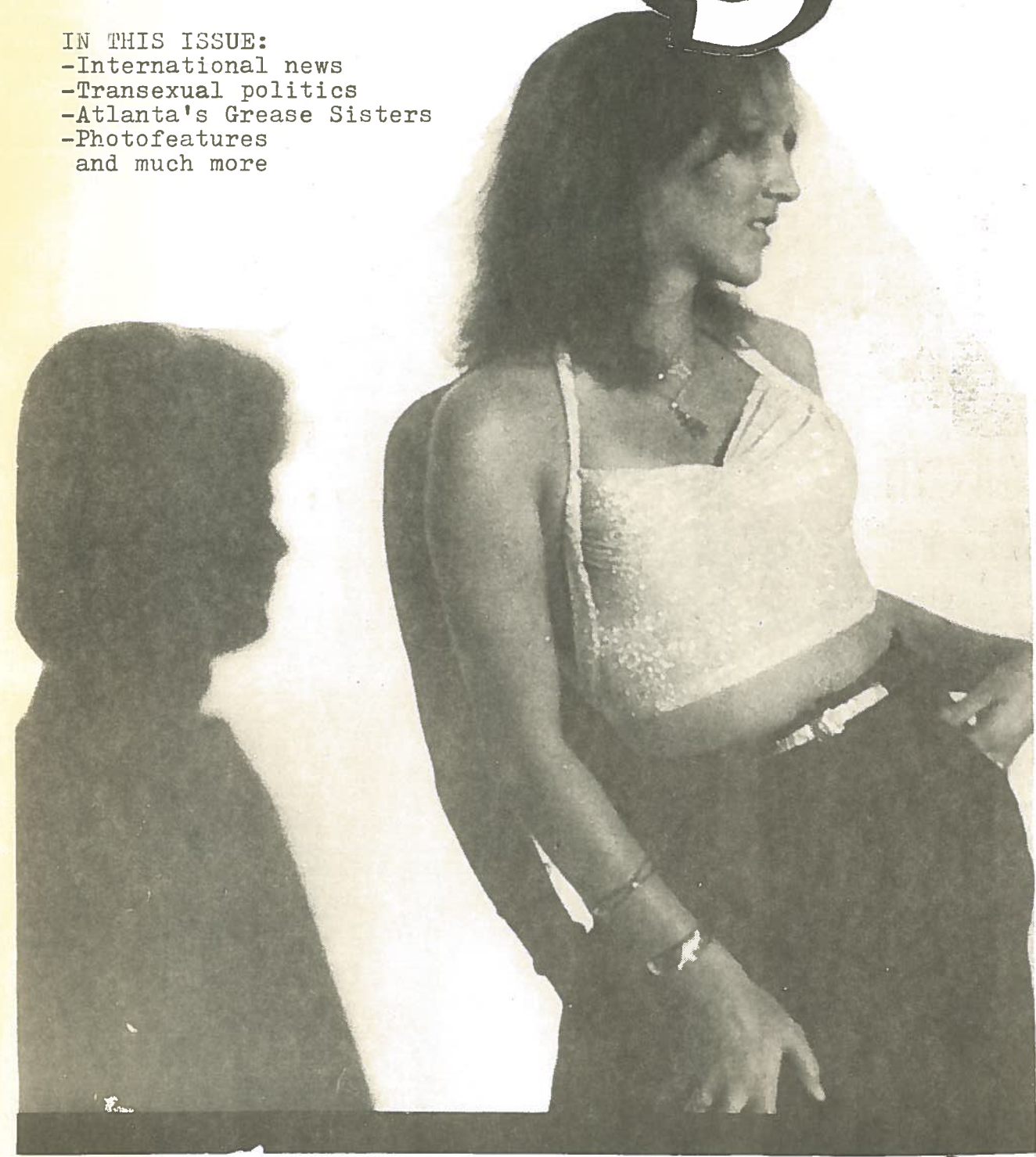


\$2

# mirage

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-International news  
-Transexual politics  
-Atlanta's Grease Sisters  
-Photofeatures  
and much more



A FORUM OF TRANSEXUAL LIBERATION

number 3



AUTUMN 1974

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Linda Mitchell (front)  
Kimberly Elliott (back)

### COVER DESIGN

Angela K. Douglas

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# LETTERS

Dear Mirage:

I was pleased and surprised to get a copy of the magazine you told me about. You've done a marvelous job!

Love,  
Anne Ritchey, Ohio

Dear Mirage:

I was pleased to note the inclusion of the article on my situation here at Shelton Prison, which has, unfortunately, grown progressively worse. All in all, I was very favorably impressed with the contents of Mirage, especially in consideration of how young a publication it is. It is difficult for me to explain how supportive it is to me to read about the struggles of other transexual women.

In struggle and solidarity,  
Alice Trystam Jager,  
Shelton, Washington



Dear Mirage:

I want to thank you for the copy of Mirage. I enjoyed it very much and find it quite different from the usual TSTV publications I get, and I try to get them all.

Affectionately  
Darina, Las Vegas

# TRANSCIEIVER

San Francisco's Board of Supervisors has legalized cross-dressing in that city.

Miami Beach: Colette Goudie has become the third president of the Transsexual Action Organization (TAO) due to Barbara Rosello's resignation on Sept. 13, due to pressure from her family.

Goudie, 26, is pre-operative and has previously served as vice-president and defense director.

Linda Mitchell, 22, post-operative, became the new vice-president, and Kimberly Elliott, 21, also post-operative replaced Mitchell as Miami Beach Director.

Goudie expressed elation at being named president and vowed to move TAO forward. A student of the occult, Goudie is originally from France.

Birmingham, England: Brooklyn Stothard has been named TAO England Director. Stothard replaces Julia Tonner, who resigned last spring, and has since been removed from membership. Stothard reports he has received police permission to hold a demonstration at the U.S. embassy in London to protest the persecution of transsexuals in the United States.

New York: Queens Liberation Front founder Lee G. Brewster was disclosed as having once been affiliated with the FBI. The disclosure was made by QLF Director Bebe Scarpie in a recent Shemale Magazine. Subsequent inquiries by Mirage have learned that Brewster was once an FBI agent, resigned, attempted to rejoin, was turned down, and was placed on auxiliary agent status at a small salary. given QLF support

Brooklyn: The Jehovah's Witnesses, a religious group, has publicly spoken out in protest of transsexualism.

The group says that transsexualism is "one more facet of the spread of practices contrary to nature characterizing much of this present period."

Transsexuals say they may form a religious group called Ardhanari's Witnesses in retaliation. Ardhanari, pictured below, is an ancient Hindu deity, both male and female. Many deities of various religions had the ability to change sex.



Newspaper clippings, reports and other news items of interest to transsexuals and transvestites should be sent to Transceiver c/o Mirage.

continued

Niort, France: Myriam Naud, 18, a post-operative transsexual, was served with army induction papers by police who said she would still be considered legally male until the records were changed. Naud's parents are fighting the case, and her father is suing the state to recover legal costs.

San Francisco: Two men associated with the Helping Hands Center of the Gay Activist Alliance have been arrested for illegally castrating a 16 year-old youth in the back seat of a station wagon.

The youth was found partially sewn up on a beach and is in satisfactory condition.

The Helping Hands Center is run by gay leader Ray Broshears, current gubernatorial candidate of the Peace and Freedom Party. Broshears has charged many surgeons in the past of "butchering" transsexuals, and has made claims he presided over the funerals of transsexuals who killed themselves after having sex change surgery by Dr. John Brown and Dr. Barbosa.

One of the two men arrested, William Johns, had worked as a counselor for transvestites and persons seeking sex change operations. Such people were referred to Johns by the Helping Hands Center. The other man, Rudi Brink, worked at a restaurant. Neither have any medical training.

Police are investigating reports they also performed sex change operations as well as castrations.

Mirage has since demanded that the S.F.P.D. investigate the possibility that the alleged "suicides" were victims of Johns and Brink.

Wellington, New Zealand: Carole De Winter, 30, a post-operative transsexual, was found guilty by the New Zealand Supreme Court and was fined \$400. The case had gone to the high courts due to De Winter's transsexualism. The jury first had to decide whether she was legally male or female, as males cannot be charged with prostitution in New Zealand. After being given various tests, they decided she was female and made a guilty verdict.

Miami Beach: The disposition of the \$13 million fortune left by female-to-male transsexual Pat Elbert is being contested by Elbert's relatives. Elbert, who apparently killed himself, left the \$13 million to four female friends. Attorney Robert Chulock, representing the relatives, says Elbert was "mentally unsound" as "she believed she was a man." Elbert was reportedly under male hormone treatment and may have had some sex change surgery. A Circuit Court judge, Rhea Grossman, was forced to step down as executrix of the estate due to pressure by the local media, which said her "close relationship" with Elbert should be questioned.



Miss Kay gives us a warm hello at her new lounge on Park Avenue.

案内所

Ohio: Anne Ritchey reports that the statement in Mirage #2 on the cost of surgery at a Cleveland clinic was misleading, as the cost mentioned was based on surgery covered by insurance. Sorry. Usual cost without insurance is around \$4000.

Washington, D.C: Charles Goodell, who was described as "the Christine Jorgensen of the Republican Party" by then-vice-president Spiro Agnew, has been named by President Ford to be chairman of the clemency board for military draft resisters.

Agnew refused to apologize to Jorgensen, by the way.

Belmar, New Jersey: The United Transvestite and Transexual Society has started a thrift shop, and has requested donations of clothing and other items. UTTS will try to repay postage costs for items sent by mail. UTTS, Box 360-A, Belmar, N.J. 07719.

*Lesbian Visibility.* The government of Puerto Rico is moving ahead with plans to criminalize lesbianism for the first time ever in that US colony. A new penal code, already passed by the Puerto Rican House, outlaws prostitution, male homosexual and lesbian acts. Previous laws applied only to male gays. Gay bars and clubs will also be open to persecution and loss of license under the new law.

from gay liberator

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Donnie Jay

⑩⑫ *Streets of San Francisco*  
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⑩⑫ *Streets of San Francisco*  
Keller and Stone race frantically to stop an assassin who disguises himself as a nun from carrying out a politically motivated execution. 1 hr.

**TRANSEXUAL DEMONSTRATION**

The Transsexual Action Organization plans a protest against the local ABC outlet, Channel 10. The group objects to a segment of the program *The Streets of San Francisco* in which John Davidson plays the role of a male transvestite who commits crimes while dressed as a female. The demonstration against "fostering the impression that transsexuals and transvestites are mentally deranged, psychopathic killers" is scheduled for the WPLG studio on Biscayne Boulevard at 3 p.m. October third.

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# not just a feminist

KRISTINA FONG-MOSELY

All my life I thought that I was transexual, and now I know that I am a lot more. We all know about our personally difficult times and too often this is all we assume we have in common. I don't want to back-track into the times we were not only repressed by society, but even I repressed my potential and my right to live.

Instead I want to take a step forward into our future and encourage the total expression of ourselves. I guess that I could be classified as a lesbian, bisexual, schizoid, hermaphroditic perverted sex change. I was fed guilt by the lovin' spoonful. I could not be what I felt because that didn't happen in "our family"...I certainly wasn't a homosexual and yet my inclinations seemed perverted. My friends couldn't understand, society didn't accept me. You see, society has made us roles for everyone to participate in, and they were all dependent upon sex. How incredibly awkward for my psyche to discover that these roles were nothing more than an all-encompassing straight-jacket designed to fit nobody very comfortably. I was guilty about my desire to change sex, I was guilty about not fitting into the stereotyped role that went along with my sexual choices. I was so fucking guilty that I couldn't grow.

I had to lie, hide from society and even from most of the underground alternatives. I just didn't fit into a classical straight-jacket of any kind, and if no one else respected me, how could I find myself?

I came out.

Not just a feminist, not just a militant transexual, not anything more than what I had been all along: a radical person.

I found that I couldn't playact a role for the convenience of acceptance. I accepted myself first and then started to look around. You know what I saw? All of us fight-

continued

continued

ing for expression. Hoping so hard for the right changes, the ability to pass, acceptance that we were really OK, so long as we satisfied our societal role obligations reasonably successfully. We could be, but only in a certain way... a way prescribed by our analysts and doctors. We were classified as obsessive-compulsives, psychic hermaphrodites and strangers. No one wanted to believe me until I dressed and acted sufficiently femme. And I was the Patsy. I did it, I accepted the stereotype. I had no choice, if one were a girl there were certain fundamental social patterns of thought which had to be adhered to...i.e., you couldn't be a lesbian. "Really, you say you aren't gay in your desires for men, yet genetically-" Things became confusing. Then I found myself feeling that I had to be weaker and dumber if I were

continued



Verna



Angela Douglas drops in for a drink with singer Del Marino, now appearing at the Hide-Away Room in the Versailles Hotel.

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(Continued)

a woman. That is a Given in our fundamentally sexist society. "But," I protested inside, " I am not weak and I am not dumb." The same brain functions inside of my skull. My sexual identity and preferences are an integral part of my ability to function completely. I denied myself for most of my life and just as I was beginning to affirm myself, I found that I was beginning to deny myself again. In time, I began to really accept myself. To hell with the past! To hell with classifications which had such socially denigrating nuances. I chose to live a full life and be the me that my psyche demanded. I chose the positive forces inside me rather than the negative forces of social stereotypes. I chose to be proud.

I still have to admit that I still feel shaky, shy and scared. But I will always extend my hand to say Right On! to humanity and the freedom to be. We must look to the future and know that we are a part of humanity as much as anyone else and that we have a commitment to both ourselves and our sisters and brothers everywhere. We must all be free to be the whole persons that we can be. We can all be the future through our acceptance of ourselves as radical persons and helping each other and "the others" to understand that freedom will make us strong, progressive and compassionate.

We can be an integral part of the future as we free ourselves to be whatever we are and accept the whatever anyone else is. I, for one, am not going to extend repression either psychic or physical into my view of the future.



drawing by  
vanessa woolfe

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Linda Mitchell is 22, a Pisces, and has been a member of TAO since 1971. She underwent sex change surgery by Dr. Rish in 1973.



Photos: Angela K. Douglas

# LINDA

Originally from New York, Linda has lived in Miami Beach for over ten years. She was named TAO Vice-President in September. She lived as a woman for eight years prior to having sex change surgery.



In August, Linda married a young man (legally) and they've set up house. But things weren't always so peaceful; Linda was arrested in 1968 in Miami for wearing a girl's bathing suit (before she had breasts) and was ordered to be evaluated by a psychiatrist...who said she was insane. She was released, however.

Lee Brewster, a male transvestite, founded Queens Liberation Front in 1969 in New York. A year later he began publishing an excellent, if non-radical, magazine about transvestism. Brewster became one of the top leaders in the transvestite rights movement within a few years and is highly respected and admired by many people. Thus it came as a shock to the staff of Mirage when we read that Brewster had been affiliated with the FBI for some time. (See news item in the Transceiver section.) The following article was difficult for us to write and publish, yet, as a judge in the Wounded Knee case said, it appears the FBI has sunk to a new low.

#### THE SHOP ON TENTH AVENUE

Jacqueline Hauser

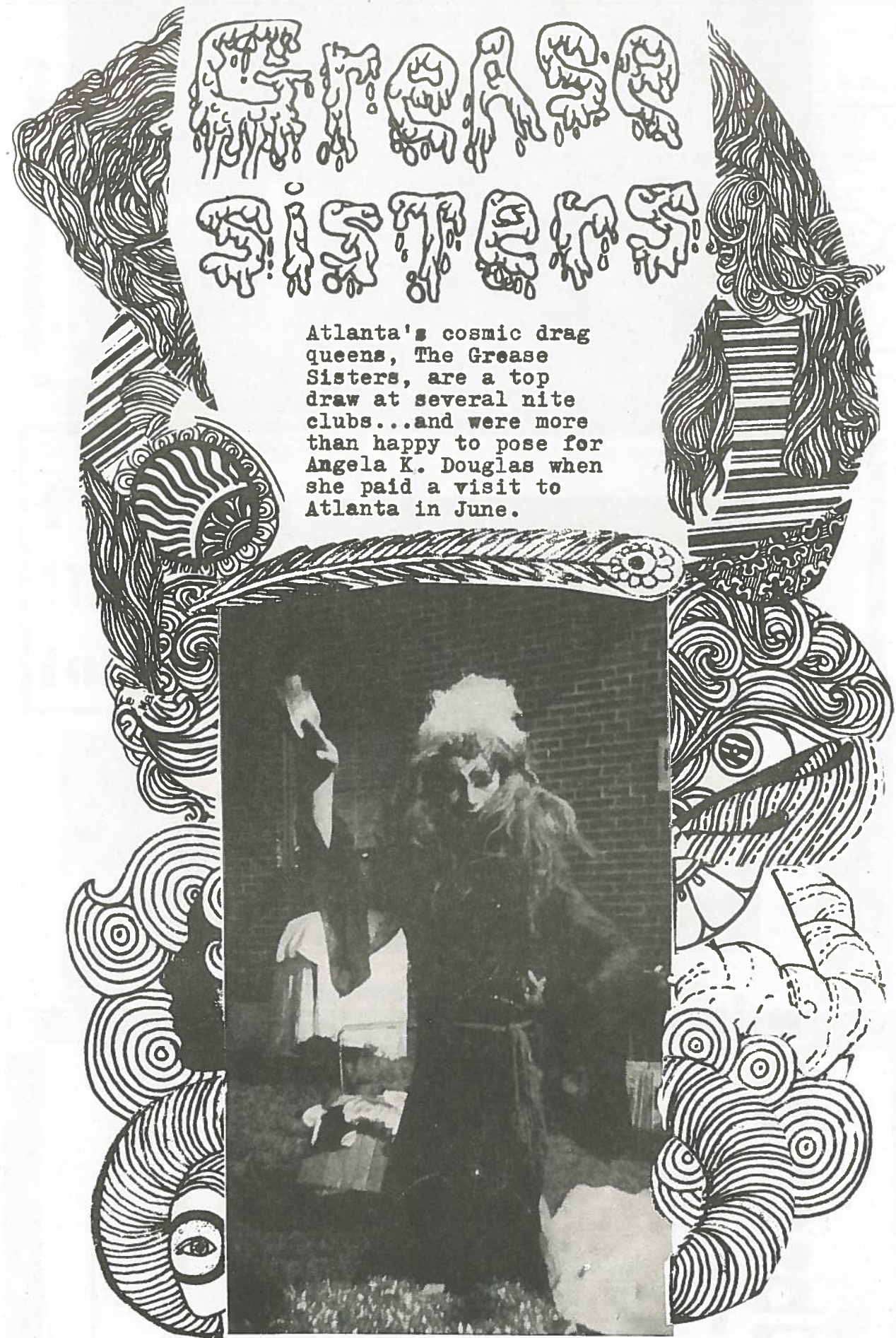
I knew Lee Brewster quite well, and I shared the usual opinion of him, that he seemed to be unusually honest. As far as not overcharging for the merchandise he sold to TVs, he was extraordinarily fair. In comparison with his outstanding competitor in the very specialized trade of selling brassieres, etc. to men, his name could have been Honest John.

Lee Brewster was a great help to the TV novices, the hypersensitive closet queens, and of course he was very popular with these shrinking violets. He was no less popular with the more militant and more daring, those who habitually buy whatever they want quite openly in department stores and elsewhere. It is not illegal for a man to buy lingerie...he needn't admit he is buying these things for himself.

Customers were constantly visiting him in his shop on Tenth Avenue. Originally a record store, when it opened for business about a year ago there was a big sign on the door, "International Record Company."

Many people would come to buy things, or just to gossip. He seemed to have a boundless

interest in the most trivial small talk. I used to be amazed at how he could be opening his mail, reading it, making out receipts for the many checks he received for his publications, and carry on a conversation at the same time. It's quite a trick of mental juggling. I write about the shop as though it were a thing of the past. It's still there, I presume. I don't know how Brewster feels about his being disclosed as an ex-FBI agent. Maybe he likes the publicity. I do know how many TVs and TSs feel, although they may smile and say hello when they run into him. I doubt very much that he will be so trusted anymore. People don't seem to like spies very much. No doubt Brewster was of some service to the government, which was very loyal of him. But it is impossible for TVs and TSs to take such an impersonal view of his relationship with the FBI, since Federal and other laws oppress transvestites and transexuals both in employment and the courts.



Atlanta's cosmic drag queens, The Grease Sisters, are a top draw at several nite clubs...and were more than happy to pose for Angela K. Douglas when she paid a visit to Atlanta in June.





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# TRANSEXUALISM & Women's & Gay LiberatiON

BROOKLYN STOTHARD

To those people who read Mirage #2, it should be known that at the time I wrote the article, "Transsexualism and Women's Liberation," I was living as a female and was in Women's Liberation confessing to male-identification (female transsexualism) by appearing at meetings. I no longer wish to pander in any way to the Women's Movement by indicating (as I did in Mirage #2) the theoretical inconsistencies of Women's Liberation or "the way forward" for Women's Liberation.

I am my kind will be trampled on with greater relish if we show them the target or stop to appreciate the bootmarks that have already been made upon us. There is no time to ponder the possible links which could be forged with Women's or Gay Liberation. This would only feed the hand that bites us. Our oppression is brought to bear via such movements as the gay and feminist ones in which non-transsexuals find expression for their attacks on transsexualism, for it is within these movements that the ideals of male and female are most forcibly upheld.

continued

"WE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO MAKE HALF-HEARTED UTTERANCES IN DEFENCE OF WOMEN'S LIBERATION..."



Layla and Brooklyn Stothard.  
(No photo credit available.)

continued

For although homosexuality and the existing challenge of women to the inferior status which they hold in relation to men per se threaten certain aspects of the roles which biological males and females are expected to play in society, it must be understood that they in no way exist as a challenge to sex roles themselves and serve rather to stabilize sex roles in society by celebrating them.

One needs only look at the reactions of gays and feminists in order to understand this. It is in this light that we must look at the historically unparalleled repression of female transsexualism which has resulted from the upsurge of feminism. The splits between male transsexuals and female transsexuals have the same root cause. Male transsexuals are defended by feminists only as long as they remain hostile to those deviating from the female role (i.e., female transsexuals) but this division will be



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maintained at the expense of all transsexuals. In other words, the presence of a male transsexual in Women's Liberation lies in contradiction to their transsexualism in so far as male transsexuals who are into feminism are lying at the feet of their oppressors, at the expense of their brothers (female transsexuals) and ultimately of themselves...for they, too, will be attacked by the non-transsexual females they patronize, as was male transsexual Beth Elliott at the West Coast Lesbian Conference and in the Daughters of Bilitis. Most feminist organizations have barred transsexuals, reports Mirage.

We must now make a clear break with those who stand against us. We can no longer afford to make half-hearted utterances in defence of Women's Liberation because feminism exists to defend the female role in society. continued

continued

In their consciousness-raising groups, women are continually attacked for being male, but never for what they are expected to be, i.e., passive, female.

Which groups in society must we be wary of? Transvestites, gays and women all have an interest in preserving sex roles since they all conform to the extent that is demanded of them at a minimum. It is these groups who must readily spring to attention in pursuit of ultra-deviance: transexualism. They will defend the status quo against those who deviate to a greater extent than themselves in this aspect of social behavior. It is they, who, far from becoming the allies which they potentially are in the sexual struggle, prove to be enemies in so far as they are the forces amongst which the greatest hostility to transexualism (the supreme threat to sex roles) is to be found.

**YES, IT'S TRUE.**

Miami: Although declared unconstitutional in 1971, Miami's cross-dressing law is still on the books and is being enforced. Mirage has received dozens of reports of transexuals and transvestites being arrested under this non-existent law...which, according to the Dade County Law Library, was put into effect in 1957 and is still in effect.

Calls to the police department were unsuccessful in finding out any more details; seven different departments told us "they didn't know whether there was a law or not."

An attorney suggested that what may be happening is that although the law was declared unconstitutional and legally does not exist, each case must be tried separately and is probably dismissed, but the person will have to go through the arrest, jail and court procedure.

We have informed the American Civil Liberties Union about this, and they are investigating.

A similar law was declared unconstitutional in Miami Beach by ACLU efforts in 1972.



Angela Douglas takes a break on Lincoln Mall



Photo by Jacqueline Hauser

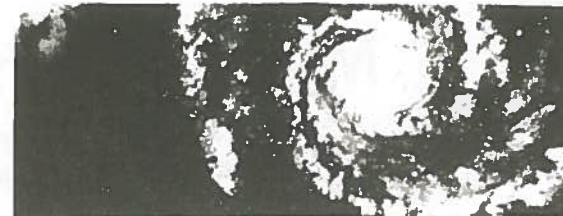
# IN RESPONSE TO MERLE

BRENDA GOTTLIEB

Merle Miller, a male homosexual writer and activist, wrote an article for Rolling Stone magazine concerning the defeat of the New York gayrights bill. In his article, Miller made some statements about transvestites. Perhaps he was trying to chop up straight liberals by asking if they'd be able to accept transvestites who might show up at one of Felicia Bernstein's chic parties for the panies, or perhaps not.

But his meaning was clear when he said "transvestites are a pain in the ass for everyone, including gay activists."

Merle Miller will get over it. His comments, of course, were directed-by logical extension-to transexuals as well, surely, the pre-op transexual. Miller's complaint is that transvestite males use ladies' rooms.



In all seriousness, for lovely, buxom TS and TV beauties to use men's rooms is ludicrous.

Imagine what heterosexual men feel like when they discover Merle cruising them in a toilet, not to mention getting cruised by the other fagivists?

One gets the impression that Merle will happily sell out anyone so he can cruise the toilets to his heart's content, and perhaps get a pat on his head by his straight masters.

Merle, you're a pain in the ass-to me, and to a lot of other TSS and Tvs. Will you please go back into your closet instead of becoming just another sexist, oppressive, snobby fag?

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and Prosper  
as the Rising Sun

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# KIM

Kimberly Elliott is 21, a Pisces, and has been a TAO member since 1973. She underwent sex change surgery by Dr. Rishn in 1974.

"I am elated with the results," said Kimberly. "I don't regret it at all."



"But the pain was incredible. I don't know if I could go through it again," she said. Kimberly is the new Miami Beach TAO Director, and was born in Cuba. She's also a new Associate Editor for Mirage.



# hassles

BECKY BELLA

San Francisco: Becky Bella, 30, a post-operative transexual, was arrested May 30 for female impersonation and defrauding an innkeeper. Bella said the incident happened when she found she had left her money at home and was unable to pay for a meal at a restaurant. The manager called police.

This is her account.

"When the police arrived about 5:15 AM, I tried to explain what was happening but they ignored me. I was placed under arrest. I pleaded with them to drive me home and let me get money to pay for the check, but they just laughed at me and told me no. They asked my name, address and age and sex, and I told them what they wanted to know, and that I am a female. They accepted my statements except the fact that I am a woman, which they refused to believe.

The police took me to the central station where I was told to place all of my personal belongings on a counter, which I did. Then I was told to remove my bra and place it on the counter also. Then I explained that I had had breast surgery three weeks before and I had to wear my bra all the time they were healing. One of the police officers took me to another room and told me that if I didn't remove my bra he would take it from me by force. "If you don't take it off I'll rip it off," he said. Again I insisted I am a woman and asked that a matron be called. My request was refused. I had to remove my bra against my will in the presence of the officer who made the threat with no one else in the room. I pleaded with him to let me keep my bra but he grabbed it out of my hand, saying

(continued)

(Continued)

"we don't care anything about you."

During all of this, there was no matron present. I was constantly referred to as a male. I was then placed alone in a cell and later transported to the Hall of Justice prison. Upon entering this prison, I again insisted I was a woman and the police officers called me a liar. An officer took me into a room and told me to strip in his presence. Again I pleaded that a matron be called, but again it was refused. The officer told me to remove my clothing or he would tear it off by force, and I had to remove all of my clothing in his presence against my will. He searched my clothing and then told me to get dressed. I was then placed in a cell with two men. I was threatened with bodily harm if I did not enter the cell with the men. After some time I was removed and placed in a room with more men where my fingerprints were taken. I was placed in another room and told to wait there.

An officer behind the desk asked another one to lock me up in the men's tank. I insisted I am a woman and asked for my bra and pleaded to be examined by the doctor. The police just laughed at me and said "lock him up."

