

out@UCL



E-NEWSLETTER

November 2015

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## How can we fight HIV?

5 November 2015! 7pm

### Cruciform LT 2

Organised by the LGBT+ Students' Network

Despite advances in medicine, HIV is still an epidemic and still stigmatised. In a world where being HIV+ is a liveable condition to some and fatal to others, and with the new discoveries from the PrEP study, the issues surrounding HIV are increasingly more complex.

We are honoured to have three speakers to address these topics in a panel discussion:

- Founder of the new chapter of [ACT UP: LONDON](#)
- A peer mentor at [Positively UK](#)
- The Co-Founder of [cliniQ](#)

Let us know you're attending by emailing [ucl-lgbt.officer@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:ucl-lgbt.officer@ucl.ac.uk) or telling us on our [Facebook page](#).

# HOW CAN WE FIGHT HIV?



Between PrEP, the stigma surrounding being HIV+ and the global struggle with HIV, what can we do? To what extent do these factors matter, and how can we solve them?

Featuring speakers from Positively UK, CliniQ, ACT UP London and UCLU LGBT+

**19:00, NOV 5, CRUCIFORM LT2, UCL**



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**Global LGBT+ Issues and Universities as  
'Global Citizens'?**

## 25 November 2015, 4-7pm

### Wilkins Gustave Tuck LT

A panel discussion on Global LGBT+ issues and the question of Universities as 'global citizens'.

The overarching question, to which the panel will respond in various ways, will be the question of the relation between LGBT+ issues and rights in various parts of the world in which Universities from first world countries have a significant presence (campuses or significant partnerships), and the role of such Universities, if any, as global citizens.

Organised by qUCL and the LGBTQ+ Equality Advisory Group (LEAG) at UCL. The Panel will be chaired by Michael Arthur (Provost, UCL), with panelists Nicola Brewer (VP International, UCL), Jonathan Wolff (Dean Arts & Humanities and Professor of Philosophy, UCL), Paul Twocock (Campaign Director, Stonewall), and Sophie-Grace Chappell (Professor of Philosophy, Open University). To be introduced by Fiona Leigh (LEAG, qUCL, and Philosophy, UCL).

The panel discussion will take place from 4-5:45pm followed by a drinks reception in North Cloisters.

Please click [here](#) to RSVP for this event.

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## Global LGBT University Forum, a Stonewall initiative organised in partnership with UCL

The UCL LGBT Equalities Advisory Group (LEAG) and Stonewall have developed a new Global LGBT University Forum that aims to explore a range of LGBT-related challenges with respect to global working and to discuss potential solutions as a group.

On the 17th November, UCL and Stonewall will join representatives from at least 7 other UK Higher Education institutions to share case-studies relating to LGBT identities and international operations.

The case study themes can include:

- Reflecting institutional values and commitment to LGBT equality on satellite campuses and partner colleges
- Implementing inclusive global policies in different legal contexts
- Preparing students and staff for outward international mobility (including on overseas work placements, ERASMUS years, electives)
- Asserting your brand as a “liberal space” and marketing your diversity credentials internationally
- Supporting international students to arrive and integrate into UK campuses, providing education of LGBT rights and promoting good campus relations

- Establishing and supporting LGBT societies and staff networks abroad

The evening offers an opportunity to open up a conversation between institutions on issues that until now haven't been discussed on the sector stage. Where possible, we will draw from the experiences of our partners in other industries and share best practice from other Stonewall Global Diversity Champion members.

