

THE AVASTAR

Your World. Your Voice.

Who is Av of the year?

See inside for the 10 candidates

PAGES 4 & 5



SL TRIBUTE TO BHUTTO



WHAT'S IN YOUR STARS?

FREE 2008 HOROSCOPE!

SEE PAGE 6

EXCLUSIVE INSIDE REPORT

JENNA IN SEX EMPIRE SHOCK

By Carrie Sodwind

- Porn star training 'army of sluts'
- Escorts said to be SL's "nastiest"

PORN mogul Jenna Jameson is creating an army of SL's "nastiest" girls as she seeks to dominate SL's sex industry.

FULL STORY: SEE PAGE 3

INSIDE OPINION

Seven sims dedicat- ed to porn... I feel it is hypocritical of LL to sell server space to the porn industry after they recently spoke out about "broadly offensive" behaviour.

YOUR MAIL p.7

THE Labscaresurround- ing illegal L\$ smacks of self-interest. While residents must know the dangers of buying illegal L\$ from third party sites, this latest crackdown seems a calculated move to increase sales through the LindeX.



REGIS BRAATHENS p.8

THE AVASTAR

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L\$500 your mail @

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IT'S SNOW USE PROTESTING



DESPERATE snowmen protest in vain at the end of the festive season and lament the coming of Spring at Miller (225, 114, 542). Pic by Isolde Flamand

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By CARRIESODWIND

SEX INDUSTRY GIANTS TEAM UP TO PRODUCE AN "ARMY OF SLUTS" TO DOMINATE SL

PORN mogul Jenna Jameson is training an army of SL's "nastiest" girls as she seeks to dominate virtual adult entertainment in SL, The AvaStar can EXCLUSIVELY reveal.

FILTHY

In an inside investigation, our reporter uncovered the shocking truth about what is going on behind closed doors at RL porn star Jenna Jameson's new sim, as the unashamedly filthy brothel prepares to officially open.

Teaming up with porn industry giant Playboy, Club Jenna is looking to create the biggest

sex business in SL. So far hundreds of girls have been queueing up to audition and secure a place as one of Jenna's SL girls.

SLUTS

Chelsea Malibu, who claims to be a personal friend of Jenna, is in charge of the seedy training programme. One of the Jenna girls told the undercover AvaStar reporter how Malibu wants to create an "army of sluts" to change the face of the SL sex industry. During a behind-closed-doors training session, Malibu said: "We open for a run of one month to get the bugs out and dur-

ing that time we get known for being the nastiest and hottest girls in SL. It's why you are here now."

NASTY

Another of Jenna's escorts selected for the final cut, told The AvaStar about the rigorous selection and training process: "There are three levels you have to pass to even get hired. You do your best to impress the manager SexyPandora and you say the nastiest things because she asks you to keep getting ruder."

COCAINE

"I feel honoured to be a Jenna girl... only the nastiest girls get it.

We have an amazing dressing room - they said we are allowed to do cocaine in it."

Visitors to the island will have to follow strict rules and only VIPs with lots of cash may enter the sky boxes which cost L\$1200 for 30min or less.

OFFENSIVE

In a letter to The AvaStar, one resident expressed her concern at the brothel. "Seven sims dedicated to porn, escorts and all things seedy. It is hypocritical of LL to sell server space to the porn industry after they recently spoke out about 'broadly of- fensive' behaviour."

SEX EDUCATION: Chelsea Malibu teaches dancers how to talk dirty

SHAKE IT: Jenna girls are shown the moves at the club

AVASTAR OF 2007

HAVE YOUR SAY: WHICH NEWBIE OF 2007 MADE THE BIGGEST IMPACT ON SL LAST YEAR?

By *CARRIE SODWIND*

THOUSANDS of entrepreneurs joined SL in and around 2007 hoping to make their mark – but only a few really succeeded. We present to you the shortlist for the 'AvaStar of 2007' with ten personalities who have helped to shape our world. Vote for your favourite now at AvaStar Island and online at www.the-avastar.com.



ANA LUTETIA

REZZED: 11/11/2006, **PROFESSION:** Fashion blogger, model, **SL ROLE MODEL:** "I couldn't name only one."

One of the most widely printed SL faces in 2007, she has been featured on the cover of RL magazines as well as being interviewed for the Portuguese edition of Elle and national TV. "Once someone told me that I was/am an ambassador for my country (Portugal). I believe that is quite an achievement."



BIANCA FOULON

REZZED: 11/27/2006, **PROFESSION:** Fashion designer, **SL ROLE MODEL:** None
Bianca F. is one of the leading names in current SL women's fashion. Famous for her rebel attitude to in-world fashion, Bianca has opened seven stores in SL, hosted a series of fashion shows, worked as a double spread fashion stylist for The AvaStar and produced her own magazine, 'Essensual.'



CODEBASTARD REDGRAVE

REZZED: 1/8/2007, **PROFESSION:** Machinima, photography, **SL ROLE MODEL:** Too many to list.

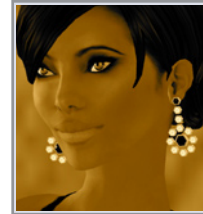
Mean machinimatographer, photographer, and club owner of Code Red Lounge. She hopes her MachinimaCam will become the universal machinima-making tool.



