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CASTRO MAGAZINE

AUGUST 2026 ISSUE : 02

CASTRO MAGAZINE

issue 02

Ibrahim Yorubulut

editor-in-chief

many thanks to:

Kelvin Darfor, for his dedication to live event production.
Daijon Jackson, for his dedication to PR and marketing.
And to all of my beloved friends, collaborators, and supporters who helped make this project possible and believed in its vision.

credits

p.cover
model Dev
image by Andrewdhphotos
event by Eruption X Electroluxx

p.2-3
image by David Solis

p.4-5
model Ben Gonzales
image by Rachel Leou
location Marshalls Beach

p.6-7
image by Elliott C. Nathan
event by Castro Magazine

p.8-17
image by Dominic Quintanilla
location: San Francisco Gallery

p.18-27
model Wyatt Pedersen
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eruptionparty
queenoutsf
boof.party
electroluxxprty

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model Drew Klayman
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boof.party
queenoutsf
electroluxxprty

event by
publicworkssf

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Thibault Deprez
image by Kelvin Darfour
event by apollonightlifesf

p.58-59
image by Hayden Mendivil
event by eruptionparty

p.60
model sicariacontractkilla
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EDITOR

Ibrahim Yorubulut
Editor-in-Chief

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the second issue of Castro Magazine.

I'm writing this letter from Fire Island Pines, New York.

It's summertime, and our friends are scattered everywhere, some are here in Fire Island, others are celebrating at WorldPride, traveling through Europe, or spending the season in different states. I love this about our community. No matter where we go, we always seem to find one another.

I want to thank everyone who helped make this issue possible.
Thank you to the friends who asked me, every time we crossed paths, "When is the next issue coming?"
Everyone who sent me their

pictures to be in this issue, to those who let us capture them on the dance floor and unexpectedly found themselves filling these pages, and to the talented photographers across San Francisco who generously shared their incredible work with us.
This magazine would not exist without your trust, creativity, and contributions.

I also want to reflect on the first Castro Magazine Gala. Watching that night come to life was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.
It would not have been possible without Elliott C. Nathan, whose extraordinary generosity provided the venue, sound, lighting, and production support, and whose vision transformed the evening into an immersive celebration of art.
My heartfelt thanks also go to David Garcia for bringing live classical music to the evening; to Tony OMFG, Maliciel, and Sean for filling the dance floor with unforgettable energy; and to Orlando, who helped transform the gallery into a gala experience under an incredibly tight deadline.
There are so many others whose names I cannot fit onto this page. But every one of you knows how important your support was, not only to me, but to this magazine.

The San Francisco community came together with remarkable unity to make Castro Magazine possible. That reminded me once again that this publication is more than a magazine. It is something our community truly needed, a place to celebrate our artists, our nightlife, our stories, and each other.

Thank you for believing in this project. Thank you for continuing to build it with me.

With love,

Ibrahim Yorubulut
Editor-in-Chief

The Night We More Than

cm gala

Launched a Magazine

A magazine begins on paper, but it comes alive through its community.

To celebrate the release of Issue No. 01, Castro Magazine brought together more than 500 guests for an unforgettable evening of art, music, and connection.

