

Tuesday May 20th, 2008

CUBA: INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA

Andrea Rodriguez (AP) reports that, "Cuba's gay community celebrated unprecedented openness - and high-ranking political alliances - with a government-backed campaign against homophobia on Saturday, May 17.

"The meeting at a convention center in Havana's Vedado district may have been the largest gathering of openly gay activists ever on the communist-run island. President Raul Castro's daughter Mariela, who has promoted the rights of sexual minorities, presided; this from the [miamiherald](http://www.miamiherald.com)⁽¹⁾.



Javier Galeano/ AP Photo

Mariela Castro and Ricardo Alarcón, President of the National Assembly, attend a ceremony marking the International Day Against Homophobia in Havana, Saturday, May 17, 2008.

"Cuban state television gave prime-time play Friday to the U.S. film *Brokeback Mountain*, which tells the story of two cowboys who conceal their homosexual affair.

"Prejudice against homosexuals remains deeply rooted in Cuban society, but the government has steadily moved away from the Puritanism of the 1960s and 1970s. Now Cuba's parliament is studying proposals to legalize same-sex unions and give gay couples the benefits that people in traditional marriages enjoy."

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/americas/story/537592.html>

Tuesday May 20th, 2008

**BECOMING THE BASQUE:
DAVID TRIMBLE REMEMBERS HIS *BROKEBACK* SUMMER
By FindingBrokeback.com**



Trimble prefers signing autographs to packing soup boxes

The Basque is admittedly a secondary *Brokeback* character, but he is universally appreciated by all who admire and love the film. He is also a celebrated mega-star of the Photo Caption world.

In early 2004 when Calgary actor David Trimble first saw the script, he coveted the Basque role. Trimble developed a plan, studying the history and culture of the Basque people, perfecting an accent, growing a moustache, hitting the tanning salon, and resurrecting his own Spanish heritage, all in preparation for his fateful auditions. In short, he made the kind of deep commitment to authenticity that Ang Lee himself appreciated and embraced in every aspect of the film. It worked; he landed the part!

In a recent FindingBrokeback.com interview, Trimble fondly recalls trying out for the role, his interactions with Ang Lee, Heath Ledger, and Jake Gyllenhaal, and the five days he spent on the *Brokeback* set. He describes the deleted scenes in which he drove Ennis and Jack between Signal and the sheep

staging area, the sublime direction he received from Lee, and the golden experience of working with the film's principals.

Of Gyllenhaal and Ledger, Trimble says candidly, "Let's just call it for what it is—they're gorgeous human beings....that's part of their aura. So, you've got to work with them [and] get inside that aura." He remembers them with great affection, not only as gifted actors, but also as "a couple of kids, having a good time, enjoying what they're doing."

Trimble repeats a characterization of Ang Lee that many others who worked on the film have shared with us. "Super, super particular....You wish you could see what he sees. He sees something



After waiting hours for perfect light, Ang Lee's direction to Trimble: four words! Basque Bridge Scene, Spray Valley Park, AB

Tuesday May 20th, 2008

completely different." Referring to the Basque Bridge Scene, Trimble says Lee "saw it in his head before he ever shot it."



**Ledger and Lee confer on set.
Sheep Staging Scene, Morley, AB**

Although Rodrigo Prieto was somewhat disappointed that *Brokeback's* Basque spoke little Spanish, Trimble had the rare opportunity to observe the meticulous cinematographer in action. "He runs a tight ship. And he expects you to work in a professional manner, and if you do, you get on....You don't want to get in the way. You don't want to be that guy!"

Trimble, who is highly regarded in the Alberta acting community, does live theatre, as well as television and

motion picture work. He reports that his career opportunities improved in 2006 after the film received worldwide acclaim, although it would be very safe to assume that, like others, he will always treasure memories of his own *Brokeback* summer.

You can read David Trimble's fascinating interview [HERE](#)⁽²⁾.

As always, for *Brokeback* production and travel information, see [FindingBrokeback.com](#)⁽³⁾.

⁽²⁾ <http://www.findingbrokeback.com/Interviews/Trimble/Trimble.html>

⁽³⁾ <http://findingbrokeback.com/>

U.S. EMBASSY LITERATURE SERIES

PRESENTS: ANNIE PROULX

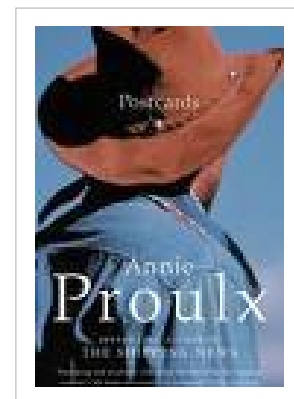
By BayCityJohn

"Annie Proulx, often described as a chronicler of American provincial life, will read from her works on May 20, 2008. She started out as a journalist before publishing her first book *Heart Songs and Other Stories* in 1988. She received all major literary prizes in the U.S. for her novels and short

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Eva Boesenberg, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Language: Reading and discussion in English

Reservation: (030) 200 57 10 00





Tuesday May 20th, 2008

Tickets: € 5.-/reduced € 4.-

Where: Akademie der Künste, Plenarsaal, Pariser Platz 4, 10117 Berlin

When: 20:00 May 20, 2008

Click **HERE**⁽⁴⁾ to read more.

