

THE AVASTAR

Your World. Your Voice.

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bureau ban

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SL to take centre stage at
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Playboy launch party disap-
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in-world problems

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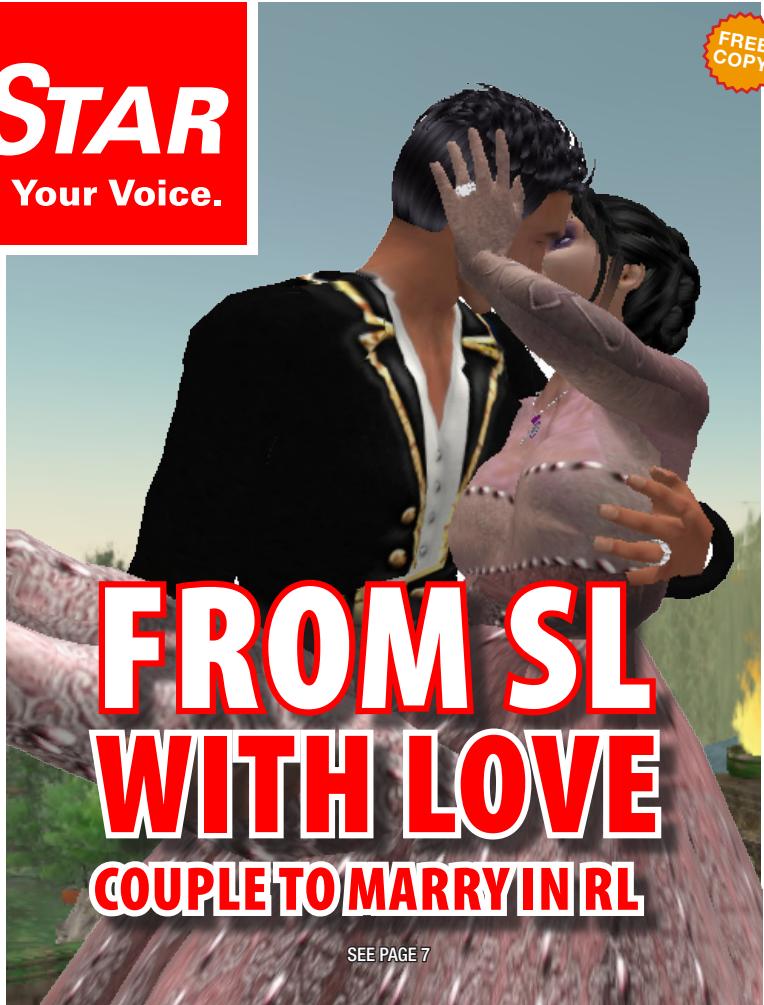
An art gallery tour HUD is this
week's featured freebie

EXCLUSIVE PICS



p.5

FREE COPY



FROM SL WITH LOVE COUPLE TO MARRY IN RL

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“WE’RE NOT ALL AGE PLAYERS”

- CHILD AVS SPEAK OUT OVER HARASSMENT
- AGE PLAY BLACKLASH BLAMED FOR ABUSE

By BILBO WINKLER

INNOCENT child avatars are being wrongly labelled as perverts.

Full story - Page Three

INSIDE OPINION

"I used to be called Zeithast Enoch, but now I've been kicked out of SL. Having read your article I realise that I should not have bought money on eBay, but I didn't know that before."

YOUR MAIL
p.9

"Women made up only 26 per cent of the 1.2 million logins in May, according to LL data.

"The lack of women using SL is a worrying trend that may have massive repercussions for the future of the world."



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****7480**

... sims now make up the Second Life landscape according to recent Linden Lab data.

10

... giant faces are on show at the new Avatar Island, showcasing the remarkable photo-realistic skins now on offer at the sim.

336

... different countries were represented by active SL users during May.

NBC VOTE-RIGGING PROTEST

FANS of SL celeb Moo Money protested against the decision of the NBC jury not to award her a place on 'America's Most Talented' after the auditions this week.

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By BILBO WINKLER

CHILD AVS ARE BEING WRONGLY ACCUSED OF AGE PLAY**INNOCENT child avatars are being verbally and physically abused by adults who wrongly label them as perverts.**

They claim a recent backlash amongst residents against paedophilia and Age Play in SL has rebounded upon RL adults who choose to appear as children for non-sexual reasons.

Well-known child avatar Marianne McCann said the situation has become unbearable:

"I've had weapons pointed at me, been pushed and orbited, and have had to deal with a lot of abuse for being a kid in-world." For many child avs, McCann added, SL is

a place to relive an unhappy childhood: "It seems like people assume me to be a pervert rather

than realising I'm having fun and healing from what people did to me as a RL kid."

ABUSED

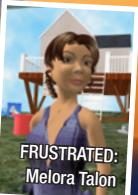
Sexy Plymouth runs the ABC Adoption Agency with her husband Iceslayer Columbia. She said they have learnt to tell the perverts and the 'real' kids apart: "A lot [of people who use child avs] were abused or didn't enjoy their childhood, and they want to relive it."

The couple's six-year-old daughter Alienbear Gupte said: "In SL, I can be whatever I want. Would you feel weird if you saw

UNBEARABLE SITUATION: Marianne McCann



HAPPY FAMILY: Sexy Plymouth, Iceslayer Columbia and Alienbear Gupte



FRUSTRATED:
Melora Talon

someone as a bug or butterfly av?"