FROLIC MILLS

REZZED: 5/28/2007, **PROFESSION:** Model, magazine owner **SL ROLE MODEL:** The Linux penguin!

Winner of The Top Male Model Award, he has since created The Evolutions Museum, run a series of cutting-edge fashion shows and opened his own magazine, The Best of SL. "Being from Venezuela, and not being able to buy L\$ was a definite disadvantage. But perhaps it was this that made me try harder."



ISABELLA SAMPAIO

REZZED: 12/9/2006, **PROFESSION:** Model, **ROLE MODEL:** Janson Vandeverre.
Dark beauty Isabella was named Miss L'Oreal Paris in April, marking the first RL cross-over into the Second Life beauty market. She runs a busy business, Style Guru, for personalized avatar transformation. Her secret to success? "One must be true to oneself and adhere to one's core values. Without dignity and self-respect intact, such achievement might seem rather hollow."



LUKECONNELL VANDEVERRE

REZZED: 11/29/2006, **PROFESSION:** Owner WSE and CEO of Hope Capital Ltd. **SL ROLE MODEL:** Anshe Chung

LukeConnell has played a key role in the development of the finance sector in SL. He established the SL stock market WSE, which he says has an exchange turnover of over L\$519 million. "The main qualities for achieving one's goals in SL include having a clear vision and an open mind, connecting and interacting with the community."



NICHO LAZ BERESFORD

REZZED: 3/6/2007, **PROFESSION:** Open-source programmer, **SL ROLE MODEL:** None
Nicholaz won the 2007 Linden Lab Award for Open Source Contributor of the Year, for fixing bugs in the service provider and correcting two major memory leaks in the viewer. He also recently fixed attachment drifts - better known as "attachments up the butt." He said SL success requires, "Three P's: Passion, Persistence, Patience... but I'm not too good in the patience department."



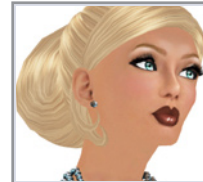
RIGHTASRAIN RIMBAUD

REZZED: 10/12/2006, **PROFESSION:** CEO of Rezzable, **SL ROLE MODEL:** Henry Case
The top Rezzable sim, The Greenies, quickly became one of the most popular in SL. They have since opened many more highly-visited, artistic sims including The Canne-ry and Black Swan. "SL is about people more than prims, so being successful is about dealing with people in friendly, open way."



SATIR DUCUIR

REZZED: 2/12/2007, **PROFESSION:** Builder, **SL ROLE MODEL:** None
Designer and main builder of Al Andalus, a build that mirrors elements of the RL Alhambra. Satir's work as a texture theft agent, has contributed hugely towards minimising copyright theft in SL. She said: "I may seem like a snob but what makes me want to work like crazy, is the really low quality builds in SL. I want to change the concept of SL quality."




SCARLET NIVEN


REZZED: 1/4/2007, **PROFESSION:** Lingerie Model, **ROLE MODEL:** Celebrity Trollop
Apart from having the most famous set of... underwear on the grid, Scarlett is one of SL's most successful models, winning The Bud Select/Stuff Magazines Lingerie Legend competition. She now models and acts for RL agency MillionsOfUS.


VOTE NOW ON AVASTAR ISLAND OR AT WWW.THE-AVASTAR.COM


2008 HOROSCOPE


FIND OUT WHAT THE YEAR HAS IN STORE FOR YOU WITH OUR VIRTUAL READINGS!


- 


ARIES 2008 is the year of long-term romance, which will mean changing your initial idea of what a virtual relationship is all about. It's not too late to change your reputation!
- 


CAPRICORN Time to expand your friends list, and explore some new hot spots. Saturn, in your Ninth House, will bring stability – the perfect foundation to try new things.
- 


SAGITTARIUS Forget camping and trailing around freebie junkyards. Jupiter is in your Second House of money bringing luck in wealth. Even gambling may be lucky for you.
- 


SCORPIO Any ending is a new beginning according to this years outlook for Scorpio. You will meet creative people who will introduce you to new things. This is the year for saying “yes”.
- 


LIBRA Conflict is one of the key worries this year. You don't know who your SL friends are and who your enemies are. Don't trust people so easily. Use your diplomacy to resolve problems.
- 


VIRGO You will be the babe of the beach, or the life of the party this year, because in 2008 you just want to have fun. Enjoy it to the max, but don't let your old friendships fall to the gutter.
- 

LEO Neptune, the planet of inspiration and illusion, is in the house of partnerships. Romantic partners will inspire you – but make sure you don't idealise them. Beauty is not just pixel deep.
- 

CANCER A year in which a partnership could change your life long-term – and also a year for travel. This could mean its time to meet SL friends and lovers for real?
- 

GEMINI Don't be so afraid of mixing your RL feelings with SL. Your tendency towards dual personalities is confusing. Speak straight from the heart, or you may end up in deep water.
- 

TAURUS A year for optimism and creative imagination. If you work in a field that requires imagination, your work so far will pay off in 2008. If not, it's time to start pushing boundaries.
- 

PISCES Saturn in your house of relationships indicates a major change about to happen. A long-term relationship may be about to end. Enjoy SL's freedom and have fun to get over it.
- 

AQUARIUS If you are scared by new changes, don't worry. SL holds some extraordinary learning curves for you, and they will happen at a fast pace. Relax and enjoy the ride!