I went into hysterics as the officers grabbed me and started taking me to the men's tank. As we passed the doctor's office, he came into the hall because he heard me screaming and asked me into his office.

The doctor examined me inside his office. After being examined I got dressed and left his office. The doctor told the police to "give her back her bra, and put her in the women's tank."

I found the matrons and the other women in the cell in which I was placed very friendly and understanding. I was released that afternoon after a friend posted a bond of \$150.00 for the charges against me.



Vanessa Woolfe

These are current prices of hormones available from pharmacies with prescription.

### ESTINYL TABS

(Ethinyl Estradiol)  
Schering

214-2400	.02 MG.	100—2.40
214-2410		250—5.60
214-2500	.05 MG.	100—3.95

### STILBESTROL TABS

Darby

		1M	5x1M
004-5850	1 MG.	3.10	14.95
004-5880	5 MG.	3.40	16.25
004-5920	25 MG.	9.75	47.50

### PREMARIN (Conjugated Estrogens)

0.3 mg. tabs (1M—25.75)	2.70
0.625 mg. tabs (1M—39.50)	4.20
1.25 mg. tabs (1M—65.25)	6.95
2.5 mg. tabs	13.25
I.V. 25 mg. w/diluent (10—33.95)	3.45
Cream Jar	3.50
0.625 w/methyltest 5 mg. tabs	8.70
1.25 w/methyltest 10 mg. tabs	15.25

### ETHINYL ESTRADIOL TABS

Darby

		1M	5x1M
003-7920	0.02 MG.	3.95	18.60
003-7940	0.05 MG.	4.35	20.60

(On May 6th, Bella went to court and the defense tried to get her to plead guilty in exchange for dropping the female impersonation charge. She refused and demanded a jury trial. On May 16, both cases were dismissed. Bella has told us she now hopes to sue the SFPD for false arrest.)

TRANSEXUAL ACTION ORGANIZATION

on



Left to right: Colette Goudie, Stephanie Lisa, Tony Adams, Lou Marsh, Angela K. Douglas. Photo: Jay Dessi

Lou Marsh and Tony Adams hosted Angela K. Douglas and other TAO officers on their July 28 show aired from Fort Lauderdale's WKID studios. Although serious at times, the discussion was relaxed and enjoyed by all. Topics touched included problems transexuals have in regards to police, housing, identification, medical aspects, and others. It was TAO's first major television exposure, and the set opened with cameras focused on a cover of Mirage Magazine.

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TAO President Colette Goudie surprised us when we dropped in at one of the Beach discotheques.



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Poems by JACQUELINE

Photo: Angela K. Douglas



Jacqueline Hauser

CUPS OF BEAUTY

The moon floats in my tea  
like a silver swan  
The sun shines in my wine  
like an eye of Buddha.  
I make porcelain cups of  
many colors; robin-egg  
Blue, ox-blood, flush-of-  
dawn

To receive the Imperial  
Emperor, The Sun,  
And her Imperial Highness,  
the silver moon...

PHANTOM SILVER

The moonbeams on the  
water shine like  
Phantom silver, linked  
bracelets of light  
Eluding grasping fingers  
Oh, silver-smiths of Chang-O,  
the Goddess of the Moon,  
you make fine fluent bracelets out  
of fairy silver...You inspire  
me  
to translate moonbeams into serenade.

A REBEL

This is so strange  
a world! So many rules,  
usages, customs.  
One cannot reach out a hand  
without breaking  
Somewhere, a strand  
of custom...What  
Spider spun this web  
of observances?  
Spider-webs I hate. I  
wish I were  
A wild horse  
on the hills...

second time around

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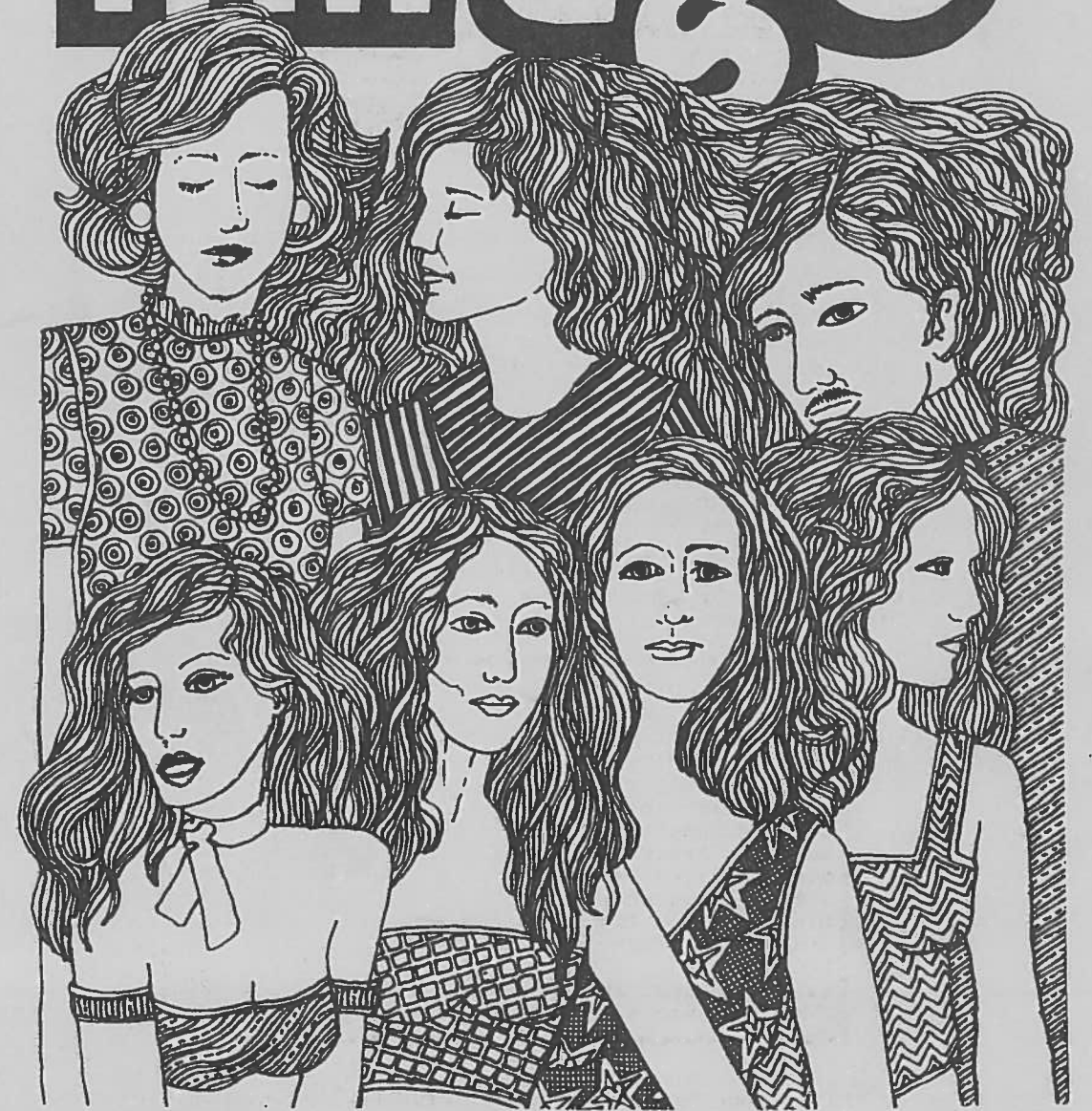
"where is anna, fidel?"

mirage





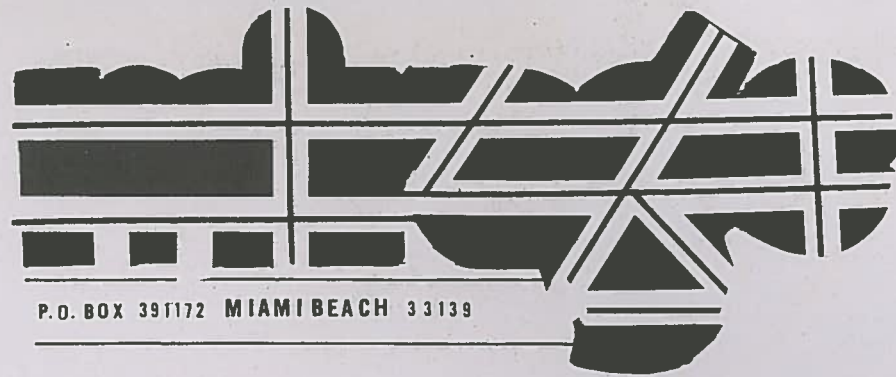
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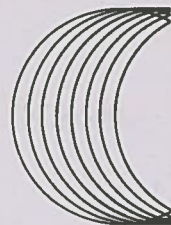
Vol. 1 No. 2

- INTERNATIONAL NEWS
- TRANSEXUALISM AND WOMEN'S LIBERATION
- VICKY WILLIAMS INTERVIEW
- PATSY'S PAGEANT
- LOTS OF PHOTOS

\$2



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**COVER:** Drawing by Suzun David of Crystal Gresham, Barbara Rosello, Brooklyn Stothard, Colette Goudie, Cynthia Platt, Angela Douglas and Georgette Elliott.

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**EDITORIAL**



Angela Douglas in Texas

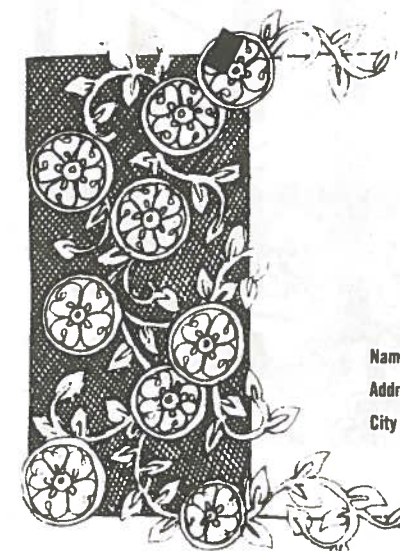
Welcome to the second issue of Mirage. We're a magazine about transexualism, created by transexuals, and, although we expected a good response to our first issue, we have been truly encouraged by the many letters and comments we received. It would appear that an effort such as ours is badly needed.

In this issue we examine women's liberationist theory, through the eyes of a British female-to-male transexual, Brooklyn Stothard; our news section has been expanded--as it appears that transexuals are making a bit more news than previously. Deep in central Louisiana, pre-op transexual Vicky Gay Williams won a harsh battle against police harassment, and Mirage went to her for an interview.

As for photos, we have quite a few this issue, including some taken at the Patsy's Lounge pageant in Florida, some of most of the TSTV organization leaders, and others of our readers and friends.

A review of the current UFO show at the Miami planetarium takes care of our UFO-ESP-occult section. And much more.

Angela K. Douglas



MIRAGE, P.O. Box 391172, Miami Beach, Florida 33139

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Dear Mirage:  
We have received a copy of the first Mirage and have enjoyed it very much. We are sure it will be well taken by all...Thank You  
Ms. Karol,  
Neptune Productions,  
Belmar, New Jersey

*We do get taken, now and then.*

Dear Mirage:  
Thank you so much for the copy of Mirage which came to my desk this morning. We will all study it here, with the utmost interest. And we sincerely wish you all the very best with this ambitious new project.  
Sincerely yours  
Mary Margaret Fuller,  
Editor, Fate Magazine,  
Highland Park, Ill.

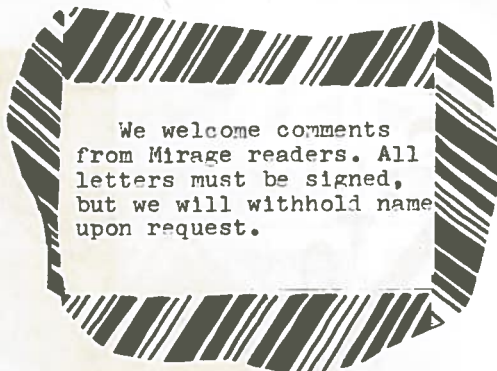
*And we always thought you knew everything! Thanks.*

Dear Mirage:  
Congratulations on the fine first issue. Thank you and best wishes.  
Franz Martin,  
Gay Liberator Newspaper  
Detroit, Michigan

*Hormone power, friends.*

Dear Mirage:  
I think the first issue was great, and fills a great void. Good luck on your new venture.  
A reader; Texas

*There's a void out there, all right.*



We welcome comments from Mirage readers. All letters must be signed, but we will withhold name upon request.

Dear Mirage:  
I was delighted to receive a copy of Mirage, which came in the mail today. The wrongs you are correcting are immense and people's lives depend on it. God bless you, for all you have done in the past, and keep up the good work... Sisterly,  
Vinora Hibbard  
Orlando, Florida

*According to Meher Baba, each of us has about six million incarnations to go through.*

Dear Mirage:  
I recently had the good fortune to obtain the premiere issue of your magazine and was extremely pleased with it. It has been needed for a long time... Sincerely,  
Steven G.,  
Atlanta

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# TRANSCIVER

Washington, D.C.: The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear a constitutional challenge to a Houston cross-dressing law on Apr. 1, thereby upholding such laws by default.

The case was brought before the court by post-operative transsexual Rachell Annett Mayes and the American Civil Liberties Union. Mayes had changed sex from male to female recently, but had been arrested a dozen times in Houston, for drag, while still legally male.

U.S. News and World Report magazine described Mayes as a "Houston man."

In Miami Beach, police informed Mirage that a new law would be enacted, to replace the old one, which had been found unconstitutional in 1972, in the lower courts. The police warned many transsexuals and transvestites, that "drag shows would be a thing of the past" and that "TSs and TVs should become men or get out of town."

Not long afterwards, the only remaining bar which has drag shows was burned down -- La Fever Club. In March, another Miami Beach drag bar, the Stonewall, was burned to the ground.

Kilo and other local transsexuals and TVs vowed street demonstrations, if such laws were enacted, but a phone call to the city clerk, by Mirage, found that no such law had yet been proposed. Some TSs and TVs suggested that the police threats were only meant to harass and intimidate, but others feel, that if such laws are put back in, it will give the police a better opportunity to resume their blackmail and extortion practices, which were widespread.

In San Francisco, police arrested dozens of transsexuals and transvestites, claiming the Supreme Court decision made it necessary for them to enforce San Francisco's existing cross-dressing law.

In St. Louis, police arrested a man for wearing bell-bottom pants and platform shoes, on a charge of "masquerading as the opposite sex," and the ACLU took his case.

Los Angeles and other cities reported increased arrests and convictions of transsexuals and transvestites.

The issue of rights for transsexuals and transvestites has already split the homosexual liberation movement for years, and the Supreme Court decision frightened many homosexuals seeking repeal of anti-homosexual laws.

William Thom, legal director for the National Gay Task Force in New York, said the Mayes case "is not a gay issue, since many transvestites (sic) appear to be straight." NGTF has never done much for TSs and TVs anyway, and is felt by some to be opposed to TSTV rights efforts in general. Thom's comments got a hot response from TAO Vice-president Colette Goudie, who said Thom was "crazy and idiotic."

The efforts of Mayes and others, although commendable, appear to have been wasted due to the illusion that the present government is responsive to the needs of all citizens, and not only a few.

Los Angeles: The Transvestite, Transsexual, Female Impersonator and Gender Identity Program of the Gay Community Services Center, is now in its second year, under the direction of Rose-Ann Prowett. The program was set up by Prowett with the assistance of the Center's Board of Directors and Shannon O'Hara and Brandy of the older Transsexual Program.

Prowett winds up in court several times a week, helping transsexuals and TVs who have had legal problems, and several have been placed on probation to the Center.

Experts on the subject are available to give counseling, guidance and other help.

Betty Walker, a pre-op TS, works with Prowett as employment counselor, which is associated with VA and Los Angeles County Rehabilitation.

Jay West works with the female-to-male transsexuals, and there are about seven involved at present.

Books, articles, pamphlets and other information on TSTV is needed, as well as financial contributions (tax deductible.) Contact: Rose-Ann Prowett, TVTS Programs, Gay Community Services Center, 1614 Wilshire, Los Angeles, California 90017.

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## Moonshadow

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# FREE

**Alabama:** In an attempt to show the world that people in Alabama know what sex is, the University of Alabama held a "Sex Week" recently.

The lectures and discussions included first-person accounts of homosexuality, swinging and other aspects of sexuality. A standing-room only audience listened to a post-operative transsexual talk on changing sex, also.

**Miami:** Colin Davies of The Miami Herald did an article recently which suggested that the fictional Sherlock Holmes was actually a woman disguised as a man, Irene Adler. Davies said this might have been an intentional joke by Holmes' creator, Arthur Conan Doyle.

Davies' theories are insulting, according to C.C. Salisbury, who said in a letter to the newspaper: "The article is a slander on the good name of Sherlock Holmes—the man who stands above all for truth and good over falsehood and evil."

**Leeds, England:** Brooklyn Stothard, a pre-op female-to-male transsexual, reports that he and two m-f transsexuals were brutally attacked by men and women at the Hope and Anchor pub here. Employees of the bar also attacked them, said Stothard. TAO, TVTS Leeds, and GLF have lodged strong protests.

**Nashville:** Milton Alred, 40, a pre-operative transsexual in prison, has been denied the right to wear feminine attire. Federal judge L. Clure Morton denied Alred's petition of complaint on the grounds that constitutional rights had been violated.

**Detroit:** Franz Martin of the Gay Liberator newspaper tells us that a statement in Mirage #1 needs clarification. We quoted QLF Director Bebe Scarpie's response to anti-TS statements which appeared in G.—L. #31. The anti-TS statements were made in a letter to the editor, says Martin, and was followed by an editorial response strongly defending the rights of transsexuals and transvestites.

Mirage meant no offense to our good friends at Gay Liberator. Sorry.

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Alice Trystam Jager is a pre-operative male transsexual, serving 45 years in a Shelton, Washington prison, for second-degree murder. She has been in jail since November of 1973. Mirage has received several letters from Ms. Jager, who is legally known as Robin Lee Robertson, describing her situation.

The Washington chapter of the ACLU, as well as the Sexual Privacy Project of the ACLU in New York, is helping Ms. Jager in her quest to obtain sex change surgery, even though she is in jail.

Legally speaking, Jager's case is not unprecedented. In 1972 the State Appeals Court of Illinois reversed the imposed sentence on another pre-operative transsexual, Linda Steadman, and placed her on parole to let her have a sex change operation.

Jager's difficulties with the prison officials have been considerably severe; although they promised she could have hormones, if she could find a doctor willing to send them to her, they were kept when they did arrive. "We're not in the transsexual business," the prison psychiatrist reportedly said. "Robertson won't get hormones, if I have anything to say about it."

More recently, she was placed in solitary confinement for her "protection", when she made some more moves to secure her goal. She is being given special "counseling", designed to cure her, in a program with rapists and child molesters. "I'm not like them," she said. "And I'll never give in to the prison officials. Never."

The ACLU is seeking information on similar cases, to help Jager, and several major publications have expressed an interest in her situation. She has also applied for membership in the TAO.

Persons wishing to help Alice can write to her at: Robin Lee Robertson, #429250, Box 900, Shelton, Washington 98584.

**Miami:** Allen Ormsby, who directed the locally-made film "The Great Masquerade," tells us he didn't write it and tried to "be sympathetic to the transvestite character." The film has a silly Miami cop on drag to check out murders on a cruise ship, and totals up as one of the worst films ever made.

Ormsby screamed murder himself when he saw the reviews in the local dailies.

However, the background scenery is nice and two fine actors, Lou Marsh and Tony Adams, give sterling performances as comedians.

The parking lot of the often-raided Mix II disco is used as the film's police station parking lot, by the way.

**Albany, N.Y.:** Headed by Wilma Thordsen, the Transvestite Independent Chapter here is growing rapidly.

Meetings are held fairly regularly, and the TVIC Journal, their newsletter, is one of the best.

Thordsen reports that a pre-op transsexual here, Barbara La Furge, was arrested while working as a topless dancer along with the bar's manager for violating the local topless law. However, since La Furge is technically male, she cannot be charged with breaking the law, or so contends an attorney.

**New York:** A woman who married a female-to-male pre-operative transsexual has filed for an annulment as she was unaware her husband was a transsexual when they married.

Identified only as "Frances," the woman says she married FM transsexual Mark B. in 1972, and later discovered he was a transsexual who had surgically removed breasts and female sex organs.

**New Jersey:** Attempts by transsexuals to obtain equal employment rights suffered a new setback recently when a court upheld the firing of Paula Grossman, 50, who underwent sex change from male to female several years ago.

Fired by the Board of Education, Grossman had appealed the decision to a court, but the court held the dismissal from her job as a teacher was appropriate as her presence in a classroom might cause "psychological harm to students."

**Miami Beach:** Angela K. Douglas resigned as president of the Transsexual Action Organization on Apr. 16 after four years of effort. Douglas said it was now time for new leaders to emerge in TAO, and plans to visit the new TAOs in Europe soon, also.

The presidency was assumed by Barbara Rosello, who had held the office of vice-president. Rosello, who underwent sex change surgery in 1969, issued the following statement:

"As the new TAO president, I feel I should affirm the TAO policy concerning membership. TAO is an organization for transsexuals only—by that I mean the people who have had sex changes, and the ones who are taking hormones. A lot of people want to join the TAO or become directors who are not transsexuals, and although we are glad they want to help, we must deny them membership.

We have many goals which can only be accomplished by our own efforts—such as ending the persecution, ignorance and laws which effect all transsexuals. We should be able to marry and adopt children if we wish.

I know there are many transsexuals in Russia and they can go to free clinics and have sex changes, but it costs American transsexuals many thousands of dollars and sometimes our lives—as we are often forced to be guinea pigs for crazy doctors doing ridiculous experiments. We should be able to go anywhere and do anything anyone else can do.

I also believe very much in women's liberation; but we must also confront the many women who do not understand transsexuals and oppress us as well.

Transsexual women get taken advantage of much more than non-transsexual women who already have some rights; we don't have any.

I have lost many jobs myself once it was found out that I am a transsexual. I might not have lost them if I lived in another country, but in America we do.

There are immense problems we must confront and we will need your help. Angela Douglas worked very hard for many years for the TAO and other groups and now it is my turn for a while. I will need the help of all members to keep the TAO going." Colette Goudie, previously TAO Belfast Director and vice-president in 1973, became the new vice-president. The Miami Beach headquarters also announced that Philadelphia Director Sandy Mesics was dismissed, and TAO Europe Director Julia Tonner resigned. TAO Belfast reports it has begun forming TAOs in Derry, Dublin, Donnegal, Cork, and Limerick. TAO is educating police, public and troops of the British Army.

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New York: Queens Liberation Front Director Bebe Scarpie informs us that she has taken a leave of absence from the so-called National Gay Task Force, due to inadequate efforts and attitudes of NGTF leaders in regards to the rights struggle of transsexuals and transvestites.

Scarpie also said that a report in a recent David Magazine, about a benefit dance for NGTF at the Eagles' Nest bar, was in error.

The magazine said that a near riot happened when transvestites were refused entrance. Scarpie said nothing at all happened.

Scarpie has also announced that QLF is now becoming a full-service membership organization, which is welcome news indeed. The group was formed by Lee Brewster in 1969 and has been in the forefront of the struggle for TSTV rights.

Miami: A drag contest topped off festivities at the Youth Day pageant, held May 11 in Oakland Park. Scores of young children watched local businessmen and officials compete in drag, for the title of "ugliest girl", which was won by businessman Henri Trudeau. Other lovelies included Bert Wrains, assistant to the city manager. The contest was held outdoors and made the Miami Herald.

Ottawa: Shortly before he lost to a vote of no confidence, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau sent TAO a reply to a protest sent concerning the acquittal of Raymond Saumur in Montreal, who killed a transvestite named Laureat Garceau.

Trudeau expressed concern, but said his government could do nothing about it.

Miami Beach: The London Wax Museum, which opened here recently, features a replica of comedian Flip Wilson -- you guessed it -- dressed as the character "Geraldine."

Atlanta: Shawn Marie won the "Miss Gay America 1974" drag contest, held in early May. First runner-up was Shannon Forrester, of Houston.

Miami: John Maguire, a medical writer for the Miami News, and Bill Rankin, a photographer, got quite an interview in March with several TAO officers.

Pre-operative transsexuals Tara Carn and Sharon Martin, who are in advanced stages of transformation, gave the two men a long look at the wonders wrought by silicone and hormones, then posed for a photo session.

Maguire interviewed Angela Douglas, Barbara Rosello, Crystal Gresham, Carn, Martin and several other transsexuals. "I like other transsexuals and girls," said Carn. "I'm a Lesbian at heart."

Carn was arrested on Mar. 31, after she stripped nude on a beach to protest police harassment, which she claims included forcing her to engage in sex acts with several Miami Beach police officers. Four police cars arrived and took her into custody. She was later fined \$70 for "creating a public disturbance."

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**BERKELEY BARB SLANDERS DOUGLAS**

Berkeley, Calif.: An article on Mirage by writer Jennifer L. Thompson in The Berkeley Barb made a number of false statements, and a retraction has been requested by Mirage's attorney. Mirage's editor, Angela K. Douglas, was also a target of false statements attributed to Ray Broshears, a San Francisco gay militant. Thompson said that Mirage is not very credible as it is a "one-woman production", although she had received a copy of Mirage and could see that 12 persons were credited in the first Mirage. Broshears claimed Douglas had been refused a sex change operation by the National Transsexual Counseling Unit, a completely false charge. "I never applied for anything from the NTCU," said Douglas. "In fact, they asked me to become a salaried director for them in 1971 but I had better things to do and declined the offer." Douglas said her credibility was never questioned by The Berkeley Barb when it accepted over 20 articles from her for publication in 1971 and 1972. We're getting a lot of reaction in favor of Mirage due to the Barb article, and some TSs said "they're just jealous."

ATLANTA: With half a dozen large TSTV-oriented bars here Atlanta is vying with other major cities for top honors.

Female impersonator Leslie Lyondon is one of Atlanta's top stars at the moment, and the Grease Sisters (Alvina, Kitty Litter and Lily White) are also an Atlanta favorite. We hear that Diamond Lil has gone into retirement, and hope she comes back to the world soon.

Mirage received some reports that the Atlanta cops are getting a bit romantic with some of the cuter TSs and TVs, but aside from that there doesn't appear to be much hassle. We'll have a few photos of the Grease Sisters in the next issue and eventually a special Atlanta issue.

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# S. F. REPORT

Although promoted as being America's most liberal city for transsexuals and transvestites, San Francisco still has an enforced cross-dressing law and numerous problems. One post-op transsexual, Becky Bella, tells us she may bring legal action against the SFPD for treatment she received after being arrested on May 30 during a tacky scene in a restaurant. Bella alleges that she was stripped nude and was being taken to the men's section of the jail under force when the jail doctor rescued her and had her placed in the women's section. She refused to plea bargain and demanded a jury trial to fight charges of female impersonation and defrauding an innkeeper.

TAO San Francisco has around 200 members, but meetings have not been held and San Francisco Director Wendy Davidson recently resigned. A new director is being considered and perhaps TAO SF will become more effective. While visiting San Francisco to drum up circulation for *Mirage*, editor Angela K. Douglas dropped in at a meeting of the Salmacis Society and said the Salmacis people were "very friendly and personable." Unfortunately, Salmacis head Sally Ann Douglas could not attend the meeting. Douglas also discovered that at least six transsexuals were running around town claiming they had formed TAO originally, and she said she had to view it as a compliment. Over in Oakland, a new group called Manicure told *Mirage* that it is for gay male transvestites and is politically active. Manicure, headed by Christopher, defends the rights of gay male TVs within the gay community. Lots of drags were visible in this year's gay pride parade, also, many of them with beards and mustaches, which seems to be one of San Francisco's fads.

No one's really sure if the Evolving Door half-way house for transsexuals is closing or not. It's headed by Shannon O'Hara. Another half-way house, for female-to-male TSs, is reportedly open in San Jose.

The Transsexual Counseling Service (previously known as the National Transsexual Counseling Unit) is under a lot of fire now from many quarters, although TCS consultant Elliott Blackstone (A SFPD Community Relations officer) is reportedly due to retire soon. Blackstone was described as a "castrator of Tenderloin fathers (transsexuals seeking sex change operations) through his Transsexual Counseling Service" by the *Gay Crusader* newspaper, as an example. Gays appear to be very upset that transsexuals are organizing on their own, also, and not within the so-called gay liberation movement.