BANNED

Child av Melora Talon said: "I usually get 'no child avatars allowed' - I just say I'm sorry and go on my way. It's because of the pervs." Many adult avatars, however, feel they are venting justified anger. During the recent in-world protest against child pornography, Amelie Cimino, co-owner of the Amazonen sim, said: "There are no child avatars allowed on our sim - they'll be chased away, and if they come back they'll be banned."

NEWS BITES:**JAPAN MP CAN'T CANVAS IN SL**

JAPANESE member of parliament Suzuki Kan has fallen foul of local electoral rules by opening a campaign office in SL. Only electioneering with postcards and pamphlets is allowed in Japan under 50-year-old laws.

VOICE CHAT NOW ON MAIN GRID

VOICE is now available on the live grid for all users, Linden Lab announced this week. Test programme Voice First Look Viewer can be downloaded as a trial for full voice implementation.

PHIL-ANTHROPY

PHILIP Linden will talk about the role of philanthropy in virtual worlds at Diplomacy Island next Friday. MacArthur Foundation president Jonathan Fanton will chair the discussion with the Linden Lab CEO at 9am SLT.

IN A BIT OF A TAZ

A WINNER of Linden's Lab's sculptie competition, 'Tazmanian Devil' by Artisan Hawks, was disqualified by LL this week because it is believed to have infringed copyright laws.

HULKASLAMS 'UNFAIR' BAN

OWNER: Hulkas 3D Lighting shop

By BILBO WINKLER

ENTREPRENEUR SPEAKS OUT ON RED FLAG - LIST PLACEMENT

A FEUD has erupted between SL entrepreneur Wrestling Hulkas and an in-world business advice group.

Hulkas, owner of the 3D Lighting shop, has slammed the Second Life Business Bureau for putting his name on their red flag list, set up to warn traders of shady operators. According to the SLBB, Hulkas has been listed

for land swooping. He said: "The reason I have been marked with the scarlet letter is because I swooped land from the founder of SLBB, OliveEue Sholokhov." Hulkas, speaking about the issue on his blog, added it was ridiculous that he was on the list, but infamous 'bot king'



SLBB FOUNDER:
OliveEue Sholokhov

Landbaron Merlin was not. He did, however, admit to land swooping, but only from residents who were "too fracking lazy to read important pop up dialog alerts." Sholokhov said: "We will not place anyone [on the list] unless there has been a complaint and the facts have been verified."

ABUSE REPORT THREAT

By CARRIE SODWIND A BACKLASH has been unleashed against Linden Lab's controversial crackdown on "broadly offensive" behaviour.

'The Broadly Offensive' group has been started in an attempt to end abuse reporting, LL's only system of policing

SL, following last week's contentious entry on the official SL blog which appeared to threaten large in-world communities. The Lab soon backtracked from their position, as reported in The AvaStar last week.

But the group, founded by outspoken Lab critic

Prokofy Neva, is urging residents to ignore the AR system - which is aimed at catching people who break SL's ToS, although only 12 people had joined by its fourth day. Group member Felix Frankfurter said: "The point is to make alternative abuse-reporting systems within the community that are more effective."



GROUP MEMBER:
Jason Trebuchet

PARIS BEHIND BARS!

WAILING: Paris cries as she is taken away

CAGED: Begging to get out

CHEEKY: Paris is forced to strip down to her panties

MOCKING: Inmates poke fun at star

BABY: Paris bursts out in tears and cries for mommy

THE world famous glamour girl cried like a baby as she was taken away and locked up.

ParisHilton Hoteling is going through her RL counterpart's prison ordeal as she finds out what life behind bars in SL is like. Having been moved from her original cell for disrupting inmates, she is now doing time in the cage at SLAB Design in Albata, (169, 17, 26). Next week: all the latest from the Paris' jail ordeal.

**WELCOME TO
METRO CITY**

WHY PAY EXPENSIVE TIER?

MONTHLY RENTAL OF LAND, NO TIER FEES!
OVERLOOKING
THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

VISIT US AT:
NOOSA HEADS
WHITSUNDAYS

METRO.MEROVINGI.ORG

Majestic

MAJESTIC WEDDING ISLE

MAJESTIC.MEROVINGI.ORG

THE BIG DAY: A scene set to be repeated in RL.

HAPPY COUPLE: Avalon and Korky

By MANTA MESSMER

A MATCH MADE IN SL

A COUPLE WHO MARRIED IN SL ARE NOW SET TO SPEND THEIR REAL LIVES TOGETHER

A ROMANCE between a Gororean master and his slave has blossomed into a RL love affair.

Avalon Asturias did not arrive in SL looking for love, but she found it in the arms of Korky Kilian. Now the pair plan to spend the rest of their real lives together.

The relationship quickly moved beyond its beginnings in Gor when the pair began contacting each other in RL via Skype. After four months of speaking to each other for up to 12 hours a day, Avalon and Korky decided they wanted to meet each other in the real world. This was a particularly bold decision because Avalon lives in the USA – 3,000 miles away from Korky, who lives in Scotland.

GLORIOUS

Avalon said: "We both took risks, but we knew in our hearts that both of us were worthy of trust and we were rewarded when we got here together. We had three glorious months together and found we are quite compatible."

In February the couple ex-

changed SL vows in a traditional Scottish wedding with Korky dressed in full highland dress. The experience is one the pair say they will cherish until they are able to marry and live together in RL. Avalon is adamant however, that this will not replace the special life they have built up in SL, particularly as the virtual world can fulfil dreams RL cannot. She added: "We eventually want children in SL because Korky and I will never have real children together, we're both too old."

FORZA PHIL!

OUCH! Big Philip Linden tried to get in touch with Italian culture this week following the arrival of the Istituto Italiano di Cultura. But he doesn't look very comfortable riding his Vespa!