SL PAYS TRIBUTE TO BENAZIR BHUTTO



PAYING TRIBUTE:
Jennette Forager

MEMORIAL DEDICATED TO PAKISTANI POLITICAN *By CARRIE SODWIND*

HUNDREDS of residents have paid tribute in-world to the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto, after she was assassinated on December 27.

Jennette Forager, who set up the memorial to Bhutto the day after she was murdered,

said she is staggered at the outpouring of grief and by the number of well-wishers who have left flowers and generous donations at the memorial.

SORROW

Forager said: “People from all over the world, including the Pakistani community, have found comfort in recognizing our common horror and sorrow.” Residents are expected to

pack the sims at Carnforth (91, 17, 62) and Wells (139, 198, 59) on January 6, for a moving memorial, which will begin at 14:00 SLT.



REMEMBERED:
Former Pakistani
Prime Minister
Benazir Bhutto

your mail @ YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

SEX SIMS RUIN SL SPIRIT

Hey Regis, I thoroughly enjoy the paper, but the subject of some of the articles in the latest issue made me depressed.

I know SL is full of seedy places and characters but seeing it in print really brought it all home to me. After a front-page article on infidelity in SL, we get a full page article about a RL porn star coming to SL! Seven sims dedicated

to porn, escorts and all things seedy. What a waste of servers!!!

HYPOCRITICAL

Unfortunately, this side of SL is the one that the RL media use to criticise our world. It was therefore ironic to see this article on the opposite page to an article all about the posi-

tive future of SL and what some famous residents predict for our world. I also feel it is hypocritical of LL to sell server space to the porn industry after they recently spoke out about “broadly offensive” behaviour.

SPIRIT

SL has many positive aspects which add

value and depth to peoples lives. Unfortunately, it also has the sex industry. Sex may make a lot of money in SL and in RL but it is the depth of human spirit, love and creativity that have made both lives worth living.

Unfortunately this side of SL does not create headlines in RL. Maybe LL should think about that before selling out to a porn star.

By GW

L\$500

E-MAILS

WRITE TO:
YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM



REGIS BRAATHENS

SAME OLD THING

TO be honest, I wanted to start the new year on a cheerful note. I had hoped, obviously without serious conviction, that a new year would bring new stability to SL. But with 2008 only three days old we have already seen inventory problems, login and rezzing difficulties, and a rolling restart, not to mention an attempt to monopolise the Linden dollar exchange market. Let's hope that Linden Lab hasn't started 2008 as it means to go on.

LIND-O-METER
Verdict: Lagging behind

FRAUD SCARE TO INCREASE LINDEN LAB'S L\$ MONOPOLY

WARNING OVER ILLEGAL L\$ CALCULATED TO BOOST LINDE X SALES

THE scare created by the Lab surrounding fraudulent L\$ smacks of self-interest.

While it is imperative for residents to know about the dangers of buying illegal L\$ from dodgy third party sites, this latest crack-down just seems like a calculated move to increase sales through the LindeX, which already makes Linden Lab around U\$5 million a year, and to further strengthens its monopoly over exchange sites.

INNOCENT

The hefty penalties for dealing in illegal L\$ won't deter the scammers but will hit innocent residents hard. Of course if you receive stolen goods in RL or in SL, you won't be able to keep them. That's the law. But why hit the victim with a 150% charge, rather than just taking the money back. Only repeat offenders should be fined.

Furthermore, by not releasing a list either of sites which it deems to be safe or those it deems to be illegal, the Lab is not only tarring all Linden dollar exchange sites with the same brush but also giving residents no help in avoiding the commensurate risk.

RISK

And those residents that do not own a credit card and can not use the LindeX are therefore forced to run the risk of losing thousands every time they exchange money.

REFUSED

When The AvaStar revealed in issue 25 that the Lab was suspend-

ing the accounts of anyone that bought L\$ on eBay and warning them that further violations would lead to a ban, the Lab refused to comment (see issue 27). No doubt it hoped to drive all L\$ sales away from eBay to the LindeX back then as well. Yet again the lack of transparency is causing residents to suffer.

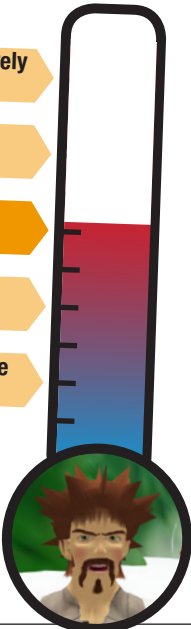
SL QUICK TO PAY RESPECT

IT is amazing how quickly RL events are now being echoed in SL. Within a day of the tragic murder of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto a resident had already set about building a memorial to her in Second Life. Yet again we can see the advantages of the virtual world as a platform for commemoration, remembrance and a worldwide show of support.

YOUR COMMENTS:
regis@the-avastar.com



- Lab-solutely awful!
- Phil-ing blue!
- Lagging behind!
- IMproving
- Sim-ply the best!



