

NERVOUS ENERGY

FREE! #1

THE UK QUEER ZINE LIST

WRITE TO: NERVOUS ENERGY, c/o SINA, PO BOX 385A, SURBITON,
SURREY KT6 7YJ UK

HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE FIRST ISSUE OF NERVOUS ENERGY, the UK Queer Zine List. If you've been wondering where you can order the newest queer zines in the UK, this should be a good starting point. If you're a queer zinester wondering how to let people know about your new queer zine, send me a copy along with address and price details, and I'll list it in the next issue. I apologize for any errors in listings. I'm trying to keep this list as up-to-date as possible, so I've only listed zines I'm pretty darn sure are still going. Please let me know if there are any problems.

This issue produced in August 1997. Feel free to make copies - you can even charge for costs - but print the address.

SPECIAL THANKS... to Larry-Bob, creator of Queer Zine Explosion (international list), for the inspiration and encouragement, and for letting me borrow from QZE's format. Thanx also to Howard Stangroom, Rachael House and Jo David for advice, encouragement and general kibitzing xxx

Zine Primer

DO'S
AND
DONT'S!



* Send cash, not cheques! Send well-concealed paper money or coins taped to card. If you must write a cheque, leave the payee blank, and bouncing cheques isn't nice.

* Zine rhymes with scene, not sign.

* Check for changed prices and addresses.

* Don't use the zine name on the envelope if it has words in it you wouldn't say to your gran.

* Write your name, address and what you want on a piece of paper. People throw envelopes away.

* Zine editors are only human, and it may take a while. Try an SAE with a reminder.

* Zine editors love mail, including feedback after you get the zine. Nobody likes a boring one-line request for a zine.

* See the resource list to help find other genres of zines.

* Don't put it off. Write and start getting zines now.

* An IRC is an international reply coupon. You can get them at the post office, and they're useful for getting mail back from people in other countries.



PLACES TO GET MORE
ZINES, AND GET YOUR
ZINE REVIEWED!

Zine Resources

QUEER ZINE EXPLOSION

Nervous Energy's US counterpart and inspiration, this brilliant review sheet edited by Larry-Bob lists hundreds of queer zines from around the world. For the latest issue send \$1 (US cash) or 2 IRCs. For a 4-issue subscription, send \$2. Address: QZE, Box 590488, San Francisco, CA 94159-0488, USA.

FACTSHEET FIVE

Hundreds of zine reviews of all genres. The prime source of info about zines. Queer Zine Explosion is re-printed in Factsheet Five, so there's no need for queer zine editors to send a second copy to F5. For the latest issue of F5, send \$6 to Seth Friedman, Box 17099, San Francisco, CA 94117-0099, USA.

SLAB-O-CONCRETE

Publisher and distributor, focusing on comix and zines. For a catalogue, send SAE/IRC/\$1 to PO Box 148, Hove, BN3 3DQ.

UK Queer Zine List Starts Here!

ATOMIC LOVE #1

Sina, PO Box 385A, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7YJ, UK

(£1 + SAE/trade)

Queer superhero romance comic by Sina. The evil Anjelica plans to rid the world of homosexuality! Will queer superheroes Max, Rebecca and their friends be able to stop her?

A5, 28 pp

BOYCRAZYBOY #4

Sina, PO Box 385A, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7YJ, UK

(£1 + SAE/trade)

Autobiographical comix zine by Sina, with strips by guest artists. Sina's strip "The Story So Far" explains why he hasn't been doing many comics for the past 2 years. Nick Leonard explains what a shirtlifter is; Howard Stangroom makes his debut as a cartoonist with two strips, "Amazon Shirt" and "Hot Pie"; and the second chapter of Bud Larsen's sexy sci-fi story "Zu".

A5, 28 pp

BUDDIES #5

Howard Stangroom, PO Box 385A, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7YJ, UK

(£2 postage paid, make cheques payable to DC Martin)

The latest issue of the British gay anthology comic features: Craig Conlan's drag manga "Hell's Belles"; Coney & Doran's saucy superheroes "Major Power and Spunky"; Bob Lynch's surreal soap opera "Pretend Family"; and strips by Howard Stangroom, Ines Idaho, Chris Companik, Sina, Rick Campbell and Stephen Lowther. Issue #s 1-4 are also available at the same price.

A4, 32 pp

CHAOS/ORDER #3

Sarit, 39 Belgrade Rd, Stoke Newington, London N16 8DH, UK

(50p + SAE/trade)

The newest issue of Club V DJ Sarit's mostly-comix zine. Very funny strips by Sarit about why being a queer club promoter stinks; the trouble with sex and how to avoid getting laid; how Sarit got her friend Caroline pregnant; a girl who hates Sarit's guts; having crushes on girls in bands, and more. Also there's a written piece by Sarit about Slamming (making tube ticket gates bang to vent frustration) and examples of Sarit's photographic art.