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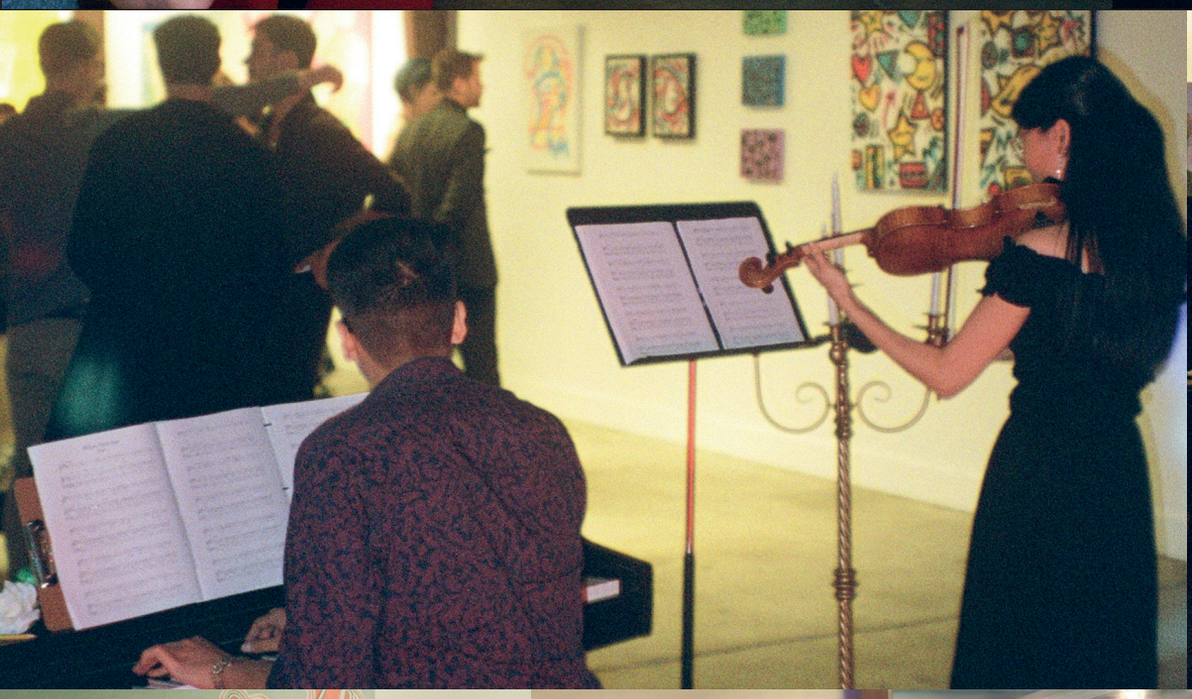

cm gala

The launch gala transformed the space into a celebration of San Francisco's queer culture, bringing together nightlife leaders, artists, performers, creators, and readers who helped shape this first chapter.

CASTRO
MAGAZINE
CASTRO
MAGAZINE

EXIT
Please leave the magazine on the table until the end of the night so everyone has a chance to enjoy it.
Please leave the magazine on the table until the end of the night so everyone has a chance to enjoy it.

cm gala

CASTRO
MAGAZINE
JOCKMAIL
CASTRO
MAGAZINE

Awesome Nerds Tree Collection

The evening featured three DJs, a chamber music performance, and immersive art installations, creating a unique blend of nightlife and culture. More than a launch party, it was a gathering of the people who continue to make San Francisco one of the world's most vibrant queer cities.
These images capture the energy, the creativity, and the community that made the first issue possible.

cm gala

San Francisco

The Weekend in Review

Every Pride feels like a snapshot of a city in motion. In San Francisco, that movement extends far beyond the parade, spilling into the nightlife where each dance floor, warehouse, and venue seems to tell its own version of freedom, celebration, and belonging.

Pride 2026 :

This year's Pride weekend was no exception. It delivered the kind of moments that stay with you, while also reminding me that in a city overflowing with events, timing can matter just as much as the lineup.

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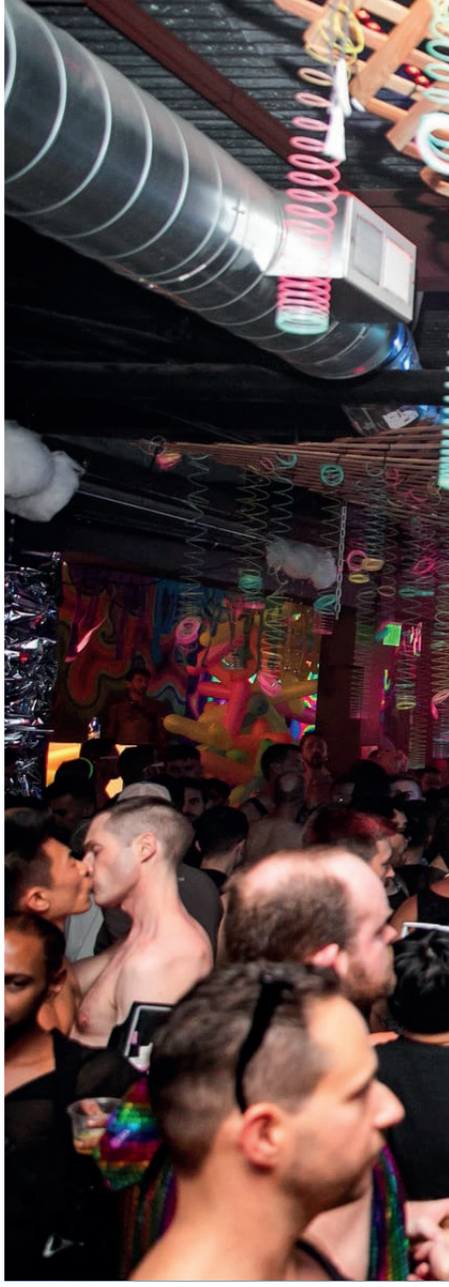
Pride weekend kicked off on Friday night with Electroluxx, one of San Francisco's biggest queer dance events. This year's edition was larger than ever, expanding across two venues connected by a city block closed to traffic, creating one massive block party. Thousands packed The Midway and its neighboring venue SF Gallery (888 Garage), moving freely between spaces filled with music, art, performances, and community. The expanded format transformed the area into a vibrant Pride playground and set the tone for an unforgettable weekend.

