

USER LOGIN

Username: *

Password: *

Log in

Create new account
Request new password



SECTIONS

- ISSUE ARCHIVE
NEWS + OPINIONS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT
DIVERSIONS
CONTACT
MASTHEAD
SUBMISSIONS
ABOUT
ADVERTISE

Sexy and Provocative - Luscious and Tantalizing - Enchanting GFE - Chelsea Mendez-TER Reviewed
You can contact me on 866-925-2712 I enjoy being a companion & personal friend to discerning & mature gentlemen. I understand the importance of discretion and use this as the...

Poultry farm for sale! cashflow
POULTRY FARM FOR SALE 650K Super Nice 7 turkey farms with butterball contract on going business. A nice double wide 3b/2b 2,000 sq foot. Home and 40 acres of flat...

Gastrointestina l Conditions - Paid Market Reserch
A Medical Market Research company is currently looking people who suffer from various Gastrointestina l Conditions to participate in a Medical Market Research Study. We will be conducting 45 minute telephone...

Unique Two Bedroom House on Country Deadend Street. Contact



- FEATURES
BLOGS
DAILY DIG
GEAR

[arts + entertainment]

THE LARAMIE PROJECT

Prepares for Phelps and unwanted irony
By Jenna Scherer

print | email | 0 Comments

del.icio.us | digg it! | reddit!



I feel like I should be douching my browser history. How else to flush out the lingering stench left behind by godhatesfags.com?

I'm in the interweb home of the Westboro Baptist Church, led by hateful psycho Fred Phelps, to check up on their Boston schedule. On December 12th, after a busy day of protesting outside the Swedish Consulate (because "Sweden is DOOMED!") and then the UK Consulate (because "Queen Elizabeth is a WHORE!"), Phelps and his oogle band of batshits will be heading to the Boston Center for the Arts to protest the Bad Habit Productions' performance of The Laramie Project.

Phelps probably hates this play for two reasons. First, because it pays tribute to the memory of Matthew Shepard, the gay University of Wyoming student who was brutally beaten and murdered in 1998. And second, because Phelps isn't just a naysayer; he's also a character in the play.

To create the piece, playwright Moisés Kaufman and fellow members of the Tectonic Theater Project conducted interviews with people in the town of Laramie, Wyo., after Shepard's death—and that included Phelps.

"He actually picketed Matthew's funeral, so it's kind of ironic that he's picketing the show that he's in," explains Daniel Morris, the artistic director of BHP. "But I feel like it actually speaks to the relevancy of it. The show is less about a tribute to Matthew and more about people's reactions and attitudes. As crazy as Fred Phelps is, the show says that his opinion still matters. We live in this very blue state, and people sometimes forget that there's still this much hate in the world."

In fact, Phelps makes it his business to protest productions of The Laramie Project across the country. And the piece has seen a lot of action since it first went up in 2000—in loads of college and professional productions, and in a 2002 HBO film version.

Now in its second season, the fledgling BHP draws from Boston's non-Equity talent pool, putting up plays by everyone from Shakespeare to David Mamet. Their revival of the play comes two months after the 10th anniversary of Shepard's murder, and at a pivotal moment for the American LGBT community. "It's kind of about what's happened 10 years later," says Morris, "but also what hasn't happened."

When Morris' company chose to put up The Laramie Project last year, they couldn't have known it would open just weeks after Proposition 8 passed, and gay rights suffered another devastating blow.

I'd call that serendipity ... if it didn't suck so much.

THE LARAMIE PROJECT

FRIDAY 12.5.08-12.14.08

BCA PLAZA BLACK BOX

539 TREMONT ST., BOSTON

617.426.5000

SHOWTIMES VARY/\$25

BADHABITPRODUCTIONS.ORG

BCAONLINE.ORG

Flyerboard

YOU'RE IN FOR AN AWAKENING



[Flyers by PaperG]

SEARCH

Search



FEATURED BLOGS

APRIL SHOWERS BRING POLITICAL POWERS

By some.nerd on Fri, Apr 24, 2009 3:14 pm

As previously reported, Boston's already got three mayoral candidates ready to bloom, but it seems ol' Menino's looking to overshadow them with his recent announcement to seek re-election (just after 5:30 if you don't care about the build-up):

I WONDER

By JStanton on Sun, Apr 12, 2009 3:20 am

... if this is part of some master evil genius marketing plan to walk back from what's been a kinda random collection of bizarre efforts to allow their online strategy to be determined by an overactive legal department. They bring in a pr crisis expert, he says "do something really, really bizarre. That gives you the excuse to come in and fire/demote somebody, scapegoat him as a real