DRESS PHIL UP! SEND US YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO REGIS@THE-AVASTAR.COM

PER FAVORE: 'Pippo Lindeno' on his pizza delivery job

ADVERT

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EBAY LAW IS SCANDALOUS

Hi Regis,

A FRIEND told me to contact you as you might be able to help me.

I read the article you wrote about the problem with eBay. I used to be called Zeithast Enoch, but yesterday I was kicked out of SL. Having read your article I realise that I should not have bought money on eBay, but I didn't know that before. Luckily I've only lost L\$500. But I could

cry, because the 100 hours I have put into my avatar are gone. I've sent three emails to Linden Lab with no reply. I see in SL forums that lots of other people have also been affected. I'm using my friend's account to say goodbye.

By Zeithast Enoch

L\$500
E-MAILS

WRITE TO:
YOURMAIL@THE-AVASTAR.COM

Hey Regis,
THANKS for letting me know about the eBay L\$ problems!

I had been thinking about buying some cheap currency, but I may well have lost it if it wasn't for your story. What really irritates me is, when are Linden Lab finally going to come out and tell us what exactly is going on? Their lack of communication is terrible.

By F.O.

MODEL RAGE: THE 'TRUTH'

Hey Regis,

RE: the article in last week's paper entitled 'Model rage!', I want to clarify some things:

1. I did not build the club for Jada Hoyer, I placed the office building and sub-rented it to her and helped her with some details on the former club location, before Jada split up with the owner of the land where that club was in a skybox.

2. I did not make any rude comments about

the other models. I never met NightStalker Dagger anywhere, any time, he wouldn't know any word I ever said.

3. I did not raise the rent charge after being eliminated. I told Jada on Sunday morning that for the third



TRASHED:
The JaDa Kiss Club
after the vandalism

month she has the office rented, I would like to get the usual tier fee. On that Sunday morning we all were still waiting for the results of who was proceeding to the top two of the contest.

I had offered her the land for cheap for two months. I have never and I will never trash anyone's home/club/office/whatever or do anything similar to anyone, for any reason. Period.

By Tillie Ariantho

HERE'S TO 25 MORE ISSUES!

Dear AvaStar team,
CONGRATULATIONS - I can't believe it's 25 issues already!

It was only when I saw the poster in last week's newspaper that I realised, because I have read every single one and it was great to see all those front pages in one place!

I still think it is the ONLY place to get the real low-down on what goes on in Second Life. I like the news best, but there seems to be something in there for everyone. It's also good to have some independent writing and not have some idiot just writing a story because they want to get back at someone else.

So make sure you guys keep it up - and here's to another 25 issues of more of the same!

By B.C.

25 COVERS: Last week's poster



REGIS BRAATHENS

LIND-O-METER

A REFRESHINGLY quiet week at the Lab - the Lindens may even have had time to put their feet up before packing it in for the weekend. Small issues with asset servers won't have upset them, and those with password problems seem to have quietened down.



YOUR VERDICT:

IM-proving

"That Everett Linden gave a thorough explanation of the 'find' database issues on the blog was great. Way to go EL!" From S.A.

A WORLD WITHOUT WOMEN?

WHERE have all the women gone?

per cent each month. Whilst women still spend twice as much time in-world, it would be disastrous for business and the make-up of our community if this trend continues.

Women made up only 26 per cent of the 1.2 million logins in May, according to LL data. It is a trend that has continued since the middle of 2005, where women logging in to SL peaked around 38

per cent each month. Whilst women still spend twice as much time in-world, it would be disastrous for business and the make-up of our community if this trend continues.

This is an issue that Linden Lab may well have to address in the coming months, perhaps making it necessary to free a marketing budget to try and attract more women into SL.



PUZZLED: Regis is lost in the kitchen
(Complaint over sexist caption to regis@the-avastar.com)

EBAY L\$ LEGAL?
WITH many residents writing to me in response to my article last week on people being kicked out of SL for buying L\$ on eBay, I've tried to clarify the situation with the Lab.

But despite repeated attempts to get an official statement, still no word. When I finally caught up with Jean Linden, she said: "I do not believe that it is illegal - unless policy has changed recently." Neither did we. So what is going on?

More next week... i hope.

CHAIN-GING LIVES IN SL

WHAT I want to know, is whether the Gorean master who met his SL love/slave in RL (see page 7) turned up at the airport with a collar and chain?

EQUAL

How does that work - to roleplay as master the whole time and then to meet up on 'equal' terms

in RL? Surely that's a kick in the balls for the Gorean master's pride - and surely it would never be the same again in SL?

HEATED

What would happen when things get heated in RL and Avalon yells: "You don't own me!" Well, err, actually love...

BEST

That said, it is a lovely story and I wish them both all the best with their relationship. It will no doubt chain-ge their lives forever!

L\$500 PICS OF THE WEEK

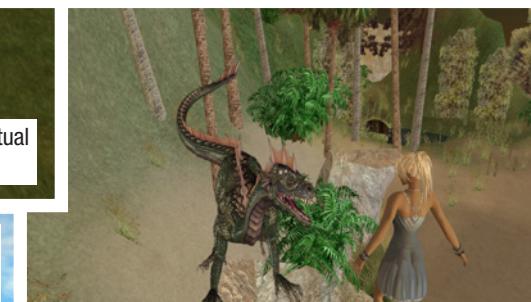
yourphotos@the-avastar.com



POOR little lamb – surrounded by a flock of virtual sheep at a Japanese zoo at Japan City. B.B.



