



# texas

2 November 2001 Vol. 2 Issue 7

## Old and New

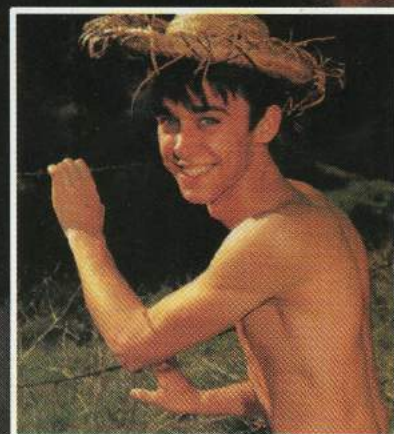
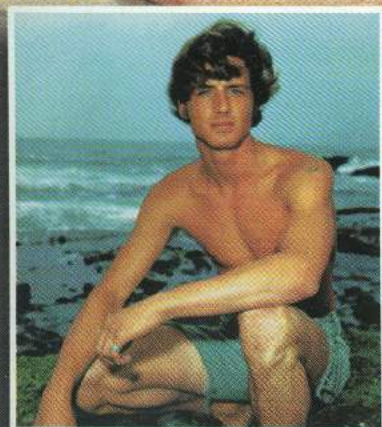
Fed up with the runway scene, Texas native Todd Oldham turns to photography

## OS for the 21st century?

Microsoft's widely heralded new WindowsXP offers vast improvements — and a few problems

**Photographer Mel Roberts captures Age of Aquarius beauties from the Golden State**

# The Wild Ones



## On The Cover

Shots from *California Boys: The Wild Ones*, a new book from FotoFactory Press featuring the work of photographer Mel Roberts. For ordering information, see Page 18.

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# Old and new

Fed up with the runway scene, Texas native Todd Oldham turns to photography

chat

**T**odd Oldham is running away from the runway. Recently the Texas native and *House of Style* cutie spoke candidly to the gay pub *Metro Source* about his frustration with the design world and where his focus is shifting these days.

"One of the great pleasures of being self-employed is the opportunity to change things that don't make your heart sing," Oldham said. "For me the most fascinating part of [fashion] was the technology and just getting to make something. By the time it got to the sample form of the runway show, I was completely not interested in it."

The openly gay fashion

designer, whose line of jeans is selling like crazy, had nothing positive to say about the oh-so-pretentious runway scene.

"It just became less and less interesting," he continued, "and the idea that I was supporting this elitist system that was about some really peculiar ideas, that style has only to do with money and you're inadequate if you don't have these things that change every few minutes. It was a really weird kind of message to get tumbled up in. It didn't go with my DNA, and I just moved on."

He's recently "refocused" his career and is now using his colorful design skills in a somewhat less bitchy arena — photography.

His most recent contribution was a cheeky fashion spread for *Paper Magazine* that featured, among many others, Monica Lewinski and Ricki Lake.

"I don't feel any different than I did when I was doing clothes," he said, "and I'm not going to change what I believe or the way I approach things, but I imagine others will see it as a sort of different adventure."

Not so much a career change but a reapplication of talent, Oldham says that photography is "exactly the same as the clothes or the architecture or the interior design. It's just that you have a different thing in your hand."

This is a quote, people — we



don't make this stuff up.

When he was asked about the possibility of returning to the runway at some point, Oldham isn't so optimistic.

"There are just so many other things I have an interest in more than that," he said. "I was really lucky; I got to [design clothes] at a time when there were all those amazing models. It was just a different time."

When the catty interviewer suggested that some critics might accuse the photographer's career move as being immature, our Toddy snapped back: "I have no interest in being mature. I don't exactly know what that means. ... And you know, I've made it this long without getting a real job, so you can say whatever the fuck you want!"

Well said!

"I basically spent the last four and a half years staring at John Cameron Mitchell's ass," said actress Miriam Shor in a recent *Instinct* interview. Oh, to have such problems! For the few culture-deprived Marys who know not of what Shor speaketh, she played Mitchell's boyfriend in the critically acclaimed rock musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* — both off-Broadway and on celluloid.

