

# ethel yarwood enterprises

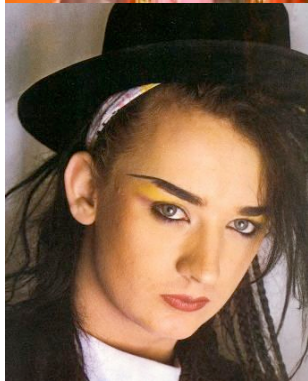
in collaboration with

**MANACLE**  
SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

proudly presents

# KARMA KLEANERS

*“Kleansing and Sanitizing Kweer Kulture”*



*That was then...*



*... this is now!*

Prepared for the 2007 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade  
by Sue-Ellen Cox/artistic director for **ethel yarwood enterprises**

**eyes**

a collective founded on the philosophy  
of the permanence of disposable art

po box 1024 newtown new south wales australia 2042  
e-mail sue-ellen.cox@yarwood.com.au  
http://www.yarwood.com.au  
homo page +61 (0)4 25 206 858

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## 1. Preface

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/people/boy-george-hits-the-gutter/2006/08/01/1154198104915.html>

<http://www.yarwood.com.au/mg2007>

## 2. Themes

The theme of this year's Mardi Gras Festival and Parade is "Objects of Love".

**"We love being photographed."** – Celebrity: the double-edged sword.

We are also addressing the cleansing and sanitizing of our queer culture and surrounds from within and outside our community.

## 3. Concept

Boy George's final obligation under the Community Service Order is the task of cleansing and sanitizing Oxford Street during foreplay to render it a "family friendly event" in preparation for the 2007 Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade. He leads an Unkultured Klub of Karma Kleaners hounded by photo hungry paparazzi.

## 4. Pre-parade: Foreplay

The plan is to be in the foreplay section of the parade, cleansing Oxford Street prior to the parade start. The foreplay travels in the opposite direction to the parade from the Moore Park/SCG area down Oxford St to the parade start area. Currently Mardi Gras are planning to start our group around **6pm**. It is expected that it will take us about 40 minutes to an hour to complete. We won't need lighting since we are performing in daylight.

We will have 3 groups of Boys George – (1) a garbage bin group, (2) a broom group and (3) a shovel group. Choreography will be simple. Sort of Olympic Ceremony type stuff, crowds love that. We will have the main choreographer and he will direct the 'formations'. The group leader of each group follows the choreographer's directions and every one else in the group just follows the group leader. This would mean less rigorous rehearsal requirements. Individuals could add their own touch. We will have a free form section so one could bring along a squeegee and clean the windscreens of support vehicles on the parade route, clean spectators' sunglasses, a mop perhaps, cleaning products, Windex for example. Really camp it up.

The paparazzi will follow/surround them, pestering the Boys George for photographs.

Would anyone like to be a Marilyn [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn\\_\(musician\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn_(musician)) trailing the main group?



## 5. Parade

After the foreplay is complete we have arranged for the ute and sound system to leave the parade area via the start. Up to 10 of the foreplay participants may have the opportunity to be on Taylor Square during the parade to continue our 'kleaning performance' and watch the parade. We will also serve a useful purpose of filling in those annoying unavoidable gaps in the parade by entertaining on Taylor Square. Please consider your involvement but this is not mandatory. This is a little unusual so we will need to know definite numbers so Mardi Gras can plan for this.

### Costume/Participants

#### 21 – 45 of Boys George

Ross Gow is costume adviser ([ross\\_wombat@hotmail.com](mailto:ross_wombat@hotmail.com) or 0408 627 670). He has been trawling through the second hand stores to locate suitable costume items.

The costume will consist of the common item of a Visy Vest and a black rasta/dread wig. The rest of the costume is the responsibility of each participant to create his or her own Boy George character. Use Google images or have a look at the images stored at the yahoo group. Each Boy George will need to dress up the wig to their own look with ribbons, a silly hat ala Karma Chameleon etc. You can do this individually or Ross may arrange a working group. Other options for consideration are a full extravagant Boy George costume. Costumes could even be hired.

We will need to know definite numbers by 10<sup>th</sup> February at the latest in order to get the wigs in bulk at a discount. However the earlier I receive your commitment the easier it is for me to plan.

#### 10+ Paparazzi

Numbers here are really not limited. No specific costume is necessary. Just turn up on the day with a camera or reasonable facsimile as the minimum. Oversized toy cameras or props. Further costuming you might consider is some sort of press pass or an old style press outfit, think Superman/Daily Planet/Jimmy Olsen.