PROOF that shopping really is heavenly – these two angels spent a long time discussing which shoes would match their wings best! Pic by DYLAN MILES.



THIS scary-looking dragon wasn't enough to deter BEVERLY BROOME from taking a picture.



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Romeo gives flowers to Juliet in Second Life



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Privacy

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SPOTLIGHT ON SL

CORY LINDEN AMONG THE SPEAKERS AT 2007 ICOMMONS SUMMIT

By BILBO WINKLER **SECOND** Life will be under the spotlight as the great and good of internet development meet in Croatia for the 2007 iCommons Summit.

Linden Lab CTO Cory Linden, aka Cory Ondrejka, will be one of the keynote speakers at the three-day event in the city of Dubrovnik, which finishes on June 16 and is being streamed into SL at the Intercambio and Public Diplomacy Island sims.

DEMOCRATIC

Other major speakers include Wiki-



VIRTUAL WAR OF THE ROSES

By BILBO WINKLER

RIVAL firms could soon do battle in SL over the RL delivery of flowers ordered in-world.

Following the launch last month of Swiss firm Starfruit, American giant 1800 Flowers arrived in SL this week, offering the opportunity to browse through different plants and ask

experts for advice.

Although it is not yet running an in-world

RL ordering service, many expect it to follow Starfruit, where residents can visit the sim and pay for flowers to be delivered to their RL door within three days. Starfruit's Pixel Lindman said:

"We have already delivered gifts to six countries including the USA, Germany, Switzerland and the UK."



BIZ BITES: METABIRDS FOR THE METAVERSE

JAPANESE development firm Metabirds has merged with new US media company Centric in a business bid to bring more companies into SL.

RUMOURS OVER XBOX ISLAND

AN island called 'Microsoft Xbox' has appeared on the grid, sparking rumours about the software giant's next moves into SL.

SL GOING DUTCH

DUTCH firm EPN reports that 30 of the biggest 100 firms in the Netherlands have a virtual world presence.

ONLINE TRADING

GAMER2GAMER is a new currency trading space from Sparter, where individuals can trade online currencies - Lindens are expected to be included soon.

BNP PARIBAS TO OPEN NEW SIM

FRENCH financial giant BNP Paribas is the latest major international bank to arrive in Second Life, opening a staffed sim this week.



A-STAR GOSSIP
Jenzza Misfit

LIVE CONCERT MARKS SIM'S OPENING

SL ROCKSTAR Mankind Tracer opened the colourful African sim Havens Paradise last week with a live performance.

The crowd of partygoers at the new sim, owned by **Haven Colville**, showed their appreciation for Mankind's 70s rock.

During the night many couples were seen wandering off to explore the beaches, waterfalls and wild animals - and perhaps find a quiet spot to cuddle!

A-STAR GOSSIP

SEVENTIES ROCK AFRICAN STYLE!

By SAMANTHA LAMONT



FUN IN THE SUN

BUMP SQUEEGEE'S NEW DESIGNS

By BILBO WINKLER

ARTIST Bump Squegee opened an exhibition of visually challenging art work this week, taking pieces from his visual journals 'Vertibrates' and 'Das Buk'.

His comic and graphic design-inspired works

are on show at Isla Montevideo, where plenty of people have been coming to check Bump's exciting and sometimes brash pieces. "This piece is about the seduction of the military," said Bump, before adding that his philosophy is simply "if it feels good, do it, and if it looks good, stop!"



VISUAL DESIGNS:
Bump Squegee



By ISABEL BROCCO

ATLANTIS models stripped down to their skimpiest beach-wear and took to the stage for some fun in the sun at the Diegoland Sim on Sunday. They were modelling swimsuits from Savonah Designs and skins and shapes from The Body Politik.



ART EXHIBITION:
Enthusiasts admire works

A-STAR GOSSIP

SL BUNNIES

ICONIC MEN'S MAG FLOPS ON SL LAUNCH

PLAYBOY arrived in day later, not a bunny in sight! Some complained that Playboy just wants to sell branded gear. But **MSGiro Grosso** from Sentient Services, in charge of Playboy in SL, said: "There's going to be a lot more going on - exclusive designers, mixed-reality events, ways to touch Playboy that haven't been done before."



MILL POND was the variety of Canadian musicians performed traditional and swinging songs and were joined by a number of exciting visual artists.

COME FLY WITH ME!

RESIDENTS TAKE TO THE SKIES OF SL TO RAISE MONEY AND AWARENESS FOR THE NMSS

By BILBO WINKLER



MS FLY, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's project to raise awareness and funding for the debilitating illness, kicked off on June 10.

SUPPORT

Avatars from all over the world turned up to the opening ceremony of the sponsored event,

which will run until June 17.

The charity's **Jim Elf-line** arrived to cut the ribbon, before caped avs set out to fly around the grid to search for tokens to complete each phase of the challenge,

earning more Linden dollars to support the charity.

NEW LOOK CASUAL

By CARRIE SODWIND

FORGET LOOKING UNRUFFLED - MAKE SURE YOU'RE DISTRESSED!

'DISTRESSED and naturalistic' is the future look of SL. With the birth of sculpties, many designers are busy experimenting. Two of SL's most talented casual

designers model some of their latest looks, showing off the details and textures that give their clothes the 'worn' look.

**Pompo Bombacci , SLAB DESIGNS**

"I am a perfectionist. I always put in the extra hours because it is the details that are important to me... super distressed, patched, ripped, whiskered, sandblasted, stonewashed."

callie cline's

STYLE HOTLINE GO WILD - I DARE YOU!

