

THE AVASTAR

Your World. Your Voice.

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Helmut Newton recreated

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AvaStar babes at beach bash!

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BOY'S AMAZING RECOVERY

SAVED

SLers step in to fund life-saving operation

By **CARRIE SODWIND**

A **YOUNG** boy has had life-saving brain surgery after his aunt launched a desperate SL appeal.

FULL STORY: SEE PAGE 3



Departure... Marc Wobegone's Wobegone's SL exit shock

MARC Wobegone is set to quit SL having returned only last month after a legal battle with Linden Lab - and will sell his in-world identity on eBay. SEE PAGE 5

INSIDE OPINION

"The argument that virtual paedophilia encourages them to take it to RL is doubtful, since a lot of people in SL go to sims where murder, rape, and whatever else is common place."

YOUR MAIL
p.11

"I'm sure there were many who were clearing their throats for a tirade about how Linden Lab should stop griefers driving newbie residents out, when it was revealed that the cause of the 'attack' was in fact... a box of freebies."



LEIDER STEPANOV
p.13

THE AVASTAR

THE AVASTAR is published by Bild.T-Online AG & Co. KG. Check out the website at: www.bild.t-online.de.



NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

12 ... currencies can be compared to the L\$ using real time conversion rates thanks to the new HUD at Keytrade Bank island.

100 ... squares make up the board of SelbyWord, a new game which takes Scrabble to the metaverse. Play it at the Selby sim.

250 ... in L\$ is the cost of a bike at Virtual Africa, with the money going to RL South African charity Uthango Social Investments.

NICE SPOT FOR A PARTY



The sea shimmered thanks to WindLight as partygoers danced the night away at the AvaStar Beach Club on Monday. For more, see page 18.

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By CARRIE SODWIND

BRAIN OP BOY SAVED BY AUNT'S SL APPEAL



RELIEVED: R.J's aunt, T180Kay Smalls

SL MODEL'S DESPERATE FUND-RAISING HELPS PAY FOR NEPHEW'S LIFE-SAVING SURGERY

A YOUNG boy has undergone life-saving brain surgery after his aunt launched a desperate in-world appeal to raise money for the operation.

An emergency fund-raising event was held last Friday to help meet the US\$3,000 cost of the operation

needed to save little Ronnie Jimenez Jr's

life. The eight-year-old from Texas suffered a brain clot when he hit his head against a sidewalk as he played football waiting for his school bus. His family and friends were only able to raise US\$2,500 for the procedure.

EMERGENCY
In desperation, Ronnie's aunt T180Kay Smalls, a popular SL

the R.J's Angels emergency committee and organised an event at Dragon Mountain at the Misiomania sim to help meet the total.

GENEROSITY
The event went perfectly, and organisers nervously turned their attention to Ronnie's operation - which turned out to be just as big a success, to the relief of those both in RL and SL. T180Kay was still recovering from the stress of last week's events, and she said: "The ball was a blast. I was completely shocked at the generosity of

others. And you know what, not one person doubted the validity of the story."

LEGITIMATE
Barbie had used her past experience with RL charity events to rally as much support as possible, and said: "If something like that happened to my children I do not know how I would cope. My heart went out to Ronnie and his parents and I just felt the need to help. I called the hospital myself to make sure it was legitimate and also how to pay them directly for the co-payment."



DANCING FOR R.J:
A partygoer enjoys the fund-raiser



PRIMOPTIC

primoptic - agile photographed by gabrielle sinatra

BRAGG: 'SL IS SO BORING - I'M OFF!'



VETERAN OF LEGAL BATTLE WITH LAB WILL SELL SL ID ON EBAY

By LEIDER STEPANOV & TRICK MERTEL

CONTROVERSIAL resident Marc Woebegone is set to quit SL - and sell his in-world identity on eBay.

Woebegone, who only returned to SL last month after an 18-month absence over a legal dispute, also launched an attack on Linden Lab, saying it is out of its depth.

He first came to prominence in 2006, when he sued LL after being banned from SL over claims he used an exploit to buy land at below market prices. The legal saga finally ended in October with an agreement between both sides which saw Woebegone, Marc Bragg in

RL, re-enter SL. But his stay has been short lived, with the enigmatic resident revealing he is too bored to continue on the grid.

INTERFERENCE

Speaking exclusively to TheAvaStar, he said: "I'm going to drop out of SL. I'm finding I'm bored with it. I tried some building, and it's just too choppy." In another controversial move, Woebegone plans to sell his identity, including his name: "I'm going to sell my character on eBay, or at least list and see

what happens. It's my property as far as I'm concerned. We'll see if that gets interfered with."

ALTERNATIVES

Woebegone also slammed the Lab, claiming that residents will soon start to desert SL: "There's no real reason to be in only one virtual world and with the host of issues and management style, I think people will seek a better alternative, don't you? From my perspective, when I read about the landbots, the handling of my account, the inability to have a good customer service contact point...it just seems to me they're trying to do too much."



EXPLOIT: The Taessot sim, part of the land deals which saw Woebegone banned from SL last year

NEWS BITES!

OUR NEW MISSION

PHILIP Linden has unveiled a new mission statement on the official SL blog. The Lab CEO revealed the main aim is to "connect everyone to an online world that improves the human condition".

EXPLOIT RUMOUR

RUMOURS have spread that grid instability on Tuesday resulted from emergency server adjustments to prevent financial fraud. The problems were believed to be connected to a series of hacks at SL banks, leading to investigations to see if there was an exploit in the server.

TED TALKS IN SL

CELEBRATED virtual world economist Ted Castranova appeared in SL this week to give a professional analysis of the in-world market and launch his new book on 'Metanomics'.

A DATE WITH DREW

RL TV presenter Drew Carey has admitted to going on dates in SL with his RL fiancée in an interview with Parade magazine. He said it was the best way to stay in touch when in different cities.



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PROMISES: Skip Oceanlane

By ALEX1 RICHARDSON

BANK VICTIMS HIT OUT AT VP

EX-VICE PRESIDENT OF MIB DEFENDS HIS COMPENSATION EFFORTS

VICTIMS of the Merlin Investment Bank scam last month have hit out at its former vice president for failing to deliver on his promises of compensation.

But Skip Oceanlane told The AvaStar that investors should count themselves lucky they are being given anything back at all.

He has promised to take action against Investor Merlin, a conman who reportedly ran off with bank funds amounting to L\$8 million. After the ATMs stopped paying out on October 10,

Oceanlane said in a statement: "I am in the process of seizing last known assets of Investor Merlin and Bank Merlin. I promise to try and refund as many Lindens to everyone in a fair manner.

REQUESTS

"I am continuing my real life investigation of him, and will advise you of any further developments." But one month on, customers of the bank are furious that there has still been no word and that they have still yet to see a L\$ in compensation. Despite repeated requests from

victims, Oceanlane has refused to release the RL details of fraudster Merlin as well as the names of the SL stock exchanges which failed to hand over MIB's funds.

BLAME

But this week, he slammed investors who have complained and insisted the blame flay elsewhere: "One stock exchange is keeping over L\$1,000,000 of stocks for itself it seems. I'm giving the exchange until next week to change its mind. If they don't, well, look out, here I come!"

