



A Look Inside:

- Thea Gill
- Fusion Festival
- Emily Saliers
- Dana Frank



THE
& WILD
Beautiful
ENTERTAINING LIFE OF
LADY | GAGA

in person
Interview
Exclusive

www.TheLNMag.com

\$3.95 US \$4.95 CAN





Cover Story 28-31 By John Esther

Lady Gaga

Photo by: Aaron Fallon, courtesy of Interscope Records

Inside LN

- 06 Letter To The Editor
- 19 Poetry
- 20 Juno Parreñas
- 21 Movies Eye C
- 22 LOLs
- 25 Music-Notes from Nat
- 25 Books
- 32 Hot Spots
- 33 Modern Love: Dating & Intimacy
- 33 Queerly Spoken
- 35 Humor
- 35 Ask Dr. Jane
- 39 Community Access
- 40 Calendar of Events
- 41 Weekend Getaways
- 41 Travel
- 42 Classifieds/Personals
- 17 Let The Games Begin
- 43 Startalk



Features

- 10 **News & Sports**
by Anne Winchester
- 12 **News Bytes**
by Denise Penn
- 13 **Specialist of the Month**
by Sabrina
- 14 **Transgender News**
by Patrick Letellier
- 16 **Thea Gill**
by Lance Perkins
- 38 **Fiction**
by Amanda Vallo
- 44 **Senior Talk**
"Slow Down You're Moving Too Fast"
by Toni Hart

Lifestyles

- 24 **The Indigo Girls: Separately Together**
by Nat Burns
- 26 **Queer Me Color**
by John Esther
- 37 **Self Help**
My Identity Has Been Stolen
by Dian Katz

by Lance Perkins

Thea Gill

With the upcoming DVD release of the movie *Mulligans*, LN Magazine caught up with Thea Gill to discuss magic, love, family values, friendship and second chances.

LP:
So, what have you been up to?

Thea:
I came back to Canada for a couple months because I've lived in LA for the last year and I've been trying to find a balance in my life. So, it's been balancing, seeking work out in all kinds of different countries other than Canada; but also paying attention to my life and my personal growth and my private dreams here in Canada, too. So... It's just been a bit of a balancing act for me.

Lots of shifts and changes have happened in my personal life in the last couple months. I'll be going back to LA, driving down on March 3rd and I have a couple of projects lined up. I'm going to be doing a short film called 'The Slip-Away' with Tina Scorzafava and Michelle Bonilla at the top of April, so I have some things lined up. But at the same time, I'm also wanting to approach Los Angeles from a different perspective from the first way I approached it. I'm going to really try and make it my home and build with the wonderful friendships I've developed.

LP:
What were your dreams when you were a child?

Thea:
I've always loved singing. It's interesting, because singing is coming back into my life. I've been urged to sing more. When I go back to LA, I'm going to be doing a recording of 'Crazy.' A couple of the musicians will be outstanding. Chuck Leavell, the keyboardist for the Rolling Stones will be playing my keyboard. And Willie Nelson's son, Lucas Nelson is planned to play. It's like... "oh kay." So this is something I have to live up to. So I'm thinking about that because I think I always wanted to be an actress. When I was in grade 5, I was in a play. I was Scrooge in 'A Christmas Carol.' That was the thing that decided it for me.
But I wonder if maybe there was another dream before that. That was the conscious dream; but I think there was another, unconscious, dream -- which was the dream of singing. I love to sing, so it's not that unusual... What I think I'm understanding about my unconscious dream of wanting to sing, earlier on in my childhood is that it will be the thing that will actually help me overcome my hurdles, my inner fears as an actress.

LP:
It's your charm.

Thea:
That's interesting! I never thought about it that way. But that's true. some of the songs I love to sing are, like, 'You Took Advantage of Me,' that old standard. I love that song! ...the first few lyrics... it's like... 'when a girl falls in love with her horse...' That's like it's so cute. I see what you mean by those tunes being charming. There is something to needing, or to



finding, or to maybe elevating the charm in one's life. We lead such self-obsessed, kind of insecure, dark, fearful, heavy dramatic... like passionate existences, but I guess the idea of finding one's charm is probably, like, necessary for an actress's survival!