#### Drivers

If negotiations with Marrickville Council are successful they will provide the garbage truck, a driver and back up driver. We will know about Marrickville Council support on the 13<sup>th</sup> February. We also need a driver and backup to drive the ute which has the generator and sound system on it. No special licence is needed. So please advise if you or a mate is willing to provide this important function.

## 6. Music

A mash-up by Stephen Allkins of 'Do You Really Want To Hurt Me?'



# KARMA KLEANERS



## 7. Funding

Currently the budget for this group is about \$3,500. Surprising isn't it how much this costs! The budget and expenditure will be available in the files section of the yahoo group. We will fund the group by:

### Sponsorship

The generous gents at **MANACLE** are again sponsoring ethel yarwood enterprises. This year they have given us \$500 and are hosting an 'entry-by-donation' night on Thursday, 25 January. On the night we are holding a raffle and recruiting participants.

Raffle prizes include:

- a double pass to the Opening of the Mardi Gras Queer Screen Festival My Queer Career film competition which includes the fabulous after party <<http://www.queerscreen.com.au>>
- \$200 fruit hamper from Always Fruitful, Centrepoint Sydney)
- 3 course dinner for 2 at Razors Edge, Enmore Road, Enmore <<http://home.iprimus.com.au/wbrown/index.html>>)
- \$50 bar tab at MANACLE
- MANACLE lager

### Raffle update

We raised \$1100 on the night comprising of \$550 from the raffle which was matched \$ for \$ by **MANACLE**.

Thanks **MANACLE!**

### Participant Fee

Boys George - \$50/participant  
Paparazzi - \$10/participant

Philip Ruble will be accountant and will collect the money. We will advise later how this will function.

### Mardi Gras Grant Scheme

We have applied for a grant from Mardi Gras for the audio - **\$924**. This is by no means guaranteed. We will know by the beginning of February.



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## 8. Meeting/Rehearsal/Workshops

In addition to money, it also takes time and a bit of elbow grease to pull this together. So we will be calling on you to assist in the creation of this float.

We will have a meeting in early February to advise on the progress and discuss the costuming and props.

We will schedule 3 rehearsal sessions. You will only need to attend one of these. As explained we are not planning anything difficult, not Kate Moss difficult at least. The idea is explained above but our choreographer John Hackett is planning large scaled formations rather than intricate dance steps.

We will plan some workshops to make the banners (images will be in the files section of the yahoo group), personalize the wigs and make/paint the garbage bins. Your assistance at these workshops would be greatly appreciated. It won't take much if we all pitch in.

## 9. Yahoo Group

Once you have decided to be a Karma Kleaner, paparazzo or driver you will need to join the yahoo group – [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Karma\\_Kleaners](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Karma_Kleaners). We will be using this to communicate to the members and coordinate the parade entry.

## 10. Recruitment

We are now on a recruitment drive. I found the best way to approach it is to ask someone if they have considered being in the parade. Don't mention the group theme at this stage (refer to **!!Discretion!!**). If they're not interested, do not use the theme of our group to try to convince them. If they are interested, tell them you're involved with a fun group and by all means refer them to <http://www.yarwood.com.au/mardigras> so they can see the sort of things that we have previously created. If this piques their interest, give them my contact details and I'll discuss the theme of the group with them.

email: [kabi@yarwood.com.au](mailto:kabi@yarwood.com.au)  
mobile: 0425 206 858

I've done this long enough to be able to determine if they really want to be in the parade.

## 11. **!!Discretion!!**

It is **VERY** important that we keep this theme low profile at the moment. Please DO NOT pass on this design document to anyone, either printed or emailed, nor refer anyone to the Yahoo group just yet. It is important that we control the release of information.



# KARMA KLEANERS



## 12. ethel yarwood enterprises

ethel yarwood enterprises “a collective founded on the philosophy of the permanence of disposable art”, is a fluid group of like-minded individuals who have fun working together employing humour and parody to highlight issues relevant to the gay and lesbian community. ethel yarwood enterprises has produced a number of parade entries including the award winning:

- *Keith Haring - Party of Life*      **1997**      (awarded Best Small Group Entrant)
- *Dick van Dykes on Bikes*      **1998**      (awarded Best Community Entrant)
- *The Happy Little SODOMITES*      **2000**      (awarded Best Small Group Entrant)
- *Bridge on the River Kweer*      **2001**      (awarded Judges' Choice)
- *Jenny & Craig's Extreme  
Mardi Gras MakeOver*      **2004**      (awarded Best Small Group Entrant)
- *The Kate Moss Line Dancers*      **2006**      (awarded Funniest parade Group)

Refer to <http://www.yarwood.com.au/mardigras> for other projects by ethel yarwood enterprises.

And remember:

***“Kleanliness is next to George-liness”***



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