Saturday brought another wave of excitement with two of the weekend's most anticipated parties, Mull and Boof. Both attracted large crowds and featured impressive DJ lineups, but there was one downside: they took place on the same night. For many partygoers, choosing between them was nearly impossible. Instead of complementing each other, the overlap split the audience, leaving many wishing the events had been scheduled on different nights so everyone could experience both.



Mull is a strictly no-phone, no-photography event, and we respect that policy. For that reason, we are not including any photos from the night. Part of what makes Mull so special is its sense of freedom and presence, where everyone is encouraged to disconnect from their screens and fully immerse themselves in the experience. Known for its steamy, high-energy dance floor, Mull delivers an atmosphere that feels reminiscent of Berlin or New York's underground nightlife, earning its reputation as one of San Francisco's most distinctive queer parties.

Just across town, Boof marked its first Pride weekend with a lineup that looked well beyond the Bay Area. Rather than relying on familiar local names, the party brought in international artists, reflecting the growing influence of global queer club culture on San Francisco's dance floors. The music leaned darker, faster, and more experimental, drawing a crowd that came as much for the selectors as for the celebration itself. For a first Pride edition, Boof felt confident in its identity. Instead of trying to compete with legacy parties on tradition, it carved out its own space, offering a different rhythm to the weekend and another reminder that San Francisco's nightlife continues to evolve through new collectives willing to take risks.

Klein

I ♥ NY

The Pride Season came to a close with another iconic San Francisco nightlife institution, QUEEN OUT. The queer hyperpop party took over Public Works for a two-stage celebration that brought together music, performance, and pure pop energy. Featuring appearances from Tiffany Pollard and Prosperity Room, QUEEN OUT delivered a finale that felt perfectly aligned with the spirit of Pride weekend: bold, expressive, and unapologetically queer.

After a weekend defined by different sounds and experiences, QUEEN OUT offered its own version of celebration, blending camp, creativity, and high-energy performance into a memorable closing moment. It was a fitting end to a Pride weekend that showcased the depth and diversity of San Francisco's queer nightlife scene.

THE BOY BEHIND MANY OF THE PROJECTS YOU KNOW

Drew Klayman

Drew Klayman arrives for his first interview with Castro Magazine on a Monday night, fresh from the gym. Before he even gets here, he sends us a photo of his legs mid-workout. We laugh because we're doing the exact same thing, squeezing in one last workout before the interview. The reason? It's the weekend of Electroluxx Pride with Eruption. Everyone is getting ready for one of San Francisco's biggest parties, and Drew insists he needs his biceps to be ready by Saturday.

He walks into our office at Fox Plaza looking comfortable and confident, carrying an energy that fills the room before he even says hello. Drew doesn't wait for our first question. Instead, he immediately pulls out his phone, flipping through photos, FaceTiming friends, snapping others, and introducing us to the people in his world. Every story comes with a face.

Every person he mentions appears on Instagram or Snapchat, many of them recognizable names. It's obvious that relationships are at the center of everything he does.

We begin by asking how he ended up in San Francisco. Drew tells us he arrived as a straight guy who simply loved going out. He quickly became a familiar face in the city's nightlife, especially in the Marina. Friends began telling him that his social life wasn't just a hobby, it was something he was naturally talented at. They encouraged him to start promoting parties. According to Drew, every event he promoted filled up. Before long, he decided to throw one of his own.

PLEASE DON'T
DO COKE
IN THE
BATHROOM
ERUPTION
ERUPTION

His first party was free and attracted more than 200 people. His second brought nearly 700 attendees despite a storm and despite taking place on the same day as Squish and Boof, two of the city's biggest events. From there, the momentum only grew. He continued producing larger parties, eventually bringing in bigger names, including rapper CupcakKe and singer Dev.