THE RETURN OF WINDLIGHT TO SL

WINDLIGHT is back as a FirstLook version of SL, and AvaStar columnist DEEEEE WITTE gives his views:

Not only is the sky prettier, but the water glows with sparkles and rich colour. Presets make it easy to change water or sky settings independently. Even better, the regular foggy clouds are still here. They had been deleted from the first versions of WindLight, leaving many who had built for the effects disappointed. More presets have been included for sky settings, with 'Fine Day', with a rich blue sky, sure to be a favourite.

SCENIC

WindLight does come with a few drawbacks, however. 'Shiny' things are badly messed up, often going overboard. Avatars are darker and too shadowed. In fact, they are plain ugly. Face lamps do not help. Many residents may find themselves using First Look to take scenic photos, and then returning to the regular SL version to take photos of avatars.

PRETTY: A WindLight sea



ALEXA-LENT SL SHOPPING

REPLICA OF BERLIN SHOPPING MALL LAUNCHED WITH STYLISH FASHION SHOW *By BABA COEN*

A FABULOUS fashion show marked the grand opening of the first RL shopping mall in Second Life last week.

ALEXA, a brand new mall in Berlin, has been recreated in-world in the virtual recreation of the German capital, newBERLIN. It is not just a replica building, but actually houses many of the RL shops as well.

FREEBIES

Brands including Nici, Eyecatcher, Fast Forward, X-IT, mobilcom, Bodycheck, Lzwo, Doorbreaker and fast food chain Subway have all established virtual representations of their shops in the

RL ALEXA, where residents can pick up 3D versions of some of their products as well as lots of freebies.

And for those who may be vis-

iting Berlin in the near future, you can even find the RL offices of the SL agency behind the project, YOUseeMEin3D, in the RL Alexa building.



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by Good2 Go

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Atsuko Otsuka on 2007-10-18

"I have a lot of fun creating immersive interactive experiences for avatars. Some have been based on real world fun, and others I could never do in the real world. This is one from the real world."
Good2 Go

Ponderama 25,145,38 (PG)

A NAKED PASSION

By CARRIE SODWIND



ARTISTIC: 'Hot and wild'



RECREATION: 'Self portrait'

HELMUT NEWTON PHOTOGRAPHY RECREATED IN SL THANKS TO AN AMBITIOUS ARTISAN EXQUISITE nudes by one of SL's most renowned fashion photographers have taken the grid by storm.

Last Saturday some 90 art fans squeezed into Avatrait Gallery for the opening of Paolo Bade's exhibition 'Sex and the Virtual Landscape'. The show was an ambitious remake of a series of pictures by legendary German-Australian photographer Helmut Newton, famed for his artistic and 'fetishistic' shots of naked women.

With the help of some of the best in-world designers, Bade has recreated the poses, atti-

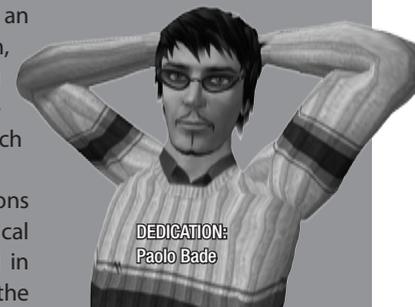
tudes and bodies of Newton's models. Ever since he was a young boy, Bade has worked in a black and white photographic developing laboratory, where he acquired his perfectionist eye for a picture.

DEMANDING

He said: "I don't think I'm an artist. I'm a good artisan, putting in passion, taking care of all the details, building everything from scratch with my hands."

Bade is now giving lessons at the gallery in the technical know-how that he learned in the four months creating the

series. Some shots, he added, were more demanding than others: "The mirror shot was tricky, because I had to merge it in the main shot, keeping the right positions/proportions of bodies, distances and wood floor textures."



DEDICATION: Paolo Bade



TUCK IN, PHIL!

DRESS PHIL UP!

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(Copywrite dinner includes free animated fork)

THANKSGIVING took place in the US this week, and Big Phil celebrated by dressing up as a cowboy and tucking into a big ol' bird. Let's just hope his new mission statement posted on Wednesday is not as much of a turkey!

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YOUR WORLD, OUR BUSINESS

Dear Regis,
THANK you for standing up and naming the issues that are creating the biggest choke-hold on Second Life.

I really think that Linden Lab is struggling with the business of running a metaverse. The Lindens are breaking new ground in a completely new industry and have no roadmap to follow, so they simply follow the path tread by most of 'Corpo-

rate America', making decisions by top-down autocratic leadership. They seem blind to the fact that inside their servers, is a virtual land with a community the size of a large country. This business does not conform to any traditional business structure, and the Lindens are struggling

to keep their creation inside the box they made for it. They need to find a new direction - and fast - before the failure curve that SL is starting to head down accelerates.

Unfortunately, like most of 'Corporate America', decisions like that will only be made when the results hit their bottom line, but by then it may well be too late.

By K.D.

L\$500 E-MAILS

WRITE TO:
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DON'T BAN AGE PLAYERS

Hey Regis,
FOR some time I've been following the debate about child play, and the letter of Justin3 Humphrey in Avastar no. 47 kept bugging me.

SL is a virtual world. And I don't really care if a bunch of paedophiles are doing disgusting virtual things. I'd rather have them looking at a bunch of pixels than at a RL child. The argument that virtual paedophilia en-

courages them to take it to RL is doubtful, since a lot of people in SL go to sims where murder, rape, and whatever else is common place. I'm no psychologist, but it might even help them to keep a hold on things. But like Justin3 Humphrey said, "if we lose a few perverts, we're not suffering much". Indeed... WE don't suffer, but Justin3, like most people, apparently doesn't care who

will suffer, or simply doesn't think about it. Worse than that, he names one of the reasons to ban child avs as being that it will "scare off corporations". Better some kid in RL having the problem, than Justin3 having to maybe pay a dollar more. Paedophiles are driven by their urges, Justin3 is driven by ignorance. And in my book, that's far more "morally reprehensible".

By Natasja Koenkamp

ANOREXIA IS NOT SEXIER FOR AVS

Dear Regis,

I WAS pleased to see the issue of anorexia being aired recently in your newspaper, as unfortunately I think the problem has crossed over from the real to the virtual.

A quick bit of research in the (much improved) new search function reveals an abundance of modeling agencies, fashion shows, and other beauty-orientated activities. This highlights the fact that the obsession with the visual in RL has indeed penetrated our virtual sanctuary.

Anorexia and other psychological disorders that come from our media generated aesthetic ideals are complex and difficult. Nobody really likes to approach them, but it's important. Without a moral compass in SL, there are certain issues that if left to go for too long can become a problem. So the circulation of such articles like the one from last week is important to the health of SL and its residents. I hope to see more of them in the future.

By R.M.

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LEIDER STEPANOV

SIX THINGS I'M THANKFUL FOR... NO, NOT AGE PLAY...

THE TURKEY'S FINISHED, BUT HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD STAY CHEERFUL

I HOPE that all of you American readers out there had a thoroughly enjoyable Thanksgiving this week.

While I, as a heathen European, unfortunately spent the occasion working, it started me thinking about what exactly I was thankful for.

So I made a list. I am thankful for:

1. Second Life. OK, this one was easy - without SL, we wouldn't have anything to moan about!
2. Having a spare PC in my office. Seriously, have you ever tried to log on to SL from a Mac?