TAKE A RISK AND TRY SOMETHING A LITTLE BIT CRAZY OR DARING

FLEXI, sexy, casual - you may have done some SL looks more than others, but how about those which almost say "I dare you" when you look at them?

I have shied away from more wild or daring looks, especially when going to a party or public function, but the few times I have tried it, I have to admit I had a lot of fun. When I've seen an avatar enter a room in a wild outfit, I've been quite impressed and thought, "wow, I need to do that more often!"

In SL, we can forget that we're in a world where we can wear

what we like - so why not try a more daring outfit? Hats, boas, super high boots, wild hair and fabrics - it's all out there. Even a skin change can take you from 'normal' to daring. If you're on a limited budget, you can always tint any blonde hair you have, move some prims around and create your own daring look. The point is to get out of the ordinary, mundane, and predictable look that it's sometimes easy to fall into.



WHAT'S HOT! BEADS IN BOUNTY

By CARRIE SODWIND

FASHIONISTA Scarlett Niven is mad about beads, beads, beads! She never goes out without plenty of the stringed gems adorning her neck and wrists. Glass beads, chunky beads, red berry beads, evening beads, beads and bangles, and an absolute favourite – beads and butterflies. Why not, eh? With her wedding to Murray Molinaro coming up this Sunday, we are anticipating some pearly wonders! All guests should adorn themselves in Scarlett's honour.



INVENTORY SNEAK PEEK POPFUZZ BAMBOO OF POPFUZZ

By HONEYBENDER

I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT...

"This skin, which is called 'Pan-Jen DuskFay in lavender'. It's hand painted, not photo sourced. I'm a skin connoisseur, and I fell in love the second I saw it. It was my first meeting with designer Pandora Jensen, now a great friend."

**I AM ADDICTED TO...**

"Simone Stern dresses. I have probably 100 but this was my very first and started the addiction. It's called 'Fae in Teal', and I saw it in Linden Lifestyles first. Straight afterwards I TPed directly to the store to buy it."

**I HAVE A SOFT SPOT FOR...**

"Things I bought when I was new. This was my very first Coconut Ice purchase. The outfit is 'Kaleidescope Dress Poppy' made by Andromeda Rain. She and Simone made me want to become a designer. This outfit reminds me of when every SL shop was a new adventure."



NEW SIMS

AN ANCIENT RUIN, A RADIO STATION, A BANK AND MTV MUSIC WORLD ARE THIS WEEK'S NEW SIMS.

CHICHEN-ITZA



THE past, present and future are all represented in this week's new sims.

The Mexican Tourism Board has commissioned a recreation of Chichen-Itza, a RL Mayan archaeological site in Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, the crowning glory of which is a scale model of the famous Temple of Kukulcan.

Suruga Bank and Second Radio's new builds, meanwhile, both resemble futuristic space

SECOND RADIO

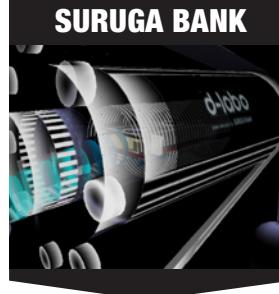


stations. The gleaming broadcasting house on Second Radio Island responsible for beaming SL's new radio station into homes and offices shoots up majestically into the tropical skies.

The unusual and innovative Suruga build is a brightly coloured disc construction suspended in a black expanse of starry space, the centrepiece of which is a dream laboratory intended to promote the bank's new RL build.

MTV Music World's long awaited appearance in SL brings you back down to earth, with a faithful recreation of New York's seedy Lower East Side complete with live music venues and shops.

SURUGA BANK



TAKE YOUR PICK



REDRAPTOR TANK

DINOSAURS PARK

Pumacity 222, 138, 25

If you thought dinosaurs had been resigned to history and Hollywood movies, think again. In this prehistoric reptilian preserve you can find a small colony stomping through the woodland, or even hire a dino avatar and have a go yourself.



PHOENIXCUB DRAKE

HEART OF THE OCEAN

Sonogno (212, 77, 301)

Women rule the roost in this sun-kissed peninsula, with female avatars occupying all official positions of power. Judging by the atmosphere of friendship and fun at the heart of this community, they're doing a pretty good job of it.



SAIRYS SARAMAGO

RYU VALLEY

Ryu Valley (136,140,91)

The dragon and furry community have found sanctuary on the rim of a giant volcano. While the mountain spits balls of lava, the residents go about their business in this rocky reserve, watching the floating moon and playing in the Macro Room.

MY TRAVEL TIPS

By MANTA MESSMER

ROKKU CARLTON IS THE FOUNDER OF THE 'HELP ISLAND' GROUP AND AN SL MALL OWNER.

THE AVASTAR: Which sims have you explored recently?

ROKKU CARLTON: I use different avatars for different things. Mostly I use Rokku Carlton strictly for business, although this was my first av so I have old friends with it. Any way, I explored Dhaulagiri, Kamet and the sur-

MALL OWNER:
Rokku Carlton

rounding area recently, as I have a mall in Dhaulagiri.

TA: Where do you hang out and relax?

RC: I use another av for relaxing on Support For Healing, which is a great sim if you need to chill out a bit, or need a little support from some understanding people.

TA: Where do you party?

RC: I used to party a lot in SL - Three Lions was good, but I got a bit jaded with it. I guess I will party again when I bring back my club Gay London & Friends, which used to be quite popular.

TA: Which sims do you find

the most creative?

RC: Korea is the only one I can remember the name of. Also, type in 'Land of Doctor Who' in search, I always find that place fun!

TA: What are your top tips for exploring SL?

RC: Even though search isn't brilliant it does the job. Try joining a group with similar interests and they may give you some good locations to visit.