A5, 16 pp

CRAIG CONLAN'S HAIRY MARY

c/o Slab-O-Concrete, PO Box 148, Hove BN3 3DQ, UK

(£1 + SAE)

This is the latest in a series of Missive Devices by Craig Conlan. Missive Devices are cool little comics you can mail like a postcard. Craig describes his style as "bubblegum drag manga" and this latest story is about Hairy Mary, a cute young girl whose hair is alive, and who fights evil in return for money so she can go shopping! Craig's previous Missive Devices (also starring Hairy Mary) Hello Pussy and Bad Hair Day are both still available from Slab-O-Concrete.

5 1/3 " x 3 1/2 " (postcard size), 20pp

GINGER #3

Groc, 18a Hartley Rd, Nottingham NG7 3AD, UK
(30p + SAE)

The new issue of Groc's zine is in a new teeny weeny micro-format. Groc's editorial asks "Is the British Queer Zine Dead?" (let's hope not) and the rest of the zine is filled with hilarious and sarcastic cartoons about Groc's crap flat, getting dumped by a patronizing boyfriend, obsessing over nice new knives, Helga the dypsomaniac dyke guinea-pig, and lots more.
A7, 16 pp

GIRLY #8

Mona, 33 Romford Rd, London E15 4LY, UK
(free with SAE)

The latest issue of the transgender/drag zine by Mona includes writing about gender identity; a list of TG-themed songs; pieces about glamorous stars Joan Crawford, Jayne Mansfield and Tori Spelling; a "Groovy Gals with Guns" Gallery; TG-themed newspaper clippings; reviews of various clubs and shows, and more.
A3, 2 pp

GOOGRA GUSTAS GRAPHIC NOVEL: EULOGIES

Jodie, 17 Wake Lawn, Milton, Portsmouth, Hants PO4 8HU, UK
(£5 with BIG SAE)

Jodie used to do the excellent queer-zine Pretend Best Friend which featured a lot of comic strips starring The Googra Gustas, the ultimate androgynous indie band. This 58-page Googra Gustas graphic novel, Eulogies, is a narrative collage with nine different narrators telling different stories, particularly focusing on Greg of the Googra Gustas and the DJ Vinnie Tart. Probably the last Googra Gustas story ever, it is a collection of different love stories involving members of the outrageous band and spanning time and space. A must for all PBF fans.
A4, 58 pp

HORMONE FRENZY #3

Mark C, 52A Tollington Rd, Holloway N7 6PG, UK
(50p + SAE/trade)

Mark's great queer-zine combines comic strips with opinions, fiction and reviews. Articles about trying to find queercore entertainment in the disco wilderness; queercore isn't dead; Krazed Kristianity Korner; having mixed feelings about the depiction of queers by straight writers; thoughts on pomosexualuality, that is, people who say they're bisexual to be hip but haven't had a same-sex relationship; reviews of Bruce LaBruce's films No Skin Off My Ass and Super 8 1/2; and more. Also, autobiographical comic strips about when Mark worked in a supermarket and got picked up by a repair-man; worst sex ever; and the defunct queer music venue The Bell; as well as another hilarious queer X-Men parody. This, the most recent issue of Hormone Frenzy, actually came out 2 years ago, so write to Mark and ask him what he's up to at the moment.
A5, 28 pp

KINK #1

Charlotte, 33 Romford Rd, London E15 4LY, UK
(free with SAE)

Charlotte's kinky bi-girl sex zine includes Charlotte's Sexy Top

10; praise for clingfilm; a drawing of Charlotte's Dream Daddy; writings about buddy booths, fireplay and submissive positions from the Sexuality Library's Web-page; a piece by Mona about New York Lust; slang terms for female masturbation; Sarit's great Sex Negative comic strip; and lots more.

A3, 2 pp

LICKITY-SPIT #3

Alleged Literature, c/o Damian Cugley, 9 Belvedere Rd,
Oxford OX2 4AZ, UK
(£1.25 postpaid)

The lean clean bi zine by Damian Cugley and (Ms) Jeremy Dennis. #3 includes the second part of Jeremy's 3 in a Bed strip about Alex's first girlfriend in boarding school; Hey Luv goes to the movies; old girls annuals, which can be interpreted as having a lot of sexual sub-text; a story from a Man from UNCLE annual with the words rearranged to make it sexier; Hollywood tells Lesbians: leave straight women alone!; Damian's strip about Wil, a queer student at Oxford, and his day out with Daniel, a straight mutant super-hero who he fancies, and another strip by Damian in which the mythological story of Pygmalion is re-told with stick-figures; and more comic strips.