Jason Heckman, a post-op female-to-male transsexual, tells us he hopes to change the legal situation whereby California transsexuals are unable to have their birth certificates changed or amended. Heckman is seeking backing for this effort.

## NO MORE MEDICAL ADVICE...

*Mirage* has decided to drop medical advice columns by sex change surgeons since there is some problem with laws forbidding doctors to publicly advertise...and we don't want to take any chances. Instead, we do plan to interview a number of different sex change surgeons in the future and other medical professionals involved with transsexuals.



MIAMI BEACH—The third aspect of sociosexual liberation movements, that of the transsexuals and transvestites, has begun to rapidly develop in the past year.

Seeking full independence from the feminist and gay liberation movements, transsexuals and transvestites have organized dozens of groups specializing in meeting the needs of those associated with them. These range from groups geared only towards persons who change sex to such groups as the Foundation for Personality Expression, which is concerned with heterosexual transvestites.

A noticeable feeling of animosity towards homosexuality exists in some groups, and not in others; others relate to lesbians and women who like transsexuals and transvestites, others focus attention on the "drag queen," or homosexual male transvestite.

These groups had their genesis in the mid-1960s, when such efforts as *Correct Our Gender*, composed of transsexuals, formed in San Francisco. Social clubs such as the FPF and several others had been around for some time, also.

### National Organizing Planned

Numbering roughly 20 groups in the United States, some of them claiming thousands of members, TS-TV organizations will soon attempt to form national and interna-

national alliances, with the leaders of magazine, *Moonshadow*.

### Most Militant

Shortly after the TAO formed, transvestites in New York organized Street Transvestites Action Revolutionaries, led by Sylvia Rivera. Considered the most militant of all, STAR fought in the streets with American Communist Party members when STAR members tried to join a picket line in support of Communist Angela Davis. In 1973, Rivera and another STAR member fought with homosexuals who tried to prevent them from speaking at a rally following the Gay Pride Parade.

It appears to be happening almost too fast to observe effectively.

In 1969, a group called Queens Liberation Front organized in New York, and the tone of transsexual and transvestite liberation turned from that of simple education and pleading to one of militance and demand. Founded by transvestite Lee Greer Brewster, QLF took to the streets in protest, and still does on occasion, although the group now publishes an excellent magazine devoted to transsexualism and transvestism, *Drag Magazine*, and holds social events.

During the 1973 Gay Pride Parade in New York, QLF leaders responded bitterly to attacks on transsexualism and transvestism made by lesbian feminist leaders, such as Jean O'Leary, who demanded that transvestites should be barred from all kinds of employment.

In 1970, the Transsexual Action Organization formed in Los Angeles. Members picketed the film *Mrs. Brockton* and took part in other actions with gay and feminist militant organizations, then relocated to Miami Beach in 1972 and began publishing a free news-

paper, *Moonshadow*.

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Although the gay pride parades are held each year to commemorate the rebellion of Gays in 1969, when police raided the Stonewall Inn, Gays have conveniently forgotten that most of the people involved in the actual fighting were transsexuals and transvestites. Many of the gay pride parades have attempted to bar transsexuals and transvestites from participation, particularly in New York.

QLF, STAR and TAO's development was followed by an increase of development of already existing groups, such as the National Transsexual Counseling Unit in San Francisco, now known as the Transsexual Counseling Service. (The word "transsexual" is now spelled with only one "s" by some transsex-

uals and organizations.)

Groups such as Cathy Slavik's Empathy Club for transsexuals and transvestites, one of the oldest and largest groups, also increased in size and service. A TS/TV division started within the confines of the Gay Community Services Center in Los Angeles, and others formed and developed, generally less militant in tone.

**Information Service**

In 1972, the Transvestite Information Service formed in South Carolina, sometimes getting confused with a larger group called the Transvestites Independent Chapter, which has chapters in most states and four foreign nations. TVIS claims to have spent over \$15,000 since it formed, has around 1500 members, and is run by a transvestite, John Howell, and his wife, Carolyn.

Problems with women and the feminist movement began surfacing around 1971. A number of transsexuals had become active in various feminist organizations, some became officers. By 1972 the women's movement began to polarize around the issue, and most barred transsexuals from joining, particularly the lesbian organizations such as the San Francisco chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis. The DOB kicked out a pre-operative male-to-female transsexual, Beth Elliott.

But TS/TV groups such as the Salmacis Society in the San Francisco area formed for women who like transsexuals and transvestites. Salmacis, basically a social organization, is headed by Sally Ann Douglas, a transsexual.

Many other groups exist, but the ones mentioned are the major ones which have survived the first few years of the movement in the face of very strong opposition in Gay Liberation and some elements of Women's Liberation. Both charge that transsexuals and transvestites affirm and encourage sexism and sex roles; a charge replied to by a sneer by most of the TS and TV groups who refer to their attackers as "ignorant" and "lacking full sexual perspective."

**Abolishing Laws**

As the alliances form, some of the points in platforms will include goals of abolishing all cross-dressing and impersonation laws. Although some of these have been declared unconstitutional, many still exist, and a case of this type has recently been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court by American Civil Liberties attorney Marilyn G. Halt of the ACLU's Sexual Privacy Project.

Another goal will be to end all special identification requirements concerning transsexuals, as now exist in the State of Alabama and the Province of Ontario in Canada, where transsexuals are identified as such on driver's license renewal applications. In Alabama, the Senate passed a bill several months ago creating a "separate statutory status" for post-operative transsexuals, claiming transsexuals "meant nothing to the state" prior.

Problems of transsexuals in prison (unless the person has completed the transformation, they are placed with male inmates) and a relaxation of requirements for surgery will also be important aspects of any TS/TV alliance's platform. But the most important problem of all—tens of thousands of transsexuals seeking surgery and unable to afford the \$4000 cost—can only be presented to the public. It is highly unlikely that anything can really be done about the "growing pool of medically indigent transsexuals," as described by one surgeon.

This problem was brought into public sight in 1972, when John Wojtowicz attempted to rob a Brooklyn bank to obtain the money to pay for a sex change operation for his lover, Ernest Aron. The lover, now known as Liz Eden, eventually obtained surgery with part of \$7500 paid to Wojtowicz by film producers

who plan to make a movie about the robbery. Liz marched in the women's contingent in this year's New York Gay Pride Parade. John and an accomplice, Robert Westenberg, went to prison. Another accomplice, Salvatore Naturile, was shot and killed during the robbery attempt.

Whether to support gay and women's liberation will also be an aspect of any alliance's platform, and as many TS/TV groups have had bitter experiences with gay liberation, such support is only possible, not probable.

Perhaps the surprising thing to most people will be the fact that there are so many transsexuals and transvestites now and so many public organizations.

"Maybe we're arriving on the scene a little late," said one transsexual. "Perhaps we had to wait until our numbers were large enough."

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Crystal Gresham, with TAO President Barbara Rosello.



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*Lee Brewster, founder of Queens Liberation Front*



*Jennifer Jones of Miami Beach*



*Darina of Las Vegas*



*Kilo of Miami*



*Georgette Elliot*



*Renee Rodgers of Atlanta*



*Angela K. Douglas*



*Cynthia Platt*



*Cynthia Platt*



*Suzun David*



*Tony Carr and Donnie Jay of the ill-fated La Fever Club*



*Cristal at La Fever Club*



*Jacqueline of New York*



*Diane of Orlando*



Tara relaxes as John Maguire of The News chats with Angela, and lovely Sharon reads a copy of Mirage Magazine.

THESE ARE the faces of Miamians who have changed or who are changing sex from male to female. The photos show Barbara Rosello, lower left, a former female impersonator who "went all the way" and became sexually changed to a woman. Seated on the couch at upper left are (left to right) Angela Douglas,

Tara Carn and Sharon Martin — all living as females but without the final operation. Crystal Gresham (upper right) is a local resident whose feminine elegance belies anatomy. For most, the change means fulfillment of lifelong dreams; for others, as a later Miami News story tells, it is torment.

A transsexual is a person convinced that he or she is really of the opposite sex, despite the contrary evidence of physical anatomy.

How does a doctor diagnose such a condition? Basically, by judging the person's strength of desire to have organs changed surgically.

If sex change is wanted badly enough, doctors call the person a transsexual.

Transsexualism is much different from homosexuality. A homosexual man may be attracted to males, but he still enjoys being a man and having male sex organs.

A transsexual man, however, is attracted to men but abhors his own sex organs and wishes to be sexually and socially a woman.

The male-to-female procedure can be done in one or

two operations. Sophisticated nerve relocation techniques can be used to assure the new female a sexually responsive life. It usually costs between \$4,000 and \$5,000, including hospital fees.

The female-to-male operation is much more complicated, especially if the person is not satisfied with removal of breasts and hysterectomy. Plastic surgery to construct an artificial penis is complex, and the result is often not sexually functional. The cost is \$5,000 and higher.

The number of transsexuals is impossible to estimate accurately. Angela Douglas, founder of the Transsexual Action Organization, said she had 25 members in the Miami area.

Angela Keyes Douglas, 31, wears her transsexual status as a political badge. She organized a very loose-knit group called the Transsexual Action Organization (TAO) when she was in San Francisco in 1970. "TAO was an off shoot of gay liberation," she says.

Unlike many transsexuals, Angela Douglas says she is "not interested in blending into society."

She has made her living as an underground journalist, and currently publishes a transsexuals magazine called "Mirage." The magazine is a blend of gushy paeans to femininity, and harsh attacks on anyone who is adverse ("genocidal") to transsexuals.

Angela is pre-operative, and her plans for an operation are not firm. She has lived in Miami Beach for the past year. Recently she announced a move to San Francisco.



ANGELA



Sharon and Tara are boy-girls

## The boy-girls have best of both worlds

"Sharon Martin" (left) and Tara Carn are young and gaudy boy-girls of Miami Beach. Plastic surgery and hormones have wrought impressive changes above the waist, but both have refrained from full sex-change surgery, and remain biologically and legally males.

Through plastic surgery, Sharon and Tara had their noses pinched to a more feminine profile. Silicone injections produced the high-cheekbone face which epitomizes one ideal of classy looks. Hormones supplemented by silicone bag implants produce breasts that rival a Playmate's.

They move in a homosexual hustler's culture. Tara has been in jail, where the oddness of possessing both penis and breasts caused her trouble.

Neither seems in a big rush to have the final operation. "I haven't got the money now," Sharon says. "I'm in no big hurry, either." Sharon's close friends call her Herby.

## Crystal is forever taking off a mask

Crystal Gresham personifies elegance in name, voice and gesture.

She is a pre-operative transsexual who pursues a feminine image of grace and refinement. She is the perfect lady, and wants to be a perfect lady despite the rising tide of female cops, jockeys and steeple-jacks.

She wore a white lace dress and white earrings and a subtle perfume during an interview. Her appearance and demeanor are impressive. There's no uneasy sense of talking with someone halfway between the sexes.

Except that Crystal Gresham, underneath her dress, is still legally a man.

Crystal lives completely as a female, except for her job. She becomes a man then, and teaches ballroom dancing to old ladies on the Beach. "I'm all business, I don't flirt with



CRYSTAL

them," she says. "My life is always taking off one mask, and then taking off another mask."

Sometime in the future, after her sex-change operation, Crystal plans to open "a good-taste school, to teach transsexuals and fems to dress gracefully."

These articles appeared in The Miami News as part of a series on transexualism by News writer John Maguire, and are reprinted with full permission. Articles about TAO President Rosello and others were also included in the series, which ran in the June 17, 18 and 19 editions of The News. The series resulted from TAO's sending copies of Moonshadow to columnist Herb Rau in 1973, and we appreciate The News' sincere interest in the problems and efforts of transsexuals. As a result of his investigative reporting, Maguire feels that the vast amount of exploitation experienced by TSS in the United States merits full disclosure to the public on a national level, also.

# TRANSEXUALISM

# AND WOMEN'S LIBERATION

As transsexuals, we identify with the women's movement, because we are (male TSs) or have been (female TSs), oppressed as women. Until now, the women's movement has been characterized by the absence of theory, around the question of sex-roles and consequently, the terms used by the women's movement tend to be inadequate or incorrect.

Hetsism is the system of social relationships, where people behave according to their social sex roles. Through hetsism, the oppression of TSs, gays and women take place. Hetsist systems of social relations lay down that, people should play out gender roles appropriate to their biological sex, as social males or females, and maintain heterosexual relations. ▼

## brooklyn stothard



24

Gays, by their very existence, attack the hetsist norm of sex roles, which say that biological men and women must fulfill their social obligations as men and women. Transsexuals, by their very existence, undermine hetsist sexual relations, but also completely undermine socialized gender identity, by totally rejecting, physiologically, the gender roles given to them by society.

Sexism, as a term, is inadequate, since it suggests that the oppression of women by men is the sum total of sexist relations.

The relations of women to men is part of the overall system of social relations, which make it possible to subjugate women by men. Hetsism is therefore the system of social relations, which imposes and enforces sex roles.

Until sex roles are totally changed (and this can only be done by transsexuals), women will continue to be oppressed as such. Only by refusing to be women, will women's liberation be achieved. Until the concepts of women and men are completely smashed, women's liberation will be seen more in terms of the struggle for equality with then the elimination of men.

So far, in the women's movement, it has been possible for women to define themselves in social terms, since biological women continue to see themselves socially as women.

We define male chauvinism, not as a set of male characteristics, but as the behavior of biological males, who see themselves socially as males.

Male chauvinism, like racism, is an ideology, based on the superiority of one group over another. It disappears only when biological males refuse to exist socially as males, i.e., become transsexualists. All biological males who live socially as males, are male chauvinists.

Female acceptance is the acceptance of the male chauvinist ideology, by the female believing herself to be inferior. Every male is brought up to embrace the myth of male superiority and every female is brought up to believe she is inferior.

It is on this basis of differentiation, into a superior and inferior sex, with natural qualities, that society is able to impose sex roles.

Only when fe/males refuse to live as such, i.e. become transsexualists, will we then challenge the very basis of hetsist relationships.

Transsexual (contra sex roles), in regards to pure definition, refers to (within this context) a person who refuses to accept psychologically and physically, the gender identity conferred on his/her biological sex by society.

NAT refers to "Not a Transsexual," those who retain their social sex roles. They behave according to the gender role, which has been imposed upon them by society.



There is nothing intrinsically male chauvinist about male and female genitals, opening doors, making up, etc.

It is only when the way in which they are used in male/female NAT behavior, that derines them as such. The aforementioned characteristics, having been denied to the fe/male TS, in his/her social position as wo/men, becomes attractive to him/her, but it is nonsense to assume, that a transsexual becomes male chauvinist as a reaction against NAT behavior.

That sex roles are rigidly enforced, according to genetic formation, is clearly demonstrated by the realization of the transsexual, that his/her body and mind are in direct contradiction to the task which they must perform, if they are to belong to the NAT wo/man.

So we say to those in the women's movement, who ask, "is biology women's destiny?" Is it the destiny of someone to be called a woman? There is a clear contradiction in those females in the women's movement, who suggest, that to eliminate menstruation and childbirth, would be "unnatural."

They not only condone their social position, in relation to males, for it would be unsocial not to accept the biological performance, which is required of the NAT female. Only the transsexual is able to do this, since he/she is disgusted by the very social function of the womb and genitalia themselves.

By limiting the struggle in women's liberation, to that around the social relations between men and women (sexism; the oppression of women by men), without challenging the whole system of social sex roles, i.e., hetsism, women's liberation will not go forward.

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media  
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The American media has begun to discover transexualism, and at long last, the transexual liberation movement. TAO and other TSTV lib groups are being invited for television and radio shows, where the realities of the transexual experience will be discussed in much greater depth than previously. We have some objections as to the previous coverage of transexualism by the media, and the following suggestions may be of benefit to journalists and interviewers -- as well as transexuals who have the opportunity to appear before the public.

Generally speaking, interviews in the past have focused on the purely medical aspects, with token mention being given to the more severe problems -- the transexuals in prison (perhaps 75 percent of all transexuals are arrested at one time or another), neuter laws, special identification laws, the exploitation by surgeons, psychiatrists and "gender identity clinics," extortion and persecution by police, and much more.

The media has chosen to present only the nicer, more digestible aspects -- while members of the audience are laughing hysterically, recalling times when they ripped off a transexual, arrested one, or refused to hire one for a \$1.25 an hour job. Johns of the transexual now, toothily smiling on David Susskind recall how they had her for \$12 and a hamburger.

The media also stumbles over the correct use of pronouns, often referring to post-operative male to female transexuals in the masculine (he, his, him) or as "its", although the use of the person's name would be just as apt. Sex is defined by the masses by genitalia alone, although incorrectly, thus one of the funnier games played by transexuals on the media is to tell the interviewer they've had the op -- then they are referred to as "she", in the case of m-fs; or that they haven't had the op (although they may have) and hear the interviewer refer to them as "he." Unless the interviewer gets a very in-depth interview, it's impossible to know for certain in some cases, and makes the entire "he or she" problem laughable.

The underground, radical and alternative press has been far more receptive to transexualism than the Establishment media, and far more honest -- the Los Angeles Free Press, for example, has carried numerous articles on transexualism. Aspects of TS, only now beginning to be discussed by the Est. media, were fully examined by the alternative media five and six years ago. Although Est. media has begun to improve, it is about where TV magazines were over ten years ago.

We can almost gauge our "social acceptance" by how closely the media is to our actual realities ... and it hasn't really improved all that much in the past ten or so years. Little difference can be seen in the Est. articles on transexualism of today, as were seen of articles on Christine Jorgensen in 1955. Until the media improves, it will be necessary for the transexual media to provide a true alternative.



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Two previous shows on UFOs at the Miami Planetarium attempted to prove that UFOs aren't real, but with the trend of scientific evidence heading the other way now, the newest show presents a more positive side of the subject.

Produced by Jack Horkheimer, the show consists of slides, narration, a rather interesting dance of planets backed up by rock music, and a great deal of technical information, presented on a level which will be comprehensible to most people.

Although apologetic, for adding weight to the "UFOs are real" theories, Horkheimer does an excellent job of presenting data and theories from the scientific community, to back up this view.

The ideas of Carl Sagan, J. Allen Hynek, Stanton Friedman, Duncan Lunan and other scientists, are presented well, and the theories of Erich Von Daniken, Barry Goldwater and a veritable legion of military officers and politicians are also given.

Dozens of clippings from the National Enquirer, on UFO sightings, are shown on the dome, along with visual effects which could have been much better.

Equations, statistics and technical data also flit across the dome from time to time.

Attempts by governments to contact extra-terrestrial civilizations, are also discussed; the Project Ozma, and the current CETI-project (Communication with Extra-terrestrial Intelligence), and planned projects.

For the new-comer to the subject, the data may be overwhelming. For the veteran, Horkheimer's show is a bit amateurish. But on the average, it can do nothing but help raise the veils of doubt and suspicion, which have hidden a truly fascinating phenomenon for many years --

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# vicky williams INTERVIEW

The Natchez Trace Parkway runs from Mississippi down to the central Louisiana town of Alexandria, population around 20,000, and home of Mirage art editor Suzun David and several TAO members. One of the most scenic routes in the South, the Natchez Trace is dotted with historical markers, commemorating civil war battles, but there is no marker for the city's most recent battle ... one won by a transexual named Vicky Gay, against cross-dressing laws and police harassment. Mirage editor Angela Douglas arrived on June 9, and did the following interview with Vicky, with some help from Suzun. Charles, another Alexandria transexual, is a TAO member and is a female-to-male transexual. He was interviewed the following day.

In 1970, Suzun David was kidnapped by two UCLA security guards and an uncle -- at gun point -- while living in Los Angeles. She was taken to a Los Angeles mental institution, transferred by plane to Houston, picked up by two deputies from New Iberia, Louisiana, and then found herself being driven to Lafayette, La. and placed in another mental institution. Suzun had begun living in drag, while in Los Angeles. "I arrived wearing a pair of women's pants, a tank-top and a suede shoulder bag, sandals and long hair," says Suzun. "I told the shrink I was a transexual and he said that was impossible. They then began saying proverbs. I spent two years there ... given drugs, shock treatments, everything. I've been living in Alexandria every since."

Charles has lived in Alexandria for over 13 years. "In 1970, while I was a woman, I was placed in the same institution as Suzun, as I had been getting into a lot of fights with my father. I was about 13 when I started going out with girls and having problems at home. At the institution, I told them I wanted to change sex to a male, and they told me it was impossible ... but Suzun ... I met her there ... told me about some doctors and I got in touch with one. I was in the institution for about six months ... after I got out, I went to a doctor in Baton Rouge and soon afterwards, began hormone treatments..."

Vicky Gay has lived in Alexandria for several years, and is part-owner of a bar called The Cabaret. In February of this year, the city passed a cross-dressing law, claiming it was needed due to an attack upon a college teacher by several black transvestites.

Vicky was arrested exactly one day after the law went into effect. Her life, for the next few months, was a merry-go-round of arrests, appeals, arrests; arrested eight times in all, she faced up to three years in jail and over \$1200 in fines. "I told those sons of bitches I'd beat them," said Vicky over a beer in her bar. I gave her a TAO membership card and snapped another photo. "I called them up when I read about the new law, and told those fools I had no intention of changing my clothing."

"The first time I was arrested, I was riding home with John, the co-owner. That was only the beginning." ♡



Vicky Gay Williams

## the CABARET

TWO EIGHTEEN N. UPPER THIRD

ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA



Vicky Gay Williams

Charles has long sideburns and a noticeable mustache. "I haven't had any trouble here at all," he said. "I worked in a furniture factory for over two years, as a man, although I used my woman's name. They all thought I was a guy at first -- like a 'boy named Sue' -- but they found out about it a week later, when they looked at my application more closely. They accepted me completely and never gave me any static at all."

"I was arrested eight times and by then, the newspapers were writing about it and business dropped off a bit at the bar ... most of the gays here are real closet cases," said Vicky. "The last time I was arrested, a bail guard hit me and I had to get eight stitches. Aside from that, I was treated fairly well ... some of the cops apologized when they arrested me, and told me they had gotten a complaint from someone..."

Barbara is a woman who has been going with Charles, for over two years. "Alexandria is the kind of town where people stare at girls in mini-skirts, but go to church on Christmas in jeans and drunk as hell. Magazines like Playboy must be sold under the counter ... anything sexual at all, is considered against the law."

"I finally took the whole thing to court," said Vicky. "My doctor and my lawyer went with me. About 35 or 40 cops were there to testify against me, and the place was packed. I wore a blue pantsuit with a pink carnation, a big floppy hat ... and was a bit drunk. I arrived in a limosine and walked right in. I was scared, of course, but I flipped my nose at that row of men in blue. My lawyer gave a long, long statement, which brought tears to my eyes ... the place was deathly silent, except for a few snickers from some of the cops."

"When the lawyer was finished," said Vicky, "the judge -- George M. Foote -- was quiet for a few minutes and then said, 'you have educated more ignorant people in a short time than anyone who ever appeared in this courtroom;' and he dismissed all the charges."

Vicky's doctor, James Lorio, had testified that she is a transexual and is under his care. The lawyer explained the differences between transexuals and transvestites and talked about all the problems we have.

"I plan to move to a larger city in the near future, where I will be able to begin changing sex, with greater ease," said Suzun. "It's pretty difficult here. However, it is quiet here and I can get a lot of work done."

"I'm going to be moving to a smaller town soon," said Charles. "My parents have really accepted me now ... that's a big help." ♡

Suzun David





"When we say anything to the doctors here, at Central Louisiana State Hospital, it's supposed to be confidential," said Suzun. "But just about anyone here can ask them and they'll tell you... it's almost beauty shop talk, common knowledge."

"I beat them," said Vicky Gay. "I told them I would and I did."  
There are no historical markers yet, for the Battle of Alexandria. Perhaps because it is still going on, and just as during the civil war, there wasn't time to erect any. As a child I spent a few years in Shreveport and remember Louisiana but time has dimmed some of the memories. I have very vivid ones now of Alexandria and the members of TAO who live there, of the snickering waitresses in the Piccadilly Cafeteria, wondering how I got my breasts, perhaps, and why the tall man with me was carrying a purse, and if the day will ever come when all of us could live here without fear and rising anger inside us.

Vicky has won a major victory in some ways... yet, the judge dismissed the charges, only if she agreed to live completely as a woman, change her name legally, etc... still no freedom of choice; a man attempts to become a woman and is harassed viciously; a woman becomes a man and finds relatively easier acceptance -- certainly not Charles' fault, but that of the general male ego, which might view it as a compliment. At a time when the TSTV movement has undergone a few legal setbacks, I found it odd and welcome news to learn of Vicky's battle... and her success.

Vicky carries a form letter, which reads: "As of today, I am no longer Charles Ray Williams, but by Court Process in Alexandria, Louisiana, Rapides Parish, I am legally Vicky Gay Williams. The reason for this is that I am a transexual candidate, under the care of Dr. James Lorio of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. What this means is, that I am under his treatment to change my body from a male to female, to match my real gender, to sex that I have always been, a female. All legal records are now going to be changed to match my new identity, as a female."

All of you may not understand this, but I hope I will have your support. Life like this has been hell, and I could no longer stand it. I apologize for a form letter, but so many have to be sent to family and friends and others. Please try to understand, and hope the best for me. My real problem now is the estimated cost of about \$7,000 and where it will come from. But then, I believe in miracles, because just to be still alive with the torment I have felt, and to know there is a cure, is one miracle already."

There are miracles around... against pretty bad odds, Vicky won a major battle. The news articles have enlightened tens of thousands of people, the forces of darkness and ignorance have lost ground. I drive past the police station on Murray Street and a cop eyes my convertible, perhaps my long black hair. I smile, and drive on.

