



100 of the Most Influential Gay Entertainers

"An Intimate look into the lives of some of the nation's most influential gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and inter-sexed entertainers."

Edited by Kristal Davis, M. Ed



Jenetta J. Baines

It's More Than Just An Illusion

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It has only been six months since the release of [100 of the Most Influential Gay Entertainers](#) and many wonderful things have happened following its release. Sales continue to soar since the author, [Jenetta Baines](#)' appearance on the infamous internet talk show [The Dysh](#), with hosts Jason McGlothlin, [Ms. Sophia](#), [Niesha Dupree](#), [Raquell Lord](#), and Mario Young. The small Island of Bermuda was all a buzz as community activist and entertainer, [Sybil Barrington](#), also known as The Queen of Bermuda, graced the cover. Articles appeared in the [Bermuda Sun](#) and the [Bermuda News](#). Jenetta also appeared on [1:1 w/Onyx](#) reached worldwide audiences as she was introduced in an up close and personal setting as she and Onyx talked about the book, the entertainers, and the LGBTQ! (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Inter-sexed) community and its specific needs as it relates to the

transgender community. [100 MIGE](#) is currently being reviewed by the [GLBT Roundtable of the American Library Association](#).

The first of its kind, the author has written and documented the lives of 100 LGBTQI entertainers who are considered famous throughout the United States and who have taken the art of female impersonation/illusion and turned it into a well respected business, a business which has allowed these gay performers/entertainers the ability to live their lives as productive citizens, whereas corporate America and other businesses would not dare take a chance on hiring these individuals because of their culture, lifestyle, and sexual preference. Not only are these entertainers well respected, they are also accomplished proprietors and entrepreneurs who have fans all across the globe.

Drag performers and entertainment has existed since the 1940s and has been covered in a shroud of shame, disgrace, and taboo. This stigmatism created an underground subculture of individuals who continued doing what they loved, ultimately paving the way for entertainers today who are revered and respected to the point of stardom. Even the language referring to drag queens has changed. Female Impersonator/Illusionist seems to be the more respectable terms used when referring to what is now considered to be an art form. Historical in nature, [100 MIGE](#) explores the lives of these 100 entertainers starting with the Legends – entertainers who have been performing for 20 years or more; The Most Beautiful Ones – transgender entertainers who live their lives as women; Male Lead – biological gay men who perform; Showstoppers – those entertainers who are extraordinarily talented and who resemble famous entertainers and celebrities; Comedians and emcees; Female-to-Male Illusionists – women who perform as men; and At Large – plus size transgender entertainers.

Take a journey with the author and explore each entertainer's personal story, some filled with love, others filled with hatred; some detailing accounts of gay-bashing and victimization from those who swore to love, and from others who simply choose not to. Some of these entertainers have even been disowned by their mothers and fathers while others are loved unconditionally. In spite of the circumstances, each individual triumphantly prevails and continue to live life at its fullest, entertaining crowds all across the United States and abroad.

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MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of *100 of the Most Influential Gay Entertainers* is to enhance and foster what matters most: creating a level of understanding and respect between heterosexuals and homosexuals by providing a clear understanding of the true hearts of gay people who desire to live in peace and harmony among others; basic human rights are afforded to all people, regardless of who they are and the preferences they make in life; and for all gay people to be considered as a respectable, contributing part of society.