

I've never been of the mind that full frontal nudity is porn—after all, the first man I ever saw the Full Monty on was Michelangelo's David, and I immediately fell in love...or was it lust?

Love & Sex. Nothing is older in our world than the feeling of love and no emotion is stronger than that of desire. It's what brings us together for a passionate embrace, keeps us together through the forming of families and lingering well on into the winter of our years.

In our chest is this amazing muscle that pumps blood through our bodies and keeps us alive. Yet, anyone who has felt the exciting rush of heat for another person, the longing to be close to The One we just locked eyes with, or the stabbing loss of all our desires crashing to an end, knows this organ, hard-wired directly to our brain, yet so often muddled by our hormones, is far more complicated than any pound of flesh has a right to be.

I think North Americans are a little afraid of this all powerful overlap between physical lust and the emotional charge of the heart. Europeans seem to have a more comfortable relationship in the intersection of these two states of being, while those descended from the native tribes that once ruled the Americas have never lost the deep understanding of this primal force.

As skittish as our society seems to be around it though, sex and love is everywhere. It sells advertising, TV shows, movies and music videos. Just take a look at Christina Aguilera's new video, or anything by Lady Gaga, or turn on Showcase or Bravo—it's so steamy out there, the windows

keep fogging up! Everyone wants to be seen as sexy and everyone wants to be loved. Mankind is a social creature after all, and wants to belong, to share who they are with other people of similar desires.

As we swing into the heat of summer, nothing expresses these tumultuous emotions better than Pride. There will be as many varied encounters of love and sexual desire as there are people at the parade—that's a lot of making out! Isn't it wonderful that we have an actual week-long festival encouraging us to celebrate who we are as loving sexual beings?

Speaking of Pride, I'm over-the-top excited to feature an interview this issue with none other than that she bopping, unusual girl—Cyndi Lauper. She's always been of the belief, like myself, that we should be free to love who we want to love and never feel judged by who we choose to have sex with. Be sure to check out her free concert in Queen's Park, Saturday July 3rd, at 9pm. Maybe I'll see you there. Our eyes can lock for a moment, and we'll share a smile.

Happy Pride!

*Jeff Harrison*

