



THE AVASTAR

Your World. Your Voice.

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ANGRY DESIGNERS CONFRONT 'CHEAT'

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SCIENTIST PREDICTS:

VIRTUAL SEX TO WRECK RL LOVE

BY CARRIE SODWIND

SECOND Life is a "soap opera" which could see its residents reject "messy" relationships in real life, says a respected British scientist.



FULL STORY PAGES 4 & 5

INSIDE OPINION

"Unless Linden Lab is owned by eBay, I really don't see the justification for their cracking down on users who buy L\$ from eBay."

ADIA CLARY
p.9

"SL may be the logical extension of social networking and on-line dating, replacing 2D profiles with 3D avatars in an interactive environment. "But that won't really take off until avatars get photo realistic RL looks too."



REGIS BRAATHENS
p.10

WRITE FOR THE AVASTAR

HAVE a story? Want to work for The AvaStar and earn big L\$? Send an email to newsdesk@the-avastar.com.



NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

10

... the number of Lindens listed as part of the new in-world concierge service that launched this week

270,000

... is the amount of L\$ won by Joshua Culdesac and Piper Pitney in a competition to redevelop a part of RL Paris.

80

... changes suggested by residents were made to the viewer in the past month, all from the SL open source community.

WHO'S THE FAIREST OF THEM ALL?



A PARIS HILTON lookalike, posing with good friend NICOLE RITCHIE, looks back to her best after her release from prison. Pic by CATERO REVOLUTION.

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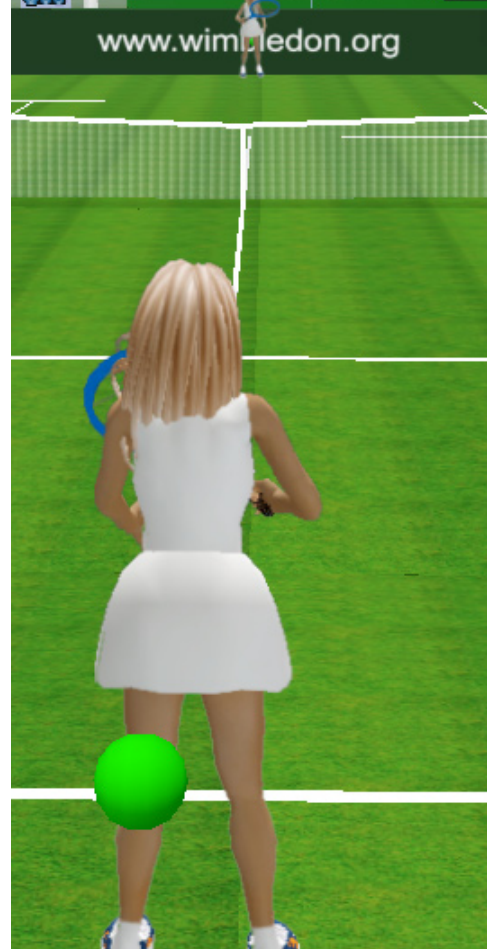
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GAME SET MATCH, IBM!



FORTY-LOVE: Live tennis on centre court

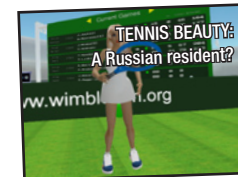


FOLLOW THE WIMBLEDON ACTION 'LIVE' IN SL

By COYNE NAGY

IBM have served up a treat for tennis fans by recreating all the action from the famous centre court at Wimbledon.

Residents can follow every ball at the RL British tournament's famous arena thanks to the project at the IBM7 sim. The trajectory of the ball, shot by shot, is being recreated in SL thanks to RL tracking data. Fans in-world can follow the action a short time



after it happens in RL. IBM's Epredator Potato said: "The tennis acts as a focal point for events and people coming together here." IBM's first foray into virtual tennis came five months ago, when they undertook a similar project for another RL tennis major, the Australian Open.



SUNBATHING: Alia Whitfield watches on

RANDI SAYS...

ARE the worries outlined by Baroness Greenfield justified? The AvaStar's agony aunt Randi Barracuda gives her answer:

Dear Randi:

I have been having sleepless nights worrying about what SL is going to do to our society. The idea that you can have a mysterious and flawlessly formed partner in a virtual space that you can click on and off whenever you want, is a very appealing one. Will everyone eventually just have second partners, in order to avoid the hassle of a real one?

Randi says:

Yes you can immerse yourself in this virtual world and do whatever you please. Residents can change their age, occupation, race, class, gender, orientation, social status or even species.

VALUABLE

Yet no virtual world could ever replace the RL feeling of kissing your partner while both of you are half asleep at 3am, or enjoying the children you have brought into the world together.

But for a multitude of people, SL is a valuable tool to help escape the pressures of 'real' 21st century life. Civilization is not in danger because of it.

WILL SL LOVE REPLACE RL LOVE?



ROMANCE: Lovers dine at Sphynx

By CARRIE SODWIND

SECOND Life could spell the end of relationships in RL, according to a respected British scientist.

After a visit to SL, Baroness Susan Greenfield, director of the Royal Institution, said that "virtual relationships will have a huge impact on society."

In an interview with Britain's Telegraph newspaper, she compared SL to a mass reality TV show in which people can create their own "soap opera". She envisions a future where cou-

ples will reject "the messiness and squalor of the real world" for a sanitised and idealised SL relationship.

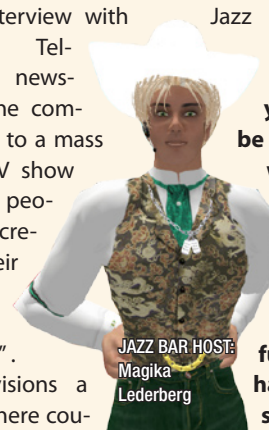
ROMANTIC

Certainly SL has become an easy and rewarding place to find a partner for thousands of people. Magika Lederberg, a host at the romantic hot spot

Jazz bar Sphynx, said: "In SL you can be who you want to be at any time. You are beautiful, and have found someone

beautiful." Staff at the bar say they see up to FOUR proposals every two hours.

Like many in SL, Mynekogirl Ansett claims to be in a stable and loving partnership, even though the couple have not met for real. She believes that in the future more and more people will want to be living their dream relationships in virtual worlds: "Before I met my partner in SL I thought it was silly to meet and talk and become intimate with a person you cannot become physically involved with, but now I have a new understanding of relationships in the virtual world. I'm single in RL



JAZZ BAR HOST: Magika Lederberg

and not looking." However, that doesn't mean that SL will replace RL love, say SL couple Korky Killian and Avalon Asturias. As revealed in The AvaStar, the pair met in SL before getting engaged in RL. But the loved-up couple revealed that real love tastes much sweeter.

Korke said: "For me RL relationships are the real thing, nothing replaces real people." What SL does is add another dimension. "We use SL to fulfill things we can't do in real life" said Avalon. "Korke and I have children in SL because we can never do so in real life due to age and health issues. And the wedding we had, neither of us could begin to afford in RL."



LOVE IN RL AND SL: Korke Killian and Avalon Asturias

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE WILL SL BRING ABOUT THE END OF RL RELATIONSHIPS?