The conversation shifts to Los Angeles, where Drew entered a new chapter by managing digital talent. But he quickly explains that he doesn't want to build just another talent agency. His vision is much bigger.

He dreams of creating a talent house that provides genuine support for creators, not only professionally, but personally. Mental health resources, career coaching, and long-term development would all be part of the experience.

He believes too many agencies treat young, attractive creators as products rather than people, pushing them to stay online simply because they generate revenue. Drew wants to create something healthier, a creator-first environment free from the toxicity that has become common across social media.

As our conversation winds down, he tells us about his newest venture: Spotguide. The app helps users save, organize, and discover restaurants in their city. Listening to Drew describe it, it's impossible not to notice his excitement. At the time of this interview, Spotguide existed only as an idea. Today, it has become a reality, you can download it and start using it yourself.

ERUPTION

Whether it's building communities, producing unforgettable parties, or launching entirely new platforms, Drew Klayman seems driven by one thing: creating experiences that bring people together. We finish our final bottle of champagne, thank Drew for his time, and say our goodbyes, already looking forward to where his next idea will take him.

To Be Continued in the Next Issue...

Big Gay Halloween

GREAT STAR THEATER

OCTOBER 8TH - OCTOBER 25TH

FROM THURSDAY TO SUNDAY

Tickets at ***www.GreatStarTheater.org***

HOW ISSUE NO.01 WAS MADE

Every issue has a story beyond its pages.

Long before Castro Magazine reached readers, there were late nights, crowded dance floors, studio lights, interviews, location scouts, and countless conversations. These photographs capture the moments between the finished pages: documenting San Francisco's nightlife, photographing artists, and bringing our first issue to life.

Welcome behind the scenes of Issue No. 01.
San Francisco
2026

ICA+SF

FROM THE FIRST ISSUE

There is nothing more rewarding than seeing Castro Magazine out in the wild. Thank you to everyone who picked up a copy, shared it with friends, and made it part of your Pride weekend. Keep tagging us and sending your photos. You might find yourself in the next issue.

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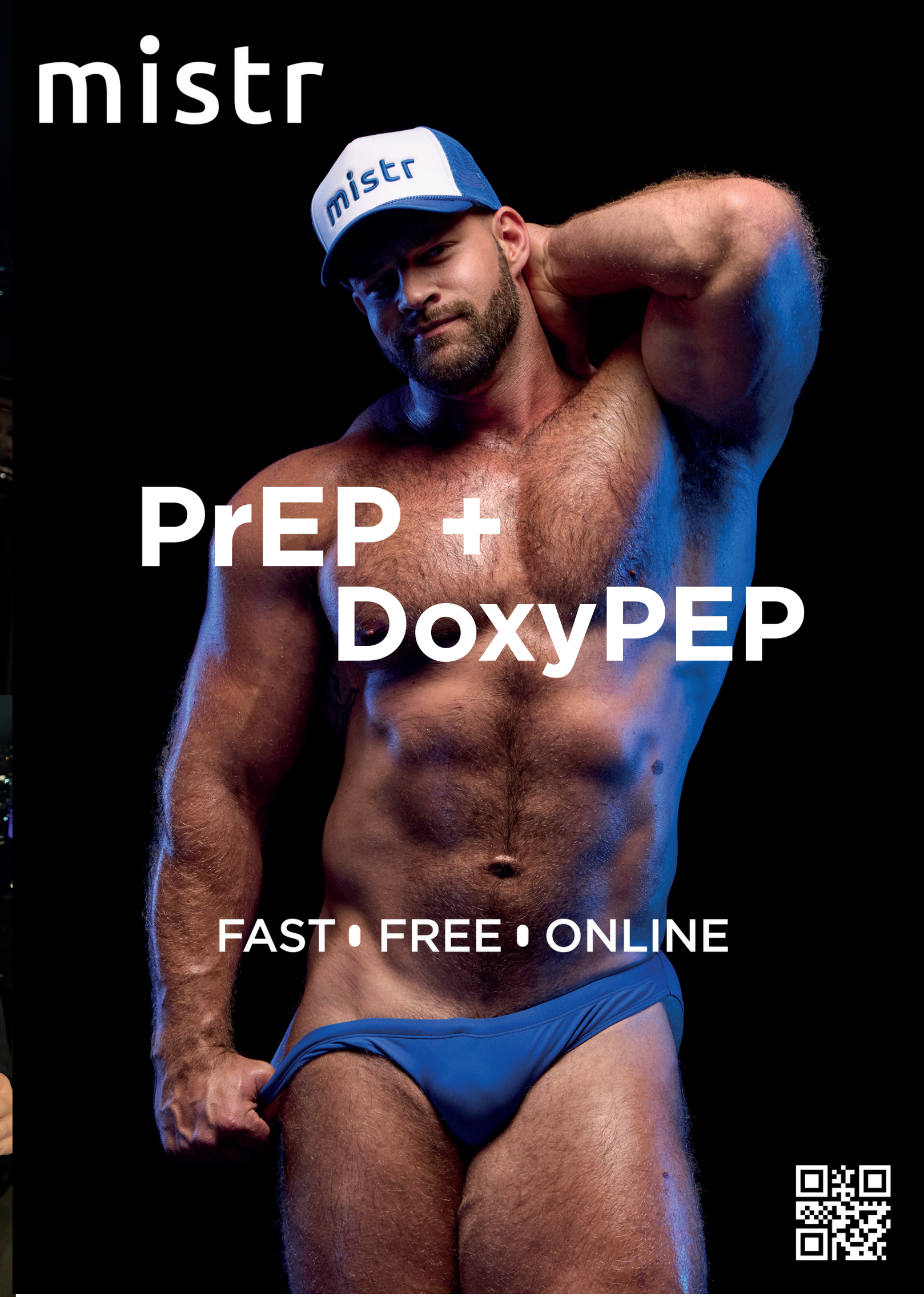
APRIL 2026
ISSUE : 01