LOVELY

3. The generosity of residents. I have said it before and I will say it again - we as a community in SL have the power to do an enormous amount of good if we put our minds to it, such

as helping to pay for young Ronnie's brain surgery (see page three).

4. Voice chat. It enabled me to take part in a panel discussion this week with the lovely Jean Linden and Fiona May from Sun Microsystems, and a very interesting experience it was.

TURKEY

5. My friend who works in the press in the British city of Brighton. He can keep an eye on all of the Lindens decamping there from California to staff the Lab's first non-US office. Including you, Jean!

6. Big Phil Linden. Hope you enjoyed your turkey, fella, you deserved it! I'm just glad you don't run my actual country...

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

HE'S NOT A CYCLOPATH!

SEXUAL depravities are always big news in SL, especially with the recent age play scandals.

But when a RL British man was sentenced to three years' probation for having sex with a bicycle - yes, a bicycle - the SL blogosphere swung into action over the perceived injustice. Resident Lhorentso Nurmi wrote about it on the Free Porn Times, and set up a seductive BMX in the blog's SL lounge for anyone

to, erm, come and have a go. And in the word of one man who has tried out the bike, "a well-oiled chain is essential". Ouch.



BEWARE OF THE NEWBIE 'GRIEFER'

AVASTAR reporter Kitzy Otoole told me this week about a 'griefing attack' at Help Island.

The sim ground to a halt, as newbies and mentors alike scattered to avoid the mess. As you can see below, this seemed to be yet another example of the griefing problems which can face newbies on their entrance into SL.

UNWITTING

I'm sure there were many who were just clearing their throats to launch into a tirade about how Linden Lab should stop these griefers driving out newbie residents, when it was revealed that the cause of the 'attack' was in fact... a box of freebies.

And the 'griever' turned out to be a newbie who had unwittingly started the attack. While this is quite funny, it is also fairly stupid - perhaps we should tackle freebies before setting our sights on those evil griefers?



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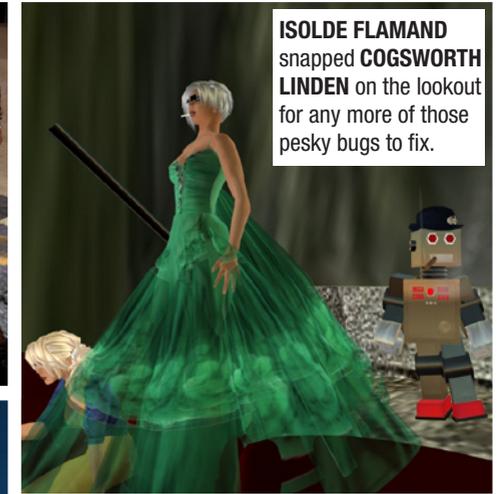
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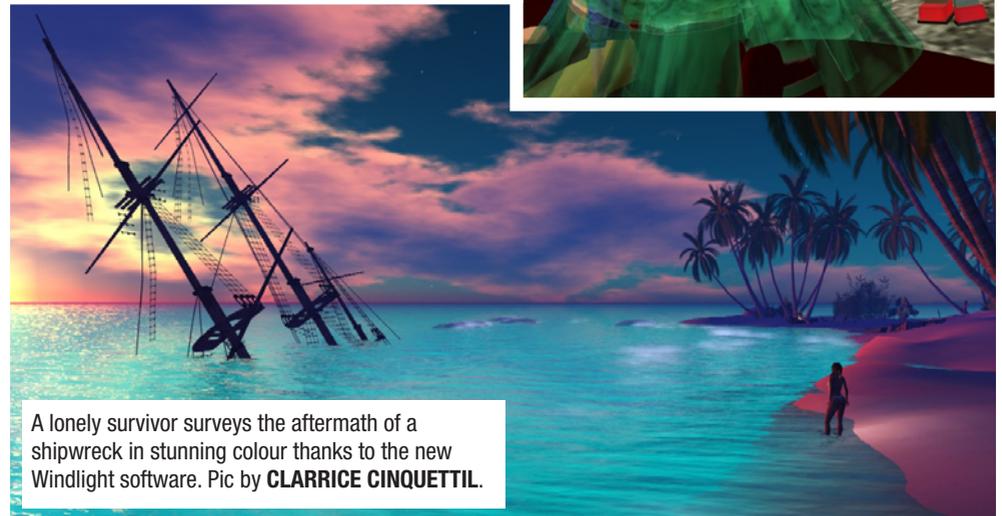
RMS Titanic, which famously sank on its first voyage in RL, has another chance thanks to this replica in SL - where it truly is unsinkable. Pic by **SAMANTHA LAMONT**.



RAZE REPINE was pictured by **ELODY YAO** preparing himself for his first bout at the fight night in the Wastelands last weekend.



ISOLDE FLAMAND snapped **COGSWORTH LINDEN** on the lookout for any more of those pesky bugs to fix.



A lonely survivor surveys the aftermath of a shipwreck in stunning colour thanks to the new Windlight software. Pic by **CLARRICE CINQUETIL**.

META-NEWS:

THE AVASTAR KEEPS YOU UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE METAVERSE

I PITY THE FOOL

MR T and William Shatner will appear in two new World of Warcraft TV commercials this winter. Mr T mentions his 'Night Elf mohawk', while 'Capt. Kirk' Shatner says he is a Shaman in the game.

ZHENG TU'S 1M

ZHENG TU Online is the third MMOG to reach concurrency levels of one million, according to the Star Online blog. It follows in the footsteps of Journey to the West and World of Warcraft.

A TALE OF TWO WORLDS

By TRICK MERTEL

TWO lovebirds who originally met in The Sims Online married in SL last weekend to mark their fifth virtual wedding anniversary.

Kirsten Corleone and Hiram Backbite first exchanged vows in The Sims, which predates SL by six months, and the couple proved they are still head-over-heels for each other by tying the knot

again at the Colcord sim on Sunday. The ceremony involved four bridesmaids and groomsmen as well as a horse-drawn cart. The wedding could prove the start of a wave of cross-platform romances.



IN LOVE: Kirsten Corleone and Hiram Backbite tie the knot - again.

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LAB TO IMPROVE SL FOR GERMANS

By REGIS BRAATHENS

UPGRADE PROMISES MADE TO GERMAN RESIDENTS AT METAVERSE 07

JEAN Linden has admitted the Lab failed to do enough for German residents over the past year, but promises the launch of the new viewer will be a step in the right direction.

Speaking in-world at the Metaverse 07 conference, the director of international initiative said Linden Lab did not dedicate enough resources to the fast-growing German community. Although a German viewer is already available for what was for a long time SL's second largest population after the US, it was full of bugs, bad translations and parts that had not been translated at all.

MASSIVE HIT

But at Metaverse 07 Jean Linden, who was in Munich, Germany, this week, spoke of the importance of exploring a range of technical and social issues central to German residents. The new viewer, a German knowledge base and the increased German support which were un-

veiled this week, are just some of the steps the Lab are taking to try win over the community. Although streaming problems hindered most of Anshe Chung's speech about the future of the metaverse, the well-attended conference proved a massive hit among residents. Another speaker, Martin Mounier of Laguna Nude Beach, said: "The conference was really good. I think the IT Software and Support company as well as Bokowsky and Laymann deserve respect for bravely bringing the conference in-world." Videos of the conference will soon be available at www.metaverse07.com.