A5, 36 pp

RED HANKY PANKY #5

R. House, 23 Whateley Rd, East Dulwich, London SE22 9DA, UK
(£1 + SAE/trade)

The latest issue of Rachael House's beautiful bi comic is her best issue yet. Her strips ask questions about sexuality, like why the word "cunt" is used as an insult; having a boyfriend but not being in a heterosexual relationship; a brilliant strip comparing people's attitudes towards bisexuals to attitudes toward fat people; the trouble with the gay press; what the advertizers in the personals are really like; having to fit into either a straight or a lesbian identity; Chandler Burr's book that claims bisexual men don't exist; Pride changes its name to include bisexuals; an Opinion Poll - which Star Trek captain would YOU sleep with?; and many more.

A5, 36 pp

RENT #1

Alleged Literature, c/o Jeremy Dennis, 9 Belvedere Rd,
Oxford OX2 4AZ, UK
(£2.50)

This new comic from Jeremy Dennis is the follow-up to her popular series about student sex life, 3 in a Bed. Rent moves the action two years forward, after the characters have graduated and are living in a house-share with an odd assortment of new faces. As well as the first episode of the new "Rent" saga, this issue features autobiographical strips about insomnia, panic about the sky, cutting all your hair off, and being chastised by the Small Press Fairy for not doing zines for so long. There's also some pages from Jeremy's Glastonbury 1997 sketchbook.

A4, 24 pp

SUGAR MONKEY #3

Jodie, 17 Wake Lawn, Milton, Portsmouth, Hants PO4 8HU UK
(free with SAE)

Jodie, creator of Pretend Best Friend and the Googra Gustas graphic novel Eulogies, regularly does this fanzine for the band Screeper. Sugar Monkey is injected with Jodie's camp sense of humour, as she good-naturedly makes fun of the band. Interviews, reviews, gig guides and a cartoon of Screeper lead singer Dave having a conversation with Brett Anderson.

A5, 8 pp

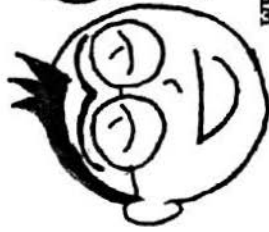


Groovy Clubs

DUCKIE - Amy Lamé's glam club, DJs Readers Wifes play indie/punk/trash. With performance art, cabaret & quizzes. Every Saturday, 9pm-2, £4, at Royal Vauxhall Tavern, Kennington Lane, SW8.
 ⊕ Vauxhall.

CLUB V - Indie/punk/queercore club. Every 2nd Saturday, 9-3, upstairs at the Garage, 20-22 Highbury Corner, London N5. ⊕ Highbury & Islington.
 ↙ £3

VIVA 5 APATHY - 'This time it's corporate'. Each Wednesday, 9-1, £3 (£3.50 UB40 & students). Music and avant-garde performance by The Divine David. At the Royal Vauxhall Tavern (see 'Duckie'.)



WHEN I WERE A LAD... BLABLABLA

Editorial Ramble

WHEN I STARTED DOING QUEER ZINES IN 1993, a lot of new zines started popping up and there seemed to be a lot of excitement and enthusiasm being generated around people creating their own queer zines and comix, and listening to new queer punk sounds. Over the past year or so, though, a lot of this excitement seemed to have died down. Sure, in London a couple of pretty cool queer clubs - Duckie and Club V - had popped up, but it seemed to me that there were less queer zines around... Well-established queer zines (including my own comix) hadn't put out new issues in ages, and hardly anyone was starting their own, new queerzine. Zines die because people's "real lives" (school, jobs) tend to get in the way. If no-one else seems interested in what you're doing and saying, and no-one's ordered your zine for months, it can be difficult to keep momentum. The fact that there hadn't been a listing resource for British queer zines didn't really help much in this respect. So, I decided to do this UK queer zine list, NERVOUS ENERGY - hopefully it'll help spark things up. Actually, compiling NERVOUS ENERGY #1 made me realize that the UK Queer Zine scene isn't all that dead after all - in the past month or so a lot of older zines have had brand new issues out - maybe it's the start of a UK Queer Zine Renaissance or something. So start ordering queer zines, and start doing yr own! Go for it!

Cheers, Sina xxx

The trouble with the gay press is...



This cartoon was brought to you by - R.L. House 6.10.96

by Rachael House, taken from
Red Hanky Panky #5