Getting Ready with the Crown Prince of
San Francisco, Wild West!

FROM THE FIRST ISSUE

FROM THE FIRST ISSUE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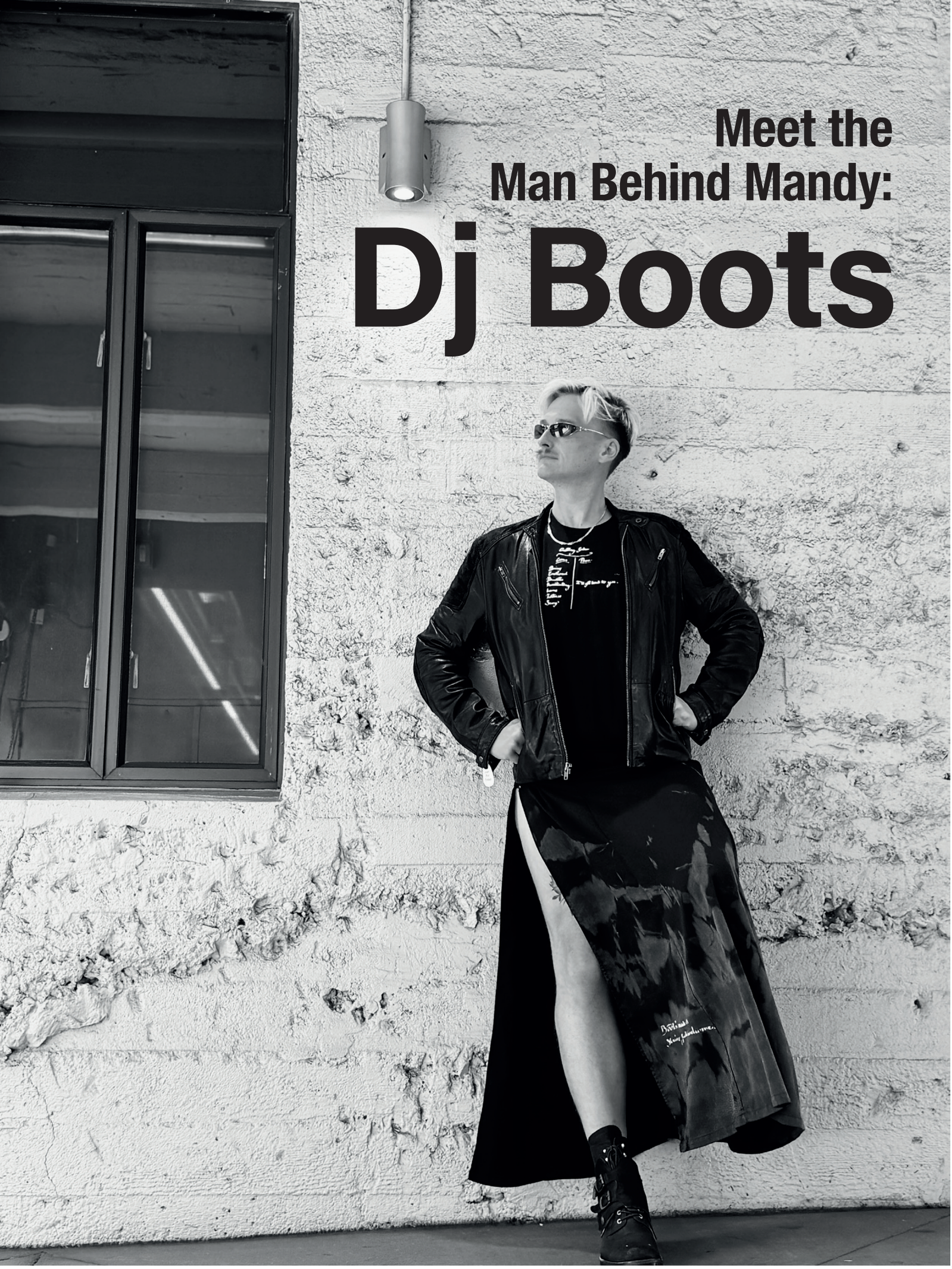
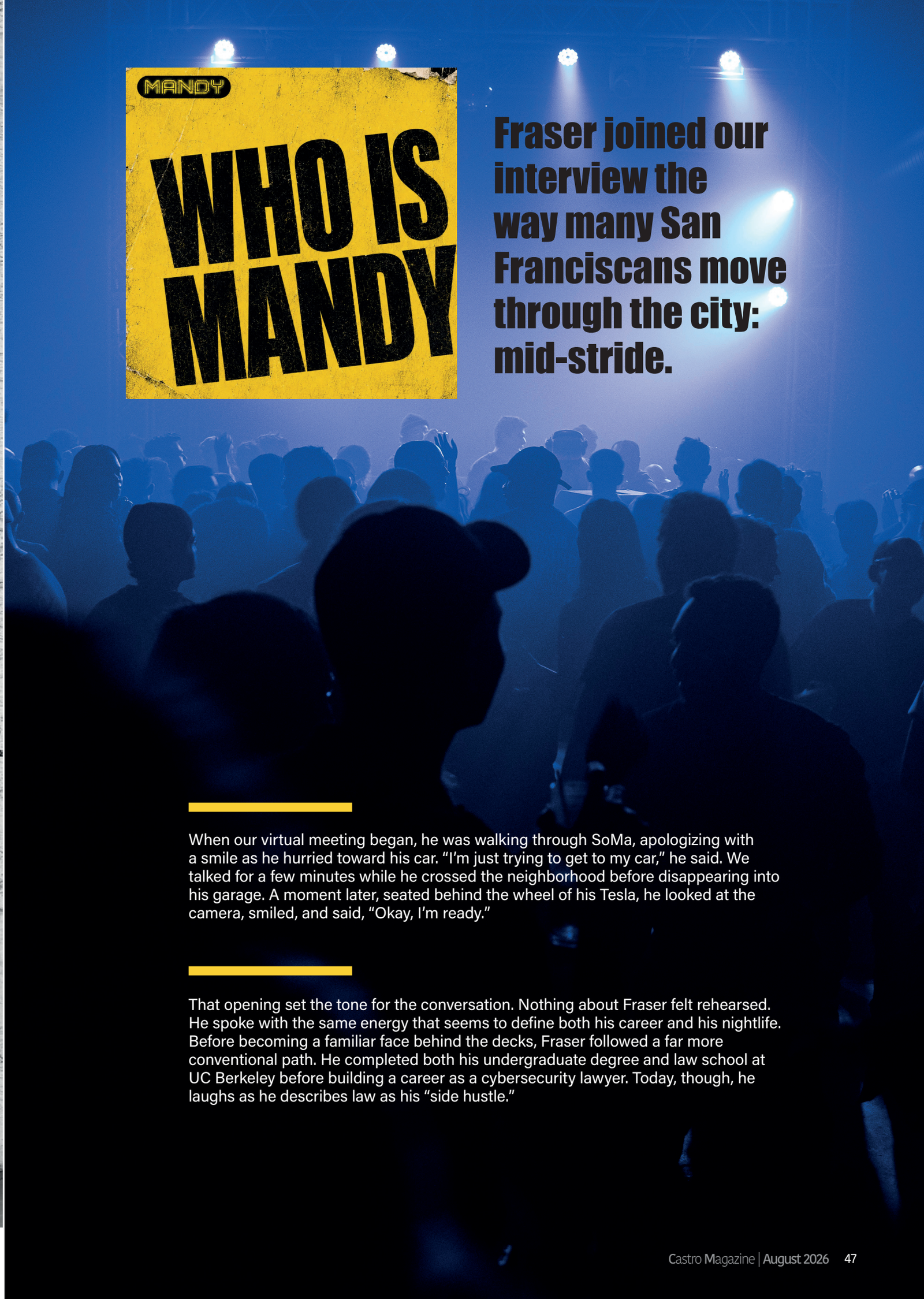
PrEP +
DoxyPEP
FAST • FREE • ONLINE