Dalton Rau:

"SL will definitely replace real relationships for some people because it is easier here. It will never fully replace the touch of another human for everyone but for some people this is all they can get or are willing to risk."



Femke Larsson:

"SL can definitely put your RL relationship in danger if you get too far into it. I take my relationships in-world seriously but on another level to RL, that must always come first."

"I think SL will lead to the end of relationships for some people. People who are alone, depressed or out of work have opportunities in SL they don't have in RL. SL can be frustrating as the emotional connection is there without the physical contact but I need real hugs at times!"



Glwadys Flanagan:



Paca Zagato:

"I think SL should be seen as a compliment to RL relationships. The majority of residents will develop more social ties through SL but it won't replace the real thing completely."

EXPERT ADVICE

By CARRIE SODWIND



AVALON BIRKE, a councillor in SL and RL, is an expert on virtual relationships.

THE AVASTAR: Is there a future for virtual relationships?

AVALON BIRKE: If those involved have the same expectations and wants, SL relationships can and do work.

TA: Do patterns of RL relationships repeat themselves in SL?

AB: Given that half of all RL marriages end in divorce, it's not such a stretch to apply the same concept to SL, except the speed and intensity are unique to SL.

TA: Do SL relationships avoid the 'mess' of RL?

AB: SL relationships can be just as much of a 'mess' sometimes as those in RL. You can simply TP away from a nagging virtual wife, but that stress stays with you, even after you've logged off.

TA: Should SL and RL relationships have the same boundaries?

AB: That should be defined by the couple. Problems arise when one partner is playing the experience like a game but the other partner thinks it is a mutually shared reality.

NEWS BITES!

SISTINE CHAPEL

A STUNNING reproduction of the Sistine Chapel has been created on Vassar College Island. It is a study aid for art and architecture students who will be able to fly high to examine the majestic ceiling.

JOIN WAVE LOVE

A FAMOUS RL Italian music festival is seeking in-world musicians to perform at this year's event. Applications are being accepted until July 1 for anyone wanting to perform at the virtual section of the RL Italian Wave Love Festival

HARRY POTTER MAGIC IN SL

HARRY Potter will appear in SL to promote his upcoming film adventure. Residents will be given exclusive access to special Potter content, and can see a preview of the IMAX version of the film.

SL DOWN UNDER

AUSSIES are joining SL in their droves after popular TV programme '60 Minutes' broadcast a feature on the virtual world. TV correspondent Liz Hayes hosted the show, wandering around SL as a newbie.

SL'S BIRTHDAY BASH

By MANTA MESSMER AND COYNE NAGY



SPEECH: Crowds gather to listen to Philip Linden

RESIDENTS ENJOY SL4B CELEBRATIONS DESPITE PROBLEMS

RESIDENTS have enjoyed SL's fourth birthday celebrations despite complaints about lag - and Philip Linden being excluded from his own speech.

Philip's customary speech marking the opening the SL4B festivities on June 23, SL's actual birthday, ran into problems when it was hit by technical failure.

MAYHEM

More than 90 residents had descended onto the SL4B site in anticipation of Philip's appearance, creating a problematic and laggy environment. A last minute announcement was made that the speech would

not be available in the standard audio stream, sparking mayhem as residents tried unsuccessfully logging out and back in again using the alternative voice client.

MAGIC

At one point, the Lab's CEO found himself unable to attend his own event. When he eventually did speak, he was in a buoyant mood, saying he was enth-

siastic about SL's future: "As we grow, it is easy to worry that the magic of this place will somehow go away. But looking at the world today, it is just as magical, only bigger."

CRASHED

The celebrations, over nine sims, have lasted all week, with two sims dedicated to each of SL's four years of existence centred around the SL4B sim. One visitor to the sims this week was Ella McCann, who said: "I missed everything on Saturday as I couldn't get in. When I eventually made it I couldn't move and in the end it was so bad I crashed."



PROBLEMS: Ella McCann



FURY: Designers gather outside Indira Bekkers Haut Couture



PROTEST: The store

By MANTA MESSMER

ANGER AT 'CHEAT'

FASHION DESIGNERS DESCEND ON RIVAL'S SHOP AFTER ACCUSATIONS OF COPYING

AN angry mob of fashion designers descended on a clothes shop to confront its owner with charges of ripping off designs.

The furious group of fashion house owners gathered outside the Indira Bekkers Haut Couture boutique last week, incensed by Diva Style founder Honeydew Hilite's claims that Bekkers had ripped off her designs and was selling them at dramatically higher prices.

After receiving a tip off from one of her clients, Hilite posted a warning on the popular Fashion Consolidated group telling its members to beware of 'Copy Cat' Indira coming into their stores and stealing their designs. As well as a photo of the culprit, the notice also featured a snapshot of Hilite posing next

to a picture of a copied design, wearing the dress it imitated.

CONFRONTATION

"There is a whole wall of my copies at her store... this is just one example I chose to show you," a furious Honeydew said in the notecard.

A witness at the confrontation on the Our Virtual Holland3 sim, who wants to remain anonymous, said: "Bekkers comes into the store and man, everyone was getting on to her and [Indira] kept saying how it was a mistake. Bekkers was close to tears."

After being accused of the crime by Honeydew, Indira admitted

her guilt and later apologised.

FORGIVEN

She has now removed all of Diva Style's designs from her store. Honeydew insisted that she has forgiven her. She said: "[I] am willing to assist her any time she needs any help to... learn or understand designing in SL as opposed to duplicating other designers' designs." Indira Bekkers refused to comment.

ACCUSED: Indira Bekkers



COPY: Honeydew Hilite in her dress at Indira Bekkers

PHIL YOUR BOOTS

HE'S BEHIND YOU:
Phil Linden and, erm, Phil Linden

WHEN Big Phil Linden met... ganger at the public discussion on philanthropy last Friday. Or should that be Philand-Philanthropy!

DRESS PHIL UP!
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ADVERT

Purple Rose Jewelry & More

Jewelry Super Store

Located @ Babeli (180,178,23)

your mail @ YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

NY TIMES SHEDS LIGHT ON EBAY BAN

Hey Regis, I HAVE been following your coverage of players losing their accounts due to the fact they purchased L\$ through eBay.

While I was reading New York Times Magazine's June 17 issue, I came across an article on World of Warcraft's gold farmers, and it mentioned an interesting fact that all MPOG players should note:

"Until very recent-

ly, in fact, eBay was a major clearing house for commodities from every virtual economy known to gaming... from venerable stalwarts to up-and-comers like... the free-form social sandbox Second Life. That all came to an official end this January, when eBay announced a

L\$500 E-MAILS

WRITE TO:
YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

ban on [Real Money Trading] sales, citing, among other concerns, the customer-service issues involved in facilitating transactions that are prohibited by the gaming companies." This might be the reason why LL may be cracking down on users buying from eBay. Unless LL is owned by eBay, I really don't see the justification for LL cracking down on these

users. Perhaps Linden Lab assumes that people know about the eBay ban and/or there is something in the Terms of Service about gaining an unfair advantage by using services other than the LindeX. If so then LL needs to communicate that to the rest of the SL community, not unlike a good relationship, because it will drive people away.