CREATIVE: Land of Doctor Who

ADVERT

FASHION ART by

Julier

Fashion Art Pyramid, Ecstasy (189, 177, 22)
Fashion Art Gallery, Cote azur (21, 87, 26)





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

DEAR TOASTING THE GROOM COULD CAUSE ME GRIEF

GROOM DOESN'T WANT ME SPILLING THE SECRETS OF HIS WILD PAST AT THE WEDDING

Dear Randi: MY best friend here in SL is about to marry a great girl, and he has asked me to be his best man at the virtual service. I gladly agreed, and I see it as a big honour. Unfortunately, though, we have now had a bit of a disagreement about my plans for my toast at the reception afterwards. I want to mention how wild his 'ex'

was, and the good times we all used to have visiting the strip clubs. He says his fiancée is really religious and might get offended about that kind of thing, but I say weddings are all about fun and she should lighten up. What kind of toast should I give? — R.L.

Randi says: As classy a toast as your language skills allow!

MY GIRL IS NEGLECTING ME FOR HER FRIENDS

Dear Randi: I MARRIED the girl of my dreams in SL a few months ago, and everything was going absolutely wonderfully. I rent properties for a virtual living while she is a hostess at a fancy dance club (not a strip club). She recently became good friends with one of her fellow hostesses, and they do all kind of things together – but now it just seems like she wants to spend all of her time with her new friend, shopping and hanging out with 'the girls'. I feel neglected and left out. What should I do? — F.M.

Randi says: You should know by now that men and women are very different! Most girls like to keep their best friends really close, and enjoy a deeper camaraderie than many guys do. Make sure to give her some space, but perhaps twice a week, ask her out for a two-hour date. Wear some brand new clothes, and have a good plan for the perfect evening.

IS A PRIVATE DICK THE ONLY WAY FORWARD?

Dear Randi: I THOUGHT my SL boyfriend and I had a great relationship up until the last couple of weeks, when he has began to behave very strangely. He recently asked me what I thought about getting married to him, and I said I would have to think about it but I would want to get to know him better first. The last few times I have signed on, it took him about five minutes to answer my IMs, whereas before he always got back to me straight away. And when I ask where he was, his answers sound suspicious. Do I need to hire a private detective to find out what is really going on? — C.R.

Randi says: If you feel you have to hire an investigator, then go ahead. What concerns me, though, is your lack of trust in your boyfriend. If you're obsessing about where he is every minute of every day, maybe he isn't the problem. It's possible you just aren't ready for marriage.



RANDI The Virtual World's No 1 Agony Aunt

IS MOTHERHOOD IN SL FOR ME?

Dear Randi:

My in-world husband and I have been together for about a year, and these have been some of the happiest times of my life, first or second. I can't wait to get up in the mornings so I can start chatting with him, and I really think we are soul mates. Now he has surprised

me with the idea that he wants us to have a baby in SL. He's such a nice guy I'm sure he'll be great around kids, but I'm not sure how good a virtual mother I would make. Should I go along with his wishes? — B.P.

Randi says:

I think you should. The experience will certainly bring the

two of you closer together. At least in SL there won't be so much pain and mess involved as there would be in RL. If he's as great a guy as you say, and especially if he's a natural with kids, he'll help guide you through it – and you never know, you may discover a natural ability for motherhood!

RANDI'S PHOTO CASEBOOK

SHARONE'S LOVE RAT
DILEMMA: WEEK 3

Sharone's world falls apart when she returns home...



"You two are the sexiest avatars ever!"

"You are such a stud, Dante. Now how about our money?"

"Wait, what's the big deal? It was only a bit of fun!"



"Aaargh! What are you doing? How could you do this to me!"



"I feel so used! Is he really only with me for the sex?"

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TOMBOY
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THE GUIDE

TOP EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THIS WEEK: HORSES

GOING BAREBACK:
AKK Horse Ranch



By GAETANA FAUST

THE RIDE OF YOUR SECOND LIFE!

THE BEST EQUESTRIAN SIMS THE GRID HAS TO OFFER

SADDLE up and hold the reigns as you ride through SL.

At AKK Horse Ranch in Aeos (27, 8, 25), explore the range on your animated horse. Go bareback or trot over the landscape in a buggy behind a handsome pair of ponies. There are some beautiful horses and a wide green paddock at McLean's Horse Farm in Olive (119, 177, 59).

If you like to canter through beautiful scenery, you won't find any place more scenic than the Horseback Riding Trails in Iladril (130, 127, 31). There are waterfalls and campfires scattered around the hills and valleys, hidden spots to be discovered and enjoyed. The trails are also wonderful at the Wunderbar Ranch in Tean (178,

138, 29). If you don't have your own horse, you can rent one for L\$35 per hour, and can easily spend an hour or two exploring the trails with your favourite steed. Ride through a peaceful meadow at the Happy Trails Horse Riding Club in Fornax (234, 41, 24). There you will find a proper equestrian course, with obstacles for jumping in a sloping field landscaped with flowers and trees.

If the thought of an old-fashioned horse-drawn sleigh ride jingles your spurs, check out the horse and sleigh combinations for sale at Prim and Proper's Scripted Animals in Caledon Tarmrannoch (170, 15, 22). What's more romantic than flying over the snow in such a picturesque vehicle?

PLACE YOUR BETS
BABCOCK DOWNS



During the racing, you can place your bets with the teller and then stand at the fence to cheer on your horse as it heads for the finish line.

Where: Grant (54, 203, 39)

WIDE GREEN PADDOCKS
MCLEAN'S HORSE FARM



Riders here can change the speed of their horse and their saddle position.