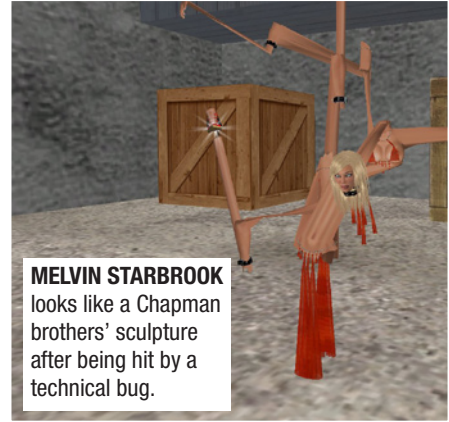
L\$500
PICS OF THE WEEK
yourphotos@the-avastar.com



EVENING light on the stunning SL remake of the famous Las Vegas Hotel Bellagio, in Isle of Dreams. Pic by **SAMANTHA LAMONT.**



BEAUTIFUL 50s chic, a Courtney Love lookalike was snapped on her way out of The Hard Rock Cafe - you didn't eat enough burgers Courtney! Pic by **GIA HUTCHENCE.**



MELVIN STARBROOK looks like a Chapman brothers' sculpture after being hit by a technical bug.



BIG footed NIKO LINDEN was caught by **BING GUNAWAN** shopping in this seedy mall.



A FANTASTIC impressionistic action shot by **CAJSA LILLIEHOOK** of awesome surfer **TIMBO FLANAGAN** competing at Bishar.

SL TO REMAIN ON TOP IN 2008

DESPITE COMPETITION SL STILL OFFERS BEST PERFORMANCE RATIO

ENTREPRENEUR and economic expert PHAM NEUTRA, CEO of The Otherland Group, slams Second Life's critics and says SL will remain ahead of the virtual world competition in 2008.

"THE last few months of 2007 were some of the hardest times I've experienced in my three years in-world – the future of Second Life seemed gloomy. With the huge positive hype ebbing away, population growth slowing, the closure of

prominent projects by RL companies including activities at AOL and Pontiac and the laying off of some 20 employees at the biggest Metaverse agency, Electric Sheep Company, many thought, 'is this the beginning of the end of SL?'

GROWING

It most certainly is not. While these negative messages convey an impression of a general and unavoidable downward trend, what is easily overlooked is the fact that SL is still growing

rather fast. Nearly a million new users try it out every month. The number of concurrent users is climbing steadily again and the economic performance indicators are on the rise, too. There is a growing number of 'resident driven businesses' which are profitable enough to contribute significantly to the RL needs of their creators.

This is not the hypergrowth of the spring of 2007, but it is a healthy growth at a rate many other online platforms



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SL Guide Agency

would be proud of.

ALTERNATIVES

What is certain, though, is that there will be more competition, more alternate platforms for people interested in virtual worlds. The likes of Kaneva, HiPiHi, vLES, There and the There-based MTV Worlds are compelling alternatives. Sony's Home will be huge in 2008. In Germany interesting platforms to watch include StageSpace and the up-and-coming Twinity from Metaversum.

BEST

Many of these worlds are not comparable to SL, though. They are great for entertainment, for meeting, chatting, hanging out - which are the most important 'applications' for virtual worlds to date. **But SL remains the number one, as it is the world which among other things:**

- gives its residents the most (creative) **freedom**
- features the most elaborate virtual economy with **opportunities** for both resident created businesses and RL companies looking for new marketing and sales channels
- has a huge number of third party **developers** (software and content)

• offers limited but **powerful** software interfaces to the Web.

Other virtual worlds often surpass SL in one or another of these areas, but so far none of them offers such a powerful combination of features fostering sustainable growth (HiPiHi might be a contender to watch for, though).

These features are relevant even to residents not interested in content creation or business. They are relevant because they make sure there is always lots of new content to explore, new products to buy, new entertainment offers etc. In physical reality a free market guarantees a rich world of offerings to consumers at competitive prices. The same mechanisms are the foundations of SL – and no other platform offers them, currently.

From a consumer's (resident) point of view SL remains the best. From a RL client's point of view, Second Life often comes out as the most flexible virtual world solution with the best price performance ratio. The future of SL in 2008 looks bright."



LAB L\$ SCARE TO HIT BUSINESSES

FEARs of fraudulent L\$ being sold on third party websites may hit small Linden exchange businesses hard.

The scare created by a Linden blog post warning residents against using third party sites to buy L\$ has angered owners who feel Linden Lab are trying to drive residents to their own exchange platform, Lindex.

ANGRY

Many residents who have lost thousands through buying fraudulent L\$ are also angry at the Lab for not providing a list of the illegal sites.

WORRIED

But Apotheus Silverman, CEO of SLExchange, one of the biggest L\$ exchanges, said he is not worried about losing business over this. "The post could reduce the business of other legitimate, but lesser known Linden Dollar traders. I believe it's for that reason that a number of people called out for LL to create a white list of known legitimate sellers" he said.