US\$20,000 FOR FINDERBOT

ENTREPRENEURS Pi Mip and Ecate Yalin have scooped McKinsey's Virtual Venture Competition with their FinderBot.

Their product beat 299 other teams to bag them an iPhone,

US\$20,000 and invaluable marketing advice from top management consultancy firm, McKinsey and Company. Some of the other ideas which made the final ten included a corporate team build-

ing service and a 3D dating agency. Pi Mip said he was amazed at being the only American to reach the finals and said he believes his business will kick off with the appropriate funding.

BIZ BITES:

FOCUS ON CHINA

LINDEN Lab has been working with an Asian company to help develop SL in China. RTMAsia will act as a direct representative in the area for the Lab and will be responsible for business partnerships, operations and media liaisons.

LS\$3M BANK HACK

A RESIDENT hacked the L&L Bank and Trust security system last weekend and stole over LS\$3 million, according to a posting made by CEO Lindsay Druart on the company's website on Monday.

FLUSH WITH CASH

SL content creators Enter the Metaverse have won the 10,000 Euro Founders Cup award in Schleswig Holstein, Germany. The agency has worked on projects such as Mazda Island.

ORANGE BRANDS

COMMUNICATIONS giant Orange held a conference last weekend to demonstrate how in-world celebrities use their avatars as a tool for branding. Among the speakers were Torley Linden and fashionista Haver Cole.

a-stars



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

GLAMOUR GALA!



SUPER STYLE:
AvaStar columnist Callie Cline on the catwalk

PARTY TIME: Revellers hit the dancefloor at The AvaStar Beach Club



IN THE MIX: DJ Logfather Nap spins the tunes while SerinaJane Loon gets funky



RED LEATHER:
Turbo Racecourse



STAMINA: Partygoers danced into the night

By **CARRIE SODWIND**

STARS from across the grid partied hard at The AvaStar Beach Club on Monday to launch the first day of the Official Metaverse Gala 07.

The night kicked off with an artistic performance from the wacky Metaverse Orchestra, followed by a fashion show pre-

sented by AvaStar columnist **Callie Cline**. She joined models, artists, and designers as **DJ Logfather Nap** spun tunes on the beach at AvaStar Island long into the night. Hedonistic party animal **Bianca Darling** of ASpiRE! became so excited on the dance floor that she started smashing champagne glasses and crunching over them.

ALIYEH TAKES TOP SPOT

By **ISABEL BROCCO**

THE Evalua sim was packed out on Saturday for the final of the SL Top Female Model Show.

Top male model competition winner **Frolic Mills** was in the crowd as **Aliyeh Yifu** eventually saw off the challenge of fellow finalist **Miyu Korhoen**.

Also spotted were **Kirk Claymore** and **Maddox DuPont**, owners of the Kmadd Enterprise fashion sim.



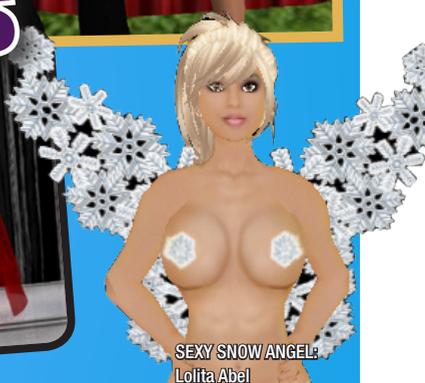
FIRST PLACE: Male and female winners Frolic Mills and Aliyeh Yifu, above, and runner up Miyu Korhoen, left.

ARABIAN NIGHTS

By **ISABEL BROCCO** AVATARS were given a taste of Arabia at an intriguing fashion show at the Isles of Intrigue 3 sim on Saturday. The Arabic Fashion Show featured detailed traditional clothes from **Cynthia Wilder**, owner and designer of Cynthia's Heaven. Venue owners **Eymrich Lane** and **Roselinda Mayo** were hosts.



DESIGNER:
Cynthia Wilder



SEXY SNOW ANGEL:
Lolita Abel



AUTHOR:
GreeterDan Godel

By **PHIL SPACKLER**

THE latest new book on SL was launched with a party this week. Author **GreeterDan Godel** held the bash for 'Entrepreneur's Guide to SL', at the dAlliez sim on Sunday.

A new chapter

Short but very sweet!

By **ISABEL BROCCO**

THE Short and Sweet Fashion Show last weekend featured an amazing array of seasonal holiday wear.

Designer and store owner **Rahel Dooley** was behind the event at the Tawny sim, which included some cute and sassy new looks for Christmas.

FASHION

The AvaStar Clothes Line

COMPETITION

Send us your suggestions.

ALL entries will be presented on a catwalk show to a judge panel at The AvaStar's 1st Birthday on December 19.

WINNERS will receive L\$10,000 plus four weeks of promotion for your label in association with The AvaStar.

Send a picture of your entry to newsdesk@the-avastar.com. Please include your own details plus a short description of the item.

All entries must include The AvaStar logo, plus at least a hint of The AvaStar's official colours: red and white.



Contact Carrie Sodwind in-world for more information.

By CARRIE SODWIND

BACKSTAGE

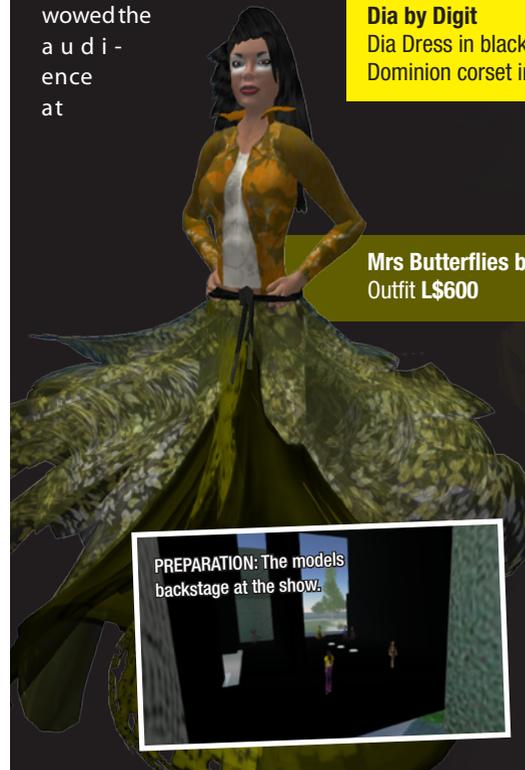
THIS week, The Official MetaverseGala 07 on AvaStar Island, while fashion designers released a fantastic new range of loud cabaret-style costumes and make-up onto The AvaStar cat walk. Bianca Foulon and Digit Darkes' designs wowed the audience at

The Official MetaverseGala 07 on AvaStar Island, while the models waited nervously in the wings.



Bananarama by Bianca
Blue dress Out soon
Sandaloteschio shoes L\$250

Dia by Digit
Dia Dress in black and white L\$400
Dominion corset in yellow L\$150



Mrs Butterflies by Bianca
Outfit L\$600



Dimples Too by Digit
Dimples Too Dress L\$400
Big Gem Necklace L\$200

PREPARATION: The models backstage at the show.

All outfits by Bianca Foulon and Digit Darkes. Find more at their island, Addictive (130, 123, 22)

Thanks to ASpiRE models Bianca D, Honey, Summer, Delaney, and Tigerlily

Purefashion.