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Salmacis Society, Box 2441, Menlo Park, Ca. 94205  
Transsexual Action Organization, Box 391708, Miami Beach, Fla. 33139  
Transvestite Independent Chapters, Box 45, Lansing, Ill. 60438; 1104 Broadway, Albany, N.Y. 12204; Box 2036, Canoga Park, Ca. 91306  
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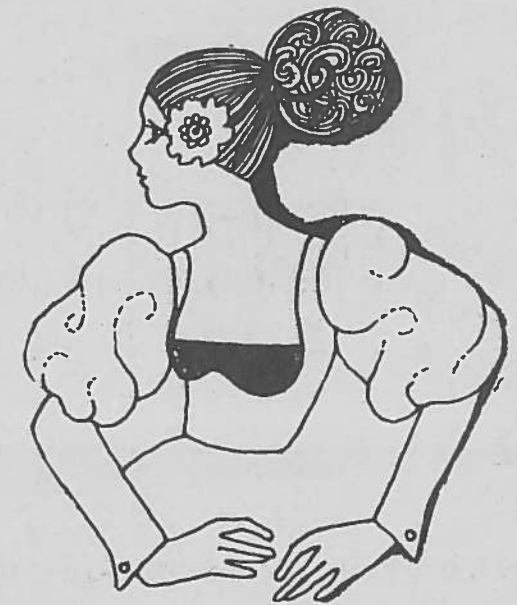
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# mirage

'not very credible'

- Berkeley Barb

- 'a blend of gushy paeans to femininity and harsh attacks on anyone adverse to transsexuals' - Miami News



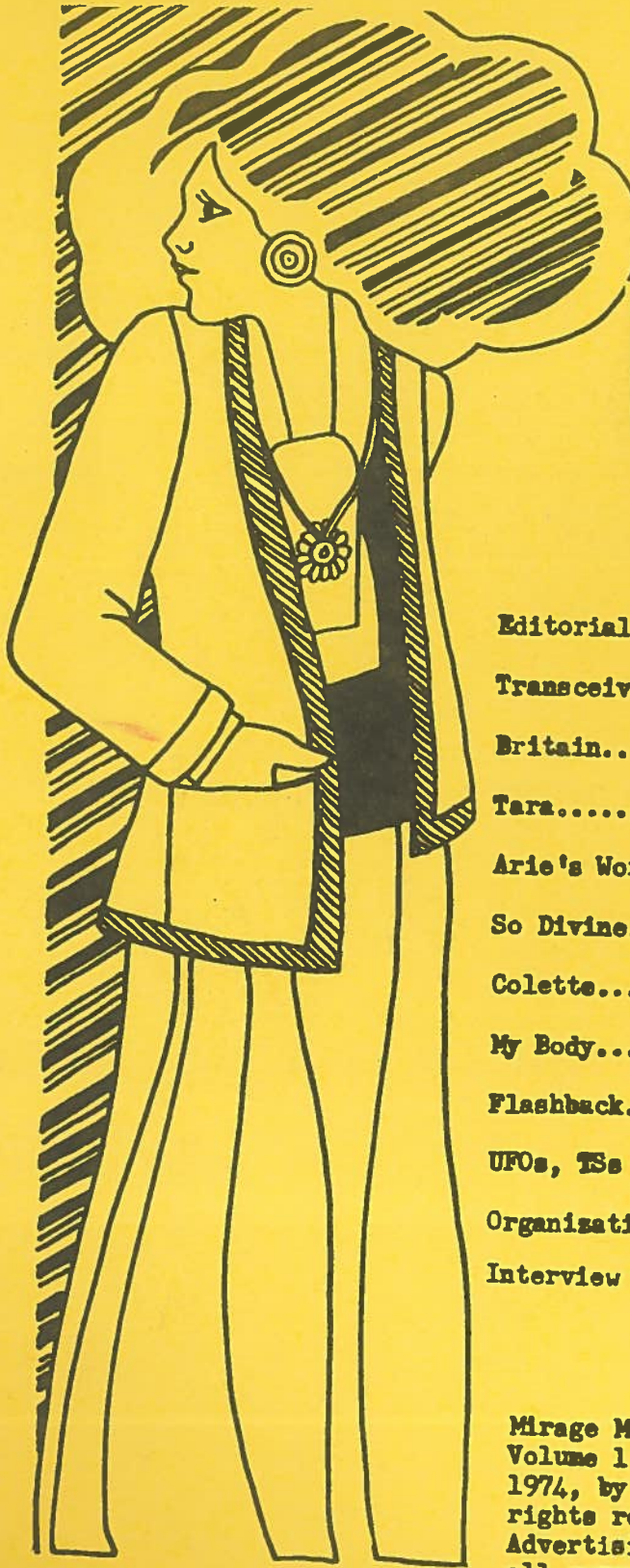


# mirage



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# inside

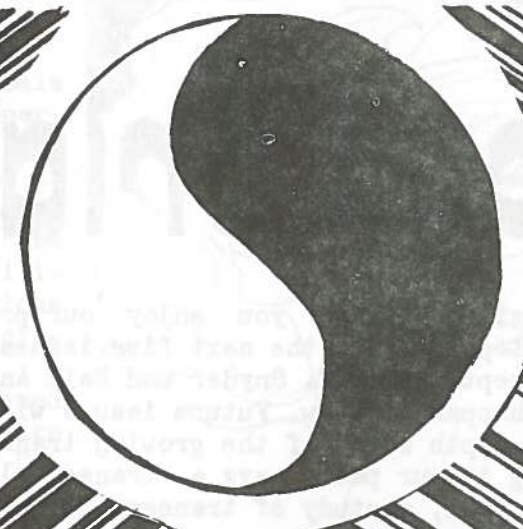
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Some of the information in the  
Transceiver section was compiled  
from the following publications:  
Montreal Gazette, Novosti, Gay  
Liberator of Detroit, The Advocate  
of Los Angeles, Broadsheet of Leeds,  
Drag Magazine, Associated Press



# editorial

Welcome to Mirage Magazine. We hope you enjoy our premiere issue and stay with us as we expand and develop during the next five issues. Mirage is created by transexuals (with the exceptions of F. Snyder and Neil Angus, two of the nicest NATS-Not A Transexual-I happen to know. Future issues will feature the female-to-male transexual, more in-depth study of the growing transexual liberation movement (we will smash everything in our path, says a transexual activist in Manchester, England) throughout the world, a study of transexuals in prison, hormones, surgery, interviews with sex change surgeons, transexuals and other people, and features on entertainment and travel.

Each issue will also include something on ESP, UFOs, and the occult.

Transexuals now have a new forum where they can display their talents as writer, photographer, and artist. We'll appreciate your comments and suggestions, and your support.

In this issue, TRANSCIEVER covers some of the news and information many of us need to know; it was compiled by over a dozen transexuals. BRITAIN is an exclusive report on the fast-growing British transexual movement by Julia Tenner; apparently England isn't as liberal as we hoped it might be. TARA is a pictorial of the very beautiful Tara Carn, a true Mirage in every sense of the word. ARIE'S WORLD is a short piece by a "female" female impersonator who almost won a drag contest. SO DIVINE is a savory statement by Stephanie Jones to ex-police commissioner Nichols of Detroit. COLETTE is a pictorial of Colette Goudie by Neil Angus.

MY BODY is a question-and-answer column by Dr. John Brown...everything you wanted to know about transexualism but didn't know who to ask. We certainly welcome Dr. Brown's expertise. FLASHBACK is poetry by the unique Jacqueline of New York, who is a transvestite; many of Jacqueline's poems are available in book form, also.

UFOs, TSs and Extra-Ts is a bit about the similarities of prejudice against both transexuals and extra-terrestrial beings-it would appear that someone up there may like us. ORGANIZATIONS is a list of many TSTV organizations throughout the world; sorry we don't have all the addresses.

INTERVIEW WITH BARBARA is just that; an interview with Barbara Reselle, who underwent sex change in 1969. And that's our first Mirage.

Special thanks to our dynamite artist Suzum David...her artistic efforts were recently shown both in Wisconsin and New York; our many correspondents and reporters around the world; and everyone else who helped Mirage become a reality.

ANGELA KEYES DOUGLAS

# TRANSCIEVER

INTERNATIONAL

England: British transexuals plan to hold a national conference at Leeds beginning March 15.

Brazil: Rogeria, a popular female mimic, has been banned from performing by government censors.

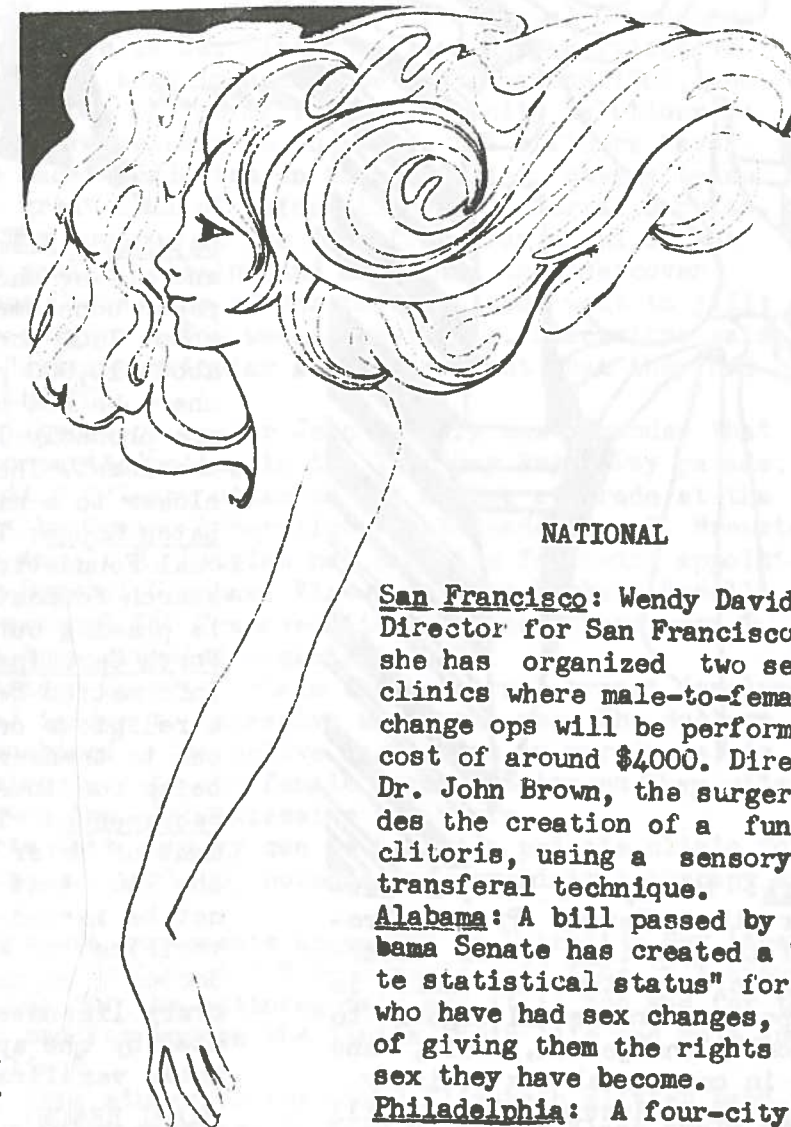
Stockholm: Malcolm Tottie, head of a Swedish health committee, stated to TAO that sex changes can not be obtained in Sweden except by citizens, and the Swedish definitions on sex are applicable only to citizens, also.

Moscow: Sex changes are performed at ordinary town hospitals and are free in the USSR, according to Dr. Boris Yakubson, a Russian surgeon. However, the operations are given only to true hermaphrodites...all others are considered as mentally ill.

Paris: Headed by Marie Andre, the Transvestite Trade Union claims to have 30,000 members and meets once a year on Mardi Gras. Drag is illegal in France, and the TTU says there were over 2000 drag arrests last year in Paris. Although sex change ops are also illegal, post-ops can legally marry. TTU has a 24-hour telephone helpline, also.

Montreal: Raymond Saumur, 24, was acquitted of a manslaughter charge in February by Justice Marcel Nicols. Saumur killed a transvestite named Laureat Garceau, 35, who was also known as Lolo d'Amour. Saumur claimed he killed Garceau when he discovered Garceau was a transvestite during an embrace in a parked car. A police ambulance attendant denied he later dropped Garceau on the pavement. Garceau died from a fractured skull. The incident happened on July 20, 1973.

Ontario: Post-op transexuals here must now state they are transexual on applications to renew driver's licenses. Protests from the TAO obtained a response from Mr. Henry Lawless, Correspondence Secretary to Prime Minister Trudeau, who was unaware of the requirement.

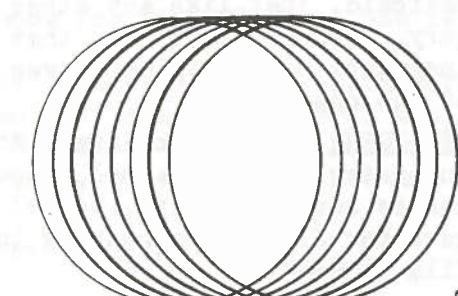
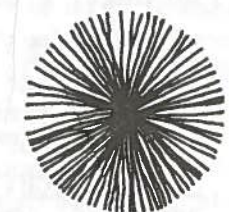


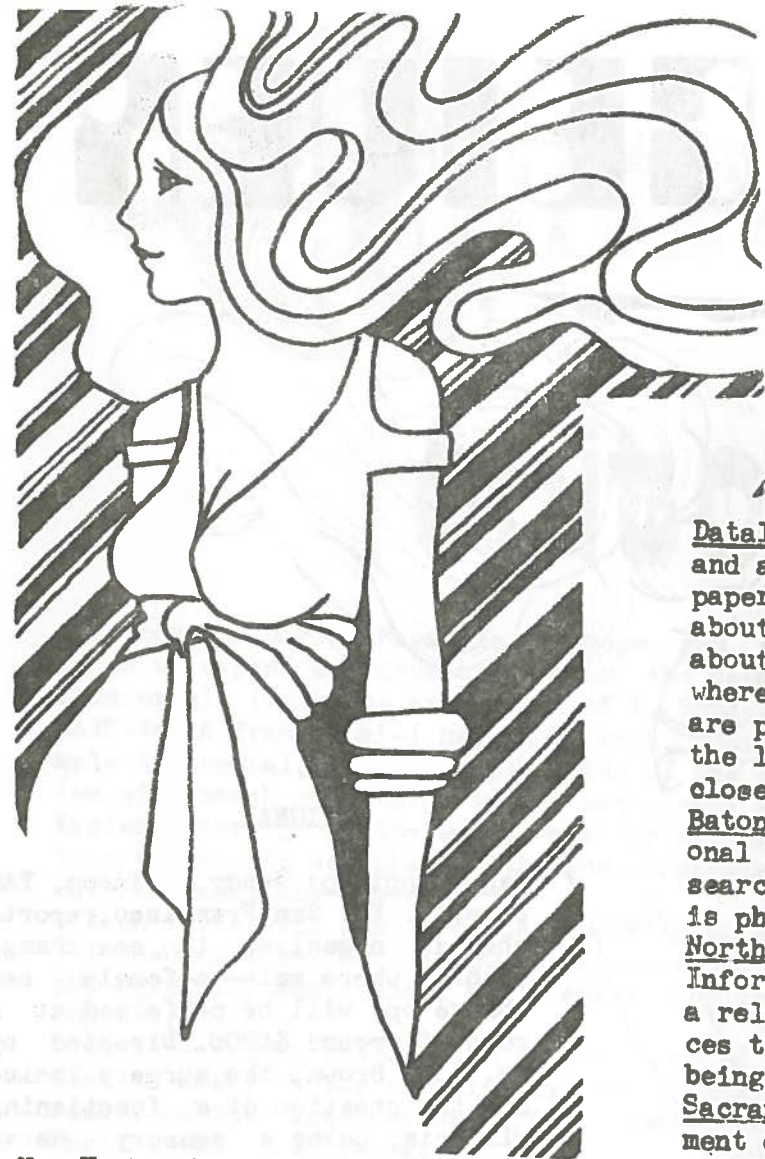
NATIONAL

San Francisco: Wendy Davidson, TAO Director for San Francisco, reports she has organized two sex change clinics where male-to-female sex change ops will be performed at a cost of around \$4000. Directed by Dr. John Brown, the surgery includes the creation of a functioning clitoris, using a sensory nerve transferal technique.

Alabama: A bill passed by the Alabama Senate has created a "separate statistical status" for persons who have had sex changes, instead of giving them the rights of the sex they have become.

Philadelphia: A four-city series of drag contests as promoted by Henri David has been cancelled due to pressure from church groups, or so says David, who had offered a sex change op as first prize. Transexual leaders said the reason was that the first contest was a flop, and David's backers withdrew.





Send news, clippings, rumors and other items of interest to transsexuals and transvestites to:  
TRANSCIEVER  
c/o Mirage Magazine

# MIRAGE

**Dateland:** Allen Pierleoni, question and answer man in many Sunday newspaper supplements, says there are about 1500 post-ops in the USA and about 10,000 pre-ops. We don't know where he got his figures, but there are probably 10,000 in New York, at the least. The number is probably closer to a million pre-ops.

**Baton Rouge:** The Erickson Educational Foundation, a multi-purpose research foundation of Reid Erickson, is phasing out of the TSTV field.

**North Carolina:** Jim Howell's TVIS Information Service has now become a religious corporation, and services to transsexuals and TVs are not being continued at the same level.

**Sacramento:** The California Department of Motor Vehicles has informed the TAO that driver's licenses can not be issued to sex changes until verification has been given, with a doctor's signature. However, temporary licenses with the sex designated by the applicant will be given until verification can be given.

**MIAMI BEACH:** The TAO Justice Committee has convicted rock singer Jeff Lynne of the Electric Light Orchestra of fostering the genocide of transsexuals and transvestites. Lynne said transvestites are "sick", and asked: "what can they do next, grow breasts?"

**MIAMI BEACH:** The TAO has called on the American Psychiatric Association to remove transsexualism from its lists of mental disorders.

**MIAMI BEACH:** Jennifer Fox, a post-operative who has become a success as a stripper billed as "America's Foremost Sex Change", is seeking a divorce from her husband and says she is the first transsexual to do so.

**New York:** Marilyn G. Haft, a lawyer for the Sexual Privacy Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, says that the ACLU is in support of transsexual rights to biologically change sex, dress, and engage in consensual sex activity.

**New York:** Introduction 475, a bill which would have ended discrimination against gays in New York City, was defeated for the fourth time. It included an anti-transvestite amendment.

**NEW YORK:** Dr. Robert Granato, a sex change surgeon, told a news conference at a congress of the American College of Surgeons that such surgery should be fully covered by Medicaid, just like any other surgery. Granato also said that some insurance companies now cover most of the costs.

**NEW YORK:** Holly Woodlawn, the TV superstar of Andy Warhol, reported she is now on welfare. Warhol only gave her \$150 for appearing in the film "Trash".

**Trenton, New Jersey:** Paula Grossman, 50, who underwent male-to-female sex change several years ago, lost an appeal to the state Superior Court concerning loss of her job as a teacher. The court ruled that the state Board of Education was right in firing her as her presence in the classroom might cause potential psychological harm to students. How about the psychological harm the verdict causes for transsexuals?

**San Francisco:** Located at 121 Leavenworth Street, the Transsexual Counseling Service under the direction of Leslie St. Clair provides many services to Bay Area transsexuals. The TCS has been in existence since around 1967, and works with Sgt. Elliott Blackstone of the SF Police Community Relations to create a better situation for transsexuals in the area. TCS officers have spoken many times to police cadet academies on transsexualism, have a telephone helpline and provide a great deal of information and referral service. A couple of years ago, two TSs working at the TCS office ran afoul of the law—they were arrested for selling cocaine and marijuana to undercover agents at the TCS office. Sue Cooke, one of the TSs involved, went to jail; she had just had sex change surgery a few weeks previously. Blackstone said he didn't approve of their "extra-curricular activities," but that they had been very good workers for the TCS.

**New York:** Lesbian Feminist Liberation leader Jean O'Leary has demanded that transvestites be barred from participating in the 1974 Gay Pride Day parade, or "all women will boycott it." O'Leary attacked TVs during a tirade at the 1973 rally, and was read out by Queens Liberation Front leader Lee G. Brewster.

**Miami Beach:** TAO President Angela K. Douglas has made the following appointments: Miami Beach Director—Crystal Gresham. Vice-President—Barbara Rosello. Douglas also disbanded the several TAO Transvestite Units as "there wasn't enough response by TVs to a transsexualist organization."

**Boston:** Two doctors at Cambridge Hospital claim that abnormal breast development in males (gynecomastia) is due to excessive marijuana use. The doctors say that THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol), the active ingredient in marijuana, is quite similar in chemical structure to the female hormone Estrogen. They cite five cases of gynecomastia who are also excessive pot users.

**Cleveland:** A TV here reports that surgery can be had at a private clinic for the amount of \$700, including lab work-up, hormone and psychiatric therapy as well as the actual surgery.

**New York:** In response to anti-TS statements appearing in Detroit's Gay Liberator newspaper, Queens Liberation Front Director Bebe Scarpie said "The only answer I have is tough. It is too bad for the antidrag male and it is too bad for the anti-drag female. It is too bad for anyone who limits their life and role and personality by their genitalia."

**Fantasyland:** Wayne County, drag singer for the Queen Elizabeth glitter band, has been described by Melody Maker magazine in England as the "last truly underground phenomenon." Eat your heart out, Jeff Lynne.

**Los Angeles:** Rose-Ann Prowett's TVIS group here has made a film on TSTV, and provides many services to Angeleno area transsexuals and TVs, including helping many of them get on parole out of jail to the Center. It operates within the Federally-funded Gay Community Services Center.

**Miami Beach:** Miami Beach Director of TAO Crystal Lain became Ms. Crystal Gresham on November 20 when she married Gary Gresham, of Texas, in a most elegantly-staged ceremony at the Casablanca Hotel. The ceremony was performed for the pre-op and her husband by Rev. Keith Davis of the local Metropolitan Community Church. Crystal is opening a beauty salon and will be holding a fashion show for the MCC soon. She is a native of the nation of Colombia.

**Miami Beach:** Henrietta Robinson, a long-time Beach TV (I was here when there were only two of us, she says) reported that she was mugged near a bar by several men, but Beach cops came to her rescue and arrested them. Henrietta showed up in court attired as a woman, and although the judge was surprised, convicted the men and gave them ten to twenty year sentences.

**London:** TAO London is forming under the direction of Angela Elena Nicol, who says she is shocked to learn of some of the problems transexuals are having in America.

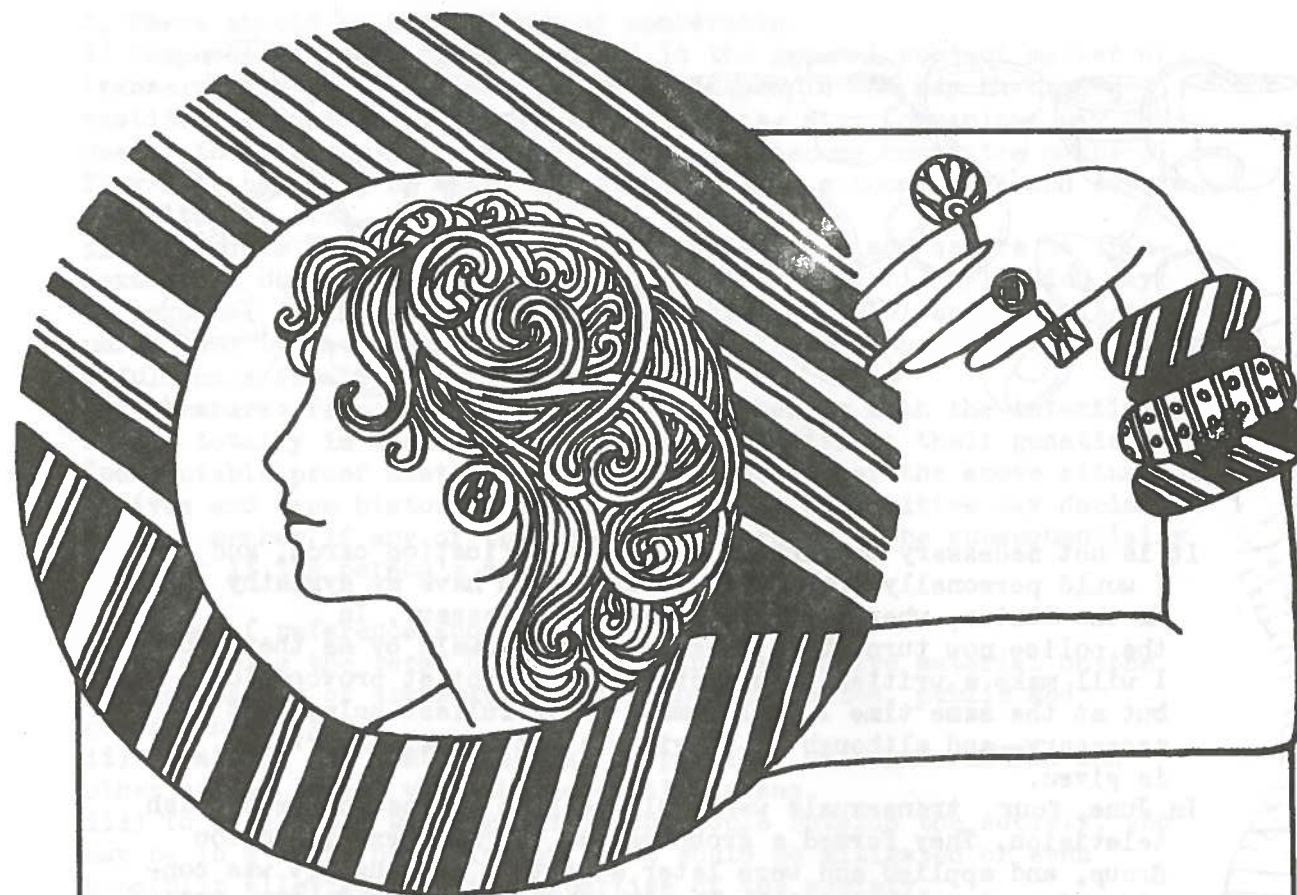
**Manchester:** Two transexuals here have criticized the TAO for not doing too much for the female-to-male transexual. TAO says it has several female-to-male members, but they are not very active. "We're basically an organization for all transexuals, but it has developed towards the male-to-female," said a TAO officer. Leyla, one of the Manchester TSs, says "our importance to the gay lib movement is as a social, not a biological phenomenon. The way surgery of the womb has effected our bodies is politically irrelevant and a reactionary diversion." Apparently some British gays have made the ludicrous claim that surgery of the womb causes transexualism! Leyla goes on to say "Academic discussion about the biology of the 'intersexes' is a cover-up for the way society and the gay liberation movement have refused to acknowledge the fact that TSs exist as the greatest possible threat to the hetist system of sex-roles. The gay liberation movement ignores TSs at its own peril; we exist as a threat to those gays who wish to hold on to their socialized sex roles. We are in direct confrontation with masculine males and feminine females. We are not asking for acceptance, we are demanding the total elimination of sex roles. For a born male to behave as a social female is to present a total challenge to socially instilled patterns of behaviour. We are no longer prepared to tolerate such a situation by the gay movement," where we are treated as sub-human creatures religiously playing out the roles of social males and females."

"Just as Queen Victoria had "heard of male homosexuals" but denied the existence of Lesbians, the female-born transexual is hardly recognized by society. The hostility of some gay women towards female-born transexuals reveals the contradictions of social female behaviour. Attempts are increasingly being made by gay women in light of theories of women's oppression to disassociate themselves from female transexuals and transvestites - 'I'm not a dyke!' 'Butches are just male chauvinists', etc. This represents the logical extension of the conflicts of some females in the women's movement towards Lesbians (whose transexuality lies dormant). This was clearly seen at the last national women's conference where het women reacted to Lesbian behaviour."

"We ask neither for sympathy nor equality. We want self-determination. We seek existence, not co-existence. We will destroy everything that stands in our path."

**Leeds:** Martine O'Leary, a radical drag queen, wears second-hand dresses and no make-up in order to "shake people out of their preconceptions of what a man is, a woman is, or, more important, what he is."

**IN MEMORIAM  
LOLO D'AMOUR  
KILLED RAYMOND  
BY SAUMUR**

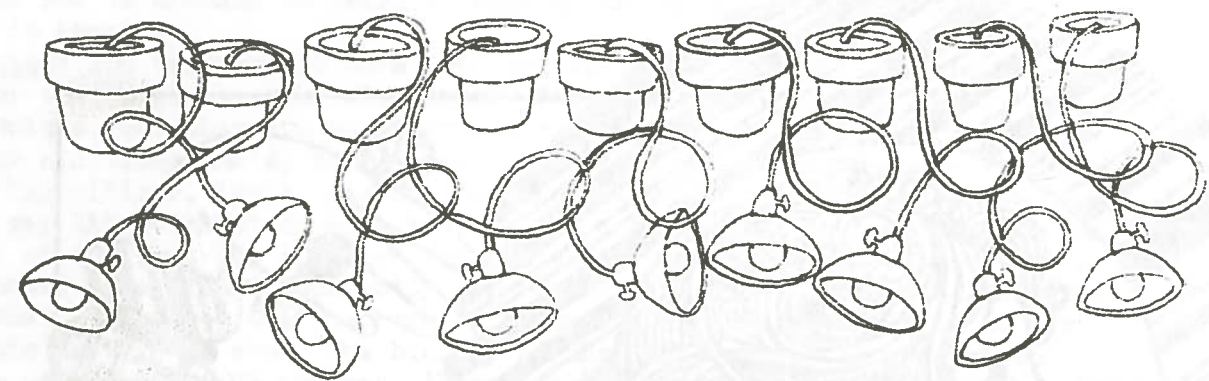


# BRITAIN

JULIA TONNER

For the most part, transexuals in Great Britain are apathetic because we have been conditioned by many doctors here who will not put us in touch with each other. I imagine it's as they don't want to confuse the different treatments prescribed for us by various doctors. There is a Gender Identity Clinic in London at Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Road, Fulham, run by a Dr. J. B. Randell. Sex change operations are free under the National Health Service, but the waiting list is very long. At present, it offers to be about one operation per month. Hospital costs can also be paid on a more private basis, and this does cut the waiting time greatly, and is about 450 pounds or \$1000.00. It's impossible to find hard and fast information on legislation and it depends mainly upon the police in the individual region, as well as the susceptibility of the transexuals involved. It's very difficult to get one's birth certificate changed. Many transexuals are also very put off by harsh police persecution, but if you're living as a woman on a full-time basis and have no male clothing, there is not much they can do. (Continued next page.)