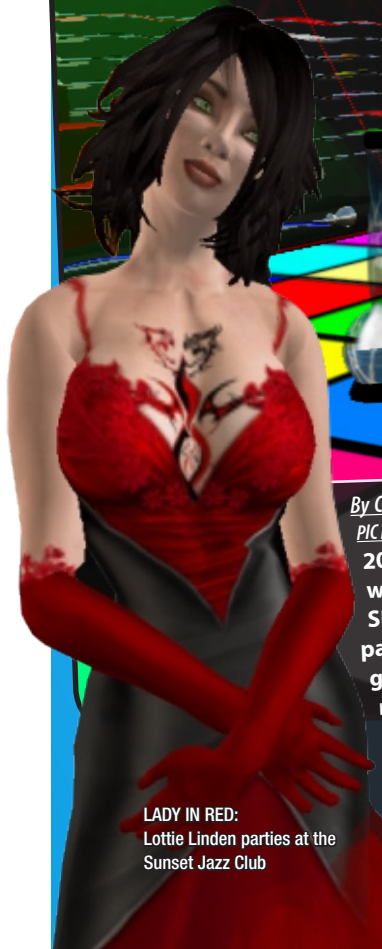


a-stars



A-STARS gossip with Isabel Brocco, Babu Writer and Kitty Otoole

2008 STARTS WITH A BANG!



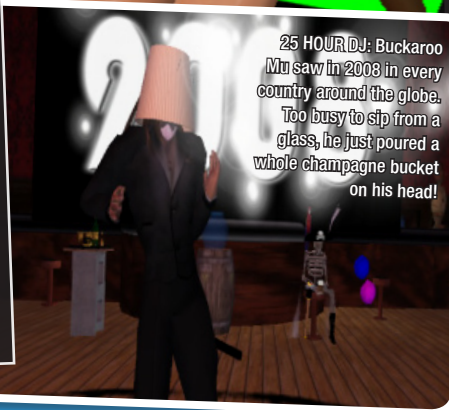
LADY IN RED: Lottie Linden parties at the Sunset Jazz Club

By **CARRIE SODWIND** (LEFT PIC BY **ISOLDE FLAMAND**)

2008 kicked off with a bang in SL as residents parted across the grid. With everything from a 25-hour DJ set to 70s disco - even Lottie Linden was in-world to see in the new year!



HOT STUFF: Natalie Niven works up a sweat on the dancefloor at the KMADD party



25 HOUR DJ: Buckaroo Musaw in 2008 in every country around the globe. Too busy to sip from a glass, he just poured a whole champagne bucket on his head!

COSTA RRRRICA



By **ISABEL BROCCO**

PUP Witherspoon fought off tough competition for the title of Miss Costa Rica at the Isla de Chira on Sunday. She will compete at Miss SL Universe on January 19.

HIGH PROFILE: The panel of judges were looking for more than just good looks

EXOTIC BEAUTIES: Crowned queen Pup Witherspoon in emerald, Giela Delpaso, and bikini girl Denise Rowlands (right).

HARD CORE RAVERS!



PURPLE LYCRA: This dancer shows how it is done.

VEYRON SUPERCHARGER: Dominates the dancefloor.

Pics by **RIGHTASRAIN RIMBAUD**

CATSUIT-wearing felines and dancers turned out to the rave of the year, hosted by Rezzable last Saturday. Rig rave was held at a dirty oil rig, floating on a black ocean in Surf 7. DJs included Hallucinogirl.



RED HOT: co-host Suzi Phlox

SPARKLING: Natalie Niven

LOVELY HOSTESS: LeeZu Baxter

Gown in glory

By **ISABEL BROCCO**

DESIGNER LeeZu Baxter has opened her new club, To The Nines. She was joined by an elegant crowd last Friday who danced in the moonlight to sultry songs by Preciousse Moody and Jean Munro.

BRAZILIAN MASQUERADE

By SOLANGE KOROBASE

January is party season. If you are fed up with the bad weather, dull colours and warm winter woollies, join the Brazilians, and try some loud costumes and masks.



Instinct Selviggi "Party" from Digit Darkes L\$400 (Addiction 130/123/22)
Raven Mask from M&F L\$0 (Tanglewood Shores 72/222/30)

Kasbah "Rain" from Digit Darkes L\$500 (Addiction 130/123/22)
Roman Mask, Black Moon, L\$40 (Insula Inferi West 175/48/23)

Lord Lace - white, L\$400 from SF Design Mens Clothes (Lotus 247/124/141)
Unicorn Mask M&F L\$169 (Tanglewood Shores 72/222/30)

CARRIE SODWIND



SKIN DESIGNERS GO 'AU NATUREL'

BARBIE-LOOK DITCHED FOR NATURAL BEAUTY

SKIN designers are turning their back on the traditional perfect 'barbie doll' by adding 'imperfections' like moles and sun spots as their skins go back to the 'au naturel' look.

The latest trend is to keep make-up to a minimum, to allow natural beauty to shine through. I've picked out three styles - innocent, bronzed and delicate - which are now selling fast in the shops.

GIRLISH FRECKLES

A popular look is the

cheekschool-girl nose and cheek freckles. The look is only complete with very natural hair, pulled back in a ponytail, and of course the big innocent girlish eyes. Make-up must be kept minimum. Pale pink lips and mascara at most. Try TULI for sweet freckled faces.

SUNKISSED

For some sulky California attitude, glowing bronzed skin needs no make-up to be beautiful. Characteristic of this look, are the subtle golden highlights on

the cheek-bones. Dark eyes are a must - light eye shadow with black or brown pupils. Hit stores Tet A Pied or Naughty.