Where: Olive (119, 177, 59)

THE WILD, WILD WEST
PAWAHNEE CREEK



Explore the saloon, general store and jail, handy for those cattle rustlers.

Where: Kuwol (203, 155, 92)

6.15. - 6.21.

DON'T MISS! -

**LIVE MUSIC****CABARET CARLOTTA**

Juel Resistance is an SL singer songwriter who has been compared to the great Janis Joplin. Known in RL as Suzen Juel, she will play two shows at the MMAC.
When: June 18, 12:00 & 19:00
Where: Somerset (230, 200, 66)

**SPORT****CRASH THE BOARDS**

Show off your best slam dunk at the Toyota Crash The Boards exhibition at the Toyota CTB Court at NBA Jam Session.
When: June 16, 12PM
Where: NBA Jam Session (109, 181, 35)

**ART****VICTORIA COPPOLA**

The artist opens her brand new exhibition of SL photography at the Avatrait.com gallery.

When: June 16, 18:00
Where: Simularity (172, 146, 40)

**LIVE MUSIC****FREESTAR TAMMAS**

The SL newcomer performs her original, quirky and soulful songs.
When: June 17, 10:00

Where: Cassowarry (115, 161, 61)

**ENTERTAINMENT****RED AND DELICIOUS**

Wear something red and head down to listen to DJ Miyavi Yue.

When: June 17, 18:00
Where: Asadal (72, 60, 83)

**EVENT OF THE WEEK!****EUROPEAN FESTIVAL OF MUSIC**

More than 60 avatars will perform in-world to celebrate the summer solstice as part of the 13th annual festival.

When: June 21, 12:00
Where: experience (129, 65, 32)

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

**ENTERTAINMENT****SUMMER SOLSTICE PARTY**

Enjoy the people and music on the longest day of the year at the Ferrarelle Summer Solstice Party, which will include a DJ competition.

When: June 21, 13:00
Where: Parioli (163, 95, 40)

**LIVE MUSIC****HOLLIVALS ALLEN**

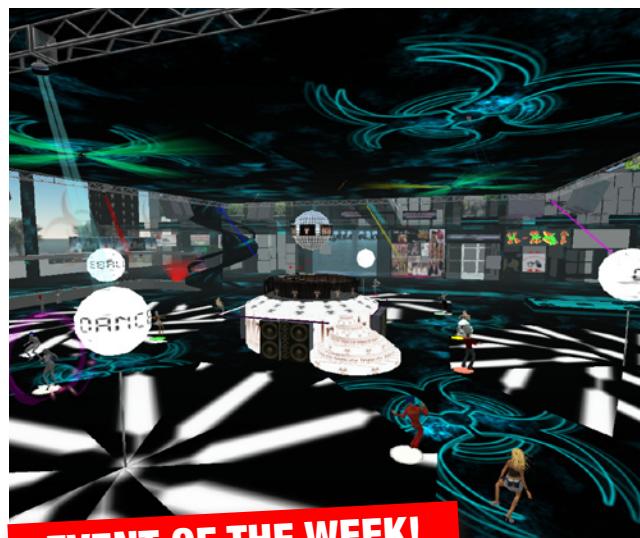
The SL star kicks off his latest tour with his successful mix of acoustic rock and blues. He will be performing regularly at different venues until July 6.

When: June 18, 11:00
Where: Shaea (223, 183, 22)

**ENTERTAINMENT****DISCUSSION****CHEMICAL BROTHERS**

The RL big beat duo will air the virtual world premiere of their new video 'Do It Again' at the Illusion Factory Concert Pavilion.

When: June 19, 16:00
Where: Illusion Factory(216, 153, 30)

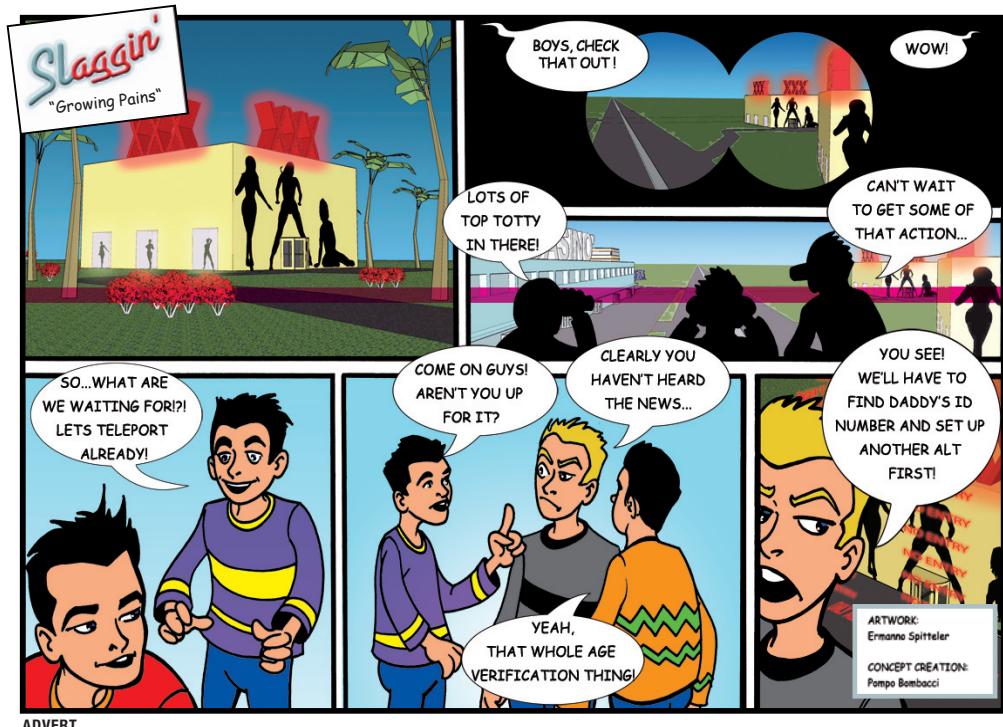
**EVENT OF THE WEEK!****SPORTS PARTY**

If you love dressing up in your favourite team's jersey, head to Inpluz for the Sport Club Party, and come equipped with bats and balls at the ready.