ADDICTIVE

Addictive (86, 77, 401)



callie cline's STYLE HOTLINE



A JEWEL OF AN OUTFIT!

MATCH THE OUTFIT TO THE JEWELLERY, NOT THE OTHER WAY ROUND



PUNK: Callie's new look

MY outfit this week was inspired by the YUKA claw necklace.

When I got the necklace, I wore it with everything. It's a true piece of art and the craftsmanship is incredible. I've worn it with so many outfits, but today, I wanted to make an outfit around it. This is what I came up with.

It's a little bit country with the braids from Panache and the overalls top and stripped t-shirt... and a little bit punk with the socks, boots from Nevermore Studios and the checked mini skirt, gloves and accessories.

SWEETNESS

This is a look I had NEVER worn and it was really inspired by this one piece of jewellery. It's sassy, bratty, innocent, brave and playful all at the same time. I'm usually not a fan of red, but I love the hot lips, and I tinted the bows to play against the red

accents in the boots and skirt. The bright blue heart eyes add a sweetness to the look. Instead of trying to find the perfect accessory for your outfit, pick out your favourite jewellery, and try it the other way around! I bet you come up with something you never thought of!



COUNTRY: The braids with the red bows

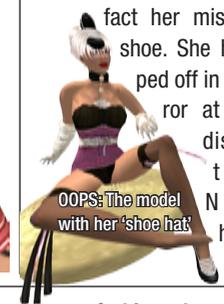
WHAT'S HOT!

FROM HEAD TO TOE

By CARRIE SODWIND

A STYLISH model spotted at a catwalk event this week seemed at first glance to be making a unique fashion statement.

Not only had she tuned up in just one shoe, exposing a long leg and a bare left foot, but she was also sporting some extraordinary head wear. When she stood up in horror, her cool exterior vanished, and the truth was revealed - what had at first appeared to be an 18th century hair piece, was in fact her missing shoe. She hopped off in horror at the disaster. Not hot.



OOPS: The model with her 'shoe hat'

HIT OR MISS Successes and flops from this week's new fashion releases.

By CARRIE SODWIND



HIT: Jenna

HIT: MIRIEL Enfield has been busy this week, tailoring an entire line of new coats and jackets. Typical of Ivalde's vintage meets cyber-punk style is Jenna, a 1960s inspired coat. L\$250 (Ivalde 81, 211, 35).



MISS: CUS Hawaiian hair pins

MISS: MOST store owners have cleared out their summer fashions, but this week has strangely been inundated with beach releases. It's time to swap the bikinis for ice skates, and trade Hawaiian hair pins for woolly muffs.



HIT: Fur hat

HIT: DON'T be seen on the ski slopes without a toasty women fur hat, one of the first cute warm hat releases this season. In lots of feminine colours, they are perfect for the coming icy months. L\$100 at Imperial Elegance, (Glenn 70, 101, 27).



ZOHA ISLANDS

LAND FOR SALE - ONLY 4 L\$/M²

Opening Party

ZOHA ISLANDS - Orange Beach

Sunday

November 25



SLEGO
TOP 3 PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

WIN

1500 L\$	Best place
750 L\$	Best building
250 L\$	

10.00AM (19h CET) - Fashion Show
 11.00AM (20h CET) - Club Opening
 12.00AM (19h CET) - Slego Contest
 03.00PM (24h CET) - FireWorks

Visit us at:

INVENTORY SNEAK PEEK

BY HONEY BENDER

MATHEW ALONZO OF SAVVY AVVY



I FEEL GREAT IN...

"...my racing jacket by Drawmachine. Armand Wiefel is a RL games designer, and all his stuff is drawn but looks sourced. He's very talented. His clothes are seamless and you won't find a mistake."

I ALWAYS WEAR...

"...my shades by Prim Optic. Mine are the 'Caled globe' model. They go with pretty much everything I wear and are scripted to change colours. I really appreciate the craftsmanship on them - I'm all about prim skill rather than slapped on texture. I would probably wear these to the toilet if I could!"

I LOVE THE STYLE OF...

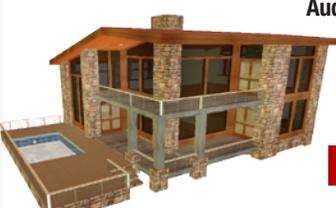
"...my Jacket by Shin Mathilde. Military is very now. The combination of drawn and photo-sourced looks good. I can wear it with anything, and that's how I think when I design pieces too. I like separates that can be combined to create a unique look."



HOUSING PROJECT



By TINA (PETGIRL) BERGMAN

 <p>Gothic Grace Fits a 512 square metre plot By Eanya Dalek Echo (43, 19, 42) L\$500</p>	 <p>L\$950 House Victoria By Sophos Casanova Tin Teddy (247, 213, 44)</p>
 <p>Auden Built by Brennan Homes By Nikki Brennan Ocean Isle (36, 116, 25) L\$1,180</p>	 <p>L\$550 Shona House By ArchTx Edo Shona (68, 210, 30)</p>
 <p>L\$3,000 Agadir Villa By Barnesworth Anubis Demersal (78, 235, 26)</p>	

MY TRAVEL TIPS

By TRICK MERTEL

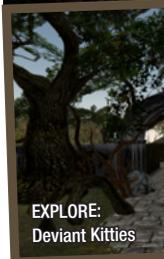
KRIUS Misfit designs clothes and accessories, and runs the Sini-Style horror-style fashion store.



HORROR FASHION:
Krius Misfit



STATUE:
Sanctum Sanctorum



EXPLORE:
Deviant Kitties



LUSH:
Straylight

THE AVASTAR: Which sims have you explored recently?

KRIUS MISFIT: I have been to Black Swan, formerly called Rezzable Hallucinogen. I also visited some Relic and Tryst sims, including Sanctum Sanctorum, Straylight, and the new Deviant Kitties build.

TA: Where do you hang out and relax?

KM: If I told you that, I doubt it would still be relaxing!

TA: What sims do you find the most creative?

KM: I like moving parts and interactive environments, and sims that aren't a mimic of a pre-existing build. There are now so many urban decay places, it's so boring. Making things that look real in a non-real world is extremely hard. If I had to pick one place right now it would be Black Swan.

TA: What are your top tips for exploring SL?

KM: Use the search function and check the classifieds on people's profiles.