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THE  
SOCIETY  
OF  
TRANSEXUALS

It is not necessary to carry special identification cards, and I would personally abhor such a thing. You have my sympathy in the States, where I believe that is necessary. In the police now turn their backs whenever I walk by as they know I will make a written complaint at the slightest provocation, but at the same time I will demand their fullest help if it is necessary—and although it is given a little half-heartedly, it is given.

In June, four transsexuals were able to gain access to the British television. They formed a group called the Transsex Liberation Group, and applied and were later accepted, although it was considered most controversial. The transsexuals included Jan, Della Aleksander, a post-operative who had previously served as an army officer in South Africa, Laura, who was formerly an actor who did gangster roles, and Rachel. Rachel said she had been married to a woman, then dressed as a male for awhile to gain custody of a child and an adopted one—and another child her wife had had by a man. Rachel asked for a change in the law to permit transsexuals to change their birth certificates. Laura says she married a man without the registrar knowing she had been born male, and she wants the laws changed so that post-operatives can marry just like any other people. Della asked for a more understanding attitude on the part of the National Health Service and for legal rights to marry as women. Jan called for more services from National Health, including electrolysis. "The time is ripe for the changes in the law that we hope will follow when the public has had a chance to judge us without prejudice. People have recently accepted drag and Lesbians. It's time they accepted people who change sex, too: we are not freaks or zombies, we are human beings with feelings."

Some time ago a group of transsexuals here in Great Britain drew up an outline for organizational structures for a transsexual group, and it might be of value to other transsexuals who may want to form a group:

SOCIETY OF TRANSEXUALS

Notes on aims, etc., with preliminary ideas for an outline of:-

1. Types and terms of membership.
2. Terms of reference and facilities offered.
3. Articles of association...derived from 1 & 2.
4. Book of rules....derived from 1 & 2.

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1. There should be three forms of membership.
  - i) Companions: Persons interested in the general subject matter of transsexuality and may include a range of people who may be transvestites or doctors, lawyers, psychologists, etc. Companions may make use of the society's services, but may not become committee members. They may, however, be asked to attend working subcommittees and act as consultants, etc.
  - ii) Associate Members:-Persons who "cross-dress" and aspire to transsexuality, but who cannot, for reasons of responsibility, which may be personal (that can remain confidential to themselves and will be unrecorded by the society) undergo therapy, that advances them towards a full male/female role in life.
  - iii) Members:-Persons who are undergoing therapy with the intention of living totally in the manner of the sex opposite to their genetic sex. Indisputable proof must be given to the society of the above situation, motives and case histories must be provided. A committee may decide to expel a member if any of the information proves to be subsequently false or if the person's situation changes.

2. Terms of reference and aims.

- i) To provide the terms of reference and definitive material on the subject matter of transsexualism to other societies, public and government bodies.
  - ii) To assist its members as far as possible with information and other action if and when the necessity arises.
  - iii) To offer help where possible to people outside the society, who may be in a state of confusion, that could be mitigated or even hopefully alleviated by the expertise of the society.
  - iv) To arrange social functions.
  - v) To circulate printed matter of interest to members and explore the possibility of a regular magazine (also for public sale).
  - vi) To generally inform the public, on matters of transsexualism, by negotiations with the country's news media.
  - vii) To affiliate where possible with similar organizations in other countries and exchange material of mutual interest.
  - viii) To keep and maintain archives of relevant interest material.
  - ix) To emphasize that no responsibility be accepted for the personal sexual activity of members, except where this could become blatant and be dangerous and affect the good name of the society.
  - x) To acquire funds by any means for the benefit of the society's associates and its members.
  - xi) To reserve the right to "call to order" any member whose conduct, dress, or general behavior prejudices the good name of the society. Under such circumstances the committee may decide to expel a member.
  - xii) To advise a member where possible on the possibilities of employment and or alternative means of obtaining a livelihood.

(Continued next page.)

mirage





Carol, another transexual, sent me this letter which she had sent to the Guardian newspaper in response to an article on transexualism by Yvonne Thomas, and I feel it will be of value in that it discusses some more aspects of transexualism in Great Britain. It wasn't printed.

"Yvonne Thomas' article on transexuals is welcome, yet it presents a rather one-sided picture of the situation. In fact, the shroudedness of the subject is rather greater in this country than in the United States or Scandinavia, in spite of the fact that there is a National Health Service clinic here, largely because the attitudes of the medical and psychiatric professions have been so negative. The only two books of any value (Green and Money, Benjamin) have been American, and the only significant research has gone on over there, at John Hopkins University.

It is hardly surprising that the Charing X gender clinic is a "magnet for transexuals", since there is no other place in this country where there is any possibility of getting a National Health Service operation. If it did not have a monopoly, it is very difficult to imagine that it would be quite so magnetic, for the National Health Service surgery is not the most advanced (using an out-of-date two-stage operation, and skin grafts from the buttocks), the delays in some cases being as long as 7 to 8 years, and the atmosphere at the clinic very unpleasant to many of us (I like Julia's guarded comment "knowledgeable but not sympathetic"). It is extremely lucky in the circumstances that it is possible to bypass the procedure by having the operation performed privately in Casablanca or Cairo, etc., but of course, these are available to people with quite large sums of money (up to \$4000.00). Perhaps most irritating is that patronizing attitude which refers to transexuals already living as women

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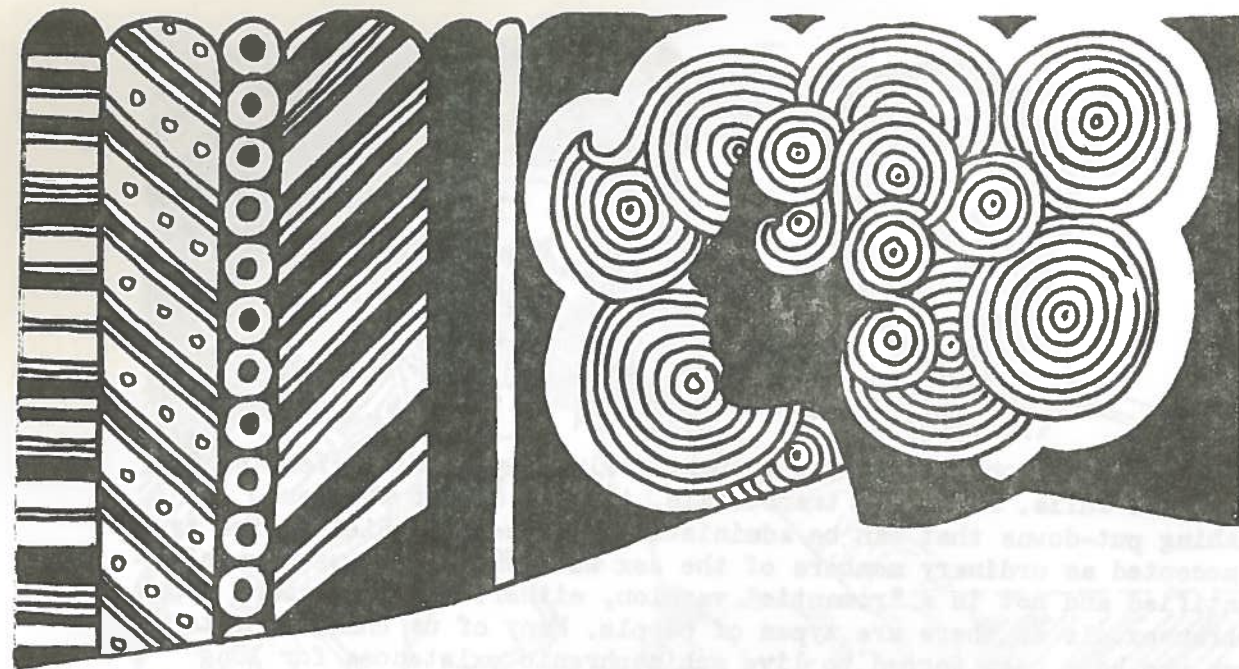
The Transexual Action Organization has ordered a boycott of Jeff Lynne and Electric Light Orchestra. Don't buy ELO records and call radio stations to complain if you hear any of their songs played on the air. Do not attend any ELO concerts and get your friends to boycott them also.



as "he", which Yvonne Thomas so thoughtlessly adopts when referring to Martha and Julia. For most transexuals, this is one of the most crushing put-downs that can be administered, since our chief desire is to be accepted as ordinary members of the sex with which we have always identified and not in a "romantic" version, either. There are many types of transexuals as there are types of people. Many of us changing into women who have been forced to live schizophrenic existences for long periods of time have exaggerated some stereotype feminine characteristics and appearances, but this is gradually dispelled as we adjust to the change. And what is it a change of? Certainly we cannot change our genetic characteristics, nor some aspects of our physical structure, but why should a born-male transexual, fully operated and living and accepted as a woman be regarded as less female than a born woman transexual, fully operated also and living as a man? Or for that matter, than any other woman? In such circumstances to constantly emphasize that one is still really male is biological mysticism with a vengeance. No doubt the Registrar General will one day make the necessary addition "changed sex to female (or male)" and the date, as is done in some other countries, but Dr. Randall's unnecessary emphasis on the "biology" of the situation is delaying that date. As to stopping transexuals marrying or denying the validity of their marriages because of their "biology", this amounts to no more than primitive sadism decked out in medical and legal pedantry.

Yvonne Thomas also totally underplays the degree of hostility found in the medical and psychiatric professions and in the courts. The transexual is never considered merely as an ordinary person who requires considerable sympathy and assistance as well as medical aid in adjusting to a complex new mode of behaviour, but always as a "case" who can only be treated because there is no known "cure" for the condition. The citation for divorce in my own case (in Scotland) characterises me as an "evil and perverted moral influence" on my children and calls for a total ban on access to them, a ban supported by two well-known Scottish psychiatrists and a psychologist, two of whom did not even bother to see me before pronouncing on my state. The third five times refers to me as "he" in a report, although knowing that I was post-operative and living as a woman. Editor's note: Recently, the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its lexicon of diseases. It is likely that transexualism will (and should be) similarly removed. The total change in stance of psychiatry regarding its decades of negative views towards homosexuality indicates that the entire field of psychiatry--and most psychiatrists--need, shall we say, radical surgery. One can readily see how purely moral considerations, based upon certain values of some majorities, are being assimilated by some psychiatrists concerning their statements and views on transexualism. Carol's situation is a good example./ Almost all other transexuals can tell of similar experiences with the self-appointed

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custodians of "gender rectitude" who like to refer to themselves as social scientists. One does not wish to paint a totally black picture--I myself have received nothing but solidarity in my change of sex from my students and support from my colleagues and my university administration, but for people not so fortunately placed, life can be a nightmare of rejection--a fact which now emerges from the picture as presented by Yvonne Thomas except if one reads between the lines of the interview with Julia. There are not many transexuals. Since most of us only wish to "disappear" into the world of women (or men), it is more difficult for us to form a pressure group. Many of us have joined the Gay Liberation movement. But we have a clear enough set of demands, which will be considered commonplace in some future "appropriately adjusted" Britain--that any individual aware of the difficulties involved should be able to change sex as of right; that all medical treatments, of the highest standard, should be available on the National Health Service; that all administrative, legal and medical discrimination against transexuals should be illegal. Only in such an atmosphere would we be likely to find surgeons ready to undertake the research necessary to perfect the operations. Perhaps the most salient immediate demands would be the removal of the Charing X gender identity clinic from a monopoly of National Health Service surgery; beard removal under the National Health Service (it is not available at present), and the right to an altered birth certificate. Particularly those of us changing to women need the support of born women, who, in spite of their own oppression, receive certain priveleges for being the "right kind of women". Much of the research so necessary about transexualism should not be about transexuals, but about the conditions in which we receive such a negative response from the medical and legal professions, how these relate to gender roles in our society, and how these roles themselves are linked to conservative ideologies. For the oppression that we face is intimately linked to that experienced by gay people, and by women as a sex."



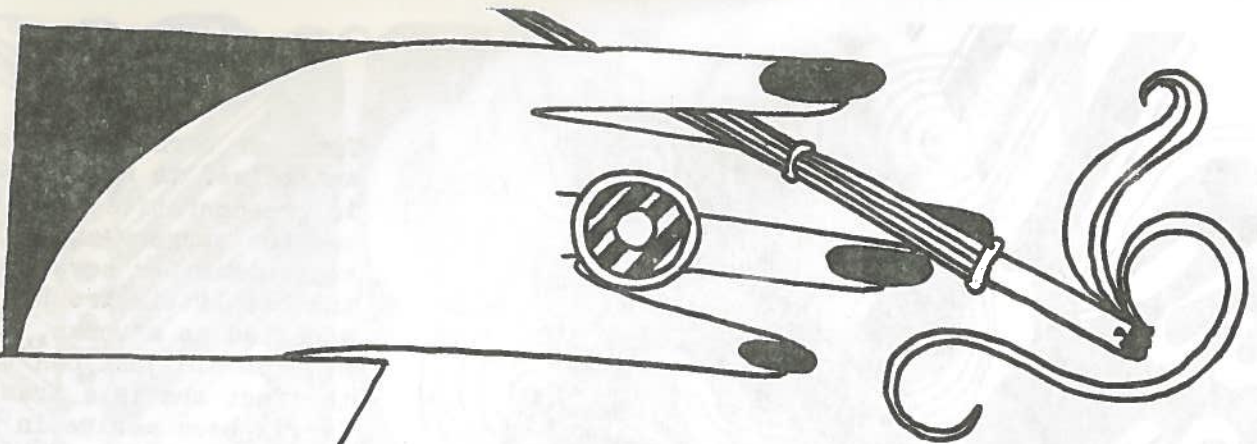
Tara was born in Puerto Rico and raised in New York. Tara is pre-operative, and is all set for surgery--she's lived as a woman for several years and has little trouble being accepted as a woman, although some people just can't accept the fact she is a transexual. Tara's been active in the TAO since mid-1973, and has held several offices. She lives in Miami. "Miami gets very dull at times, but I always return here," she says. When Mirage asked her to appear in our pages, her boyfriend at the time was terrified; he didn't want anyone to know he was going with a transexual. But Tara felt differently: "I'm proud of what I am," she says, "and I want to help anyway I can."

PHOTOS BY ANGELA K. DOUGLAS

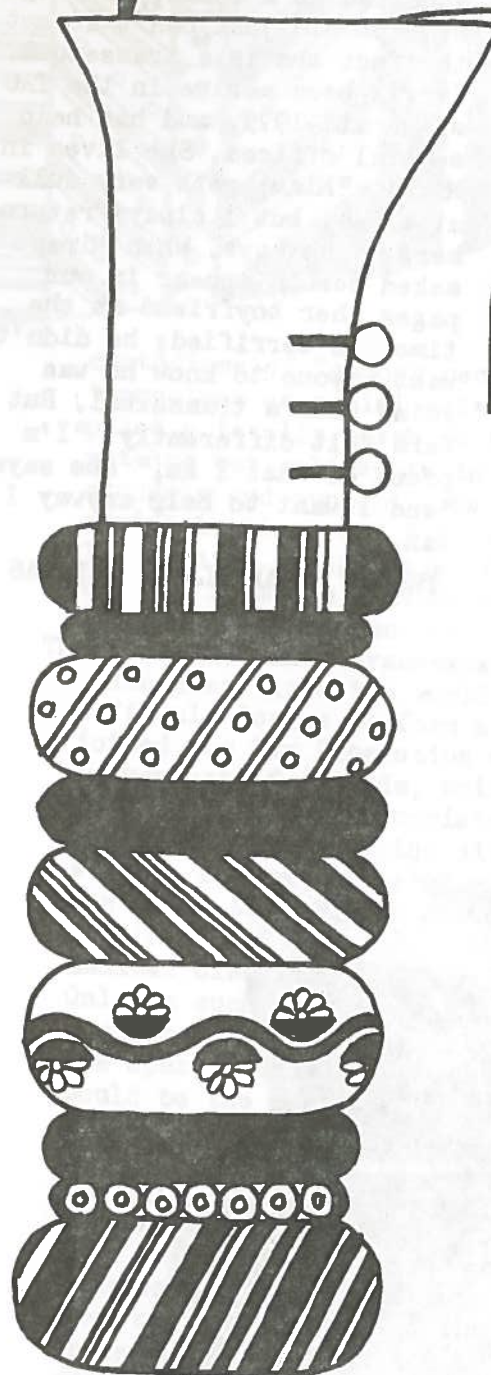
TARA  
GARA





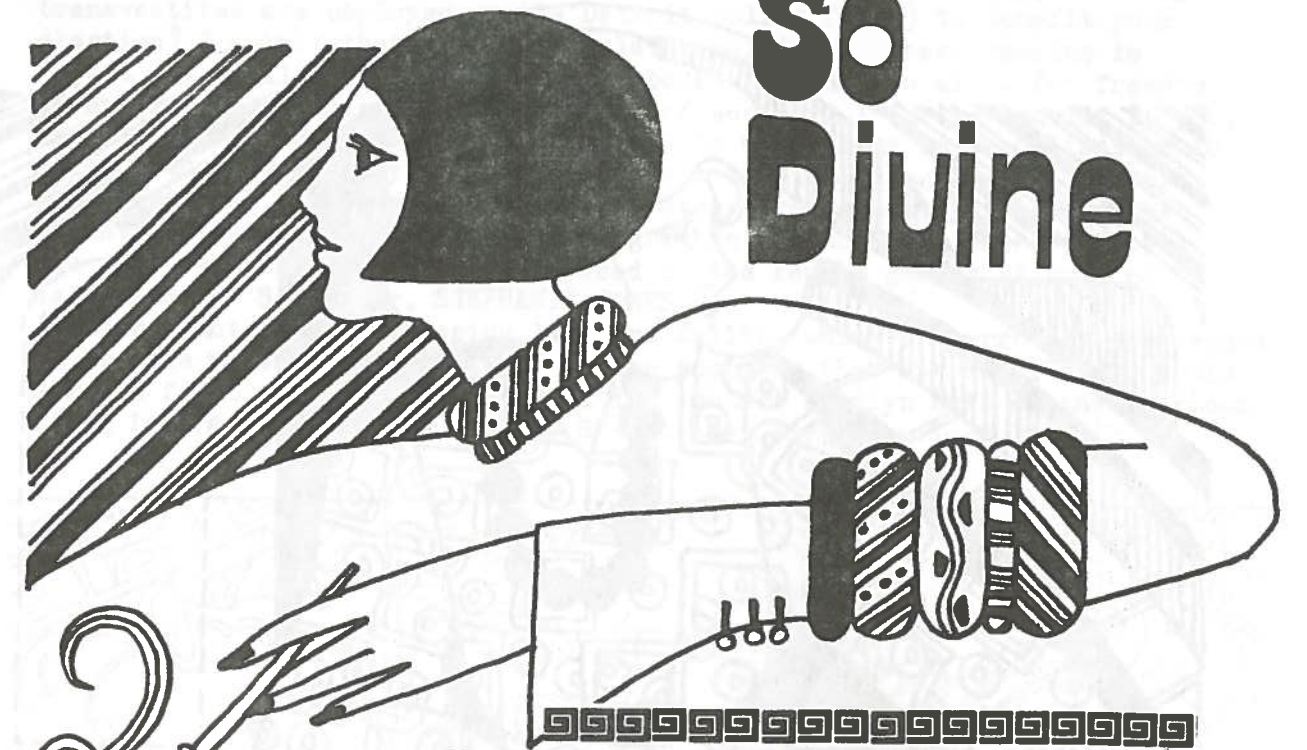


# ARIE'S WORLD



The happiness I receive when I discover that certain, unique outfit, or better yet, a completely unexpected outfit at unbelievably low prices...that is most nice. For example, the fur chubby I wanted for winter: with padded shoulders, tent-fitted, long sleeves that unsnap for a cape look or snap back up for a full coat effect. The nicest part about it is that I found it for only \$ 5.00, and it has been pawned off by me as being an original fur. Speaking of such bargains: on Halloween night a local gay bar was having a special celebration, which I wanted to attend, so I went in search of a dress...and found it; exactly what I had imagined. It's a slightly pleated effect with a diamond of bugle beads, center front with rounding, lengthier bottom in back. I wore it to the bar, and was somehow entered into the drag beauty contest...and ended up in the semi-finals. Before the last judging, the master of ceremonies turned to me and said "the judges would like to know if you're a boy or a girl," and I had to tell him I was, indeed, a woman. I was, of course, disqualified. But none the less, I got to show off my \$ 4.00 gown which I had found at a thrift shoppe one block from my home.

Arie is often mistaken for being a transexual or transvestite, partly because she is tall. We consider dear Arie to be a "female" female impersonator, or a mobius strip transvestite. Here's a slice from Arie's life.



# So Divine

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During his recent campaign for mayor, ex-police commissioner John Nichols of Detroit held a lawn party at a private home to raise funds. At least eight of his officers attended the party wearing feminine attire--wigs, nylons, high-heels, dresses. This prompted outcries from Detroit gay activists, as Nichols is not a lover of gays. The gays held a press conference, called themselves "Fags for Nichols," and gave tongue-in-cheek support to Nichols' candidacy. Stephanie Jones, a pre-operative transexual who served until recently as Public Relations Director for a transvestite organization, was also outraged, and says she sent the ex-police commissioner a letter. According to published reports, some of the officers enjoyed themselves. One said he felt sorry for women as they had to wear such clothes all of the time, and another said he felt panty hose was hard to put on. Sergeant Richard Godfrey said "you drop your inhibitions"-and said he felt drag was fun.

(Continued next page.)

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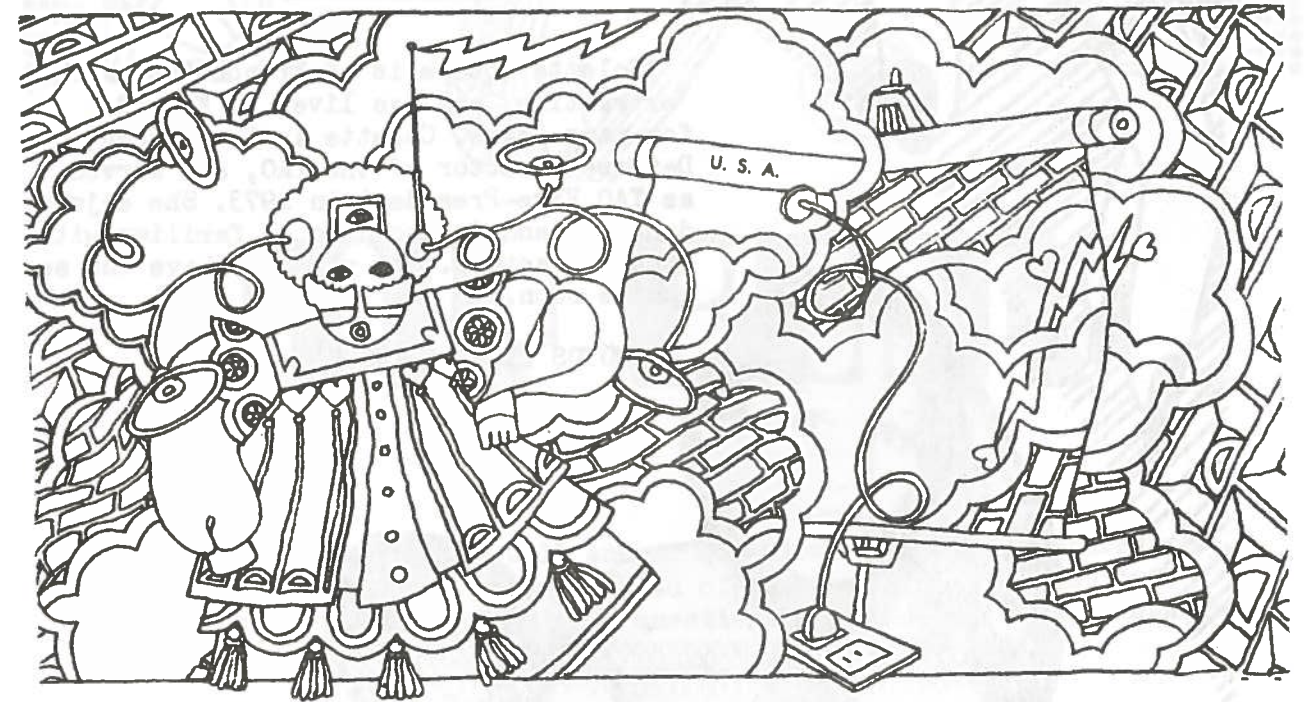
The complaints were made because drag is illegal in Detroit, and 88 persons were reportedly arrested for violating drag laws there in 1973. The letter sent by Stephanie Jones to Nichols speaks for many transsexuals and transvestites:

"Dear ex-commissioner Nichols: I have read with great interest the Detroit Free Press article concerning the eight policemen who attended your fund-raising lawn party last Sunday. It would seem, that as in the Spiro Agnew case, equal justice does not prevail in all cases. I refer you to Section 39-1-35 of the Detroit City Code which reads: 'Males in Dress of Opposite Sex': 'It shall be unlawful for any member of the male sex to appear in or upon any street, alley, highway, sidewalk, bridge, viaduct, tunnel, path, parkway, or public way or place or in or about any private premises frequented by or open to the public, in the dress of the opposite sex; provided that this dection shall not apply to any person while legally giving, conducting, producing, presenting, offering or participating in any entertainment, exhibition or performance'. (I interpret this to mean possessing a Female Impersonator's License.) I belong to a unique segment of society called transsexuals. Transsexualism, as defined by Dr. Harry Benjamin, is a disorder of gender identity—a lack of harmony between the psychological and anatomical sex. Transsexuals and transvestites are distinguished only by degrees of discomfort. Transvestites and transsexuals have a compulsion to cross-dress in the clothing of the opposite sex, frequently in public. Such urges are not normally connected to homosexuality, and cure for these urges by psychiatric means is totally unsuccessful, except, on rare occasions, by aversion therapy (electro-shock treatments). For giving in to this compulsion, transvestites and transsexuals are frequently hassled and arrested for violation of the archaic laws I have cited above. Why, then, should their arresting officers feel perfectly

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free to indulge in the same compulsive urges (I wonder, really, how many transvestites are employed on the Detroit police force) to benefit your election? I submit that the Detroit law prohibiting cross-dressing is unjust and should be removed from the books in order to allow for freedom of expression to this minority segment of society. I further submit to you, ex-commissioner Nichols, that until this is done there is an obligation to enforce the law equally to all who violate it—including police officers. I suggest that you take whatever legal steps are necessary to cause the arrest and conviction (you have photographic evidence) of those officers who presented themselves cross-dressed in the female gender at your party last Sunday. Sincerely, STEPHANIE JONES.

(Editor's note: Cross-dressing laws are falling whenever correctly challenged on grounds of Constitutionality. Mirage suggests that TSs and TVs who would like to fight such laws in their cities contact Marilyn Haft of the American Civil Liberties Union, 22 E. 40th Street, New York, New York 10016.