Meet the Man Behind Mandy: Dj Boots





Fraser joined our interview the way many San Franciscans move through the city: mid-stride.

When our virtual meeting began, he was walking through SoMa, apologizing with a smile as he hurried toward his car. “I’m just trying to get to my car,” he said. We talked for a few minutes while he crossed the neighborhood before disappearing into his garage. A moment later, seated behind the wheel of his Tesla, he looked at the camera, smiled, and said, “Okay, I’m ready.”

That opening set the tone for the conversation. Nothing about Fraser felt rehearsed. He spoke with the same energy that seems to define both his career and his nightlife. Before becoming a familiar face behind the decks, Fraser followed a far more conventional path. He completed both his undergraduate degree and law school at UC Berkeley before building a career as a cybersecurity lawyer. Today, though, he laughs as he describes law as his “side hustle.”

There was a time, he tells us, when life felt painfully repetitive: work, home, sleep, and back to work again. It wasn't the career that bothered him. It was the feeling that his youth was quietly slipping away. Looking for something more, he started going out, meeting DJs, and discovering San Francisco's nightlife from the inside. Eventually, the after-parties moved to his apartment. Friends kept telling him the same thing: "You should get DJ decks." At first, the equipment wasn't for him. It was simply a way for his friends to keep the music going after the clubs closed. But curiosity has a way of changing plans.

He began experimenting with the decks himself. His friends noticed immediately. "You're actually good at this," they told him. "You should do it professionally."

Fraser laughs when he tells us he only started DJing in February 2026, just five months before his first event. It is an unusually short timeline for someone already making waves, but his story isn't really about becoming a DJ. It's about saying yes when life unexpectedly points in a new direction.

What stood out most during our conversation wasn't his career change or how quickly he learned to DJ. It was the way he thinks about community.

At one point, Fraser described an idea inspired by the honor system used at many farm stands in the United Kingdom. Farmers leave fresh eggs with a simple payment box, trusting customers to contribute what they can. Those who are able to pay more help make it possible for others to pay less. The system relies on trust rather than enforcement.

Instead of leaving that philosophy on the farm, Fraser brought it to Mandy. His event use the same honor-system approach to ticket pricing, inviting attendees to contribute what they can afford while encouraging those with greater means to help make the event accessible to others. For Fraser, it is more than a pricing model. It is a reflection of the kind of community he hopes to build, one where generosity and trust are just as important as the music.

As our conversation came to a close, Fraser shared another project currently in development. For now, it remains off the record. What we can say is that its vision echoes the same values that shaped the rest of our conversation: creating spaces where community comes first. We'll be watching closely and look forward to sharing more once he's ready to make the announcement himself.

MUSIC
BEVERLY CHILLS
BLACK POPE
BOOTS.
DMNTWNK
EVERFISH
GIOVANNI SAINZ
I.S.H.
JANKY
JLITTLE
JORDAN MICHAEL
OLEKSANDR
PAPA XANNY
SAMMY TAYLOR
SEAJAY
MUSES
PSYREN
MUÑETCA
YUCKY
MOCHA
KENSHI
GO-GOS
BRANDON
JORGE
ALPHIE
LEONARDO
CHAD
SOUND
CONNOR MOOLDYK
JAKE STUDENT
DOCUMENTED BY
ERIC DESHAWN
CURTIS AUSTIN
KENSHI
PRODUCED BY
BOOTS
ENTERTAINMENT
LLC
MANDY IS A STATE OF MIND
MANDY
A U.K. QUEER RAVE COMES TO SAN FRANCISCO
TECHNO | TRANCE | UKG | BASSLINE
EXPECT FILTHY GLAM & BASS PRESSURE
DARK ROOM
WARNING: MAY CAUSE SWEATING, EUPHORIA, & QUESTIONABLE DECISIONS.
DASSBOSS : 4 point per floor
84 kW peak | engineered by CONNOR
JULY 18 to 19
UNDISCLOSED WAREHOUSE
SOMA, SAN FRANCISCO
1400 QUEERS
TICKETS VIA POSH
NO PHOTOS / NO PHONES / NO NAMES
UK DUTY PAID
12/26
FINEST RAVE SPIRIT
11PM to 8AM
TWO DANCE FLOORS / DARK ROOM / DRAG / QUEER / DANCE / SWEAT