⁽⁴⁾ http://germany.usembassy.gov/germany/upcoming_events.html

BERLIN HONORS GAY-RIGHTS ACTIVIST PERSECUTED BY NAZIS

By tfferg

Berlin renamed a stretch of the Spree River in honor of gay-rights activist and sexual researcher Magnus Hirschfeld, who was persecuted by the Nazis in the 1930s; this as the city's biggest hospital opened an exhibition devoted to the sex researcher. The dedication ceremony on Tuesday, May 6th, commemorates the same day 75 years ago that the Nazis plundered Hirschfeld's offices and later burned hundreds of his books, explains [dw-world.de](http://www.dw-world.de)⁽⁵⁾.



"Hirschfeld had founded the world's first institute dedicated to fighting discrimination against homosexuals. He went into exile in France and died there in 1935. The stretch of river bank named after Hirschfeld is near his former institute."

⁽⁵⁾ <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144,3318048,00.html>



GOING GREEN - KNOWING WHAT'S WHAT

Two million tons of technology trash ended up in landfills in 2005, according to the EPA, with Americans throwing away more than 100 million cell phones in 2006, according to the **The Natural Resources Defense Council**⁽⁶⁾.

"Some materials in personal electronics, such as lead, mercury and cadmium, are hazardous and can release dangerous toxins

THE DAILY SHEET

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www.davecullen.com/forum

Tuesday May 20th, 2008

into our air and water when burned or deposited in landfills improperly. Throwing away metal components, like the copper, gold, silver and palladium in cell phones and other electronics, leads to needless mining for new metals."

We can help ensure that older electronics find new uses. Click **HERE**⁽⁷⁾ to learn more about how to recycle, donate or resell your unwanted gadgets and keep them out of the waste stream.

⁽⁶⁾⁽⁷⁾ <http://www.nrdc.org/cities/recycling/gelectronicsrecycling.asp>

SONG LYRICS COST REGGAE SINGER VISA

The Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany (LSVD), who petitioned the government to deny a travel visa to reggae star Sizzla, known for having songs laced with hate-filled homophobic lyrics, has been told by the country's Interior Ministry that the Jamaican performer will not be granted a Schengen visa for his proposed European tour this month (the Schengen Agreement is between 29 nations on the continent of Europe and allows free movement across their borders).



"The German Foreign Office's embassy in Kingston, Jamaica, confirmed that the singer has songs in his repertoire that meet the legal criterion of 'incitement of the people.' 'The Jamaican citizen Miguel Collins (Sizzla Kalonji) calls in several of his songs for the murder and homicide of gays,' said an LSVD spokesman.

"In July 2007 artists Beenie Man, Sizzla and Capleton signed-up to the Reggae Compassion Act, in a deal brokered with top reggae promoters and Stop Murder Music activists." The Act reads in part: "We agree to not make statements or perform songs that incite hatred or violence against anyone from any community." However, recent concerns related to the performer's tour in Europe prompted the request by LSVD to deny the visa.

What's in a Username?

From Royandronnie

MATURBEN

why I chose "maturben" as a user name: it's a portmanteau word combining mature (as in older or to further date myself like the long deceased actor Victor Mature) and ben (my middle name is

Tuesday May 20th, 2008

Benjamin). It just seemed to be "right" when it came to me even tho' I have been accused of having a rather Peter Pan-ish outlook on life.

Pronounced matoorben (accent on the last syllable) not matterben nor ma-turban.

Forum Footnotes

FUN QUESTION OF THE WEEK

This week's Question: When a female horse and male donkey mate, the offspring is called a mule, but when a male horse and female donkey mate, what is the offspring called?

Let us know the answer on the **response thread**⁽⁸⁾.

Last Week: Who has hosted Saturday Night Live more times than anyone else?

The answer: Yes! It's Steve Martin, having hosted SNL 14 times.

⁽⁸⁾ <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=8377.1815>



A NEW THREAD ~ CHECK IT OUT! MORE THAN IT SEEMS

DC Forum Dictionary⁽⁹⁾ - "our little lexicon of **snappy snigglets** from posts when fingers get flying a little too fast on the keyboard."

goaboydc gives us an example: "monring (noun)- pronounced moan-ring. Abberation of morning. The ring you get from your beloved partner if you promise to moan loud enough. Attributed to Chuck, noticed and defined by Ingmar."

Mod: Also spelled moanring.

⁽⁹⁾ <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=30023.0>



Tuesday May 20th, 2008

QUOTE OF THE DAY

The soul should always stand ajar. Ready to welcome the ecstatic experience.

~ Emily Dickinson ~

FROM PHOTO CAPTIONING FUN 3

By iwishiknew



Joe Aguirre: **Who the hell's responsible for this?**

The Basque: **Ennis. It's his lube order.**

Contributors: pattieono, BayCityJohn, BrokenOkie, Jim Bond, elena

Thank you Denim Girl for your dedication to TDS ~ with your formatting skills making the lay-out look so inviting!



Tuesday May 20th, 2008

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you have ideas about initiating a gathering, go to **Start Your Own Threads** and get the ball rolling to plan a get-together near you.

BBQ: WYOMING ROUNDUP

June 1-7, 2008.

- ▶ <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=27951.0>

BROKIES IN THE UK

June 20 - 22nd - Oxford 08

- ▶ <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=20185.0>

GATHERING IN ALBANY NY

July 4-6, 2008

- ▶ <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=29514.0>

PHILLY SLASH BASH

July 11 - 13, 2008

- ▶ <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=29866.15>

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN SCREENING IN LA

August 4, 2008 at 7:30 P.M.

- ▶ <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=27940.0>

Let us know of any events you'd like listed here.

The Daily Sheet is a production of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum at
www.davecullen.com/forum

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We count on you to send us your news items, questions, and nominations for posts of the day.

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