By Adia Clary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO SL!

Hey Regis, I AM writing to express my gratitude to Linden Lab for throwing a superb birthday bash last week.

As a relatively new resident I was fascinated to see a sample of the development which has taken SL to where it is today. Some of the creations made me marvel at their ingenuity and I can only wonder at the skill needed to produce the masterpieces that were on display. In speaking with older

residents I learned that there are many concerns regarding SL but on the whole the community does seem optimistic for the future.



So long as talented residents are allowed to innovate I am sure SL will only go from strength to strength. I cannot wait to play my own modest part in the glittering future that awaits us all but first I need to find my own special niche in a truly unique world. In discovering my place here in this world, I am certain the journey will be as enjoyable as reaching the destination!

By F.D.

BALANCE AND FAIR PLAY

Hey Regis, YOU guys deserve massive respect for your handling of Linden Lab. When you listen to some people you'd think Lindens were responsible for all the ills of not only this world but the real world too. People need to know that Lindens are developing and learning just like the rest of us cats. The Avastar is strong because it criticizes when it's deserved but still knows where credit is due.

By R.G.



REGIS BRAATHENS

LIND-O-METER

IT was party time at the Lab this week as SL celebrated its fourth birthday. But what have residents thought about their progress in battling SL's problems?

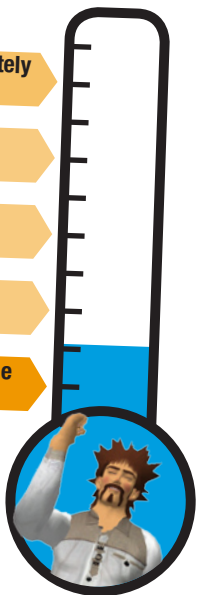
Lab-solutely awful!

Phil-ing blue!

Lagging behind!

IMproving

Sim-ply the best!



YOUR SHOUT:

Sim-ply the best!

"It's great to see on the blog that open source is working - it shows how important it will be for the future. Glad that Lindens acknowledge this and support it." F.H.

"Finally LL are listening - concierge have set up an inworld office! Yay!" B.B.

REALISTIC AVS FACE OF SL'S FUTURE?

REAL AVS WILL REVOLUTIONISE SECOND LIFE

MAKING photo realistic avatars available to all will change the face of SL.

Most residents love the immersionist nature of the virtual world - the ability to live out fantasies, reinvent themselves, be creative, or simply cross-dress. But that doesn't appeal to everyone - and if SL is readying itself to become a future mass community, it needs to embrace realism.

It's been a growing trend in sim building over the last few months with recreations of RL places such as Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt, Paris and Holland, with real life hotels, galleries and museums opening up. The windlight software was also a great step towards realism.

But the key is realistic avatars. SL may be the logical extension of social networking, replacing 2D profiles with 3D avatars in an interac-

tive environment. But that won't really take off until avatars get RL looks too.

Up until now photo realistic avatars have been scarce due to the difficult design process and the time and cost involved.

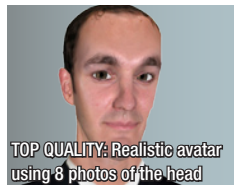
The opening of Avatar Island a few weeks ago offering 'realistic' avatars within minutes is perhaps a milestone.

Trogg Garrigus, one of the owners of Avatar Island, said: "Realistic avatars are the future of social networking in virtual worlds. But people will still have multiple personas."

The company, which is in discussions with Philip Linden, is working on getting close to a laser head scan. But it does not aim to compete with high end designers such as Chip Midnight (who designed my photo realistic av). At the moment they only import textures not shape.

PLEASE SEND ME YOUR COMMENTS: regis@the-avastar.com

There are also mash-ups being tested, with web-cams projected onto avatar faces. That is not to say that immersionists should be made to get a real av - not at all. But it will certainly open up a whole new dimension to SL and bring many changes. I can't wait.



TOP QUALITY: Realistic avatar using 8 photos of the head

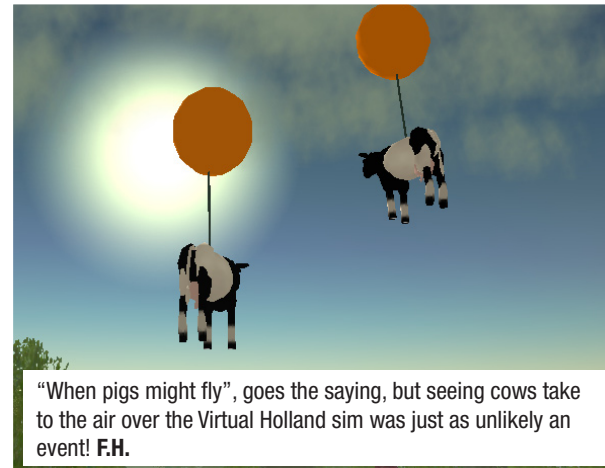


MASS PRODUCED: My av using one photo

(Tip: You must use a good photo - my one had bad lighting, hence the not so great results. I did get given my L\$2,700 back and I'll be experimenting again soon!)

L\$500 PIGS OF THE WEEK

yourphotos@the-avastar.com



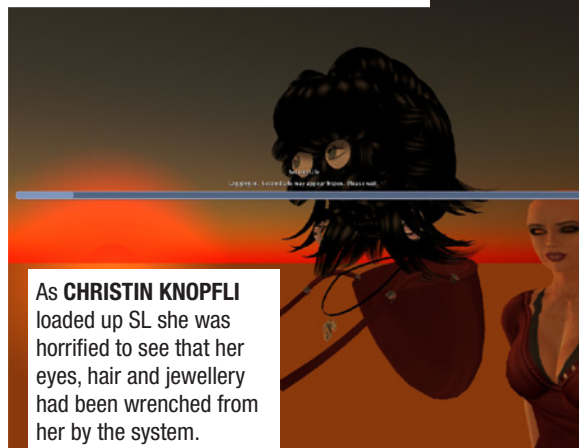
"When pigs might fly", goes the saying, but seeing cows take to the air over the Virtual Holland sim was just as unlikely an event! F.H.



SL musician **SILAS SCARBOROUGH** was spotted on June 26 with his new electric guitar giving a concert at Eden Park. D.M.



Even **PHILIP LINDEN** isn't impervious to griefing - as this attack at his birthday speech last Saturday shows. Pic by **DAEDALUS YOUNG**.



As **CHRISTIN KNOPFLI** loaded up SL she was horrified to see that her eyes, hair and jewellery had been wrenched from her by the system.



The SL4B celebrations were enjoyable, according to **POMBO BOMBACCI**, and the cart rides were a lot of fun as well - although after taking this photo, he said he will let his wife **GIADA VISCONTI** drive next time!



ADVERTISE IN SL'S FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER

IT'S THE BEST WAY TO GET THE WORD OUT

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OR IM MANTA MESSMER

HOW TO GET L\$3M

SECRETS BEHIND THE SUCCESS OF THE 'RENDEZVOUS' ANIMATOR

By LEIDER STEPANOV

A PG-RATED animator has created a stir in SL after ringing up sales of more than L\$3million in less than two months.