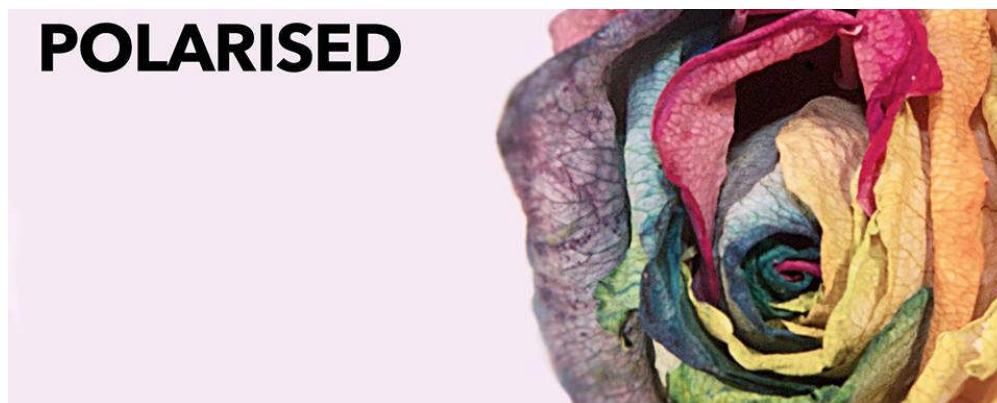
If you are interested in finding out more about this forum and/or the information generated from this event please contact Fiona Addison: [f.addison@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:f.addison@ucl.ac.uk)

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## **The Polarized Glitter Ball**

### **21 November 2015, 7:30pm**

### **The Good Ship, 289 Kilburn High Road, NW6 7JR**



The Polarised Project are a charity making a documentary film about the mental health of young LGBT+ people living in London, with a focus on the impact of the government's austerity agenda.

Following the successful premiere of their short film in September, Polarised are hosting a Glitter Ball on November 21st to raise funds for the feature film. So throw some glitter on and get down to the Good Ship Kilburn for a night of live music, drag, comedy, burlesque, DJs and dancing, featuring North London drag legends The Family Fierce, Fagulous, The Porcupine Dilemma and more...

Tickets are £7 waged, £4 unwaged with bolt-on extras available. The night will run from 7pm to 4am and all funds raised will go towards the Polarised film, raising awareness about LGBT+ mental health.

More information is available on Polarised's [Facebook page](#) and you can buy tickets in advance by clicking [here](#).

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# 'Underwire Festival 2015 (Best Editor Award)

## 21 November 2015, 7pm

### Hackney Picturehouse, 270 Mare Street, E8 1HE

Out@UCL member [Bonnie Rae Brickman](#) has been nominated for the Best Editor Award at the [Underwire Festival 2015](#), for her short film 'BOOTWMN'.



'BOOTWMN' follows Deana McGuffin, a third generation New Mexico bootmaker, handcrafting wearable pieces of art. When she is approached by a Canadian artist and a San Franciscan tattooer to create a gay themed cowboy boot, a story unravels of a unique collaboration that takes them to the heart of cowboy country.

Underwire is the UK's only film festival celebrating female filmmaking talent across the crafts. Founded in 2010 by Gabriella Apicella and Gemma Mitchell with the aim to change the face of the industry from the inside out, the festival has awarded training and mentoring opportunities to over 40 filmmakers, and has screened over 300 films.

Bonnie has also edited another short film which is screening this month, '[Female Masculinity Appreciation Society](#)'. The Female Masculinity Appreciation Society is a sort of gentlemen's club for queer women and those who love them. Follow Cookie and Foxy Ven in their quest to reach the arm-wrestling finals, discover the reason behind Rubyyy's ginger moustache and judge for yourself the standards in Dapper wear.

'Female Masculinity Appreciation Society' will be screening at the [Fringe! Queer Film & Arts Fest](#) on **Sunday 29 November at 6pm** in the **Rose Lipman Building**.

We wish Bonnie the best of luck for the award nomination and encourage you to support her by attending one or both of her screenings! Do let her know if you can make it by emailing [brbrickman@gmail.com](mailto:brbrickman@gmail.com).

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## CALLING ALL PERFORMERS!

### Out@UCL Variety Show - February 2016

Out@UCL has a number of exciting events planned for LGBT History Month in February 2016, one of which will be its **1st Annual Variety Show**, an opportunity to showcase some of the fabulous talent within our network!

Whether you are a musician, actor, dancer, poet, juggler, hula hooper or dog trainer(!), we would like to see it all!

We will be using the evening to fundraise for the [UK Lesbian & Gay Immigration Group](#). Further details to follow but please do contact [Sandy](#) if you would like to participate, either on or off stage.

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## 20 Questions With...

### Rob Eagle, Multimedia Producer, UCL Communications

**L, G, B, T, Q or +?**

Depends on the context. To most of the world, I'm G. In many contexts, though, I embrace the umbrella label of Q.