"I don't know how I'm going to follow up *Hedwig*," she continued. "Where will I ever find a role that open and edgy again?" And anyone who has seen the young thespian in the tepid new sitcom *Inside Schwartz*, can easily answer — not anytime soon.

"On the show I play Julie, Adam (Breckin Meyer) Schwartz's

best friend. They have a moment early on of 'Maybe I want to kiss you, maybe not,'" she said of the part. "Actually, their relationship is just that best friend thing where you're like, 'It'd be so easy just to date you because you're here a lot and cool.' That always happens to me with gay friends."

The actress admitted that she falls in love with gay men all the time.

"I'm just always surrounded by these beautiful, talented gay boys," she said. "In fact, if there is somebody out there who is really serious about switching for me, that'd be great. Can you put an 800-number or an e-mail address at the end of the interview so he can get in touch with me?"

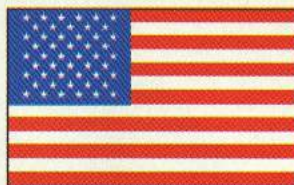
Uh, no. But we'd be happy to do the same for your fabulous co-star Mitchell — who is, sadly, taken.

She did have another idea, though. "Oh, I know! Seriously, how about Ewan MacGregor? I could do a little of that — OK, I could do a lot of that. I thought I had my feelings for him under control and then I saw *Moulin Rouge* and found out he could sing."

Take a number sister, and head to the back of the line.

Recently, out actor Craig Grief Chester spoke about his attempt to get back into the cruising scene after breaking up with his longtime companion.

"While I don't mind being on my own," the actor confided to *Instinct*, "there is one aspect of being single that I genuinely despise: being single. When I've had a boyfriend waiting for me in



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course, in order to appear on TV herself, Eddy succumbs to Patsy's pressure and tries Parralox herself — with disastrous results.

The second installment is by far the best of the first three I previewed. "Fish Farm" finds Patsy and Edina returning from the mosh pits at a Marilyn Manson concert. The next day, Eddy sees an attractive man wandering in her garden. He happens to be the landscaper hired by Saffy, but Patsy recognizes him as the younger brother of an extremely wealthy aristocrat. Soon, Edina is courting him and anxiously waiting to break her sexual dry spell. Meanwhile, Mother is competing with her friend for the attentions of an acting agent who has gotten her a job as an extra in the Harry Potter movie. And Patsy may have taken up permanent residence in Eddy's storage closet.

Episode 3, "Paris," is the weakest. A photo shoot in the City of Light has been set to resurrect the modeling career of Patsy in a multi-generational spread featuring the who's-who and has-beens of the modeling world. Naturally, she can't go alone, so Eddy and the gang tag along for a rather uneventful day trip.

It does feature a rare, touching moment when uptight Saffron asks Mum to spend the

day with her the way she would with Patsy, sending the mother-daughter team on a marathon spree of shopping, eating and drinking. But don't worry, the gushy sentiment doesn't last for long.

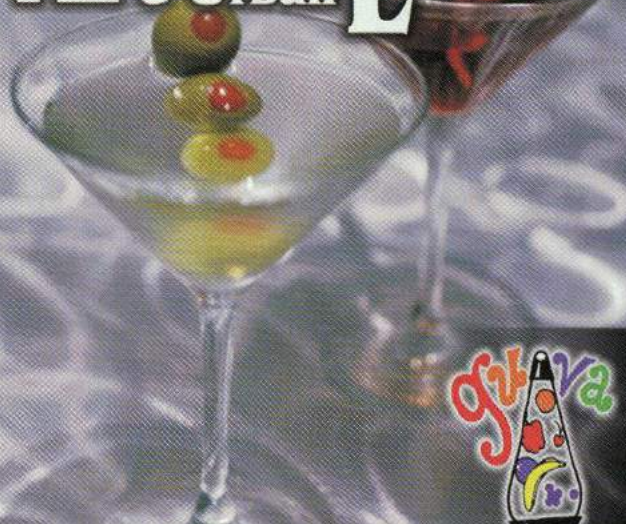
Even at its blandest, the new season is still the most riotous, politically incorrect delight on television. Classic lines and scenes abound, as usual, and you can count on plenty of pratfalls down the kitchen stairs from Eddy. Future episodes promise a visit from God (Mariann Faithfull), the debut of Saffy's first play, *Self-Raising Flower*, and Patsy and Edina's enrollment in MA (Menopause Anonymous).