'Rendezvous' allows couples in SL to walk hand in hand, dance or fly together – without the usual in-world problems of bumping into each other. The animator has been a runaway success, with more than 1,000 of them sold in the first eight weeks at L\$3,000 each, earning its creators over US\$11,000.

Other virtual entrepreneurs are now looking to emulate the success of 'Rendezvous', but co-creator JenzZa Misfit says it is a one-off, allowing residents to be truly intimate with each other.

She said: "For all of the sex animations etc there are in SL, for all of the things avatars can 'do' in SL, the thing you could not do has been the very thing most requested to LL. That is - why can't two avatars hold hands? It turns out that innocent

things like holding hands, staying together, flying together, picking up and carrying each other, giving piggyback rides – these things are more intimate than sex.

BRILLIANCE

"Rendezvous has solved that problem. In effect, the wheel has been reinvented."

Misfit put the marketing success of the product down to word of mouth. She added: "It is the brilliance of the product seen by others that drive sales. Over half of the buyers now seek it out because someone they know owns it. People love it so much, they can't wait to

have a friend own one too."

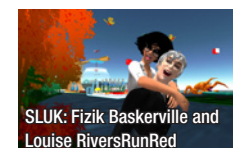


ENJOYING A PINT AT SLUK

AROUND 60 people from the British SL business, designer and artist communities met up at the second annual SLUK in London to network and socialise with other residents.

The well-attended event was organised by Rivers Run Red, the

large London-based content creator. Joining the hosts Fizik Baskerville and Louise RiversRunRed for a pint at the bar were Dublin owner Ham Rambler,



Shiny Thing's creator Fallingwater Cellardoor, gadgets and skin maker Eddie Escher, SLNN chief Doeko Cassidy, SL author Maddy Schnook, musician Slim Warrior and many other prominent residents. Jack and Babbage Linden also attended.

BIZ BITES:

WISE BUSINESS

A GROUP has been set up to help SL business people to network. The Wise Metaverse Business Network is based at the non-profit JT World V sim.

YEN BUT NO L\$

LINDEN dollars will not be accepted at a new Japanese department store in SL. Mitsukoshi Ltd say customers visiting their outlet will instead need to go to a website and make purchases in Yen.

SAXO EXPANSION

SAXO Bank is looking to expand their SL activities. The Danish bank is encouraging more of its employees to spend time in the virtual world talking to customers and clients.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT

DIAGEO has released its 'Bar Kit' in SL to promote premium alcoholic brands such as Smirnoff and Baileys. Residents can toast each other when drinking the same spirit.

TOUR DE SL?

FRENCH Tour de France team Cofidis has launched in SL with information about the event.



A-STAR GOSSIP JenzZa Misfit

A-STAR GOSSIP

By PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL

PHIL-ANTHROPY

LAB CEO DISCUSSES PHILANTHROPY PHILANTHROPY in virtual worlds was the topic of an in-world discussion involving Philip Linden and Jonathan Fanton, president of the MacArthur Foundation.

A huge crowd gathered on the Public Diplomacy sim last Friday to take part in the event, in which the Lab CEO stressed that SL is an excellent place to put into practice the notion of equal rights and universal respect.

OWNER: Phil Linden

PRESIDENT: Jonathan Fanton

CONCERT CALLIE

AVASTAR columnist Callie Cline

was among those enjoying the JasonDark Juran concert at Aspire Isle this week.



PIC By DYLAN MILES

FASHION ON FIRE

By ISABEL BROCCO

GRACIE Winnfield set the Flint sim on fire last Sunday when she released her exotic new formal wear gowns onto the catwalk. The full-length dresses

in particular caught the eye of onlookers, while the gowns were complemented by Earth-tones jewellery and shoes by Enkythings.

STYLISH: A model at the fashion show

SPOTTED!



DESIGNER Toast Bard was spotted recently wearing a rather bizarre-looking fur coat and drinking Corona.

A-STAR GOSSIP

LIVING A BOLLYWOOD DREAM

By GWYNETH LLEWELYN

THE RL WORLD'S BIGGEST CENTRE OF FILM-MAKING COMES TO SL

ALL the razzamatazz and glamour of the RL world's biggest movie industry dazzled residents at a launch event.

Bollywood, the first Indian-themed sim in SL, challenges visitors to have a taste of India - from the architecture to the open air market. You can also enjoy the rich colour of Indian culture, from music to saris to Bollywood film premieres. There is also the chance to play beach football on a field outside a typical

Indian fortress, soon to be followed by another of the country's true passions - cricket. The need to attract virtual visitors, however, means that the ubiquitous camping chairs and dance pads give the sim that touch of 'SLness'.



BOLLYWOOD: The central 'chhatra' with fountains



ARCHES: Indian-style



FILM MUSIC: Have a dance!

METALLIC MARAZENE

By DYLAN MILES

ROCKERS WOW CROWD AT THEIR DEBUT IN-WORLD CONCERT

METAL band Marazene made a big impression on residents at their debut SL concert at Rockstars.

ara Rosca (drums) and TEE Dye (singer), who all bore an uncanny resemblance to their RL selves.

the band first heard of SL through word of mouth.

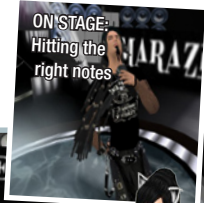
The band, whose motto is 'rock hard and play hard', performed for over an hour last Thursday as avatars Fireblade Summers (guitar), Ravnos Rayer (guitar), Ki-

The concert, which follows hot on the heels of a RL tour of the US with Mushroom-head, came about after



HARD ROCK: The band during the gig

FANS: Loved the music



ON STAGE: Hitting the right notes

BLACK AND WHITE

By ISABEL BROCCO

NO NEED FOR ANY OTHER COLOURS!
FROM long lace dresses and antique jewellery to chunky 80s beads and polka dots, The AvaStar has compiled some looks to prove that this classic combination never goes out of fashion.



Outfit: with hat
Agapema, (113, 48, 2)
L\$249

Bangles: Zebra
Earthtone,
Dos Corazones (9, 116, 28)
L\$99

Dress: Paws
PixelDolls, *Port seraphine*
(38, 204, 50)
L\$100

Shoes: Coquette
Cookie and Indyra,
Yongma (190, 45, 96)
L\$350

Pet: Zebra
Imagination Breeding and Zoo, *Stone Pike* (24, 214, 25)
L\$300

Dress: Dotty
Canimal (181, 111, 26)
L\$200

Necklace: Onyx
Tickled Pink,
Chatouille (207, 97, 23)

L\$150



Callie Cline's STYLE HOTLINE



SILENT SPARROW STYLE

CHECK OUT ONE OF MY FAVOURITE SECOND LIFE DESIGNERS

THIS is exciting for me as it's the first time in my column I'll be covering a designer.

This week I'm sharing a wonderful designer with you all, Hyasynth Tiramisu of Silent Sparrow.

I learned of her at a charity auction well over six months ago, but never really saw a collection of her clothes until a recent show at ASPIRE!. Her collection of jewel-toned outfits reminded me of a fairytale with a twist... lovely colours, rich, deep and vibrant, mixed with lace, satin, bats and skulls.