## THE OTHER MIRROR

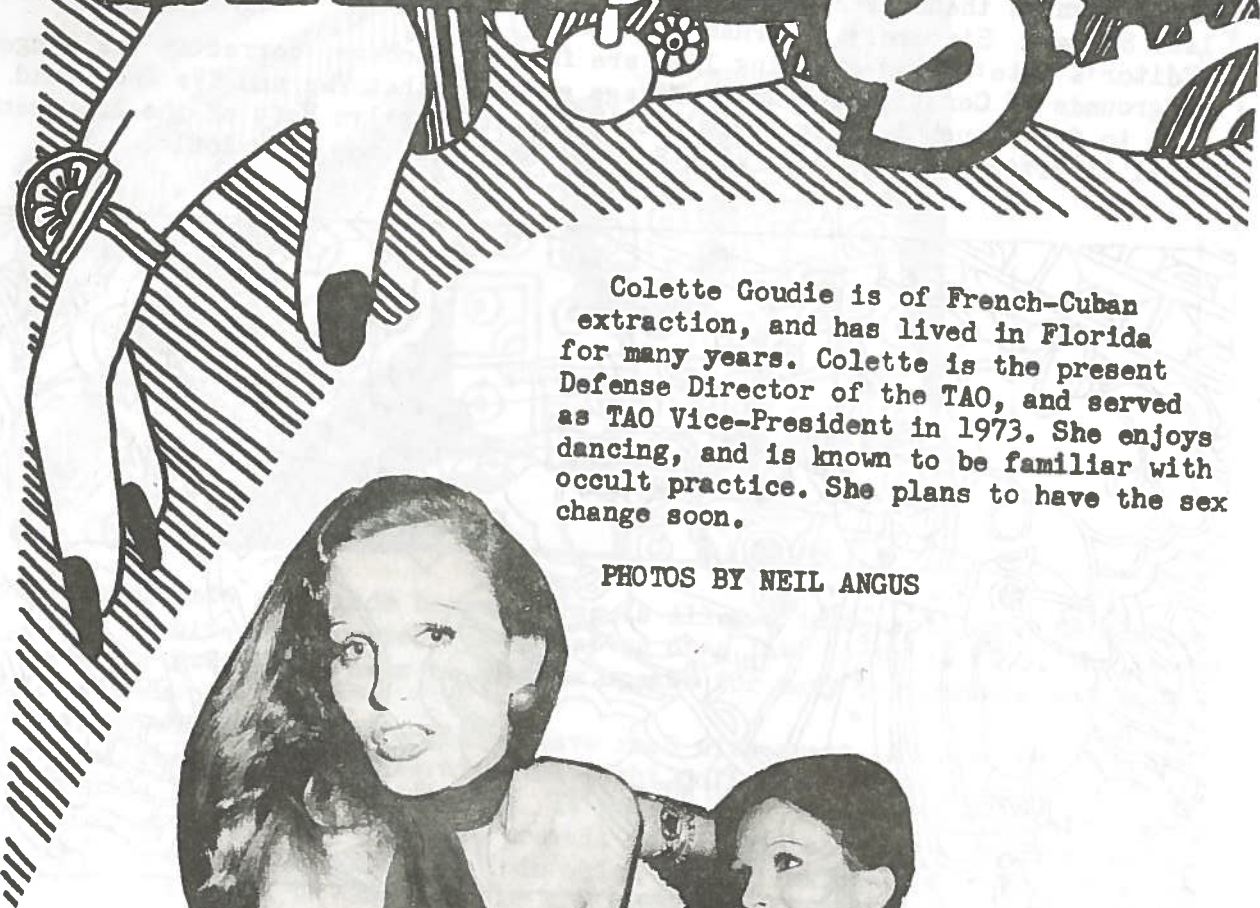
A COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL POEMS AND DRAWINGS BY

ANGELA  
KEYES  
DOUGLAS

SEND \$3.50 TO: MIRROR, Box 391708, Miami Beach,  
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The UFO SIGHTINGS NEWSLETTER is free  
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# mirage



Colette Goudie is of French-Cuban extraction, and has lived in Florida for many years. Colette is the present Defense Director of the TAO, and served as TAO Vice-President in 1973. She enjoys dancing, and is known to be familiar with occult practice. She plans to have the sex change soon.

PHOTOS BY NEIL ANGUS

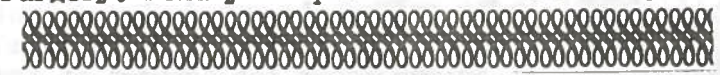


## Colette



# MY BODY

Dr. John Brown, M.D., will answer questions of general interest to Mirage readers. Dr. Brown is head of the San Francisco Institute of Plastic Surgery. Send your questions to: MY BODY, Mirage Magazine.



- Q. I have been under treatment for 2½ years by a psychologist. I live as a woman and want to have surgery, but my psychologist won't permit me to have hormones. -H.J., Boston
- A. You should be evaluated by a physician or team experienced in sexual identity problems. Most psychologists—and M.D.s—have little training or experience in the special aspects of transexualism. The sex identity center you go to will undoubtedly contact your psychologist, and work with him/her for your best interests.
- Q. I have had some friends tell me that the hormone Diethylstilbestrol can cause cancer. Is this true?—N.E., Detroit.
- A. In rats, yes—definitely, as will any estrogen, although Stilbestrol seems to be worst. As for humans, there is no definite proof—no human cases definitely caused by any estrogen.
- Q. I underwent sex change surgery from male to female in 1968. I've been very unhappy with the results as I cannot obtain orgasm nor fully have intercourse. Is there any way this can be corrected with additional surgery?—G.G., Milwaukee.
- A. Your vagina can—and probably should—be surgically enlarged. It is possible that some therapy—surgical, psychological or hormone adjustment—may help with orgasms.

(Continued next page.)

# subscribe!



Q. Are silicone breast implants dangerous? How much do they cost?—L.G., Los Angeles.

A. There's risk in any surgery. There is no unusual risk in silicone implants. Implants do not "move" and do not cause cancer. Total cost is usually \$1000 to \$1500.

Q. My psychiatrist tells me I have a mental disorder and can be cured. But I want to have a sex change. What causes transexualism?—R.E., New York.

A. No one knows the "cause" of transexualism. Transexualism itself is not treatable by therapy. No known therapy will change sexual orientation after the age of seven. Many transexuals have other emotional problems, some of which can and should be treated at the appropriate time.

Q. Is sex change surgery legal?—Y.W., Portland.

A. Yes. No legislature has passed a law legalizing it, but in all but the most backward parts of the United States, the courts would hold the surgery to be permissible.

Q. I developed breasts (I'm a man) about two years before I entered college. I've met a few transexuals since then and have been considering the possibility of having a sex change. How do I start to do it?—E.D., Cleveland.

A. I doubt that you are transexual, or would be happy with sex change surgery. I urge you to go to a sexual identity center for adequate study and guidance to help you find your identity and plan a treatment program.



# flashback

## Marjeline

### FLASHBACK

You come from the ocean with your hair streaming...Step carefully! Avoid the broken shells! You shiver a little, for the wind is blowing and your lips are purple-red...But your eyes know not coldness. They laugh with the sun as radiant as day, and proud because I look at you with adoration... It's impossible! Is it really you? It cannot be, but it must be for your bare feet made prints upon the sand... Your breasts are brown from the sunlight and your shoulders droop a little from the azure weight of chilly joy the west-wind sets thereon...

The water drips, and dropping on a knee I clasp you, O my goddess from the ocean! But your divinity demurs. You too kneel on the sand. And kneeling thus we kiss  
And the wind like  
A golden breaker rolls over us...



### STAR-SPANGLED LULLABY

There's a scattering of sunshine in the blowing of summer breeze above. I know the trees celebrate fiesta! They are throwing confetti of the sunshine in the breeze...

The sunshine falls in spangles and it scatters in relaxation of the brilliant air. The mood is lullaby, it's Nothing Matters... I think of an old song: it's I Don't Care!

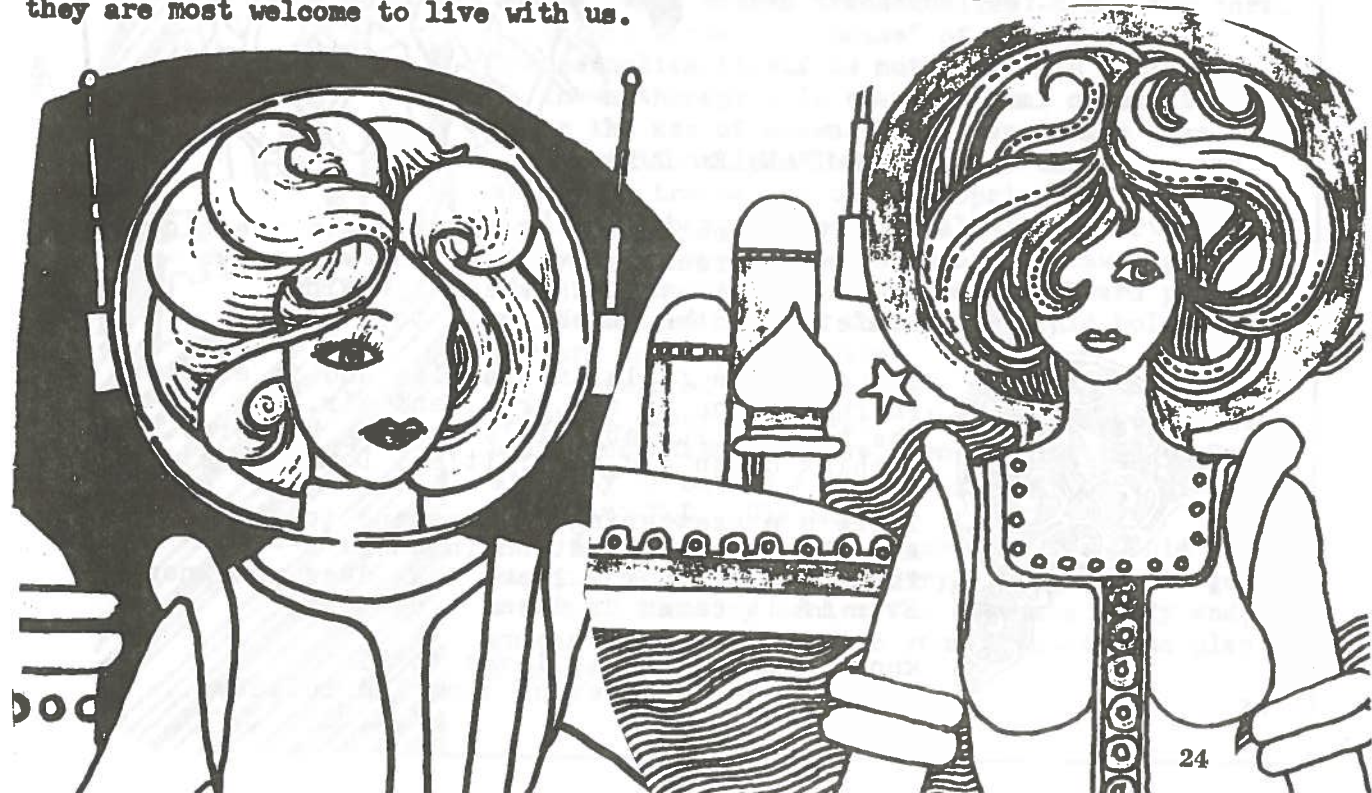
There's a scattering of sunshine to and fro  
And a hush of relaxation in the air--  
There's a mood of lullaby that does not know  
Even if it cares or doesn't care--

knowing only that it loves to lie  
in stars and stripes of spangled lullaby...



# UFOs, TSSs, and Extra-Ts —

Excerpt from the UFO Sightings Newsletter: "TRANSEXUAL ACTION ORGANIZATION ALLIES WITH EXTRA-TERRESTRIALS". Miami Beach-In late August, a group of transsexual liberationists headquartered here published another issue of their monthly publication Moonshadow, which is distributed free. Under direction of their president Angela K. Douglas, a cartoon was drawn depicting a transsexual contacting Venus with a walkie-talkie with the caption "come in Venus—we should have no trouble taking over here—I've been living with one of "them" for two years...they're pathetic...this planet will soon be ours." As the magazine was being published, UFO sightings began to come in from the northern part of Florida and the Miami News reported that "five telephone poles were reportedly knocked down by a group of UFOs in Fort Lauderdale (just north of Miami Beach)". (The TAO had earlier run into physical confrontation with employees of Southern Bell telephone, at one point resulting in the arrest of President Douglas on a charge of assault during a fight with two Southern Bell truckdrivers.) The UFO flap spread quickly thru the South to Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, then Ohio, Eastern Seaboard states, the Midwest and the West Coast. Meanwhile the TAO issued a directive to all officers and members (about 500 people belong to the organization) to protect and assist extraterrestrials, UFO crews and their vehicles should the situation arise. Douglas spoke on WBUS radio here and said that "certain oppressed minority groups would welcome extraterrestrials as liberators" and would "probably ally with them", contrary to suggestions that the people of Earth might unite to fight "invaders from outer space." As editor-publisher of UFOSN I also give all readers and members of my organization the same directive. I expect all of you to protect and assist all Space Beings whom we have determined are friendly. Further I ask that all heads of UFO groups contact me and work with me to work out a nationwide UFO friends network; we must all let the Space People know we are willing to work with them and they are most welcome to live with us.



# organizations

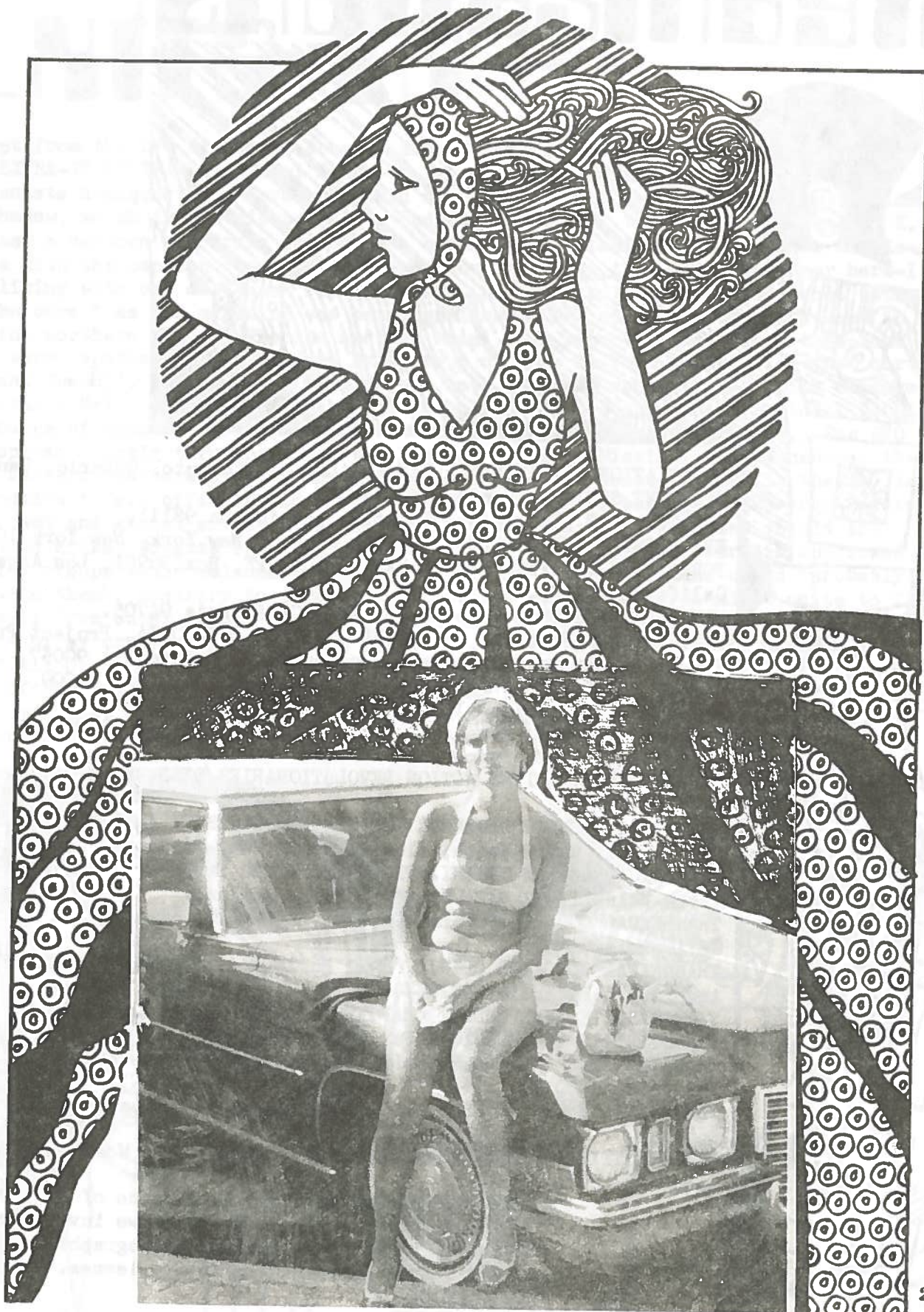


- ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN TRANSEXUALS/ACT, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- BEAUMONT SOCIETY, London, England.
- EMPATHY CLUB, Box 12466, Seattle, Washington 98111.
- EVE BROWNE FASHION CLUB, 509-5th Avenue, New York, New York 10017.
- FOUNDATION FOR PERSONALITY EXPRESSION/FPE, Box 36901, Los Angeles, California 90036.
- MANICURE, 465-38th Street, Oakland, California 94705.
- NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF GENDER IDENTITY DYSPHORIA, Project Push, 739 South Ramparts Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90057.
- QUEENS LIBERATION FRONT, Box 538, New York, New York 10009.
- RADICALQUEENS, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- SALMACIS SOCIETY, Box 2441, Menlo Park, California 94205.
- SEAHORSE SOCIETY, Sydney, Australia.
- STREET TRANSESTITES ACTION REVOLUTIONARIES/STAR, East Village, New York.
- TRANSEXUAL ACTION ORGANIZATION UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/TAO USA, Box 391172, Miami Beach, Florida 33139. International headquarters.
- TRANSEXUAL ACTION ORGANIZATION EUROPE/TAO Europe, 51 Scrimshaw House, Pleck-Walsall WS2 9JE, Staffordshire, England.
- TRANSEXUAL COUNSELING SERVICE, 121 Levenworth Street, San Francisco, California 94102..
- TRANSEXUAL GUIDANCE CLINIC, 6922 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 211, Los Angeles, California 90028.
- TRANSESTITES INDEPENDENT CHAPTERS, Box 45, Lansing, Illinois 60438.
- TRANSESTITES TRADE UNION, Paris, France.
- TRANSESTITES AND TRANSEXUALS, 1614 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90017.
- TRANSESTITES AND TRANSEXUAL GROUP, 76 Gladsmuir Road, Archway, London, England.
- TRANSESTITES AND TRANSEXUAL LIBERATION FRONT, 153 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9JT, England.



Mirage Magazine is a voice of the transsexual liberation movement, and we invite transsexual writers, artists and photographers to display their talents in future issues.

# BARBARA



## INTERVIEW

Barbara Roselle underwent a sex change operation in 1969. She resides in Miami, feels she is "just a girl next door" type of transexual, and serves as the new Vice-President of the Transexual Action Organization. The following interview, by Angela K. Douglas, may be one of the more candid interviews ever made.

**MIRAGE:** Barbara, what do you think may be the most important difference in your life since you changed sex?

**BARBARA:** Perhaps it is being more able to accept myself fully as a woman, truly feeling like a woman, having more of the womanly emotions...instead of the constant emotional conflict I had to endure when I was neither a boy or a girl, something in-between...being sure of what sex I am.

**MIRAGE:** What was the most difficult adjustment you had to make after the surgery?

**BARBARA:** Being fully able to accept the fact that I wasn't a boy any longer, completely giving up my identity as a male. Before surgery I still felt a little like a boy.

**MIRAGE:** Do you regret having had sex change surgery?

**BARBARA:** In a way I had more fun as a boy, I could do more things. Now that I'm a woman there are different rules I must follow. Like I can't go out drinking with the guys, that kind of thing. I had better relationships with women, too. In a way I regret it. Men liked me more, gay men. Now they don't.

**MIRAGE:** How do you relate to women now?

**BARBARA:** I don't feel the same as I did towards (genetic) women. I view them differently. They're all so alike, you know. I just started kind of disliking them in general.

(Continued next page.)



# teri COSMETICS

2940 S.W. 20 st. Miami

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MIRAGE: Why did you decide to have surgery?

BARBARA: One of my boyfriends talked me into it. I had been living in drag for quite a while, but I was wishy-washy about having the sex change.

MIRAGE: How much did it cost?

BARBARA: All of it cost about \$5000.

MIRAGE: What are some of the good aspects of being a transexual woman?

BARBARA: Well, I'm not so afraid anymore, I'm not so afraid of getting beaten up by guys. I got beaten up a couple of times, and had a lot of money stolen. Guys would find out and they'd want to kill me. It wasn't easy. I still have a scar on my arm where a guy cut me with a knife. But now it's not so terrible, it's not a gay scene anymore, a drag scene. Then again, it's not easy being a member of the weaker sex, either.

MIRAGE: Another transexual I talked to said almost the same thing...

that although you leave a lot of problems behind when you have the sex change, you get a whole new set of problems to deal with.

BARBARA: Yes. I can also get married now, adopt children if I wish to, but a sex change isn't as respected as a man is, though, and I miss being as respected. Also, if people read you as a sex change, they think you're just a drag queen and what can you do? You can't run around naked.

MIRAGE: What are the more negative aspects besides some you already told us about?

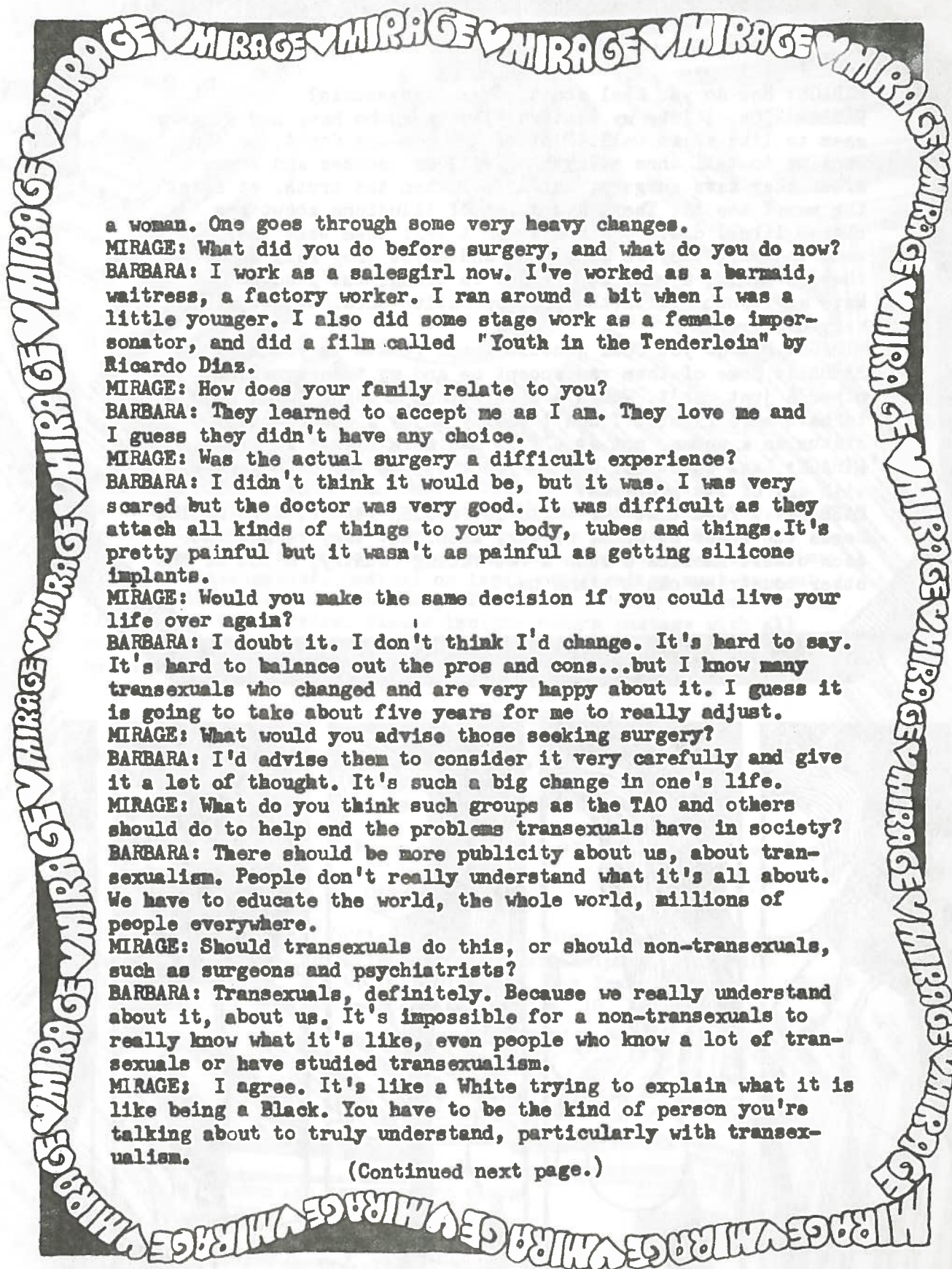
BARBARA: Well, when I got surgery the technique wasn't as together as it is now, so I can't have any real sensations during sexual relations. And I still sometimes visualize myself as being just a man, not as

(Continued next page.)

# STONEWALL

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a woman. One goes through some very heavy changes.

MIRAGE: What did you do before surgery, and what do you do now?

BARBARA: I work as a salesgirl now. I've worked as a barmaid, waitress, a factory worker. I ran around a bit when I was a little younger. I also did some stage work as a female impersonator, and did a film called "Youth in the Tenderloin" by Ricardo Diaz.

MIRAGE: How does your family relate to you?

BARBARA: They learned to accept me as I am. They love me and I guess they didn't have any choice.

MIRAGE: Was the actual surgery a difficult experience?

BARBARA: I didn't think it would be, but it was. I was very scared but the doctor was very good. It was difficult as they attach all kinds of things to your body, tubes and things. It's pretty painful but it wasn't as painful as getting silicone implants.

MIRAGE: Would you make the same decision if you could live your life over again?

BARBARA: I doubt it. I don't think I'd change. It's hard to say. It's hard to balance out the pros and cons...but I know many transexuals who changed and are very happy about it. I guess it is going to take about five years for me to really adjust.

MIRAGE: What would you advise those seeking surgery?

BARBARA: I'd advise them to consider it very carefully and give it a lot of thought. It's such a big change in one's life.

MIRAGE: What do you think such groups as the TAO and others should do to help end the problems transexuals have in society?

BARBARA: There should be more publicity about us, about transexualism. People don't really understand what it's all about. We have to educate the world, the whole world, millions of people everywhere.

MIRAGE: Should transexuals do this, or should non-transexuals, such as surgeons and psychiatrists?

BARBARA: Transexuals, definitely. Because we really understand about it, about us. It's impossible for a non-transexuals to really know what it's like, even people who know a lot of transexuals or have studied transexualism.

MIRAGE: I agree. It's like a White trying to explain what it is like being a Black. You have to be the kind of person you're talking about to truly understand, particularly with transexualism.

(Continued next page.)

MIRAGE: How do you feel about other transexuals?

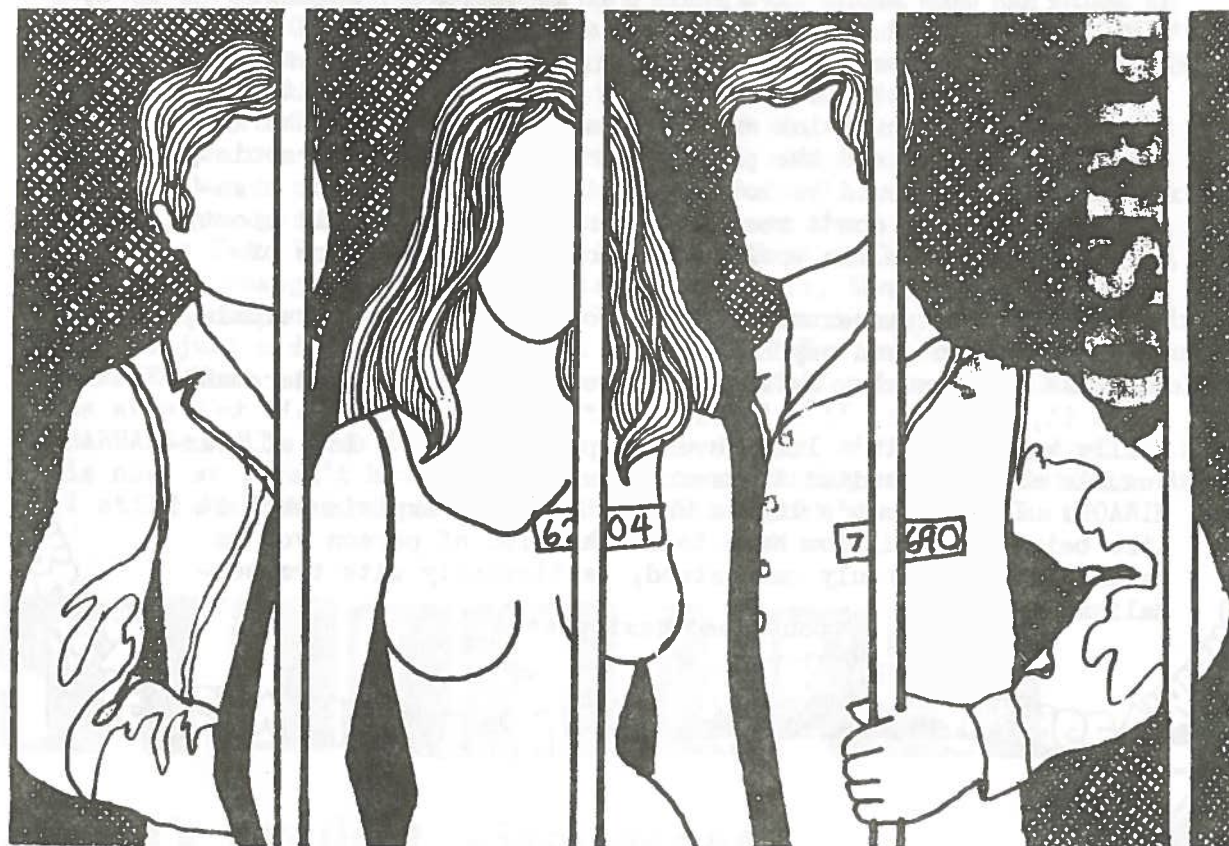
BARBARA: Oh, I like my sisters. The ones who have had surgery seem to like me as well. Most of the pre-ops don't, as they want me to tell them everything will be peaches and cream after they have surgery. But I tell them the truth, at least the way I see it. They have a lot of illusions about sex change like I did. So since I don't tell them what they all want to hear, they're appointed and maybe they fell as if they're making a mistake or they're wrong. But I never have any trouble with the post-operative ones. We get along very nicely.

