



They're all going to laugh at Sherry Vine in Theatre Couture's Carrie

by Brandon Voss for Homo Xtra Magazine

Go to your closet and pray!

Six years after the offbeat troupe's last show, drag superstar Sherry Vine returns to the stage as the telekinetic teen who exacts fiery revenge on her classmates in *Carrie*, Theatre Couture's outrageous adaptation of Stephen King's 1974 horror novel, later made into the classic Brian de Palma film and a flop Broadway musical. Written by Erik Jackson, directed by Joshua Rosenzweig and featuring visual effects by puppetmaster Basil Twist, this edgy campfest also stars Keri Meoni, Kathy Searle, Rafi Silver, Matt Wilkas, Marnye Young, David Ilku, Danielle Skraastad and Kate Goehring as Carrie's violently religious mother. While chugging a couple of frosty tallboys at Rawhide, Sherry dumped out a bucket full of bloody good dish and shared her empathy for misunderstood misfits.

HX: You've starred in every single one of Theatre Couture's productions. Do you fancy yourself a muse?

Sherry Vine: Well, I'm sure my starring in all of Theatre Couture's shows has nothing to do with being a founding member and co- artistic director. Purely coincidence. But luckily I guess I am a moose - I mean, muse for Erik and Josh.

What's your favorite memory from working with the company?

When the cardboard set fell on me and Michael "Formika Jones" during *The Bad Weed '73*. And, of course, when Tell- Tale transferred off-Broadway.

How has Theatre Couture changed since its inception in 1992?

We've graduated from cardboard sets! We're still operating on a shoestring budget, but slightly nicer shoestrings. On the other hand, post-Giuliani it's gotten much more difficult for me to "fundraise" in the Port Authority restrooms. Do you have any idea how expensive sequins and eyelashes are? Not to mention the tina diet. Just kidding, I'm crystal free and sleepy - I mean, sexy!

What might Stephen King think of this?

Actually, Erik sent him the script and Mr. King e-mailed Erik saying how much he loved it and gave us his blessing. Maybe now he'll be inspired to write a horror story about a drop- dead gorgeous, internationally renowned drag performer and a psychotic tranny chaser!

Do you steal a lot from Sissy Spacek?

There was no way for me to get away from Sissy as I have seen the movie a thousand times and know it by heart. But I think I'm slightly younger than Sissy was when she did *Carrie*.

Can you relate to Carrie?

Totally. In high school I was the scared misfit who tried to be invisible. The jocks hated me. I was friends with the black girls and other outcasts. We were like the Island of Misfit Toys. But then my senior year I was like, Hello! , in my designer jeans, cowboy boots and permed hair!

If you had the power of telekinesis, what would you use it for?

World peace! And I might make Marc Jacobs throw Louis Vuitton bags at me.

Whose hand wouldn't you mind reaching out from the grave and grabbing you?

Marlon Brando, circa the '60s.

What's your favorite moment in the show?

Right now it's the blood dumping on me at the prom, but I'm guessing that might change after a few weeks.

If you used real blood, who would you slaughter to get it?

We wanted to use the blood of Lady Bunny, but when we cut her, sand poured from the wounds. Then we tried Shequida, but there were too many “foreign substances” and I’m a purist. In the end, we decided to use me as a sacrifice because I am a virgin.

Carrie, 7:30pm, Dec. 2–30 @

PS 122, 150 First Ave (Ninth St), 212-352-3101, \$18.