PALE CITY CHIC

A delicate and professional look is very pale skin, so white and glowing that it is almost transparent. This is perfect for an urban girl, and looks great with soft pink or red eye shadow and cheeks, making the skin look flushed from the cold. Sansarya wears skin by Gala Phoenix.



INNOCENT modelled by Zesje Sixgallery



BRONZED modelled by Valencia Francis



DELICATE modelled by Sansarya Caligari

WHAT'S HOT! BLACK & WHO?

By CARRIE SODWIND

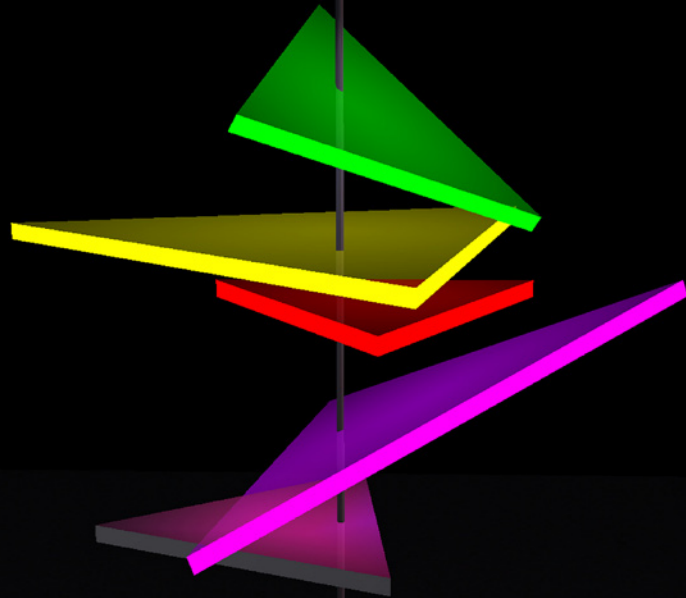
The AvaStar was sent a picture of this anonymous fashionista dressed from head to toe in black and white.

We love the wacky design of the outfit and would love to know who is behind it! So if you are the mysterious fashion guru that is wearing it or you know who it is, then let us know and win L\$1,000! Send an email to carriesodwind@hotmail.de or IM me in-world!

BOLD:
All black and white



Swedish Quality Design



Absolute NOT possible to produce IRL.
 In Second of course it is (we have no gravity!) Delivered
 with a complete light script system.
 Available at my EXAKT main store. Open 24/7.
 Very Welcome!



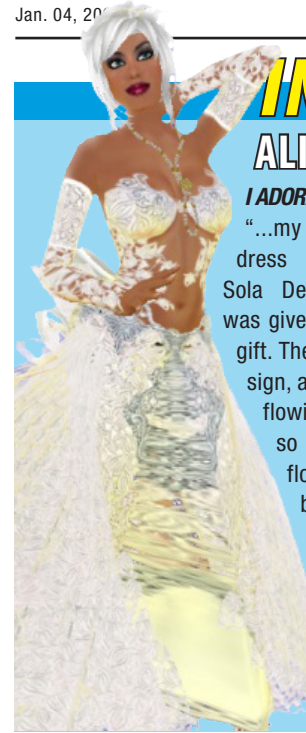
**NEW! EXAKT
 LAMP FOR
 YOUR HOME**

Verloren 216,30,33.

INVENTORY SNEAK PEEK

ALICE KLINGER OF ALLI & ALI

By ISOLDE FLAMAND



I ADORE...

"...my wedding dress from Vanilla Sola Designs which was given to me as a gift. The cut and design, along with the flowing lace is so elegant. The flounce and bow on the back makes me feel wrapped like a present."

I LOVE...

"...these shoes made by Ka-edon Sao. I met him when he was a noob in a sandbox and he asked me to model these shoes for him. They come in seven colour combinations. The coolest thing about them is the spiral detail around the heel."



I ALWAYS WEAR...

"...my wedding ring from RICX, designed by Ricx Currie. Ricx has stunning rings in the limited edition corner. My partner chose this ring for me because it was number eight of 12 - and the number eight is said to represent wealth and success."



IN THE HOT SEAT



By TINA (PETGIRL) BERGMAN



Ui 'CINE' Chair (Pink, grey, green or green.)
 By Ui Beam
 Second Sweden 2, 88, 153, 24

L\$299

Anza 59+ (carsofa) black
 By Saga Anza
 Sverige 120, 3, 22

L\$40



Modern Circular Chair (Red) at CULT
 By Fade Languish
 William 207, 176, 28

L\$250



SCDA Arch Stool 1.4
 By Scope Cleaver
 SCDA 82, 87, 23

L\$350



L\$45

CORN Fuggly cactus
 By Cornelius Sloat
 CORN 119, 150, 22



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

DEAR

I DON'T WANT MY GIRL PLEASURING OTHER MEN



RL RELATIONSHIP ON THE ROCKS AFTER GIRL STARTS STRIPPING IN SL

Dear Randi: I have an RL job which forces me to work long hours. My girlfriend moved from another city to be with me a few months back and only had a few friends here, so I suggested she join SL as a way to pass the time. Now I think she likes it too much. It didn't take her much time to find a job as a dancer in a club, and she

seems to make a good living off her tips. I don't really like what she's doing - I don't want my girl pleasuring other men. But she just says it's harmless and helps with the rent. Need I be worried about it, or just accept it as harmless fun? — S.W.