MIRAGE: How do you feel genetic women relate to you now?

BARBARA: Some of them can accept me and my transexualism, other's just can't. Women's Liberation? I think women need to have more rights. I don't really enjoy a second-class status as a woman, not at all. I had more rights as a man.

MIRAGE: Last question. How do you view the world in general, with all of its problems?

BARBARA: I feel that the world is failing itself. Each nation needs the other so much, so very much, but they're against each other. America's such a rat-racing country, a lot of the other countries can't stand us.



The Transexual Action Organization (TAO) was founded in 1970. Membership is restricted to persons who have had sex change operations or those who are under hormone treatment in preparation for sex re-assignment. Medical or legal verification must be sent with applications for membership. There are no dues or fees for any TAO non-medical service. Please include return postage with all correspondence. A bimonthly newsletter, Moonshadow, is also available by sending 12 ten-cent stamps for all six 1974 issues.

#### International Headquarters

TAO Post Office Box 391172, Miami Beach, Florida 33139

#### European Headquarters

TAO 51 Scrimshaw House, Pleck-Walsall WS2 9JE, Staffordshire, England

#### Other branches

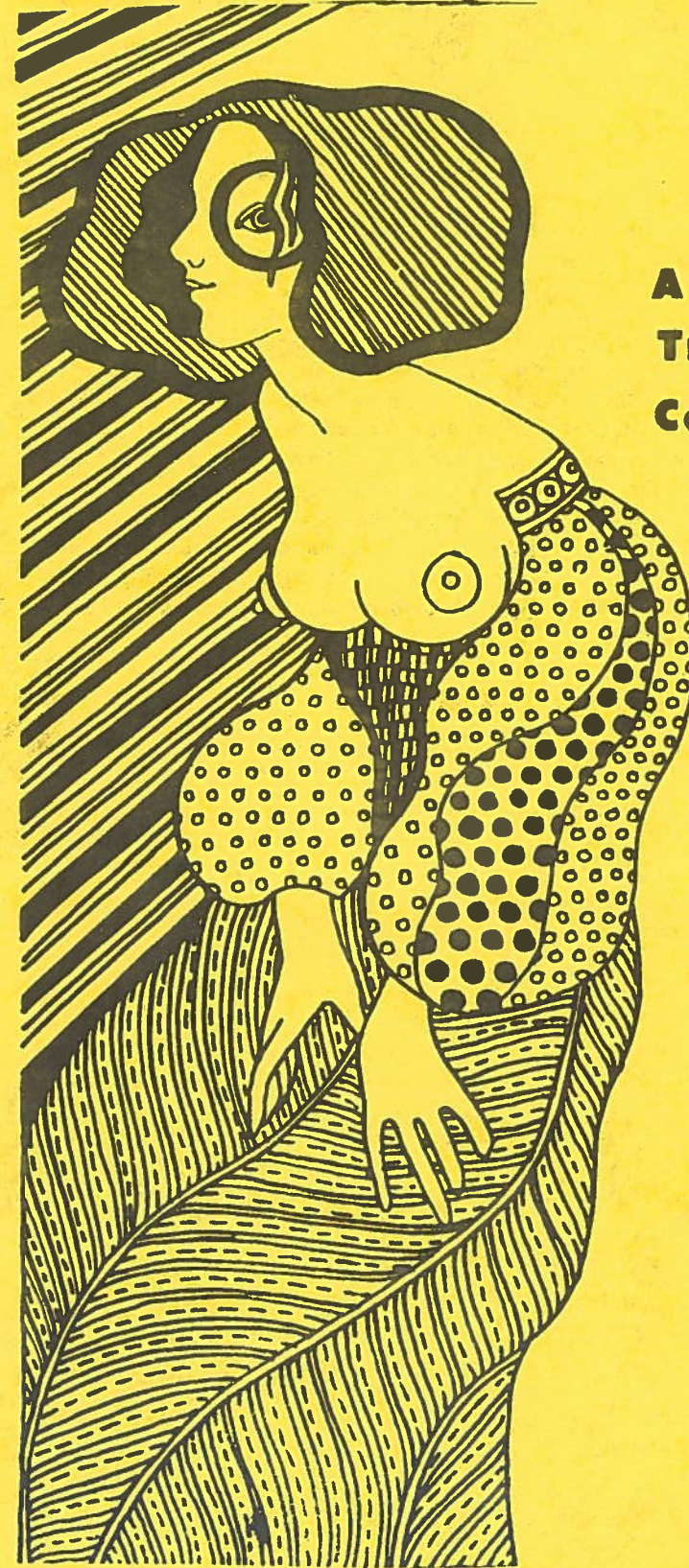
TAO Miami Beach, Post Office Box 391708, Miami Beach, Florida 33139  
TAO Philadelphia, 2126 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103  
TAO San Francisco, 345 W. Portal Avenue, San Francisco, Calif. 94127  
TAO London, 57 Wrettesley Road, London N.W. 10, England

#### AND IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

More photos...features on local shows...the struggle of Alice Jager...interviews, news and much more!



# MIRAGE MAGAZINE



**A Voice of  
Transexual  
Consciousness**

# mirage

TRANSEXUAL  
LIBERATION

Magazine

#4



WIN





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**LETTERS**

Dear Mirage:

Was delighted to receive your Mirage #3. It certainly is getting better every issue. I also feel that your comments on Lee Brewster were in line. They were not catty but were a very earnest try to put forth the facts for all TVs and TSs to consider.

Please continue your hard efforts knowing that they are certainly righteous and are helping many who greatly need them.

With love and respect,  
 Vinora Hibbard, Orlando

Dear TAO:

I have been interested in finding out more about you since I read an article in the L.A. Free Press on the treatment of TSs in Washington prisons. Please let me know what your organization is doing. I am a transexual living in Los Angeles.  
 Cheryl, Los Angeles

Dear Mirage:

I am writing to you at request of my doctor. I am a TS and 24 years old, have been on hormones for 28 months. I need to find a place to have the operation done at a reasonable price. My doctor asked me to write to those who have had it performed and find out who is best. I have \$3000 now and am not sure how much it would cost. If you can help me I would be deeply happy.  
 Mary, St. Petersburg

Dear Mirage:

I am writing you for some information and I hope you will be able to help me out. I am a TV and have been for about six years. I am what you would call a closet queen. I have never gone out in public as I feel I need some with make-up. I would love to meet some other TVs in this area. I would like to be able to meet someone to be friends with that also loves dressing. I just adore wearing lovely lingerie, garter belts, stockings, etc. I wear these things as much as I can and almost always wear panties under my male clothing. That way I feel much better. Hoping to hear from you soon,  
 Name Withheld, Ft. Lauderdale

Dear TAO:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Honorable Charles R. DiGisi, presiding judge of the Juvenile Court of Bergen County, N.J. A situation involving a male TS has arisen before this court. In order to make a just and proper determination in this matter, the Court wishes to be familiarized with the different aspects of TS as found in the most current psychological, medical, sociological and legal works on the subject. As time is of the essence I am requesting that any literature accessible to you which would assist the Court in this matter be forwarded forthwith. Thank you for your time and immediate attention.  
 M.A. Membrino  
 Law Clerk to Judge C.R. DiGisi  
 Hackensack, New Jersey

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the late Kilo  
 (Ramon Lemos)

# TRANSCIEIVER

## NEWS

**Philadelphia:** False statements about TAO by ex-TAO director Sandy Mesics have surpassed polemics and may result in legal action against Female Impersonator News, said TAO in Miami. The statements appeared in the first issue of the newspaper published by Frank Gibbons, a TV also known as Sussie Collins, who publishes several other magazines and heads the new United Transvestite and Transsexual Society. Mesics claimed that TAO had convicted a large number of groups, businesses and individuals of fostering the genocide of transsexuals and transvestites, but TAO said that Mesics had entirely fabricated her statements that TAO had convicted Lee Brewster, the Transsexual Guidance Clinic, the United Transvestite and Transsexual Society (which TAO has fully promoted until now), the National Organization for Gender Identity Dysphoria, the film Myra Breckinridge, the Canadian and Brazilian governments, the Erickson Educational Foundation and the True Vision Into Science group of festering genocide of TSs and TVs. Mesics now publishes Image Magazine, an imitation of Mirage. TAO said that Mesics claimed she had received full approval from Gibbons to publish the charges, and TAO has retained a Miami attorney to explore legal action against Gibbons' publishing firm for "maliciously attempting to inflict ridicule, harm, financial loss and other difficulties upon the TAO, its officers and members, and its publications." The suit is being started by Mirage, and separate lawsuits may also be filed by TAO officers, and some of the businesses and organizations falsely accused by Mesics of having been charged by TAO. TAO has informed them they never charged them of anything, although several had been placed on a general caution list. TAO founder Douglas said Mesics' statements were "simply false and incorrect, provably so. TAO never did anything of the kind."

**California:** A new Warners Bros. film, "Freebie and the Bean", according to Morris Kight of the Gay Media Task Force, includes a scene where a TV gets shot after fighting back against police harassment. Kight says protests are being mobilized. Describing the film as "a piece of anti-humanism...in this one the two clowns make great fun out of anything they can get their hands on, but the TV really comes out differently than they had thought. They follow the TV into the washroom and the TV manages to give one of them a whop which brings an ovation from the audience—that represents a healthy change in public attitudes, does it not?—and then, when this policeperson (continued next page)

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(continued)

shoots the TV there were loud boos from the audience of reviewers, tradespeople and observers. This turkey is to be served up to us as the Christmas release with great hoopla from the studio. It seems to contain the worst of Laughing Policeman, Boys in the Band, Busting and other such turkeys we had just as soon not see served up anytime."

TAO Defense Director Moreau said that the writer of the film, Floyd Nutrax, and Robert Kaufman, who did the screenplay, should be the targets of any actions by TSs and TVs offended by the film's negative portrayal of TVs.

**Belfast:** TAO Ireland Director Michelle Callaghan has undergone sex change surgery and is recuperating in a Belfast hospital.

**Seattle:** "Mom's Home-Made Apple Fanzine #1000" is an unusual TSTV magazine by Jennifer Salmonson, Box 89517, Zenith Branch, Seattle, Wa. 98188. \$1.

**Boston:** Welcome news for male transsexuals has come from two doctors studying the feminizing effects of marijuana on males. According to Dr John Harmon of New England Deaconess Hospital and Menelaos Alia-poulos of Cambridge Hospital, smoking marijuana can cause enlargement of breasts in both sexes, including males. The doctors say they are treating and studying 16 men whose breast enlargement is apparently related to marijuana usage, and they have duplicated the situation by injecting male rats with Tetrahydrocannabinol, the active ingredient in marijuana. The doctors say they plan to study other feminizing effects of marijuana, also.

In other words, said one transsexual, even if pot is legalized you might still get busted. Several of the men have reportedly undergone surgery to have their breasts removed.

**Miami Beach:** TAO headquarters announced in November that four new Defense Directors have been named...Brigitte Levon and Anita Moreau in the US, and Rose Wills and Ben Foreman in Great Britain. An ex-Defense Director for the US, Nancy Davis, was arrested in Miami in November and is being held without bond on six local and out-of-state felony charges. TAO declined further comment on the Davis matter until legal aspects are explored. Davis' arrest was not connected in particular with her transsexualism or association with TAO, TAO said.

Transsexuals and TVs here are being harassed because of widespread drug dealing, say Miami Beach police officers, on the part of some TSs and TVs. Many incidents of harassment were reported during October and November, and some post and pre-op transsexuals claimed MBPD officers also sexually molested them. Some complaints were filed by the various transsexuals to local and state government officials and local newspapers, TAO said, but it could not fully verify any of the claims. Although relations between transsexuals and the MBPD has deteriorated to some extent recently, one MBPD officer says he is trying to get TAO officers on another television show, and TAO has made an "unofficial request" to the City of Miami Beach to provide it with an office and liaison.

TAO also granted ideological support to the militant Jewish Defense League in response to the merging of the American Nazi Party and gay liberation in California. The Nazis reportedly held several meetings recently at a "TSTV bar and are openly recruiting gays, TSs and TVs as members.

TAO member Ramon Lemos, 22, a pre-op TS, died Oct. 24 from injuries sustained in a fire at home. Better known as Kilo or Kilopelo, Lemos was a popular performer and had recently appeared in "Wild Side Story." TAO Miami Director Kimberly Elliott attended the funeral.

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# TRANSCIEIVER



(continued)

## TRANSCIVER

**San Francisco:** SFPD Community Relations officer Elliott Blackstone, who has run the Transexual Counseling Service for several years, has been re-assigned to foot patrol duty and will retire next April. Blackstone recently attacked TAO founder Angela K. Douglas for "creating dissension" and his statements were published in a California newspaper.

**France:** Many transsexuals and transvestites were among the people interrogated at a Paris Park as police attempted to break up a so-called "open air brothel" where wide-open prostitution and public sex was being practiced, according to the media.

**Venezuela:** TAO member Jennifer Raquel Otero won third place in the Miss Universe contest held in Caracas in October, and reports that police harassment is intense. Hormone and silicone treatments are also illegal in Venezuela.

**Peru:** Female impersonator Jose reports there are three TSTV bars in the city of Lima and shows are held fairly often, silicone and hormone treatments are available, but police harassment is nil. "It's actually worse in Miami," said Jose, who is returning to Peru soon.

**Australia:** According to published reports, sex change operations are provided free here under national medical services.

**Ireland:** TAO Ireland Director Michelle Callaghan has reportedly undergone sex change surgery at a Belfast hospital and will resume efforts after recuperation.

**England:** TAO United Kingdom Director Brooklyn Stothard reports that TAO UK will be publishing a newsletter soon and the group is continuing to develop. A new London branch may form in January, augmenting the centralized Birmingham headquarters. TAO UK has also been invited to give several lectures at various organizations, including Lesbian groups, and is developing good relations with the media.

However, legal action may be taken to halt ex-director Julia Fenner from promoting herself as a TAO director, as she reportedly has done as recently as November. Stothard says that Fenner was recently the target of a media attack in a British publication, which ridiculed her and printed her criminal record. Stothard also reports that TAO is investigating a possible attack upon a female-to-male transsexual by unknown assailants, also.

**Mexico:** TAO member Monica, a Yaqui Indian from Sonora, reports that police and public reaction to Mexican transsexuals is still very severe but she has also encountered extreme reaction in the United States. Monica says that sex change operations are being performed now in other Mexican cities besides Tijuana for around \$4000.

**Detroit:** James LeGrande was acquitted of charges of female impersonation when fashion writer Marji Kuns of the Detroit Free Press testified that LeGrande's attire at time of arrest was "the newest male style." LeGrande was arrested wearing black velveteen hotpants, red velvet shirt, knee-high stretch boots and a red bennet.

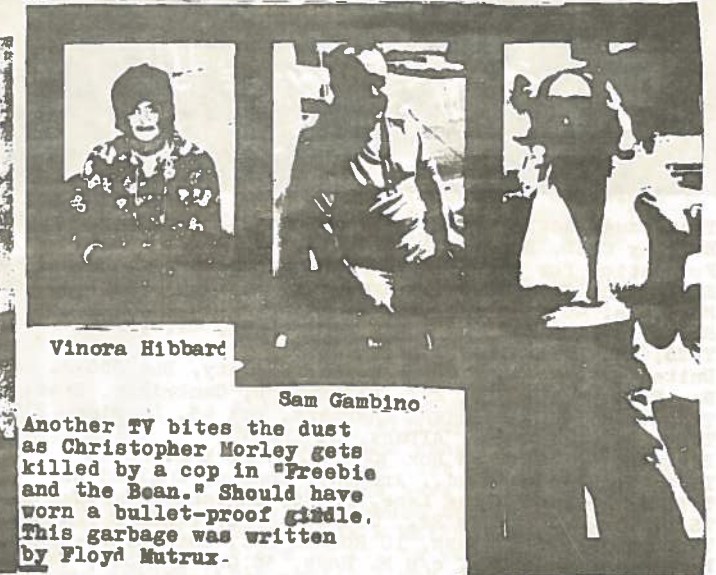
**San Francisco:** Rudi Brink and William Johns have entered pleas of not guilty by reason of insanity to charges of illegally castrating a 16 year-old youth. The two men had counseled pre-op transsexuals referred to them by the SF Gay Activists Alliance, and some persons alleged they had been running an illegal castration and ersatz sex change ring. Neither had medical training. The men were arrested shortly after GAA had strongly attacked legitimate sex change surgeons and transsexual liberationist organizations and leaders.

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**Plainfield, New Jersey:** Another step is being taken in her long struggle to win employment rights by post-operative TS Paula Grossman, 55, who underwent sex change surgery several years ago. Grossman, fired from her job as a music teacher in the Bernard Township School District by the State Education Department, is filing suit in Federal court to be reinstated in her former position. An appeal to overturn the decision was denied by the Appellate Court of New Jersey, which upheld the Department's view that "students might suffer adverse psychological effects from having a teacher who had changed sexual identity." Although it was recommended by the state superintendent of schools that Grossman receive retirement or disability pay, it has been refused on the incredible grounds that her benefits accrued to the male Paul Grossman, and not to the female, Paula Grossman...perhaps one of the most vicious twists of legal discrimination and persecution we've ever heard of. An American Civil Liberties Union attorney, Richard Schacter, is trying to get such payments for Grossman. Grossman's lengthy and courageous battle against the forces of persecution should serve as an inspiration to all transsexuals, said TAO, which mentioned that Grossman is not associated with TAO or apparently any other TS group.

**Miami Beach:** A considerable amount of valued stock in Mirage Magazine, Inc., is being returned by an investor who was unable to fulfill terms of a purchase agreement, according to Mirage, Inc. President J. Dessi. The stock will be made available for sale after the first of the year, Dessi said. The failure of the investor to fulfill the terms hurt Mirage's projected development, Dessi said, but the corporation "may show a slight profit" in the first year of its existence, which isn't bad for a new magazine. Mirage editor Angela Douglas, who now retains controlling interest, went into personal debt to keep the publication afloat, said Dessi. Douglas said the success of Mirage depends not only on greater distribution, but by continuing to develop advertising support from the general business community...ads from anyone. Another local magazine, which at first only solicited ads from gay businesses, decided to try the same approach after its editor met with Douglas, but hasn't been as successful.



Vinora Hibbard

Sam Gambino

Another TV bites the dust as Christopher Morley gets killed by a cop in "Freebie and the Bean." Should have worn a bullet-proof giddle. This garbage was written by Floyd Mutrux.

TAO Vice-President  
Linda Mitchell

**New York:** 400-pound transvestite film star Divine stole the premiere of "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band On the Road" show when it opened here recently, accompanied with six imitation Divines.

**New York:** Transvestite superstar Holly Woodlawn is now available to give lectures and shows at college campuses through New Line Presentations. Holly's package includes lectures on the Warhol years, sexuality, and with props and an accompanist, can create a cafe society setting for the show.

**New York:** Militant transvestite Sylvia Rivera received a Humanitarian Award from Lee Brewster recently. Rivera formed Street Transvestites Action Revolutionaries in late 1970, which later clashed violently with gay liberationists, lesbian feminists, and the American Communist Party.

**Miami Beach:** TAO has received mention in its articles and news releases have appeared in over 30 publications since 1970, including interviews with a total of 8 officers; has given lectures at three universities, and has appeared on two radio shows and one television program, TAO Communications said.



Colette Goudie

Michelle of Montreal

Transsexual Action Organization, Box 391172, Miami Beach, Fl. 33139 (US-UK)  
 Empathy Club, Box 12466, Seattle, Wa. 98111  
 Foundation for Personality Expression, Box 39601, L.A. Ca. 90036  
 Eve Browne Club, 509-5th Ave., NY, NY 10009  
 Manicure, 465-38th St., Oakland, Ca. 94705  
 Salmacis Society, Box 2441, Menlo Park, Ca. 94205  
 TVTS, 1614 Wilshire, L.A. Ca. 90017  
 United Transvestite & Transsexual Society, Box 360-A, Belmar, N.J. 07719  
 New England TVs, Box 291, MIT Branch, Cambridge, Mass. 02139  
 Transvestite Independent Chapters, Box 45, Lansing, Ill. 60438  
 TVIC, 1104 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204  
 Beaumont Society, BM Box 3084, London, England WC 1  
 TVTS, 76 Gladsmuir Rd., Archway, London, England N1  
 TVTSLF, 153 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, England LS2 9JT  
 TS Lib, 226 Brockley Rd., Crofton Park, London, England SE 4  
 TV Social, c/o S. Cash, 10 Hosack Rd., London, England SW 17  
 Nationwide TV Group, c/o M. Ross, 58 Charles St., Cardiff, Wales  
 FUORI, M. Gisanti, Via Poshiera 18, I-60048 Serra S. Quirico, Ancona, Italy  
 Queens Liberation Front, Box 1271, NY, NY 10009

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Colette "Tisha" Goudie became the third president of the Transsexual Action Organization in September of 1974. In the following interview with Goudie, TAO founder Angela K. Douglas introduces her to the world.



# tisha

## INTERVIEW

Photos by Angela Douglas



Q: Your beginnings...

A: I was born in Orleans, France, where Jeanne D'Arc came from. She was killed for being a witch and a female transvestite, who refused to wear women's clothing. I was raised in Cuba as my mother is Spanish and then in Miami. I am a Scorpio and I am 28 years old.

Q: When did you realize you are a transsexual and begin living as a woman?

A: I realized it in 1969 and began living as a woman then. I had my electrolysis treatments then and also began my hormone treatments, and later, silicone treatments to change the shape of my body.

Q: It's said that you are a "bruja", a witch, and have occult powers. Can you discuss this?

A: Yes. As a child I was always close to it, to voodoo, to bruja-ria, while I was growing up. It was around me all the time. Three years ago I began really studying it and then practicing it...voodoo, Santeria-Iceuni, and then I pro-

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gressed to Satanism of the La Vey school, and became more familiar with European forms of witchcraft.

Q: Black magic?

A: Yes.

Q: Can you explain some aspects of this for us?

A: Well, some of it. The most important things to know and understand are the many Satanic keys, keys to power, wisdom, anything. These can be learned by anyone who has the courage and ability to use them correctly, and these include rituals and invocations, often using the Satanic Bible, and the infernal demons.

A lot of things can be done with these keys and they can be very helpful to transsexuals who need really strong protection in this world from their many, many enemies, including Christians and other religious people who do not understand transsexualism. They murdered Jeanne D'Arc, the Christians did; then later made her a saint, and then kicked her out as a saint a few hundred years later, for example.

You have to be a good sorceress or sorcerer in order to immunize yourself against the powers you can unleash. Remember the time the lightning bolt hit?

Q: Yes...I should mention that. Last summer, Colette and I were placing a curse on one of TAO's most rabid enemies. I am not, by the way, an expert in the occult but I was doing the particular ritual and invocation. The moment I completed it a lightning bolt hit a small tree outside of the room in which we were in, less than six feet away from us. The lights were knocked out. Colette said another invocation and got the lights back on.

A: This is common, especially with novices. You have to be able to control the power you obtain. It can be likened in a way to giving a bomb to a young child or a high-powered rifle to a ten-year old. You can use it for your protection but you must know how to use it, and the one who uses it must be able to fully control it.



Q: Please describe some of your rituals...

A: My shrine is beautiful...it includes a statue of Asmodeus, the god of love, a bell, maracas, big sea shells, an arrowhead, things of the elements; I use these for voodoo. I have a box in which I place images of our enemies, also.

I also have my bronze Arabian dagger, which I use in some of the rituals, and a lot of other things...some paintings I did of the High Priestess, the voodoo Bible, the Satanic Bible, many infernal things. I am also studying Tarot now and have some Tarot cards.

The rituals come mostly from La Vey's Satanic Bible and the voodoo Bible.

Q: What can the rituals do?

A: They can be used to obtain love, protection, money, power, to harm one's enemies, almost anything. All is at your command. They give you raw power and it

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is natural, the powers which have always shaped the world and the creatures who have lived on it, the powers which one cannot see, like the wind cannot be seen, but exist just the same and always have. This is what some call "higher knowledge."

Q: Why are some people afraid of witchcraft?

A: Unless they understand these things, and also have the same power, it is natural for them to fear it. Many people do not have the ability or intelligence to use such power even if it is handed to them and they never find it. They run away, afraid, when they see a "taboo" sign.



Angela Douglas and Colette

Q: As TAO president, do you feel it is good for transsexuals to form their own organizations and attempt, through various means, to confront their oppression?

A: Yes, definitely. There are so many, many of us now that it is important for us to form our groups or to join them, whether it's TAO or another group. It would be good if we didn't fight with each other, but that's unavoidable as se

Photo by Nancy Raméy

many are seeking power and status now and there will be tremendous competition. But we should form groups regardless. So many transsexuals are truly desperate in this country, so truly desperate, fully and completely rejected by society.

We're the only ones who can really understand each other, and help each other. We have our experiences and goals and non-transsexuals have theirs.

Groups are good for us as they give more power to all of us in one way or another, and more protection. We do not really belong in the gay or women's movements, although I don't really care if people think I'm gay or not. That doesn't matter to me. We must continue to form our own organizations throughout the world.

Q: How do you feel about transvestites?

A: Oh, transvestites...I have nothing against them. Some transsexuals say they are transvestites because it's easier for the world to comprehend. But it's not the same. A transvestite is a man who dresses up like a woman for a little while and then becomes a man again. A transsexual, like you and me and so many others, live as we are all of the time. It is so different.

Some transvestites want to be transsexuals, but they can't for one reason or another. I don't think it's good for both TAs and TSs to belong to the same groups, as the values are so different, the laws and problems are so different. In some ways the problems overlap, but not completely.

A TRANSVESTITE ENJOYS BEING A MAN AND LOOKS UPON HIS ABILITY TO IMPERSONATE A WOMAN AS ONE OF HIS MALE ABILITIES. A transsexual becomes a woman, in the case of those of us who were born men, physically.

Q: What does TAO do at present?

A: Oh, we place curses on our enemies and teach each other a lot of things. We make referrals to doctors and attorneys.

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We sometimes try to hold protest demonstrations and have sent many, many protest letters off when there was a reason to. We also give lectures and things like that to explain the basics of transsexualism. Right now we have to fight other groups and that drains a lot of energy, but others fear our growing power for some reason. We don't want to take over anything, but we will continue doing things our own way.

Q: I recall when we were on television last summer. That was your first show and you were so nervous...

A: Yes, I was. I had never done anything like that in my life and didn't know what to do. But once I went on I had a ball, I enjoyed myself so much!

Q: Why do people hate transsexuals?

A: Oh, so many people are just wicked, including Christians who think they are good people and hurt us. People are animals, but they have intelligence and that makes them the most vicious animals of all. They hate us because we are different and things that are different are feared.