ADVERT

You've just met that special someone...
You need to find privacy and romance...
Take your lover to Aroha Tahii...
Second Life's most luxurious private park

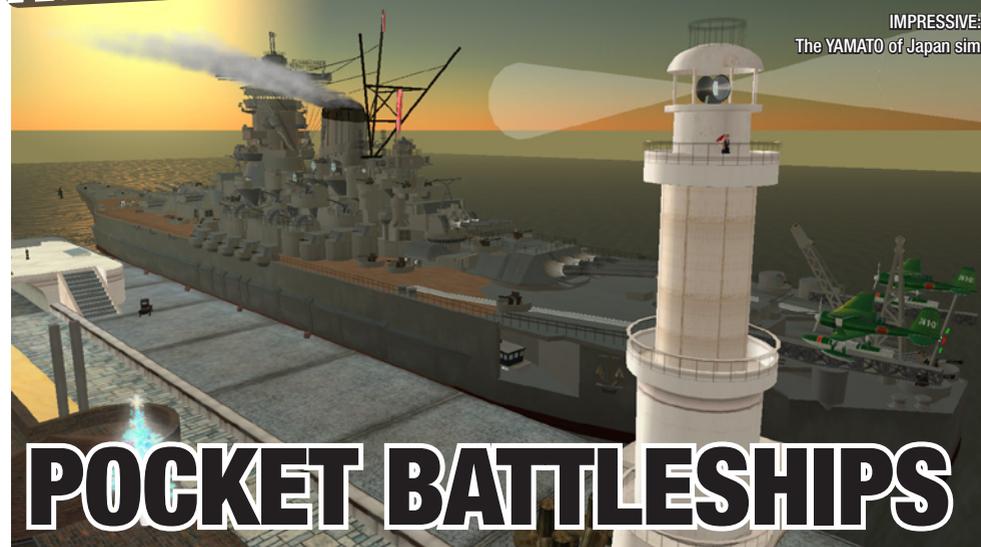
Click to teleport

Aroha Tahii

a private lovers retreat

NEW SIMS

THIS WEEK: A BATTLESHIP, JFK'S LAST MOMENTS, SL POLAND'S NEWEST SIM AND A HOLIDAY ISLAND.



IMPRESSIVE:
The YAMATO of Japan sim

POCKET BATTLESHIPS

By TRICK MERTEL

THE mammoth recreation of the Japanese Second World War battleship Yamamoto is the latest in a spate of ship builds.

Visitors to the YAMATO of Japan sim will be taken aback at first sight of the ship, in RL one of the largest warships ever built. It runs the length of the sim, and details include two biplanes at

president John F. Kennedy was assassinated 24 years ago this week has been recreated on the Dealey Plaza Dallas sim. The motorcade route, the book depository where employee Lee Harvey Oswald fired the fatal 'magic bullet', and the grassy knoll where a second, mystery shooter perched have

spread further this week with the launch of Second Poznan. It follows the popular Second Krakow, which opened in July, in a plan to map the entire Polish landscape in SL.

Thomas Cook Island is the second German tour operator



DEALEY PLAZA DALLAS

the stern ready to fly off into action.

The scene where former US



SECOND POZNAN

all been well recreated. The commercial nature of the sim, however, does jar a little with the sensitive theme.

The Second Poland empire



THOMAS COOK ISLAND

to come in-world, after TUI appeared in August. Basic navigation instructions in German offer assistance to visitors in an unremarkable effort from a company with the means to do a lot more than they have here.



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

DEAR

TWO YEARS IN SL AND I STILL CAN'T GET A DATE!



NO LUCK WITH WOMEN DESPITE AUCTIONS, PERSONAL ADS AND MAKEOVERS

Dear Randi: I've been in SL for nearly two years now and I'm still single. I've participated in date auctions, perused personal classifieds, have been to over two hundred events and changed my avatar's look many times. Yet I still come up empty. No matter what I try, things always seem to backfire and I still haven't been able to find a

suitable girl. Many of my friends have partners and I'm starting to feel envious towards some of them. What am I doing wrong? — D.T.

Randi says: It is very possible you're simply trying too hard, or it may be that you are too particular about who you want to date. The latter is to be commended in the most

part, as people who jump into incompatible relationships usually see them end in a mess. But I sense some good women think you're trying to move too fast. Many men in SL are always ready for a roll with a brand new girl, and the ladies know that. Slowing down will show them you're looking for a relationship and not just sex.

CHEATING EX IS STILL SHOWING SEXY SNAPS

Dear Randi: MY boyfriend dumped me just last weekend after an 18-month relationship. I hadn't been unfaithful, but he had cheated on me twice and I never really forgave him. He said he was leaving me because I was always suspicious. I learned yesterday through a girlfriend that he had shown old nude photos of me to his friends. When he took them, he had promised they were for his eyes only. I think he should give me all the photos and destroy his copies, but he disagrees. What should I do? — R.N.

Randi says: I think you're absolutely right. He has no business showing off your body after cheating on you and hurting you. Had you been in the wrong in the relationship, my answer would be much different. But you should simply insist that he give you the photos and destroy his copies. And in the future, you should be more careful about who sees you naked!

I DON'T WANT TO DO IT DOGGY STYLE ANYMORE

Dear Randi: LIFE is generally great for me in SL at the moment with my new boyfriend. The sex is wonderful but the problem is his 'dog', actually a furry avatar of his friend. Last Friday we were making love at his place, when the dog showed up at the foot of the bed! We finished what we were doing, but needless to say it lacked the usual intimacy. I told him later that I wasn't comfortable being watched. But he said his dog watches him in RL and he doesn't mind his SL dog watching us here. What should I do? — W.M.

Randi says: Some ladies might get an extra thrill out of what he's doing, but you are quite within your rights to want privacy. Tell him it's fine to have the dog around any time you aren't making love, but that the canine must disappear during your bedroom sessions! If he doesn't agree, you won't likely have a hard time finding a guy who respects your privacy in the bedroom.

RANDI

The Virtual World's
No 1 Agony Aunt

IS SHE HIDING A RL BOYFRIEND?

Dear Randi: I HAVE been dating a woman here for six months. In RL we live on different sides of the ocean and many of our holidays are different. Every time a holiday approaches for her, she lets me know in advance she is going to be away from SL for several days with family and has no way to sign

in. She said she doesn't mind if I date others here when she's away. But because of this, I wonder how committed she is to the relationship. Sometimes I think she's visiting an RL boyfriend instead of her granny. Am I right to be worried? — C.S.

Randi says: You need to take

her at her word unless you have other evidence. Go ahead and take her up on her offer to meet new ladies when she's away. You might meet someone better in the long run. And if she objects, you'll know that it was she, and not you, who set up the situation that ended the relationship.

RANDI'S PHOTO CASEBOOK WHEN WOMEN FALL IN LOVE, WEEK TWO:



to be continued...

Slaggin'

ARTWORK:
Ermano Spitteler

"UNEXPECTED LUNCH"



© Andrea Manfredini 2007



Freebies

SL's best FREE stuff!

THIS WEEK: THE PUPPETEER

By PETRONILLA PAPERDOLL

INVENTORIES can be full of lots of nice little objects, such as shoulder pets and wings.

But when you use them, you can sometimes find they are stiff and not lively enough. The solution is the Puppeteer by Todd Borst. It is a set of scripts which will animate your object without any coding.

It works by taking snapshots of your prim's positions and allowing you to play back the animation. Once you can move a prim and manage linked ones, you can start. A guide, as well as a YouTube video, will help you step by step through the whole process. It is quite long, but easy and satisfactory. You have to drag some scripts into the root prim of the object you want to

animate, and other ones in the prim you want to animate. Then move the prims and take a snapshot with a chat command as often as you want.

SURPRISES

When finished, you just play back the animation you have recorded with a customisable command. The tool is free if it is for personal use, and you can find it at XD Fusion (Schell 219, 143, 251). Take a look around, by the way... there are plenty of nice, free little surprises nearby!



DO + DOS AND DON'TS OF HELPING NEWBIES - DON'T

By GAETANA FAUST

- + Go out of your way to be helpful to newbies and make them feel welcome.
- + Keep a folder of freebies to help give newbies a head start in SL.
- + Hand out your favourite landmarks to acquaint them with the landscape.
- + Answer questions like, "how can I make money?"
- + Become a mentor or hang around welcome areas if you enjoy being of service to new residents.