When: June 19, 11:00
Where: The Admiral (163, 1, 23)

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 newsdesk@the-avastar.com.



ADVERT

FASHION ART PYRAMID & MAZE

FRIDAY PARTY AT 12:00 midday IN OUR MAZE CLUB

FASHION PAINTINGS

Fashion Art Pyramid, Ecstasy (189, 177, 22)



Freebies

SL's best FREE stuff!

By PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL



HUD HERE:
Sasun's freebie kiosk

THIS WEEK: ART GALLERY TOUR HUD

CREATIVITY is the most striking feature of SL - the unique opportunity to shape our own world makes it special to all of us.

So it's no wonder there is an amazing SL art scene, created by SL residents, with SL technical means. To get the best of it, you need a guide, and you can have one for free. The well-known artist Sasun Steinbeck, famous for her striking morphing sculptures, has created the Art Gallery Tour HUD. Wear it and click on the box that will appear in the lower part of your screen. A menu allows you to scroll the alphabetical list of galleries, or to jump casually from one to another.

You can hop from DanCoyote Antonelli's Museum of Hyperrealism, full of floating forms and colours, to '4', a new immersive art

experience by Juria Yoshikawa at White Cube, where shape, colour, music and movement meet, or head to Oyster Bay to take a look too old and new sculptors.

There are hundreds of galleries in-world, and Sasun is constantly updating it.

She said: "As a former starving artist myself I appreciate all the gallery owners who gave me a break. Now it's my turn to give back."

You can find the HUD near the art galleries, and at Paperdoll's (Media World 155, 174, 37).



HYPERREALISM:
Work by DanCoyote
Antonelli

DOS AND DON'TS OF LANDSCAPING

by GAFTANA FAUST

- DO +** Build your dream garden right in your SL backyard.
- + Landscape using free Linden trees, plants, and rocks by looking in Inventory under Library/Objects.
- + Search for garden supplies like flowers, fountains and lamps.
- + Edit the terrain to make hills and valleys in your land.
- + Add features like gazebos and benches to add interest to your virtual garden.
- DON'T** Limit yourself to just freebie plants. Some garden stores have realistic quality at affordable prices.
- Pay for simple planters when you can build your own.
- Leave plants floating in mid-air or half-buried in the dirt.
- Start slapping down plants without a vision for your garden's look.
- Choose greenery that's wrong for the terrain. If your land has snow, don't plant palm trees!

My First Day in Second Life

KEEPIN' IT REAL

Filthy Fluno is a full-time SL Artist who's 'always keepin' it real and old school in the art making'.

How was your first day?

It was crazy, confusing, and fun - I ended up walking into loads of stuff and didn't even know I could fly.

What was your funniest moment?

Well... when I told my friends that I wasn't really black in real life. I was totally embarrassed because I thought it was a big deal, but then one said, "Well, I'm not really a woman in RL".

What was your most embarrassing moment?

Singing in a barbershop quartet, taking off my pants, and inviting a friend to watch - only to find out she was terrified of my being nude... so she de-friended me!



KEEPIN' IT REAL:
Filthy Fluno's art gallery

RealSKIN



THE AVASTAR OF THE WEEK

SISS TRUSS

SISS TRUSS IS THE BRAINS BEHIND PERFECT PREFABS, A COMPANY THAT AIMED TO TRANSFORM SL INTO AN OASIS OF GROTTOS AND WATERFALLS

By MANTA MESSMER

PROFILE

NAME:
SISS TRUSS
BIRTH DATE:
03/22/2006
PROFESSION:
Builder and designer
ATTITUDE:
Sassy but sharp

What is your best feature?

My best feature is invisible - it's my Flight-Help. Speeds up my SL, I love to fly fast.

What is your favourite place in SL?

Zero Point. Crazy, highly creative and funny.

What would you change in SL?

If I only could, I'd give

everyone the possibility to store items on their hard drive. And I'd design a client that's adjustable to people's needs - I mean, who needs a 'fly' or 'chat' button? I hit 'f' or 'enter'. I really hope we all will live long enough to enjoy a fast, stable, reliable game.

How do you spend your time in SL?

Work, I've not had time for anything else these last few months. Luckily, I'm not alone - Sam Stork and me run this business together. I hope we'll find some time again to explore,

or just hang out - like we did when we were both innocent, curious newbies.

Which personal achievements are you most proud of?

Well, I definitely learned a lot about patience from working in SL! I'm glad, as I've now reached a point where I can build exactly what I have in mind, and not something that needs a description with it to explain what it's supposed to be. Rotations still give me headaches though.

What is the most precious item in your inventory?

I carry the items of three fully developed sims in my inventory, that's my whole SL existence. Not to forget some romantic note-cards, but they are saved and stored.

If SL had a president, who would you vote for?

Probably some crazy scripter who is too busy finding bugs to care for his job - SL is and should be a place for freedom to me. There's no need for someone to rule us. We are a community and we can take care of ourselves.