I've gotten used to the hate, and besides, some people are beginning to treat us better now anyway. But we are years away from being a true part of the world's societies. Many years.

Q: How do you feel about drugs?

A: I don't think they're so good for transsexuals. They cause many problems for us and so many of us have gotten in trouble with them. It would be better if transsexuals could stay away from drugs. But the pressures we are under make a lot of us turn to drugs for relief.

Q: Do you have a lover?

A: I've gone with the same man since 1969. He is beautiful... over six feet tall, blonde, blue eyes. He has helped me so much, so very much, in so many ways. I truly love him. We have our fights now and then but not very often.

Q: As a final question... what is your best advice to transsexuals in general?



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Kim Elliott and Angela Douglas

**C**ross-dressing laws were declared unconstitutional in a Miami Beach Federal court in 1972, by Judge William O. Mohrtens, and all such laws were thus strack down throughout Florida. Hormones and silicone treatments are readily available and a bit less expensive than in California. Sex change surgery is also available in Miami, Jacksonville and reportedly in several other Florida cities. However, police harassment of both pre and post-op TSs is severe in South Florida and one horror story after another comes into Mirage from various TSs who run into trouble with the police. Gay lib, for all extents and purposes, does not really exist in Florida, and TAO, which is headquartered in Miami, is basically a co-ordination center and referral service, as harassment is too severe to do much else. Problems with society in general can also be rough and TS visitors from more mature cities will be outraged at the insults, attacks and other abuse they will receive from the public in general here, both males and females, and of all ages from senior citizens to pre-teens. However, the area still manages to draw large numbers of TSs and there are usually 100 to 200 living in Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale, sometimes more. The Florida Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union is aware of the problems TSs have here, as is The Miami News...and these provide some help.

Most gay bars refuse to serve TSs with the exception of one or two new bars, thus most TSs will be found at any of the thousands of lounges throughout South Florida. Most are open until 4 or 5 A.M. There are occasional drag shows and contests put on by some of the bars, usually well-attended, but a far cry from the fabulous productions seen here a few years ago.

# ATLANTA

JENNIFER RAQUEL OTERO

Atlanta is an unusually beautiful city full of funky people, and is where I was fortunate enough to be chosen Miss Puerto Rico to attend the Miss Universe pageant, which is held every year in Caracas, Venezuela.

Atlanta is also drowning in bars of every conceivable kind; just about everywhere you go you'll find bars and booze. The city is literally floating off in alcohol. Drugs are still a major problem here although it is doubtful that Atlanta still holds the title as America's drug capital.

However, it may rightfully be called the drag capital of the South, even beyond New Orleans and Miami. A few years ago, there were only a couple of drag bars and a handful of queens. One bar known as Mrs. P's was known far and wide, around 1969-1970.

Things have changed since then, and now almost every so-called gay bar is a drag bar. Although a lot of the bars are considered "gay", a great number of straight bars accept drags and transsexuals as well...and a lot of straight people go to drag bars, also. Maybe they should be called "mixed" bars in general. Anything goes.

Some of the better ones: The Cove, Sweet Gum Head, Onix, Stardust, and the My House Lounge, Score One and Club Three...and a few others. Of all these I feel the My House Lounge is about the best, especially if you're a TV or TS. On weekend nights there are literally hundreds of transsexuals and transvestites there.

My House has shows and features artists such as Bobbi Holliday, Leslie Lyndon, and many others. And of course yours truly when I'm in town.

"It's a strange world!"  
 "Strange! That's the thing about the universe I think of most at night—how queer it is!"

My House can't really be considered a gay bar, and I can't emphasize that strongly enough. As for medical services, some surgery has been done at Georgia universities but it's all pretty hush-hush. Hormones are obtainable from several doctors, just ask transsexuals working at the clubs and they'll give you their names and addresses.

There isn't a silicone doctor here as there are in Miami and New Orleans, so most transies trip off to those cities for breast augmentation or silicone for their cheeks and hips.

I guess I could write a book or two about Atlanta, but that's it for now. If you've never been here, it's worth a visit. I hope you'll be pleasantly surprised. Just head for Peachtree Street and you'll make out just fine.



# CHICAGO

## NANCY RAMEY

**A**lthough homosexuality has been fully legal in Illinois for quite a few years, sexism is still very evident in the form of overt persecution of TSs and TVs through legal and other means. Cross-dressing laws exist and although there are a large number of drag bars scattered through the city and quite a few show bars, the laws are enforced and many arrests are made of TSs and TVs. One was shot and killed by police in 1970. Two pre-op TSs are now challenging the laws with the backing of a Chicago university, and other attempts have been made to have the laws declared unconstitutional. Although one judge ruled such antiquated laws are unconstitutional the city's lawyers appealed his decision and thus it is now up to each individual judge to decide case-by-case if the law is unconstitutional or not.

Gay bars discriminate a lot against TSs and TVs, also, and many completely bar them. TSs and TVs don't cluster in any one particular area, but are flung far and wide throughout the city. Some hang around the 900 north block. As for surgery, it can be obtained at Cook County Hospital via the Fantus Clinic. There are rumors that the Fantus Clinic has paid for surgery, but if you have funds you will have to pay. Surgery is also available at the Michael Reese Hospital, and hormones and silicone are available, but most TSs go to Madison or Indianapolis for silicone.

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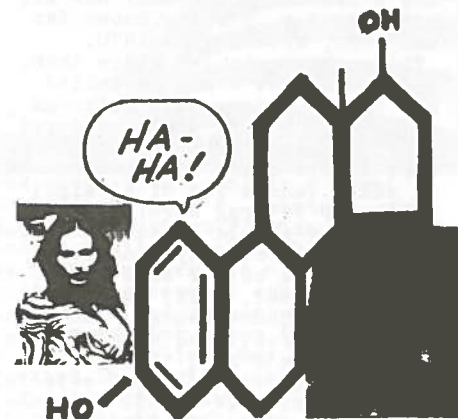
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This is one of the most dangerous eras in the history of our country. Look to Boston, where white racism is being fostered by people like our President non-elect. Go to Latin America, go to Africa, where everyone knows what the Rockefeller's have done to the people of the world. There is an increasingly fascist pattern... new national police force... experimental brain surgery. We are on the verge of just such an era if we don't do something about it.

Angela Y. Davis



# entertainment

The season has finally arrived and with it a galaxy of stars...New Year's Eve will find Mr. Sinatra at The Diplomat for starters. "Fantastique" continues at The Carillon, "Les Femmes Des Paris" at The Americana. Joey Bishop at The Fontainebleu from Xmas followed by Vicky Carr, 5th Dimension, Shecky Greene, Ann-Margret. The Deauville is giving us Dick Clark, Chubby Checker and Dion; The Marco Polo features The O'Jays, Betty Wright and Little Anothly and The Imperials. Comedians Lou Marsh and Tony Adams at the Montmartre, and more, more, and more.

A few of the more notable lounges include The Forge, with the Will Noble Affair, The Crossways Inn, with Impact of Brass (fabulous), The new Fly-By-Night Club with Joe Donato, High-Voltage 3 at The Algiers, and truly outstanding vocalist Del Marino at The Versailles' Hideaway Lounge. Lee Sohn is, of course, pecking them in at the Place Pigalle.

Jazz organist Steve Mazelli, sad to report, is hospitalized with a liver ailment and there's no telling when he'll be back in action, but some very fine musicians are filling in at his Dolphin's Den.

For disco action, we suggest Otis Barefoot at The Barcelona, one of the best anywhere. The new Dinghey disco, on 23rd street, is too small and harassed but is still drawing good crowds, also.

(continued)



International Photographic Arts

# HI - VOLTAGE

(continued)

Saint Peter's Gate offers hard-core rock and roll in the Sunny Isles area, not far from The Newport where Wayne Cochran is presiding. Rock and dancing is also at the Wreck and Inner Circle lounges in The Castaways, in the same area. (The Castaways is worth seeing.) All of the clubs, hotels and lounges mentioned are in Miami Beach, N. Miami Beach and Hialeah, with the exception of The Crossways Inn, which is near the airport in Miami, a city across the Bay, or so it's rumored.

Drag shows are occasionally given at The Marco Polo and always at Patsy's 79th Street Lounge in Hialeah, and at several other clubs. Almost all lounges are open until four or five in the morning and drinking age is 18.

If you'd prefer to stay home, we suggest you throw the boob tube out the window and get a good FM radio and tune it to WBUS, 24 hours of jazz...one of the best stations anywhere. With all the stars lined up (and more will be coming) it looks like an exciting season...last year was deathly, so let's keep our fingers crossed. You might see TAO Vice-president Linda Mitchell hanging out at some of the northly clubs, and if so, she drinks vodka martinis.

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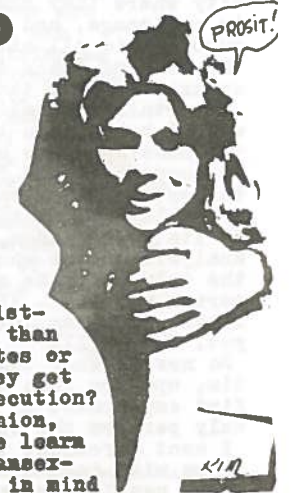
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Radio Moscow, in rebuttal to a US News & World Report magazine ad by the Warner & Swasey Co.-which said "you can't eat socialism"-said "nobody's eating dog food in Russia like they are in the US."

# TRANSEXUALISM IN THE CCCP

*Angela K. Douglas*



**W**

hat is the situation of transexuals under Marxist-Leninism in the Soviet Union? Is it any better than the situation of transexuals in the United States or in England? Do they have any rights? How do they get the operations, and do they endure police persecution? Since religion is frowned upon in the Soviet Union, has this helped them to find acceptance? Can we learn anything from the Soviet Union's attitude towards transexualism? These were a few of the many questions I had in mind when I wrote a letter to the Soviet embassy in 1970 asking them for whatever information they could give on the situation of transexuals in that nation. I received a fairly prompt reply, which included a lengthy Novosti news service interview with a Russian sex change surgeon, Dr. Boris Yakubson, conducted around 1969. Yakubson described, in detail, the techniques he uses in performing male-to-female and female-to-male surgery, and the lives of his patients. One female-to-male, he said, now works as a militiaman and has married a woman; does this mean that post-ops are acceptable into the Russian armed forces? He said that such operations are now "routinely performed at ordinary town hospitals" and are quite successful. Yakubson's scholarly report rambled on and on; a bit exotic in comparison to the American works on transexual medicine, perhaps, and in some ways, it said nothing. Of course, all medical services in the Soviet Union are completely free, except for drugs. So that's one thing Soviet transexuals don't have to worry about...raising the \$5000 or so for surgery, as they must in the United States. But that's just too good to be true. I wrote back and asked for more information, sending a letter off to the Institute of Experimental Endocrinology, Hormone Chemistry Research, in Moscow, and ultimately received a reply, in Russian, which looked rather interesting. I took it to a language expert at a Miami university, and the translation informed me that sex change operations are performed only for true (physical) hermaphrodites, and all others are considered as being mentally ill and given corrective treatment. So, 99 per cent of all transexuals can, according to that official view, cross off the Soviet Union, at least for the moment. Cracks appeared in this solid wall of Official Gender Rulings, of course. I came across a book written by an American transexual which casually mentioned that a Dr. Len had appealed to the Russians to accept some of the thousands of indigent American transexuals for surgery, and the Russians refused. Rumors came to me from various people; they had read an article a few years back about Soviet tran-

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sexuals which alleged that some of them had been spying in the US and a few had been captured; that the Russians had an entire city where they changed the sex of these people, trained them in espionage, and shuttled them off to the United States. The rumors said all attempts by government agencies to "unbrainwash" them out of their feminine identity had failed. I think I recall an article like that, around 1964 or so.

I certainly recall the furor about the Olympic Games, and that was, I believe in the early 1960s. That consisted of charges that the Russians were using transexuals (men who had become women) to compete in the female sports. Well, that's one salubrious way to serve one's country. Change sex and be a long-distance runner or volleyball champ. Or whatever. The Olympic Rules committee, in its vast wisdom, now makes all contestants undergo a genetic analysis to see who has XX and who has XY chromosomes...this is the only accurate scientific way to determine one's sex, as the person was born. XX means female, XY means male, in chromosome lingo. And they haven't been able to change chromosome identity yet. They will.

So now we know that at least one female-to-male is in the militia, ops are free and performed at ordinary town hospitals, some find employment as spies, others as Olympic contestants, and they only perform the ops for true hermaphrodites.


I sent a readout to the Erickson Foundation, being on fairly good terms with them at the time, and promptly saw, in a later issue of their newsletter, something about transexual medicine in the USSR, and their plans to visit the Soviet Union to study parapsychology.

(continued)

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(continued)

This is, of course, very scanty information, and I would assume that international jet-setters may be privy to more updated data, and will soon inform me that drag shows are raging in Red Square and the rumors about Veruschka are all very true; that Russian transexuals are in training as cosmonauts and hold high positions in the Soviet government and America is a good twenty years behind, at least. The space race, the arms race, now the sex race; that Russian surgery is much better and the clitoris creation of Soviet socialized medicine is far more responsive than its American counterparts, and a better grade of silicone has been invented, and finally, when it gets really heavy, we will all learn that the first sex change operation was performed in Moscow in 1925 and the person is now happily married to a factory worker in Vladivostok, thereby putting the German surgery of Rinar Wegener in the 1930s and that of Christine Jorgensen in the 1950s in second place.

Seriously, a lot of American transexuals would welcome specialized medicine, but let's hope the Soviets loosen up their requirements.

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ABOUT OUR EDITOR.....

"Who is this Angela K. Douglas?" asked a Berkeley Barb writer not long ago. Angela was born in Detroit in 1943, is a Pisces, and grew up in Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Michigan and Japan. A rock singer and guitarist from 1957 to 1968, she formed countless bands in Florida, California, Hawaii, Japan and Oklahoma, spent several years in the US Air Force (honorably discharged), was married, and began writing for the alternative press in California in 1968. She's had over 500 articles published in dozens of publications...including about 30 in the Barb.

She began living publicly as a woman in 1969, having lived secretly as a woman from the age of six, began hormone treatments, and found herself active in both the feminist and gay lib movements on both the West and East Coasts. She formed the TAO in 1970. She's also worked as a movie set artist, free-lance artist, B-girl and appeared in several films as an extra. Angela's interests include foreign languages, UFOology, esoteric philosophies, boating and jazz. She's been arrested several times and has been in both men's and women's jails, has been affiliated with the new religions, and has visited all major cities in the US and Western Canada. A full interview with Angela will appear in the next Mirage and she is currently at work on a book about her life.

## CUTTING COSTS

Is the cost of sex change surgery too high? Some people think so. The only real requirement to obtain a sex change operation in the US is money, and the various tests, such as psychiatric, given to applicants, serve only to protect the doctor, not the patient...and are mere window-dressing. Persons who should, by all means, have a sex change operation are often denied, on a strictly financial basis, while persons who have the money can readily get it...although they may not need it so desperately. Some surgeons use transsexuals, and attempt to use TS groups, and psychiatrists, lawyers, etc. to find patients for them, and pay such "finders" kickbacks per patient found. The surgeons themselves are very jealous of each other, each claiming to be the best, that their surgery is better than the others...and the transsexual winds up being a victim of hype and promotion all designed to hustle in \$5000 or more per patient to one doctor or another. A few TSs have had surgery on welfare, but this is not common and quite rarely the case. What are the costs? Here are some 1973 prices...it's higher now. A private clinic in New York:

Psychiatric evaluation \$75, surgery \$2000, hospitalization, \$1200, anesthesia, \$150...total, \$3425. A private clinic in California: \$5000 total. A clinic affiliated with a research university program: Surgeon's evaluation, \$100, psychiatric evaluation, \$100, endocrinological evaluation, \$100, legal consultation, \$80, surgery, \$1000, hospitalization, \$1200-1500...total, \$2655.

A private clinic in Mexico charges \$5000. These costs are based on the male-to-female sex change operations, not the female-to-male...which is roughly twice or three times as much. Some clinics will accept payment in installments, but most ask for full payment in advance. If the surgery doesn't turn out well, the surgeon is fully covered and cannot be sued, as patients must sign a release under the conditions they understand this is "experimental" surgery.

The psychiatric evaluation simply covers the surgeon as it shows the patient is of "sound mind." Although there are some very, very dedicated surgeons in this field, and some demand that welfare or some help be given to the thousands of TSs unable to afford surgery, many do not and suggest that if one can't get the cash, one doesn't deserve to get the operation. Some clinics do several ops per week and one reportedly does an average of 5 per week, a total of \$25,000 per week. There are perhaps 50 private and research sex change clinics in the US at present, so the amount of funds flowing in this area of medicine are very considerable...in the millions, easily. The cost of electrolysis and hormone treatments are often not included in the clinics' prices, and are additional...and electrolysis can cost up to \$3000 more. Silicone breast implants cost from \$900 to \$1500. In other words, the total cost, in the US, of changing sex from male to female is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$10,000 plus.

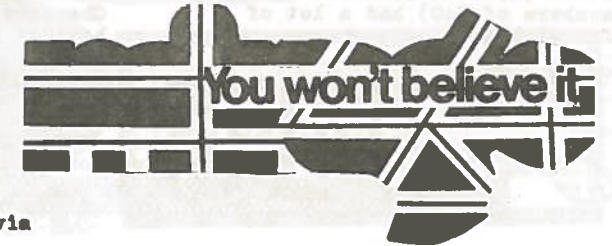
It is becoming known that many nations now provide free sex change surgery, including some of the Scandinavian nations, the United Kingdom, others...for their citizens, under medical welfare programs. This is the only direction in which the situation in America can go, but it will be a few years before it becomes anything but sub rosa and a true part of the welfare system. Until it does, TSs will be forced to raise the cash as best they can (the doctors don't care if it was raised legally or not) and pay the prices demanded...and one can view the "crimes" committed by many TSs as a direct result of these exorbitant costs.



Mary-Florida



Sonya-Yugoslavia



# TAO CONFRONTS ACS

Brigitte Levon

Miami Beach got a badly needed shot in the financial arm this October when 18,000 to 25,000 surgeons convened here for their annual Clinical Congress...and Mirage also welcomed the surgeons with open arms.

Obviously a wonderful source of material, the visiting surgeons gave us a few headaches, or rather hangovers, as well as a few interviews. All kinds of surgeons attended; specialists as well as general surgeons, army doctors, etc.

The surgeons told us they regarded cosmetic surgeons as artists, rather than as "life-savers" such as themselves, and gave us the impression they looked down upon them to some extent.

Very few of the surgeons kept their conservative images during the convention. Rent-a-girl dating services were doing boom business; the docs had a lot of cash and spent it freely. After all, they do not get too many chances to let it hang out as they did during the convention.

The convention itself was a bore, according to most of the surgeons we talked to; nothing revolutionary was discussed.

One would assume that surgeons would be able to recognize transsexuals easily, but this was not the case. We found them to be a bit naive, and the Mirage staff (as well as about 100 members of TAO) had a lot of fun with them.

More than a few of us wound up in posh hotel rooms with the good doctors or danced the moonlit nights away at the flashy discos and supper clubs. As they were out for a good time, we decided to give them one...to a point. After all, most transsexuals here are pre-operative, and still have

male genitalia, and the docs weren't aware of this. They simply thought we were sexy Miami Beach hookers.!......

We did manage to get a few points across about the high cost of sex change surgery, on a most personal and unforgettable level. More than a few doctors spent their nights alone after discovering the girl they had wined and dined all night was, to be sure, a pre-op transsexual.

The post-ops here simply proved that sex change surgery is quite perfected, and often told the surgeons that they were transsexuals...after completing the evening's activities. We're sure some of the doctors had some odd "morning afters."

TAO lent its presence, of course, by printing up leaflets which were handed out to surgeons walking near the convention center, or given to them in the hotel rooms as the earth-shaking truth was revealed! On more than one occasion, dirty old doctors from places like Cheyenne and Peoria would hotfoot it down Collins Ave-

(continued)

Doctors Spend \$6 Million During 4-Day Convention of the American College of Surgeons.....



(continued)

nue for a few blocks to try and pick up a gorgeous girl who had caught their eye, and she'd simply hand them a leaflet. There were, to be sure, some strange looks on their faces.

Most of the surgeons liked Miami Beach, and said it is getting looser, more fun.

"We decided to hit them where it would be most effective," said Mirage editor Angela K. Douglas. "In the bedrooms. It was much more effective than picketing or demonstrating in the convention hall."



Barbara Holliday and Staci Carlson of Patsy's



Criss Cross of Patsy's

ALL YOU CAN EAT

The following definitions may be of some help to readers unfamiliar with the subject of transsexualism:

- TS-transsexual.
- Pre-op, pre-op TS-a pre-operative transsexual, a person in the process of changing sex.
- Post-op, post-op TS-a post-operative transsexual, a person who has undergone sex change surgery.
- Intersexual-a person in the process of changing sex physically.
- MF TS-a person changing sex from male to female.
- FM TS-a person changing sex from female to male.
- NATS-not a transsexual.
- TAO-Transsexual Action Organization.
- TSTV-Transsexual and transvestite.
- TV-transvestite or transvestism.
- Drag-anything pertaining to transvestism.
- TS liberation-a rights movement for transsexuals.
- TSTV liberation-a rights movement for both transsexuals and transvestites.



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- Blepharoplasty: An operation to change the shape of the eyelids.
- Rhinoplasty: An operation to change the shape of the nose.
- Mammoplasty: An operation to change the shape of the breasts. "Reduction" is to make them smaller; "augmentation" is to make them larger.
- Endocrinology: The study of the effects of and the diseases of the glands of internal secretion, especially the sex glands, the pituitary, (the master gland which controls many other glands), the thyroid, the pancreas (diabetes and hypoglycemia) and others.
- Dysphoria: A disturbance of something, such as "gender dysphoria."

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# FM TRANSEXUALISM

BROOKLYN STOTHARD

**A**s a female-to-male TS I should like to discuss FM TSism, the  
myths which have grown up around it, and its relation to male-  
to-female TSism. It is often suggested that FM TSism is somehow  
more "accepted" in society than MF TSism. This is incorrect. We  
are told to "stop getting uppity" as much as MFs are told to "stand  
up for themselves." Non-transsexual males take FM as a threat to  
their masculinity (not a compliment) in the same way that non-TS  
females take MFs as an insult to their femininity. We are deviat-  
ing from our gender role to the extent that MFs are, and therefore re-  
ceive, the same punishment from society. To suggest that MFs are socially  
ostracized to a degree that FMAs are not is to defend non-TS women in  
favour of TSs by suggesting that the oppression of MFs is somehow greater  
than that of FMAs by virtue of the fact that MFs are "doubly" oppressed, as  
TSs and as women. We as TSs are oppressed by non-TS (male and female  
alike!) so that the question of an MF being oppressed as a woman is just  
as abstract and theoretically incorrect as is the issue of whether FMAs  
oppress non-TS females. We must not allow feminism to divide us.

Do we exist? A more common assertion  
that FM TSs "don't exist, and that  
we "grow out of it", has been made  
by Dr Richard Green, a leading psy-  
chiatrist in California who deals  
with gender identity research, and  
is the co-author of "Transsexual-  
ism and Sex Re-Assignment." It  
seems, however, that those who do  
"grow out of it" are those who are  
forced to repress their TSism by the  
great social pressures which are  
exerted upon all of us to remain in  
our biological sex. The most com-  
monly held myth and at one the most  
dangerous is surely the suggestion  
that the incidence of FM TSism is  
lower than that of MF TSism. Most  
estimates give the number of FMAs as  
being from 1/4 to 1/10 of the number  
of MFs. (R. Steller, Prof. of Psychia-  
try at John Hopkins, suggests a ra-  
tio of one to eight.) Such assertions represent an attempt to distort the  
nature of TSism since, by playing down the number of FMAs, the way is open-  
ed for a whole series of behaviouristic and naturalistic explanations to  
take place, whilst the true nature of TSism, as a social phenomena, is  
masked. Whereas, if one talks interchangeably about MF and FM TSism it  
immediately becomes apparent that the TS is a deviant from gender roles and  
not a "freak of nature."



Photo: Layla (L) and Brooklyn Stothard (R)

(continued)

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The result of such allegations that we do not exist, grow out of it, etc., or are "less numerous than MFs", is that less FMS have been able to seek or obtain treatment than one would reasonably expect. Therefore it is the case that FM surgery is less advanced and more expensive than MF surgery. Very little information is disclosed by the medical profession about FM treatment and surgery which today (at least in the UK) is only as advanced as MF surgery was when it first hit the headlines more than 20 years ago. FMs are frequently discouraged from phalloplasty (creation of the penis) and "at present" we are told "the functional results are much more satisfactory for the artificial vagina than for the artificial penis." (Ref: H. Benjamin & C. Ihlenfeld, "Transsexualism".) All too often, if phalloplasty is sought, the need for a sexually functioning penis is dismissed as "too much to be hoped for." In "Doctor's Changing Community-the Brave New World of Transsexuals", a Dr. Hoopes is quoted as follows: "The female transsexual patients seem to have more reasonable expectations and more willing to accept imperfections than the male transsexual patients who typically demand complete feminization." This (besides being an attempt to divide us against each other) merely suggests that our tendency, as FMs, to rationalize has been exploited by the medical profession and that we have not been able to expect anything more because, as Dr. Hoopes continues, "a phallus serving an urinary function is entirely satisfactory; and a phallus capable of sexual activity is too much to be hoped for." It is no accident that as FMS we are often referred to by the medical profession-and regrettably by many MFs as well-as and "vice-versa". On behalf of all FMs I say that we demand immediate recognition, and I appeal to all brothers to voice yourselves in the transsexual movement, whether in TAO or other organizations-and to all MFs to recognize your brothers as being other transsexuals.

Only when this becomes a reality will such myths as have been perpetrated about FM transsexualism be dispelled.

...Brooklyn Stothard is the director for the Transsexual Action Organisation United Kingdom's branches.



Kim Elliott



Adelle of England



Linda Mitchell

## TAO PROTESTS ABC



ANITA MOREAU

**T**ao protested two segments of the "Streets of San Francisco" television program, despite objections from members that the program did not attack transsexuals, only female impersonators. However, TAO decided it would be in its best interests to hold the protest and it would also serve as a training exercise for new officers without experience in protest actions. TAO's action included mailing numerous leaflets, calling for a boycott of the local television station WPLG, a telephone complaint campaign to WPLG, a protest letter to ABC headquarters in New York, and appeals to other organizations to back up the protest. TAO also attempted to organize a public demonstration, but this was unsuccessful and was called off at the last moment. Coverage of TAO's protest was given locally by The Miami News and in The Miami Phoenix.

TAO objected to the stereotypes presented in the two shows. The first program cast a man as a political assassin disguised as a nun, and the second show cast a man as a professional female impersonator who went insane when one of the characters he imitated took control of his mind, and became a killer. The sexist aspects of the program are obvious, fostering the concept of man as good, woman as evil, and female impersonation (and by extension, transsexualism) as a mental illness or a means to perform criminal acts of the most serious kind. TAO did not presume that the general public would accept these stereotypes as gospel but they would add to anti-TSTV attitudes already existing and help push borderline supporters of the TSTV movement into negative areas of view.

WPLG officials (WPLG, the Washington Post-owned television station here) cooperated with TAO as much as possible, but would not black out the show without orders to do so from ABC in New York. ABC NY did not respond to our letters of protest until after the show was aired and in a letter from ABC official J.T. Hoover, TAO was informed that the show's contents could be viewed as offensive.

The show was also protested by the Metropolitan Community Church in San Francisco and possibly by other organizations and many individuals. However, negative reaction to the protest came from an ex-TAO director, Sandy Mesics, of Philadelphia, who said the show was a "breakthrough" as it made the subject available to the public. This opinion was earlier expressed by a TAO member when the protest was being planned, and was discarded as being a reactionary and incorrect grasp of the situation. The perpetual stereotypes being fostered by the media have often cast TSs and TVs as mentally ill or as men disguised as women to commit crimes, and have neglected to portray transsexuals in any other way, although transsexuals (and transvestites) now comprise a growing segment of society. The stereotype of clown, police agent, criminal, mentally ill is the basic format for all fictional programs seen in the past ten years with perhaps one or two exceptions.



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