THE MIDWAY
ELECTROLUXX
BLOCK PARTY
SAT SEPT 5 2026
PURPLE DISCO MACHINE
RUPAUL DJ SET
DJ HOLOGRAPHIC
NINA SOL
KILO.WAV B2B CHUCKKPASTA
21+ ★ TICKETS AT THEMIDWAYSF.COM ★ 3PM - 10PM

GHOST SHIP HALLOWEEN non plus ultra+ ELECTROLUXX

GHOST PALACE

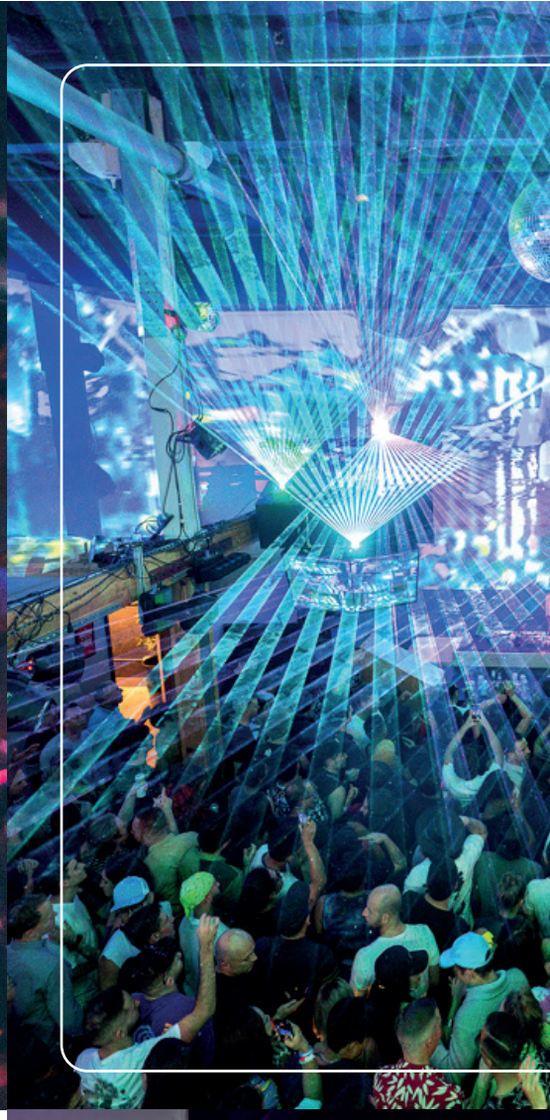
Ghost Ship Halloween, Non Plus Ultra+ and Electroluxx are taking over the entire Palace of Fine Arts!
join us this Halloween for the largest halloween party in San Francisco at its most iconic historical venue, Palace of Fine Arts!

Expect multiple stages packed with djs, dancers, and drag performances along with immersive & interactive exhibitions that will thrill the senses.

Explore the black-light space, multiple silent disco stages on our mezzanine, snuggle in the cuddle puddle, hop in the foam pit, get your face painted, watch muralists paint live in front of you, stop by the food trucks to get a bite and find yourself dancing on the mainstage encircled by artcars.

Limited online tickets remaining thru

GIVING THE PEOPLE WHAT THEY WANT



PUBLICWORKS

Located in the heart of San Francisco's Mission District, Public Works is a community-minded nightclub and event space dedicated to "giving the people what they want." As a blank canvas of creativity with a Funktion-One sound system, we welcome international DJs, underground artists, rising talent, and the myriad of arts and music communities who call San Francisco home.

EXIT

Pioneer DJ

Pioneer DJ

gostosa

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MUNICIPAL
S.F.
RAILWAY

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