LP:
I wanted to ask you first about 'Queer As Folk' and your thoughts about bringing it to America and how you thought it was received as such a ground-breaking thing for Showtime and for television.

Thea:
It still is. It's sort of, like even after all these years of having finished it... It's still so nostalgic to me. That was sort of the big break-through of my acting life. I've fallen so in love with the show, over and over again. Even after having been away from it.

LP:
Yeah. It stands the test of time, that's for sure.

Thea:
Yeah. That's right. I agree. I think it really has stood the test of time already. And I think it will continue to. I think it was great that it came at that time in America. It was a boost for the American television scene at the time.

LP:
You've really busted lots of stereotypes of lesbians, portraying them as beautiful and their relationships as a little quirky and fun, but very down-to-earth as well.

Thea:
You say 'beautiful' and I thank you for that, Lance, because... It's so ironic, because, at the time... I think I did go through a self-image crisis for a few years there while I was working on the show. Looking back on that, I'm very interested in what I was going through. -- not only personally, but how it ties into what kind of woman I was trying to portray. I think that, at the very beginning of the show, I was so completely, 100 percent earnest... that this role was one of the most defining characters that I'll ever play... So... because I understand I've always felt myself a bit of a misfit. I've always related to a woman who's never felt herself at the center of things. And I think that Lindsey was a woman that was challenged with that struggle, as well... with being an openly gay woman, with being an artist, with being a woman who was very honoring of the idea of marriage and family... I'm very pleased about how Lindsey came around and came about. I look back on her and I love her quirks; I love her flesh and I feel sorry for her when she got all so strung out, when Melanie and Linds were on the rocks. I feel so sorry for her, because they were such a great couple! But they won out in the end; they made it. Like we all can do, hopefully, in our lives.

LP:
Do you keep in touch with any of the cast?

Thea:
Sure I do, sure I do. Yes. Absolutely. Michelle and I are on the phone a lot. Peter Paige and I will be doing a web series. We'll be doing this cooking web series that my friend, Gina Glass put together. It'll be called 'Dishing It Up'. We're going to be on a cooking show together one day when I get back in March. and we're going to be doing a film down in Brazil. I think we're scheduled to shoot this year for a 2010 premiere release, called 'Copacabana.' It was first called 'Butterfly, Butterfly', but they changed the title. It's a bit of a crime-mystery thriller. I also play Peter Paige's so-called wife. So I'm really looking forward to that. I love everyone, but Peter has the qualities I need to feel possessed. He has the qualities of clarity and rationale and justice and attentiveness and good, old-fashioned charm.
He's a real smartie, smartie-pants. And Scott Lowell... Of course, we all keep in touch with email... I've just hung out with Sharon. We had a remarkable dinner together, Sharon Gleiss and I in San Francisco., when I was down there a few weeks ago, doing a reading of a new play by Nathan Sanders, called 'Divine Fruit; Kundalini Rising'. A very interesting piece, with Karen Gravel, who played the mom on 'Little House on the Prairie'... She's a lovely lady. She had a small job at this reading. I play a kind of a dream character... Well, I play Lindsay Waggner, coming out of the TV screen. It's a pretty interesting little piece.

LP:
Your movie, *Mulligans* actually made me cry, in parts. I related to some parts of it.

continue on p. 34

continued from p. 16

Thea:

I love the way that you responded in an emotional way, number one. Number two, that you understood that it was a great love story. LP:

LP:

And I like how, when it's all said and done, with people making mistakes and this happening and that happening and they might be apart ... it still comes down to love, that they love each other. And what do we define 'family' as, these days? What are family values?

Thea:

Mmm-hmm.. That is the big question, Lance.

Yeah. I think, often, we're placed into these crises in our lives and it's how we deal with them, how we respond, that make us who we are as human beings. It's not easy, you know. but, in order to find the truth and the essence of us, of our lives here, sometimes we have to break free and we have to go through the grime in order to come out the other end. and this is the story of a family that had to go through the grime. It had to go through it and it had to live up to the standards that they had created for themselves up to that point. And that means breaking down a lot of internal and personal barriers in order to get through it.

LP:

Yeah, to get to the next point in your life. And I liked the way you and Stacy said, 'We're just going to take it day by day. And we're not going to try to plan out what's going to happen from here.' It's almost like people think they have an owner's manual for life, or something.