Randi says: If you love her, you should take what she says at face value. What she's do-

ing in SL is just fantasy, and it's certainly not like she's out on your RL town every night looking for other men. Stripping in SL is very different to RL - and her being able to earn money to help out with the rent obviously makes her feel good. But if you still can't stand it, you should talk to her again before it really gets to you.

GROOM HAUNTED BY WHITE WEDDING JINX

Dear Randi: I have been dating an amazing woman in SL. Although we haven't met in person, I think she's the girl of my dreams! We're even thinking about taking the relationship to RL. I want to get married in SL, and proposed and gave her a ring on Christmas Eve. Now the problem is our wedding. She wants ultra-formal on Valentine's Day, while I want casual vows on a beach. I've been married twice in RL and both were black-tie affairs, and I have told her I think it's a jinx. How can I convince her? — C.N.

Randi says: You shouldn't even try. I think your idea of a jinx is misplaced. You didn't have bad weddings, you just married the wrong women. Compromise is almost always a good idea, but on her wedding day a girl should get every fantasy her beloved can give her! Let her have her way and go be a good groom and a good husband. And best wishes to you both in 2008!

DOES MY MAN REALLY WANT TO BE A WOMAN?

Dear Randi: Recently I began dating a guy who seemed to be everything a girl could want. Not only is he handsome, smart and sweet, but is also quite wealthy and always gives me generous gifts! He makes his money as the main owner of a 'gentleman's club'. And last weekend he let it slip that he has an 'alt' that is one of the club's hottest female dancers. He says he's been doing it for months and wants to keep doing it for the money. I'm worried that he's either bisexual or wants to be a woman. Should I be? — P.M.

Randi says: Probably not. People are always indulging fantasies here that they wouldn't think of taking into RL, and this is almost certainly the case for him! One thing you might even do is create a male alt of your own just for the purposes of picking 'her' up for a bedroom session or two. You could learn how the other half lives, and it might spice up your relationship in the long term.

RANDI

The Virtual World's
No 1 Agony Aunt

MY HUBBY HAD SEX WITH EX "FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE"

LOVE RAT'S PATHETIC EXCUSE BEFORE BEGGING WIFE TO TAKE HIM BACK

Dear Randi: My husband has been in SL longer than I have, and I learned soon after we met that he had an ex-wife. Unfortunately I had to be away from SL because of the holidays, while he was on every day. Yesterday he confided in me that he had met his ex on Christmas Day, and that they had a long conversation.

Things progressed, and he said they made love "for old time's sake." Obviously I am not happy about it, but I like the fact he was honest with me. I'm thinking about leaving him, but he's begging me to stay. Help? — U.D.

Randi says: I would give him one more chance, but not two more. Your hubby had a

history with the other woman, and was weak in your absence. But what is important is that he was honest enough to tell you about it when he could have easily just opted to keep you in the dark. He sounds like he made a mistake. Stay with him, but make sure you don't even think about trying to get revenge.

ADVERT

IS YOUR SEX LIFE ON THE ROCKS?

IS YOUR PARTNER CHEATING?

DO YOU HAVE A LOVE DILEMMA?

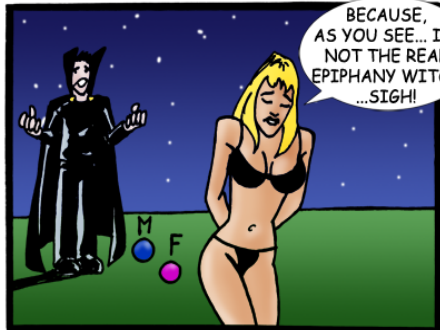
Randi is here to help. SL's best Agony Aunt will give the answers to all your personal problems.

Get in touch with Randi at:
dearrandi@the-avastar.com

Slaggin'

ARTWORK:
Ermanno Spitteler

"CINDERELLA"



© Andrea Manfredini 2008



Freebies

By PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL

SL's best FREE stuff!

THIS WEEK: MO HAX'S POSE BALL FREEBIE

Are you planning to create furniture, pose stands or anything that needs a 'seated' animation involving one (unsynchronized) avatar per poseball, but your budget doesn't yet allow you to buy a dedicated tool?

MoPoseBalls by Mo Hax (Scafell 37, 224, 685) is the kind of tool you are looking for. The poseballs are so flexible that you will just keep on using them.

COMPLEX

The pack contains seven different sample poseballs with the same script, but different configurations from the simplest

one to the most complex: for example, one of them has a plugin that provides additional emote animations.

In the latest version of MoPoseBall's you can use one of the balls to rotate through up to twenty different poses with a self-configuring Remote hud, while you are sitting on it. Pick the poseball that meets your needs, remove sample animations (they are funny – give them a try!) and add the ones you love. Finally, open the poseball and follow the instructions to customize it. There is a detailed notecard to guide you through it step by step.

If you don't need the poseball, you can simply use the script and add it to the object: it has full permissions, so you can modify it (respecting the licence).