Yes, bats and skulls! One of the outfits I wore in the show was

called 'Batty' and I have worn it a few times since. I love the vibrant fuchsia colour mixed with the red bat details. For the show, we all wore lovely jewellery by Earth-tones, a perfect choice for her collection. I've been enjoying experimenting with colour lately in SL, and this de-

signer does rich colours in a way that I love! Putting together the look was challenging as I had to really think outside of my 'Callie box' and try some things off the bat. Deep red lips aren't usually my thing, nor hair with tipped colours, but for this outfit, it just seemed to work. I love SL fashion, it makes me go batty!

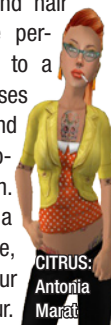


WHAT'S HOT! SHADES OF CITRUS

By CARRIE SODWIND
PIC BY DYLAN MILES

TANGY orange and lime green – when it comes to pulling a tropical combination together, Antonia Marat knows how to do it. The fashionista behind artilleri was spotted browsing this week in trendy store FNKY, sucking on a cigarette and looking juicy in her different tones of citrus.

As usual Antonia's slick quiff, rock tattoos and quirky glasses were there, while orange earrings, boob tube and hair provided the perfect balance to a jacket, glasses frames and even nail polish in green. Go on, take a tip from Antie, quench your thirst for colour.



INVENTORY SNEAK

DIGIT DARKES OF X3D COUTURE

By HONEY BENDER

My fave things are...

"Design tools like my Toaster from Sol Columbia for making hair. It makes my life easier,

therefore it rules! It's very powerful - in the hands of someone inexperienced it could cause great damage to a sim."



It's irreplaceable...

"My platform rezzor. It's PrecisionWear Dress Maker by Fashionetics. If you lose it, a message comes for you saying "Hi Digit, are you having a hard time finding your dress maker?" I love the idea."



I can't live without...

"This beautiful necklace. "It is one of my all time favorites and it's a one-off.



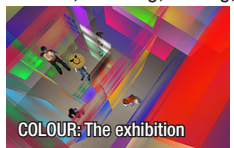
I have to confess I designed it myself, it took me ages to design all the details and it's true couture."

PARTY OF '4'

By *PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL*
A SURPRISING and unconventional art installation based around numbers and sound will come to an end with a party this weekend.
 Artist Juria Yoshikawa created a new piece each week for the month-long run of '4' at the White Cube Gallery, and asked a composer to create a 'soundscape' for it based on their musical interpretation of a number between one and four. Musicians who took part included Miulew Takahe, Bingo Onomatopoeia, Auxiliary Snook and AldoManutio Abruzzo.

FLOATING

During the party, there will be a slide show of the whole exhibition with the original music, and each composer will give a concert. Juria said: "I wanted to make art that everyone could enjoy, something fun and immersive so that your av really got to touch the art, floating, diving,



COLOUR: The exhibition



MUSIC: Art lovers enjoy the work

STAR CRIBS 

By *CARRIE SODWIND*

SHINY AND HAPPY

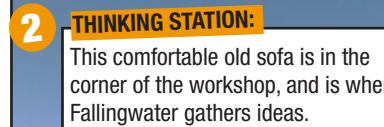


IN THE WORKSHOP:

Shiny Falls workshop is quirky and messily scattered with petals, drawing boards and poses.

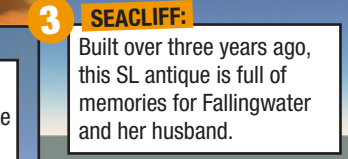
FALLINGWATER CELLARDOOR:

Born: 10/11/2003
Activities: Building flowers and designing for her huge fashion brand, Shiny Things.
Home base: Seacliff and Shiny Falls.
Rooms: Everything is open air, but she forms enclosures with natural rocky craggs and trees.



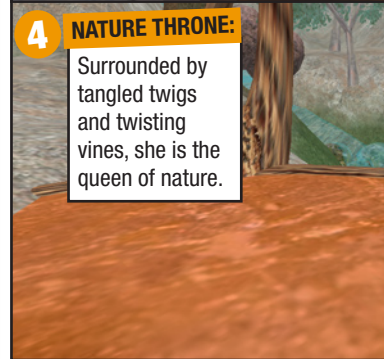
THINKING STATION:

This comfortable old sofa is in the corner of the workshop, and is where Fallingwater gathers ideas.



SEACLIFF:

Built over three years ago, this SL antique is full of memories for Fallingwater and her husband.



NATURE THRONE:

Surrounded by tangled twigs and twisting vines, she is the queen of nature.

HAVE A SIT DOWN



By *TINA (PETGIRL) BERGMAN*



Orange Meeting Chair
 By Katja Pessoa
Zvjaginsev (13, 190, 61)
L\$100



H8K Chair
 By Precillia Shilton
Plush Lota (182, 80, 22)
L\$95



Dark Red Leather Home Office Chair II
 Animation by Bits and Bobs
 By Szandor Kirkorian
3DOS (66, 41, 26)
L\$249



CORN Ergo Chair #4 in pink
 Includes four animations
 By Devon Fischer
Corn (59, 86, 24)
L\$650

ADVERT



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Did you spot something unusual? Have you got exclusive snapshots of a SL celebrity? Were you at a great event or party? Have you seen something new that you want to share with others? Then send us your photos and you could earn yourself Linden Dollars. For each photo published in the newspaper the author will receive 500L\$.



NEW SIMS

THIS WEEK – A POST-APOCALYPTIC WORLD, A SPANISH FASHION HOUSE AND A DESIGN MASTERCLASS.

By MANTA MESSMER

THREE very different themes are on display in newly-unveiled sims this week.

Scope Cleaver and Maximilian Milosz, both big names in SL design and architecture, have joined forces to create a two sim site as a base for their furniture and prefab businesses and to showcase their formidable talents. Called SCDA and

Maximum Minimum, Cleaver's detailed yet minimalist build is especially eye-catching, with windows offsetting its cold modernist lines with the warm tones of a perpetual sunset.

SCDA & MAX MIN



BERSHKA

Bershka, one of Europe's biggest fashion brands, is renowned for being web-savvy so it's no surprise the teen clothing giant has become the first Spanish company to make



GREAT FISSURE

a splash in SL. Its new presence is bold and colourful, occupying its own tropical island and offering retail therapy and a host of upcoming events.

Another new sim to land on the grid recently is the Great Fissure, an impressively desolate and Mad Max-like landscape designed by the team behind the celebrated Wastelands and Junkyard sims.

ADVERT

DemetriusSlade.com

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MY TRAVEL TIPS

By MANTA MESSMER

SELARAS PARTRIDGE is the founder of the popular SL education group Academy of Second Learning.

THE AVASTAR: Which sims have you explored recently?

SELARAS PARTRIDGE: Colorado Tech. ASL just opened a new campus on the north west corner of the sim, but I was exploring the rest of the Colorado Tech build which is great! Also, the Pot Healer Adventure at Numbakulla is an absolutely gorgeous build. I still haven't solved the adventure game though!

TA: Where do you hang out and relax?