- = Ignore or mock the newbies. You were new once too!
- = Just hand out money, even if asked. It is better to teach a sustainable SL.
- = Give stuff away without explaining how to check inventory, open boxes, etc.
- = Feel obliged to accept unsolicited offers of friendship.
- = Forget to remind newbies that it is a bad idea to wander around naked.

My First Day in Second Life

HIPPY MEGEGGLES ACKLAND:

By Trick Mertel

THE AVASTAR: How was your first day?

MEGEGGLES ACKLAND:

When I first tried to log in, my PC was just not up to speed. It was a complete virtual psychedelic mess. Once I upgraded I logged on more successfully, found my still favourite spot, Goa, and made some friends I still have today.

TA: What was the most embarrassing thing that happened to you?

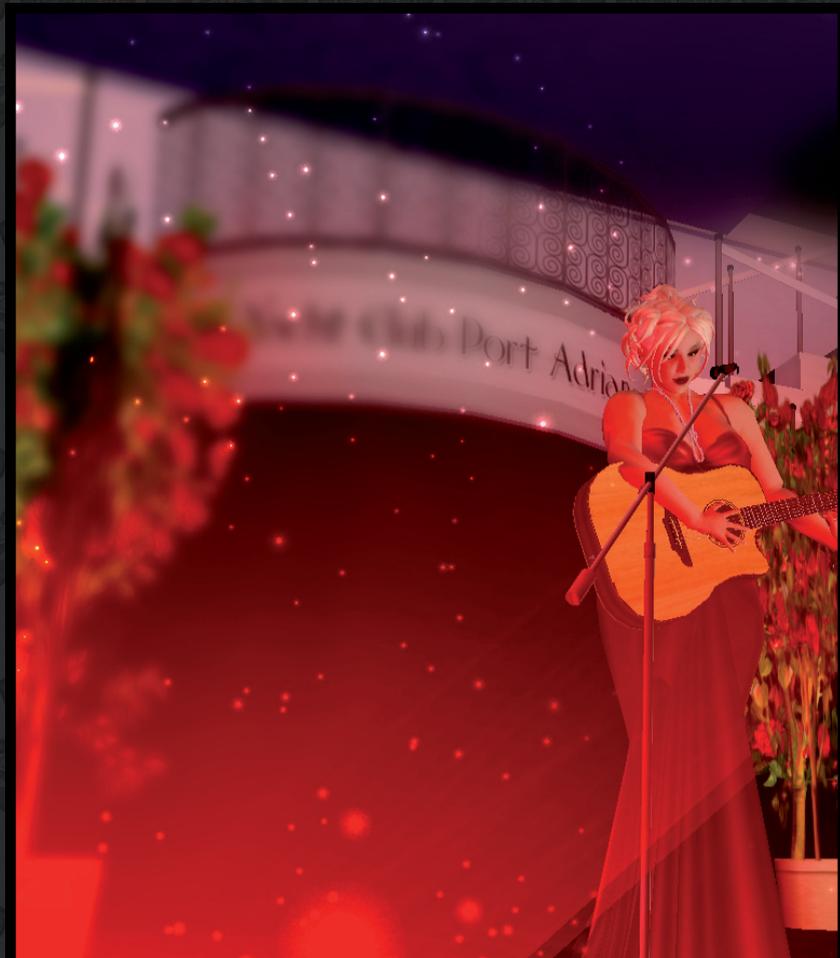
MA: Initially I felt really brave and open, as I do pretty much in RL. But I had a giant black female avatar with a mohawk, and with my bizarre look I felt embarrassed and hated by a lot of people for my skin colour. Now I don't worry about it any more.

TA: What was the funniest thing that happened?

MA: I bumped into this dude who kept spanking me with a cane. I tried to get past him several times, but as a newbie I wasn't too good at moving about.



www.germania-port.eu



Germania Port Grand Opening - This Saturday

11 AM PDT (20.00 Uhr)
Jaynine Scarborough LIVE - 10.000 L\$ Picture Contest

THE GUIDE

TOP EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THIS WEEK: WINTER

WONDERLAND:
Spellbound Woods

IT'S SNOW JOKE!

By GAETANA FAUST

ENJOY WINTER WEATHER IN SL WITHOUT SUFFERING THE COLD

THE dark days of winter are upon many of us in RL, and the season's icy beauty is on show across the grid.

Be sure to see the stunning ice palace at **Wintertraum** (69,106, 23). Nestled among trees in a snowy sim, the palace is a soaring, spectacular place to drink chilled champagne and waltz amid the sparkling lights. Find a cosy winter haven at **Lost Shaker Lodge** in Nordica (113, 155, 23), where you can grab a hot chocolate at the quaint pub and dance under snow-covered trees or snuggle by a warm fire.

At the **North Pole** in Soulier (114, 206, 21), watch snowmen pirouetting around the ice rink as you stroll the candy-cane-lined paths

around the sim. Stop by the candlelit cathedral before picking up a free snowball thrower and joining in the fun. You'll love the ballroom at the **Winter Palace** in Cardona (224, 140, 326). Trees dot the gigantic icy dance floor under a sky full of stars, creating an ideal place for ballroom dancing in the winter air.

A snow covered mountain dominates the landscape at **Spellbound Woods** (108, 50, 55). Visit the snug cottages wrapped in a blanket of snow and dream by the fire. A toy train makes the rounds around a charming frozen pond at **TigerLilly's Winter Wonderland Park** in Calendula Island (145, 38, 21), while snowmen smile under white, glistening trees.

BEAR NECESSITIES ICY SNOW DOME



Meditate and relax in a snowy environment with ambient music and learn about glaciers.

Where: Abulata
(237, 66, 97)

N-ICE DAY FOR A SKATE ROMANCE ICE



Skate, go ice fishing or drive around in SL's first Zamboni ice resurfacer before going for a spin around the rink.

Where: Yalu (66, 80, 156)

PALACIAL GLACIERS WINTERTRAUM



This beautiful ice palace in a magnificent setting is a great spot to relax.

Where: Wintertraum
(69,106, 23)

11.23. - 11.29.

DON'T MISS! —

All times are given in SL Time



CONTEST

SL ILLUSTRATED

The competition's runway final will see the twelve hottest models picked by the jury, each one for a different month of the SL Illustrated calendar.

When: Nov. 23, 13:00

Where: SLillustrated (127, 190, 26)



DISCUSSION

ARTTALK

Oyster Bay will revive the ArtTalk discussion format for one evening, inviting guests to join Filthy Fluno, Gracie Kendal and Cheen Pitney as they discuss SL art.

When: Nov. 26, 18:00

Where: Oyster (21, 177, 82)



ENTERTAINMENT

RED STAR CLUB

The hip venue has a host of good DJs and musicians playing live.

When: Nov. 24, 11:00

Where: Apfeland Nachtleben (128, 157, 27)



CULTURE

INTERACTIVE PLAY

A performance of 'The mask is not part of the costume' by University of Central Florida MFA.

When: Nov. 27, 17:00

Where: Oak Grove (181, 163, 12)



FASHION SHOW

KADEWE

The luxury German store launches its top model competition by hosting a fashion show.

When: Nov. 27, 12:00

Where: KaDeWe 2 (215, 210, 45)

Presented by: **Weltbild.de**

Become a Second Life film star!