Thea:

Yeah. Yeah. Well, there isn't an owner's manual for life.

LP:

Or for families, or for friendship. I know she's innocent and everything, but I thought that Birdy seemed like the most well-rounded, grounded, person in the movie.

Thea:

Yeah, she does, doesn't she? That's often the case, right? The innocent, the pure, the child, is the Old Wise One. Just like the fool on the hill. Like those are the ones that know.

LP:

Did you feel Stacy, the mother, was a little over-protective of Birdy?

Thea:

I would say, yes. Quite a little bit!

LP:

Do you feel like Stacy, the mother, herself was over-compensating for her mother not being as protective?

Thea:

as her own mother?

LP:

Yeah.

Thea:

Mmm-hmm. Yes. There was definitely the triangle there.

LP:

I was wondering what would have happened differently in Stacy's life if her mother had let her know about lesbian relationships and gay -- homosexuality. Do you think her life would have been different?

Thea:

Yes. I think it would have been. I think it would have been different in a very, very big way. You're very, very perceptive, Lance. I like what you saw in that, because that is exactly the turmoil that my character undergoes. She goes through a turmoil of being all-accepting of and loving of the family, but yet very blind to life and very blind to her own obstacles.

LP:

What do you think her dreams were, for her life? Because she was young and teen pregnancy and kind of forced into this life.

Thea:

Definitely. I always sort of saw her as an artist. Someone who could have been a writer. I think the fact she is a loving woman... an independent woman, yet suppressed by her own ideals of what life should be like. I think that writing would have been the best vehicle, or art form, for her to have really told



her story.

Instead, she tried to tell it through her child. And her child, in turn tries to tell it to her Barbies -- like we all do. That's the road she took when she became pregnant. and that was an honorable road -- because, you know what? She perhaps would never have been able to have seen what she eventually comes to see and have been able to fill a great part of her life in order to really express that. And now do something that could even be more doubly profound, because there's no denying the fact that our children teach us. And I think she's taught by Birdy. Birdy teaches her mother.

LP:

She does. That's true. I know she loved being a mother... But do you think, for twenty years, she was kind of bored?

Thea:

Yeah. I think there was a lot that was absolutely laid in dormancy. I know what that's like. I've been dormant in my life. Sometimes it's just more comfortable to be dormant. Sometimes, it's just less painful. So that's why she's great. I think those who rock, rattle

and roll their dormancy are brave souls. I really do, because you're saying, 'I'm strong enough; I can do this.' and we can. We can find the strength. We have the strength within us. Each of us does. Each and every one of us does.

LP:

Tyler, David's son... The son, his friendship with Chase... we have the whole family dynamic of realizing you have to stay together as a loving relationship... and then the friend going, 'Oh,' My friend's gay. How are we going to get through this friendship?' And then having the friend get into this other thing where he's almost turned into a catalyst for the whole family change and to move them forward.

Thea:

I know. Isn't that a beautiful relationship, though?

LP:

Yeah, it is.

Thea:

That's where I get really kind of touched. I'm always moved by great stories of friendship.

LP:

One of my favorite quotes you said in the movie. 'You can't blame a person for who they are.'

Thea:

That's nice. Isn't that a beautiful line?

LP:

Yeah. I really like that line. You've got to take the bad with the good.

Thea:

And when we are, at the end of the day. I think that is what makes or breaks our relationships in our lives, our friendships and our love affairs. We have to understand everyone is different. We're all interconnected; we're all one. But we are all unique, too. And we all are who we are. And you can't change a person for who they are -- no matter how much you want and how much you think it's going to make a difference, it won't. If we could all just learn that lesson in life earlier, than later... we'd be so much happier

LP:

Celebrating the uniqueness in people....

Thea:

I'm a strong believer in it.

LP:

What do you think about three-person relationships?

Thea:

I think so, yeah. I think it can work. I think you all have to be in agreement; you have to have some understanding; you have to have the same philosophy; you have to have the same beliefs in life, I believe. That's from my perspective; that's what I would say. And I think...then.. that's another form of family, right?

LP:

That's true. It's all if you can get the love, I guess.

Thank you Thea!

Mulligans will be released on March 10th, 2009 on DVD from Wolfe Video. Go to www.mulligansthemovie.com for more info.