SP: I can often be found at my place, Villa Bilbao Art Gallery, where friends will drop by and hang out. We also have a lot of The Ethics Group discussions there, but those are usually more spirited than 'relaxing'!

TA: Where do you party?

SP: I love to hang out and dance at my friend Sulla Milk's place in Schell. On Wednesday nights, he plays the best music and it's great to just go groove.

TA: What sims do you find the most creative?

SP: Wherever ASL classes are going on! That's in Eson and Colorado Tech. We have some great instructors teaching creative classes, and I'm always im-

pressed by the range of creativity I see coming from students. **TIPS:** Selaras Partridge



TAKE YOUR PICK

Take a quick peek at the hot destinations in profile picks. This week: **TENNIS PLAYERS**



BIERGARTEN - A GERMAN MEETING PLACE

Mann (168, 255, 26)
Summer in a laggy and grid-locked SL can be a stressful time of the year, so join the Germans in hanging out with friends and drinking steins of ice cool beer in this traditional leafy beer garden.



APFELLAND V8 MOTORS - DINER

Apfelland Siedlung (88, 231, 24)
If you stop for fuel at the V8 Motors petrol station but then realise the rumbling is not your car but your stomach, head across the road to this American 50s diner where you can chow down on Yankee favourites like burgers and fries.



THE FIRST CHURCH OF ELVIS

Iron Fist (164, 39, 351)
For those who believe the king of rock and roll is still with us, practise what you preach and attend a Sunday service of the First Church of Elvis. Remember to follow its ten commandments, including 'don't step on my blue suede shoes'.



For advice write to
Randi Barracuda at:
dearrandi@the-avastar.com

DEAR

I'M SO SHY, I CAN'T CHAT GIRLS UP, I'M DESPERATE!

MAN SEEKS WOMAN IN SL WITH LITTLE LUCK - WHAT'S WRONG? RANDI GIVES HER ADVICE

Dear Randi: I JOINED SL about six months ago hoping to meet a woman online for friendship and perhaps more. My problem is that I am painfully shy and I've just never learned how to talk to girls. I have tried to ask several ladies for dates, but can't get anyone to go with me. I don't know what's wrong with me. Is it my avatar? Am I

not communicating well? I'm getting pretty desperate – what should I do? — J.U.

Randi says: Perhaps you just lack chemistry with the women you are trying to ask out. They may well be sensing your desperation as well, which never makes anyone look particularly attractive! You should have a rethink and maybe slow down

your approach – don't feel that you have to ask someone for a date before your third meeting and perhaps a couple of hours of conversation. It may well also be a good idea to dress up your avatar a bit, and for that you may find it helpful to hire a fashion consultant.

HAVE A PROBLEM? WANT RANDI'S ADVICE? dearrandi@the-avastar.com

MY HUSBAND HAS GOT LOTS OF SECRET WIVES

Dear Randi: I HAVE been married for two months to the man of my dreams. While I am fairly new here, he has been a resident for over three years. Last week I was shocked to discover from his ex-wife – who I didn't even know existed – that he's been married three times. Even worse, she is the only one he ever divorced! She said he doesn't care about polygamy, and nor do his first two 'wives'. She left when she found out and now wants to warn me. Should I confront him? — L.B.

Randi says: Of course you should, but perhaps not yet. One possibility is that the woman who told you all this is a liar. Ask her to give you the names of the other women, so you can make sure they exist. Then approach your husband, ask him if he knows the woman who approached you, and then tell him what she said as if you don't believe it. His reaction should clue you in. If the story is true, dump him without delay!

ONE-NIGHT STAND GIRL WON'T LEAVE ME ALONE

Dear Randi: LAST month I had a one-night stand with one of the best-looking women I have ever seen in SL. The sex was fantastic, but on our next couple of dates I discovered that we do not have much in common and backed off. It seems the better I get to know her, the less I like her. She keeps IMing me every time I sign on, but I really have no interest in a relationship. How can I get rid of her? — C.D.

Randi says: Since you did take her to bed and start her engine, you really should try to be gentle. Perhaps you should try the "it's not you, it's me" approach. If she doesn't get the idea, then move on to "I can't talk right now, I'm busy," and eventually put her on mute. And be a little more selective about your 'dates' in the future!

FOR MORE ADVICE ON SEX, RELATIONSHIPS AND SL PROBLEMS GET IN TOUCH WITH RANDI IN CONFIDENCE IN SL OR EMAIL HER: dearrandi@the-avastar.com

RANDI

The Virtual World's
No 1 Agony Aunt

MY BOSS DEMANDS SEX

Dear Randi:

I MADE a big mistake recently when I slept with my boss. She is very rich and owns the club where I work, and pays me a pretty good salary. Even though she knows I have a girlfriend, she keeps pestering me for sex and calls me her "boy toy" in IMs. When I told her I

wasn't interested in having sex with her, she blew up and asked me how much I liked my job! So I had sex with her and now the problem has gotten worse. How can I get her to stop? — G.B.

Randi says:

You probably can't. If you don't want to be fired from your job,

your best option would probably be just to quit instead. The amount of money you're making certainly is not worth all this drama. Now, go be faithful to your girlfriend and don't even think about sleeping with a boss in the future.



RANDI'S PHOTO CASEBOOK GAVAN'S GAMBLING PREDICAMENT: WEEK 1

Lovebirds Tierra and Gavan are preparing to get married...

"I'm going to make sure our wedding is perfect, just the way you want it!"

"Oh stop bringing that up, I told you I wouldn't do that again."

"But that means it will be expensive, honey, so we'll have to save up all our money to make sure it's just right."

"But surely, gambling every now and again can't hurt, can it?"

"That shouldn't be a problem – as long as you stay away from those casinos like you promised!"

to be continued...

CONTEMPORARY ART NOW



@Cetus Gallery District



The Drawing Quarters
Griffith Studio
Intuitions Gallery

Marion Rickenbacker
NilsArt Experimental
Ritchey Sealy Gallery
Terri Woodward
Tricia Aferdita Gallery

..& more



ABOVE: Affordable galleries and residential lofts for rent in an historic urban industrial setting adapted for the arts. Cetus Gallery District is pleased to have been chosen as one of SL's 50 Best Places by the Corsa Guide to SL.

Created by **RUTTAN DEVELOPMENT**

Join CETUS GALLERY DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
TRICIA AFERDITA, President, CGDA

THE GUIDE TOP EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THIS WEEK: BRAZIL



BRAZILIAN FUN:
Bahia

SAMBA IN SL

By GAETANA FAUST

ENJOY BRAZIL FROM GREAT BEACHES TO THE RIO CARNIVAL

WHAT better way to take a break from your SL routine than a tour of the hot, sandy beaches and streets of Brazil?

Start off your tour with a walk through a pleasant park at Brasilia Virtual in Distrito Federal (154, 103, 23) or take a hot air balloon ride to explore the sim.

Brasil Ribeirao Preto is an urban landscape with wide avenues and sprawling plazas amid a business district. Rave Brasil is the social hub of this sim, with its bright green rooftop and thumping techno music. The Brasil Porto Alegre sim has a football stadium at its core, typifying the football-mad Brazilian people, and down by the old port is a dance club called Caos.