Take part in our big audition to become a Second Life film star.

We're into the next round of our major SL film competition and are looking for the three main roles and we also need a number of extras.

The main actors can look forward to big cash prizes (200,000 L\$ for the part of Patrick Roberts and 150,000 L\$ each for the parts of the female shaman and the stranger).

More information and all audition dates can be found at the Weltbild Island.

Patrick Roberts
Muscular young man with long black hair (native of the island).

The female shaman
A young woman with long, dark, wavy hair.

The stranger
An older man with a beard and long hair.

Official Media Partner:
THE AVASTAR
Your World. Your Voice.

EVENT OF THE WEEK!

WELTBILD PRE-CASTING

Be a SL film star and scoop a share of the L\$500,000 pot on offer. All residents are welcome to don a costume and take part in one of the four pre-castings. More information on Weltbild island.

When: Nov. 23, 05:00; Nov. 24, 09:00; Nov. 27, 07:00; Nov. 29, 07:00

Where: Weltbild (150, 115, 28)

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

All times are given in SL Time



OPENING

THE CROWN AND PEARL

Former staff members from the extremely popular but unfortunately now-closed Three Lions pub will launch their new club with a bang, featuring some top live music and a DJ.

When: Nov. 25, 12:00

Where: Oropesa (196, 126, 23)



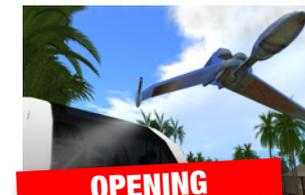
PARTY

ORANGE BEACH

Come down to the Orange Beach launch party and enjoy some adrenalin-inducing activities such as skydiving, hot air balloon rides and jet skiing, as well as a fashion show.

When: Nov. 25, 10:00

Where: ZoHa Islands (213, 9, 27)



OPENING

STAR TREK MUSEUM

All the Trekkies out there can enjoy a party celebrating the museum's opening. Board a shuttle to the USS Enterprise and pick up loads of freebies including Starfleet uniforms.

When: Nov. 24, 16:00

Where: Minshara (72, 31, 25)

ADVERT

RAVELONG SL
& Doubledown's DJ Shop

DJ & Club News, Info, & Equipment

Yeolmae (10, 20, 80)
Click [HERE](#) to get SLURL

DJ Booths
Intelligent Lighting
Club Setups
Turntables
Mixers
Speakers
Headphones
Dancefloors
DJ Animations

BIO SPACES:
Advertising, Networking,
and Promotion for
DJs, Clubs, & Events

Shoutcast Streams
\$3800L/month
128kbps/100 listeners

SL Humor T-Shirts
"Keepin' it Real in SL"

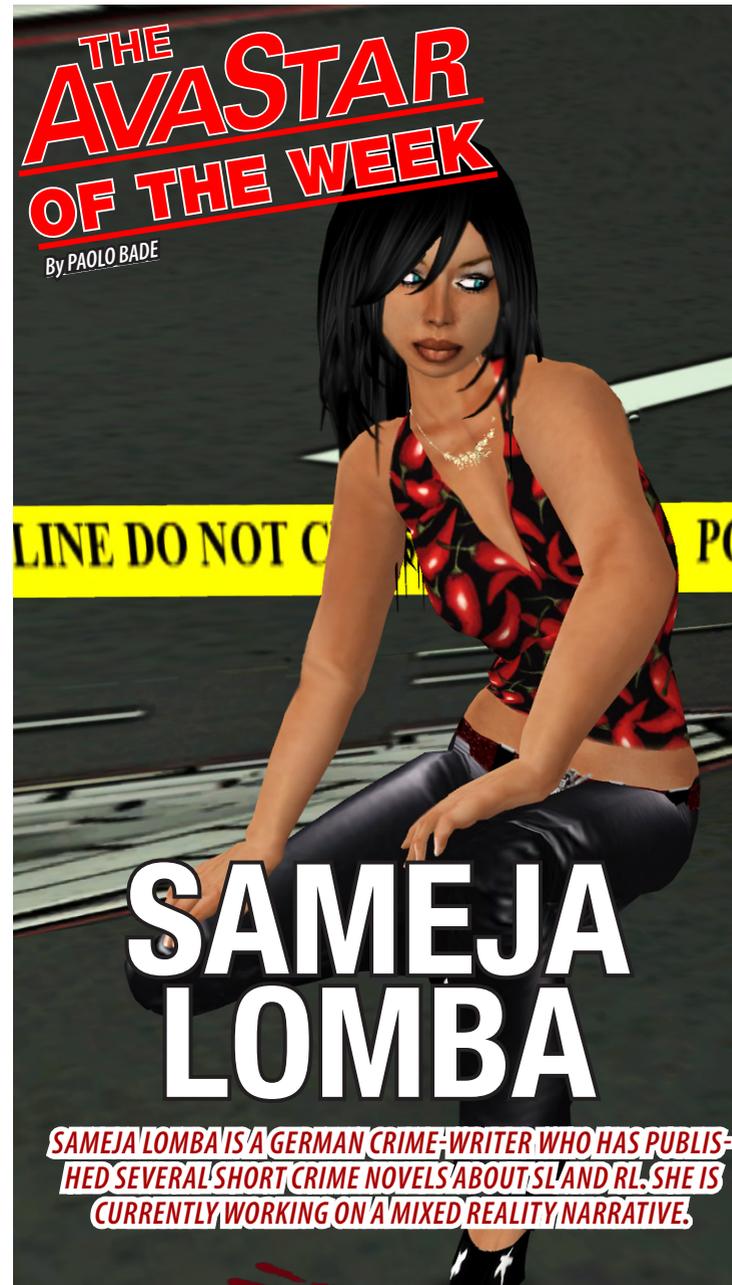
SL DJ & Club Scene Blog
DJDoubledown.blogspot.com



Purple Rose
JEWELRY & FASHION

Miss November
Aliya Ariantho

Model Of The Month Competition
For Info Contact: Aliyeh Yifu
or Visit (Purple Rose 128,128,28)



THE
AVASTAR
OF THE WEEK

By PAOLO BADE

LINE DO NOT CROSS

PO

SAMEJA LOMBA

SAMEJA LOMBA IS A GERMAN CRIME-WRITER WHO HAS PUBLISHED SEVERAL SHORT CRIME NOVELS ABOUT SL AND RL. SHE IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON A MIXED REALITY NARRATIVE.

AVA - ID CARD

NAME: SAMEJA LOMBA
BIRTH DATE: 12/12/2006

PROFESSION: Writer
ATTITUDE: Mixed reality

INTERVIEW

THE AVASTAR: How do you usually spend your time in SL?

SAMEJA LOMBA: I hang out with my friends and other authors at Kasada and Event Island. I spend the rest of my time investigating other sims, looking for inspiration.

TA: What would you change in SL?

SL: I would improve the quality of graphics. Windlight is a step in the right direction, and looks promising, but there is still a lot of room for improvement.

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

SL: I have various original animations that help make me the personality that I am.

TA: What's your funniest sex story?

SL: When I was a newbie, two women asked me if I was interested in opening a brothel with them to make a little money. Initially I thought, OK no problem, it's only a game. But as soon as the customers started saying dirty words to me I ran away and haven't been back to a brothel since.

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

SL: Philip Rosedale is the man for the job.