Let's just hope there's more than one season left in the brilliant ensemble. After all, even with four seasons under its belt, they've still produced fewer episodes than a single season of an American sitcom, so surely there are a few more stories left in the crazed recesses of Jennifer Saunders' mind.

But even without the promise of more, Series Four proves to be the greatest resurrection since Buffy clawed her way out of the grave. So pop open a bottle of bubbly and have a little plastic surgery to celebrate Patsy and Edina's triumphant return.



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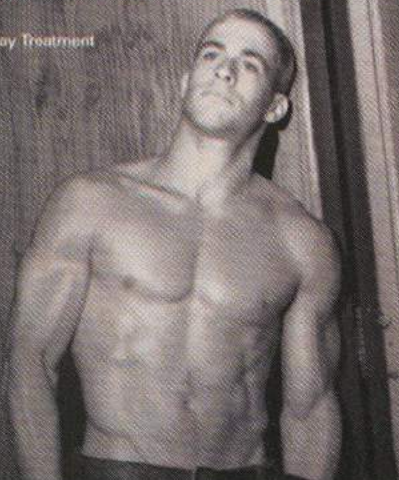
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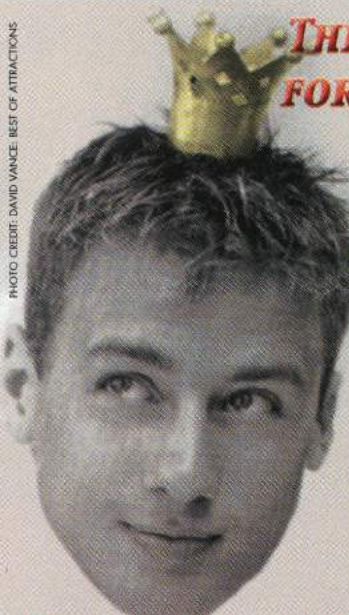


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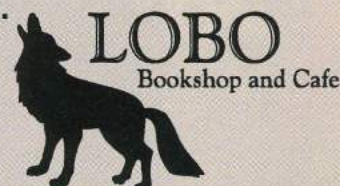
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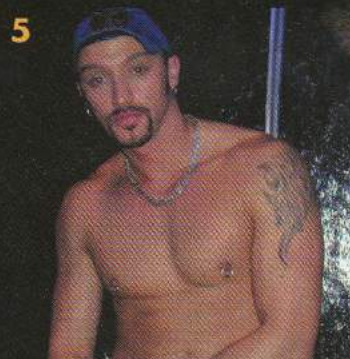
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1. Nick at E/J's. 2. Marisela, Ashley and Diane at Viviana's Nite Club. 3. Kim and David of Black Hawk Leather at the Ripcord. 4. Victor Calderone at Rich's. 5. Lee at South Beach. 6. Miguel, Tom, Tamara and Erik at Guava Lamp. 7. Rene and Tod at Meteor. 8. Brian, Earnest and Patrick at Inergy.

**qbites**

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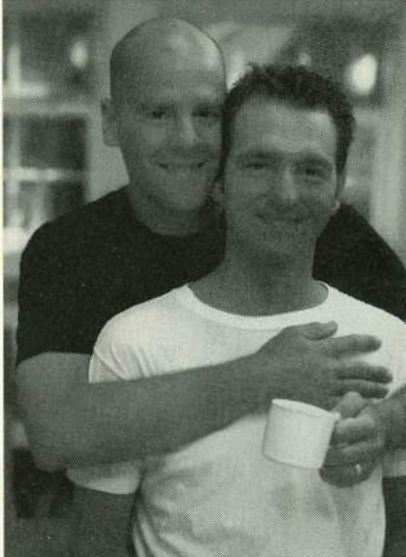
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