See the quieter side of life in Brasil Bahia, which has an older, more residential feel, with lots of activity in the wide, sloping, cobblestone plazas. There's a great cocktail lounge down by the ocean where you can listen to some great Brazilian jazz.

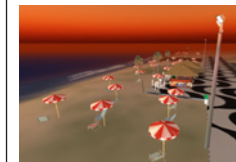
Get dressed for the Rio Carnival by visiting the Brazilian Carnival Costumes store at the Brazil 1 sim (176, 190, 28). It's worth a few minutes just to gape at the fantastic costumes full of feathers and gold. Lounge around and listen to the surf, while sipping on your favourite tippie. Finish up at the wonderful beach in Millais (148, 60, 22) at Fernando de Noronha, an archipelago along the Brazilian coast.

WATCHFUL EYE CHRIST THE REDEEMER



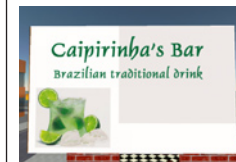
Kick off your tour with a visit to perhaps Brazil's best known sight, the statue of Christ the Redeemer which towers over Corcovado Mountain. Where: Gourneck (136, 180, 121)

BEACH BEAUTIES COPACABANA



Stroll down the long quiet beach and stop for a drink at one of the many bars. Where: KGBR02 (207, 64, 22)

THE NATIONAL DRINK CAIPIRINHA'S BAR



Complete your tour with a taste of the country's national drink. Where: Brasil Sp Jardins (64, 243, 26)

6.29. - 7.5.

DON'T MISS! –



EXHIBITION

77 MILLION PAINTINGS

Renowned RL musician and artist Brian Eno's wild new audio visual art exhibition will open in SL at the same time as it's RL premiere.

When: June 29, 12:00

Where: Kula 1 (250, 9, 20)



ENTERTAINMENT

'4' CLOSING PARTY

Join artist Juria Yoshikawa for a party at the White Cube Gallery to end the month-long run of his '4' exhibition, which featured music by different composers.

When: June 30, 13:00

Where: Carlovitz (253, 92, 43)



LIVE MUSIC

MUSIC PARTY

Enjoy the talents of DJ Jenns and Mankind Tracer.

When: June 29, 12:00

Where: Havens Paradise (66, 159, 32)



NIGHTLIFE

ROCK-JAPAN

Become a Ninja or Geisha at one of SL's favourite rock hotspots.

When: July 2, 12:00-14:00

Where: Sanctuary Rock (131, 62, 54)



OPENING

THE CANDLELIGHT ROOM

Carmen Roeth and Edward Lowell perform their love songs.

When: July 3, 12:00-14:00

Where: Turnip (222, 16, 301)



EVENT OF THE WEEK!

BINARY FINARY SHOW

The RL British trance duo will send revellers into orbit when they perform their tunes at the grand finale of the Second Pride Festival 2007.

When: June 30, 16:00

Where: Osmium (240,240,24)

EVENTS OF THE WEEK



ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIE PARTY

Film fans will flock to this event, billed as the ultimate magical movie party. Freebies will be given out to help everyone tune in to the magic theme.

When: July 5, 11:30

Where: Liberation (123, 91, 26)



LIVE MUSIC

GAVIN KLEES

Move those hips and enjoy some Latino flavour at the Lily Pad. Brazilian musician Gavin performs in both Portuguese and English.

When: July 4, 13:00-14:00

Where: Clyde (124, 165, 32)



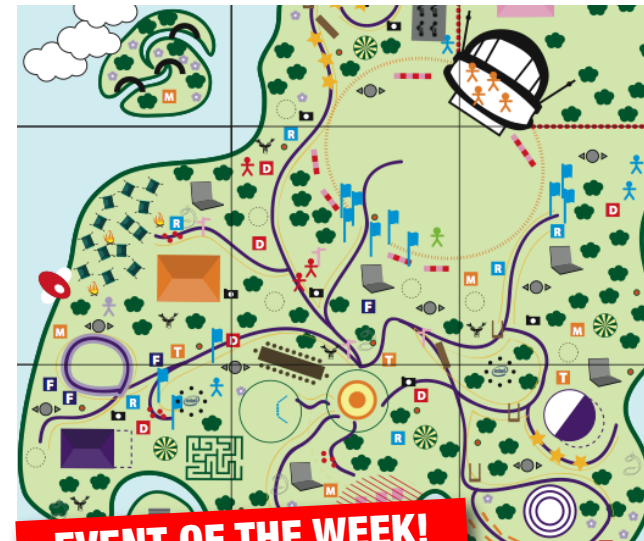
CONTEST

JB MELNIK

The talented jazz guitarist will wow anyone who wants to come along and joins the relaxed crowd in the wonderfully civilised grounds at Eleni's.

When: July 3, 17:00-18:00

Where: Aliikai (213, 204, 22)



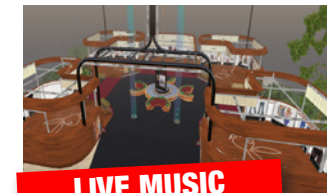
EVENT OF THE WEEK!

SECOND FEST

Rivers Run Red, Intel and the Guardian will put on SL's biggest ever music festival, with an international line-up including The Pet Shop Boys.

When: June 29-July 1

Where: Intel 9 (35, 218, 35)



LIVE MUSIC

DEEP SEXY COOL

Enjoy the chill out trip-hop sounds of Moshang Zhaothe courtesy of resident Playboy DJ Doubledown Tandino's regular night.

When: July 3, 18:00-22:00

Where: Playboy (132, 107, 38)

WANT TO SEE YOUR EVENT HERE?

DO you have an event which you would like to see published in The AvaStar's Events section? If so, email us details at news-desk@the-avastar.com.



By Deleep Witte

How to...

Everything a newbie needs to know!

HOW TO OPEN UP AND USE AN OBJECT

TAKING an object out of your inventory and making it appear on the ground is called 'rezzing' it.

This can frequently cause some problems, but when something does not work right, there are a few things you can try to fix it. You can rez an object by clicking on it and dragging it onto the ground. Sometimes, however, this does not work. Firstly, look at the bottom of your screen to see if the 'Build' button is lit, or if it has gone shaded and dark. If it is the latter, then the land owner has turned off the ability of residents to build objects on