**What was your first job?**

Delivering the local newspaper in my neighbourhood. I was chased by mean dogs, but I learnt how to bat my eyelashes to get tips from subscribers.

**Which languages can you speak fluently?**



English. I used to be more fluent in Russian but it's a bit rusty now.

**Who has been your biggest inspiration?**

Fellow queer people I see and meet out in the street and in pubs – those who dress, act, talk and exist in any way that upsets the societal 'norms' of cisgender and heterosexuality. I find strength from these people because I experience homophobia regularly if I hold a partner's hand on the street and very threatening transphobia nearly every time I dress in drag anywhere in London. Much of society might read me as a cisgender, straight, white male most of the time, but I am whatever am and I will wear whatever I want to wear, no matter the threats and verbal abuse (from mostly young, cisgender men).

**Favourite quote/saying?**

'Children are like farts – you only like your own.'

I agree with this, but I would extend 'own' to the kids of my family members and close friends.

**What is the best advice you have ever received?**

Don't waste your time on Grindr. (Pretty useful advice – if only I could follow it more often.)

**If you could have dinner with anyone from history, who would it be?**

The two fierce trans women of colour who actually started the Stonewall riots, Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera.

**Which working achievement or initiative are you most proud of?**

Making my own documentary films and podcasts on queer communities and histories (<https://vimeo.com/robeagle>).

**If you could be Prime Minister for a day and could implement one policy, what would it be?**

I would open the borders and let in all migrants and refugees who want to live and work here. As part of this, they and their families would be offered English lessons, education, coaching on how to find jobs or start businesses and help in finding decent accommodation. That is my idea of 'controlled' immigration.

**Favourite music/musician?**

For a live performance, I love Stromae. But my favourite music to sing is the repertoire of the Bulgarian folk ensemble I sing in called Veda Slovena, which rehearses at UCL (<http://www.vedaslovenabulgarianchoir.com>).

**What is your favourite travel destination and why?**

The Isle of Skye – specifically, the Black Cuillins in the dead of winter. I've never felt as free as climbing and scrambling there in the ice and snow.

**If you were given £1m what would you spend it on?**

I'd buy a big house (obviously, not in Central London) that I would convert into rent-free studio space for artists to paint, sculpt, rehearse, make films and perform. Affordable arts spaces are disappearing around London, forcing many artists to move elsewhere. This exodus is killing off the subversive, experimental creative atmosphere that makes this a great city to live in.

**Favourite book?**

This is starting to feel like an OKCupid profile. But I'll read most anything by David Sedaris.

**Who do you admire as a leader?**

All of those in Opening Doors (<http://openingdoorslondon.org.uk>) who dared to be themselves in whatever form in the 50s, 60s and 70s. I've met a handful of the men who have tales to tell of the time before homosexuality was decriminalised. Some were out and political when they were young; others chose to live out their sexuality in quiet but fulfilling ways. Whatever ways they chose to be themselves, they were the leaders (whether they knew it or not) who we can thank for a relatively more open and accepting society with all of its legal protections.

**What is your favourite movie of all time?**

Wayne's World. I watch far too many 'challenging', 'intellectual' documentaries. Sometimes a ridiculous heteronormative love story full of stupid one-liners and Bohemian Rhapsody is just what you need.

**What one word would you use to describe yourself?**

Scared

**What one word would your friends use to describe you?**

Brave

**What would be on the menu for your last supper?**

The national dish of Kazakhstan, called beshparmak. It's platter of horse meat on noodles. I'd wash it down with a fine burgundy, followed by my favourite whisky, Bunnahabhain.

**If happiness was the national currency, what kind of work would make you rich?**

The Arts – performance, visual or otherwise. The more you create as an artist, the richer you are.

**What will you never do?**

Truly understand why some people are so homophobic and transphobic. We can try to rationalise it and contextualise as much as we want within frameworks of 'threatened masculinity' and peer pressure. But there's never an excuse to be horrible to another person who is just walking down the street.

*We are keen to showcase more of Out@UCL's members - fill in the following [questionnaire](#) and tell us your story!*

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**If you have an exciting news story or event you would like to share with Out@UCL, please [contact Sandy!](#)**



[Twitter](#)



[Website](#)