And finally, when you become a famous furniture designer, don't forget to say thank you to Mo for his poseballs!



POSING: Mo Hax's great freebie

ADVERT

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THE GUIDE

TOP EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

ROMANTIC HANGOUT CANTERBURY



Romance reigns at this pond centred around a gazebo with tasteful deco and lighted trees.

Where: Canterbury (55, 39, 23)

BEAUTY SPOT CHERISHED



Waterfalls, bridges, and stunning copses of trees surround this beauty spot.

Where: Pinehouse (164, 102, 23)

MIDNIGHT MAGIC ICICLE PALACE



An aura of magic surrounds you during midnight skating sessions.

Where: Mandalay Bay (120, 85, 21)

THIS WEEK: SKATING



As the 2008 winter sports season gets into gear, ditch your skis for skates and glide across the grid at these select spots.

Practice your jumps on the tall ramp at the magical scene in Japan Nagano (93, 108, 16). Take a skate under a lovely arch illuminated with tiny colored lights before taking a spin around the ice on a sled pulled by a cheerful snowman.

FREE

In the center of the rink at Winter Spirit in Sunset Commerce 2 (206, 79, 301) animated penguins and snowmen join residents in skating around. Here, as at most rinks, there are free skates for the asking. Many rinks also offer fancier versions for purchase. Enjoy watching the train go

around the track in the middle of the pond at the Isle of Wyrms in Limbo (216, 44, 21). There's lots of space to practice your pirouettes and jumps, with mountains on all sides, crowned with snow.

As usual, Caledon does Victorian as well as you could reasonably wish at Caledon Kittiwickshire (184, 36, 22). Step back in time and skate around the local pond or grab a seat on a bench to watch your friends glide over the icy surface.

Last but not least, you can step into the film 'It's a Wonderful Life' by visiting Winterland in Del Agua (123, 66, 28). The town is lots of fun to visit, but it wouldn't be complete without strapping on your skates and having a wander around the huge icy pond.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

1.4. - 1.10.

All times are given in SL Time



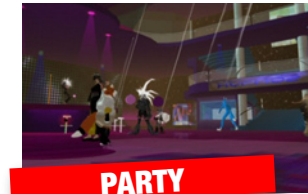
ART OPENING

FLOWERBALL

An interactive art project opening on Princeton University's virtual campus. Music will be provided by Dizzy Banjo

When: Jan 5, 14:00

Where: Princeton South (216, 209, 66)



PARTY

VICIOUS HYPNOZ RE-OPENING

Weekend long celebrations are taking place at the international oriented club to mark the opening of their new island.

When: Jan 4 to 6, all day

Where: Vicious Island (70, 187, 22)



ART & MUSIC

OYSTER BAY ANNIVERSARY

Celebrate the 1 year anniversary of this wonderful sculpture garden with music by Doubledown Tandino and Komuso Tokugawa.

When: Jan 10, 18:00

Where: Oyster (9, 198, 90)



EVENT OF THE WEEK!

TOP artist Dancoyote Antonelli presents the ZeroG SkyDancers III virtual flight premiere. Billed as a cross between water ballet and aerial acrobatics, it should be worth the steep price of L\$3.000.

When: Jan 6, 21:00 (Will be repeated every Saturday for 3 months)

Where: Email Dancoyote at dc@spensely.com for tickets and details



DISCUSSION

ROBIN LINDEN

Lab bigwig Robin Harper will appear on Monday's Metanomics to talk about the SL community.

When: Jan 7, 11:00

Where: Zebra HQ (163, 194, 32)



PARTY

SALSA AT TROPICANA CLUB

Spiced-up ballroom dancing!

When: Jan 9, 00.00

Where: Havana (234, 35, 33)



She wished upon a star & dreamed until the dusk, her wish was found within the glowing Diamond Dust.

Limited Edition Gown callie cline

Jan. 04, 2008 **THE AVASTAR OF THE WEEK**

By CARRIE SODWIND



MELANIE ZHAO

MULTI-TALENTED MELANIE: BEAUTIFUL, BUSINESS SAVVY, CREATIVE AND MORE THAN ABLE TO RUN IN STILETTOS!

INTERVIEW

The AvaStar: What is your best feature?

Melanie Zhao: My sense of humour. I try and see the funny side of things and I walk away from drama (I didn't used to though!)

TA: How do you spend your time in SL?

MZ: Shopping, designing shoes, shopping, designing shoes, fashion shows, designing shoes, shopping, dancing, shopping, seeing friends, shopping, and bit more shopping!

TA: What would you change in SL?

MZ: Inventory loss. OMG I hate it, it's my biggest nightmare. I spent two days designing a new boot. I went to make the vendor pictures and when I came back, the folder was empty. I cried.

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

MZ: I have over 25,000 items all organised into folders where I can find everything... I'm sooo anal! So all of my inventory is precious to me.

TA: If SL had a president, who would it be?

MZ: Well it would be me obviously, with Callie Cline as my Vice President, Fortunate Szondi as my PA and Ciera Bergman as my maid.

AVA - ID CARD

NAME: MELANIE ZHAO
BIRTH DATE: 9/25/2006

PROFESSION: Shoe designer
ATTITUDE: Work hard, shop hard