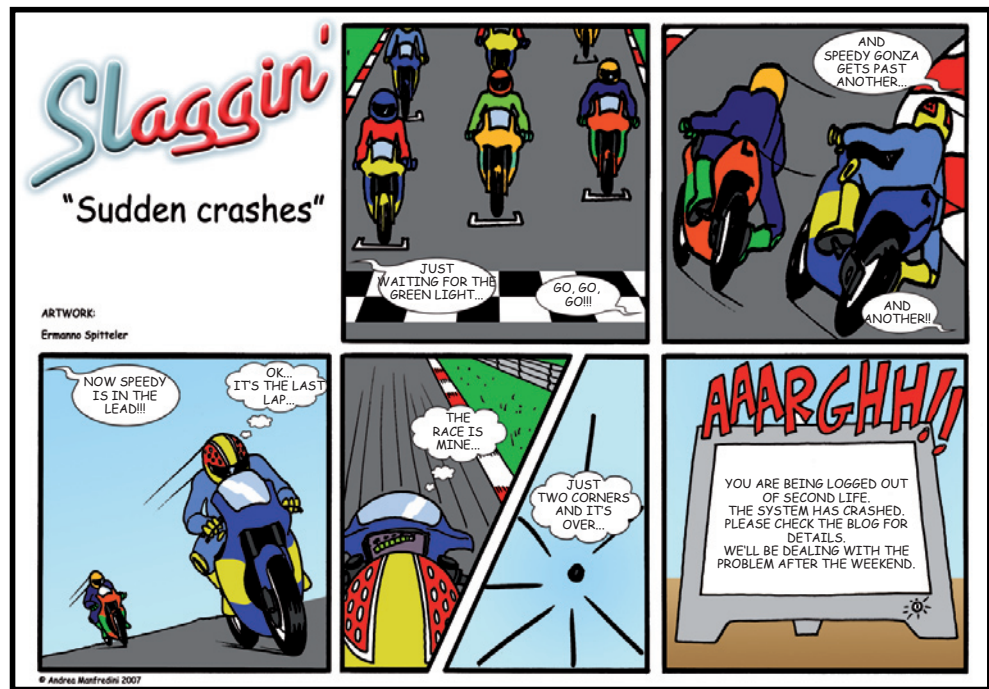
his land. This may well happen where the land owner wants to preserve prims, or prevent grieving. If the 'Build' button has been turned off, you will not be able to place anything on the ground.

If, however, the 'Build' button is lit up and you are still unable to rez something on the ground, there are ways to solve the problem. Create a simple box, which should

appear on the ground in front of you, then try to rez the original item from your inventory onto the top of the box. You can take back the box and delete it later. This remedy almost always works – so good luck!



NO BUILDING ALLOWED: AvaStar Island



By PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL

Freebies

SL's best FREE stuff!

My First Day in Second Life

THIS WEEK: A PLACE IN THE SKY

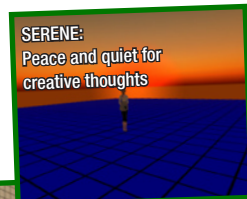
A SANDBOX is a great place to learn how to build. It is easy to meet new friends there, who will give you help and teach you the tricks of creating your own objects.

Sometimes, however, you may find you need a bit more space and privacy – especially if your creations are so original and fantastic that they will make you a L\$ millionaire! The answer is a platform in the sky, and you can get your hands on a very nice one for no cost. The Free Builder Skybox 1.3 by Anthony Hocken is available from Crystal Gadgets in Babeli (128, 128, 22). When you sit on the grey scripted box, a menu allows you to choose how high you want to go. Once you're up in the sky, you have a 360 degree view of the surrounding area, useful if you want to build your own skybox away from any neighbours.

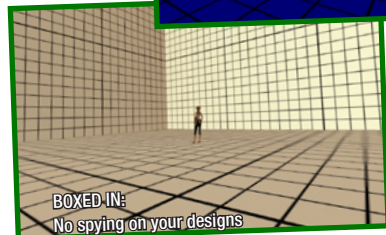


BOX OF DELIGHTS: Creativity knows no bounds

Once you are happy with the location, you can either rez a simple floor or a closed box. Both have a grid, which is very useful for aligning prims, but which you can hide if you don't need it. The colours of the walls can be changed to white, black, blue or transparent. Once finished, simply save and take your work, sit on the box and click 'Clean up' before safely returning to the ground.



SERENE: Peace and quiet for creative thoughts



BOXED IN: No spying on your designs

DO + DOS AND DON'TS OF SKINS - DON'T

- By GAETANA FAUST
- + Get yourself a good professional skin to enhance your appearance.
 - + Consider how you'd like the make-up and facial features to look.
 - + Think about buying a pack of skins in differing skin tones or make-ups so you can change according to your mood.
 - + Try out skins in crazy colours or with edgy tattoos.
 - + Check out all the little nuances, like the collarbone, spine, and face detail.
 - Buy without trying out a demo skin. Always try before you buy.
 - Be cheap about buying a high quality skin. It's one of the best things you can do to boost your avatar's looks.
 - Purchase a skin without considering facial and body hair.
 - Forget to adjust your shape to fit your new skin like a glove.
 - Buy a skin without checking whether you can modify it or not.

BUILDER Vanettda Lassard lives at the bottom of the ocean.

THE AVASTAR: How was your first day?

VANETTDA LASSARD: I found a place that sold great hair, but what looked like normal SL water was actually a false bottom above a huge underwater labyrinth of builds. I learned some of the best SL things are hidden in plain sight and today have my own underwater grotto.

TA: What was your most embarrassing moment as a newbie?

VL: I was in a club which had a naked happy hour with tinted brown newbie skin, naked as a jay bird! I looked like a giant brown bouncing Ken doll and I wince just thinking about it.

TA: What was your funniest moment?

VL: Talking with Kartsen Rutledge and his girlfriend. He was in a black pony avatar while his girlfriend had a pink pony avatar. I was there dressed in my newbie hair and sweater talking to cuddly ponies!



VANETTDA LASSARD

"caLLieifornia" now open !!!

enjoy our beaches, shopping, rock club, and more



home of:
caLLie cLine
tOmbOy
mainLine
hatchie wear
"caffeine au
go-go"
maLiboo cove

THE AVASTAR OF THE WEEK

NOEMI DESPRES

IS A SULTRY VIXEN WHO LOVES TO STALK THE BLOGS AND FORUMS OF SL, OFFERING HER INSIDER WISDOM.

By MANTA MESSMER

PROFILE

NAME:
Noemi Despres
BIRTH DATE:
2/18/2007
PROFESSION:
SL blogger and insider
ATTITUDE:
Good girl, bad girl

THE AVASTAR: What is your best feature?

NOEMI DESPRES: My helpfulness. I have already helped out so many newbies in the time I've been here, as it makes me so happy.

TA: What is your favourite place in SL?

ND: My home! I love my beautiful spot on the Vision of Hope. The new site is mostly

my own creation, and there's always something going on there.

TA: What would you change in SL?

ND: Nothing. I love SL just as it is. For me it simply has so many unbridled opportunities. Of course, sometimes I wish Linden Lab would pull their finger out regarding bugs, but I know that's something that is always going to happen.

TA: How do you spend your time in SL?

ND: Up until a few days ago I spent

my time wandering through the world of SL as a couple - I spent so much time with my boyfriend. The three days since then I've just been with my plants, buildings and my thoughts. It's time to hit the clubs.

TA: Which personal achievements are you most proud of?

ND: Perhaps the fact that I created my beautiful land all by myself - and everything is so nice now. Or that I've made so many newbies happy without having a wealth of experience?

Or even when I designed a work outfit for an acquaintance and his words were: "that's exactly as I had visualised it!"

TA: What is the most precious item in your inventory?

ND: Everything to do with my hair. I love the great diversity of things happening on my head. Then there's my Couples MultiAnimator v2e, because I think hugs and kisses are the most important things in SL, and my Xcite because the lips, neck and belly are just so sweet!

