Suddenly, the summer is behind us! Just in time to usher in fall and the good times to be had in Greater Miami. With no shortage of things to do and see in and out of the sun, October and November bring Miami Entertainment Months. A great time to focus on those activities that locals already love to do and visitors can’t wait to try, from going for tastings at craft breweries to lounging at state-of-the-art cinemas, movie houses and more. Make sure to check out Celebrate ORGULLO, which premieres October 1, kicking off Miami Entertainment Months. Find out more by visiting MiamiTemptations.com.

This issue of The Pink Palm gets wet and wild with Aqua Girl, one of our fabulous annual events. It’s celebrating 20 years of tropical fun for thousands of lesbian, gay, bi and trans women, and their friends and allies! We’ll also give you a preview of Art After Stonewall, 1969-1989, a first-of-its-kind exhibition with work by renowned 20th-century artists.

On the subject of art, we’ll hear from master gallerist David Castillo, who’s amplifying Miami’s art scene on an international scale. Check out David Castillo Gallery at Art Basel Miami Beach’s top-tier showcase in early December. Next, we’ll turn our attention to fashion and hear how designer KASHAMARINA is cultivating inclusion in the community. See you in Miami!

Stop by and visit the LGBT Visitor Center for local and visitor information.

LGBT Visitor Center
1130 Washington Ave., 1st Floor North, Miami Beach, FL 33139
305/397-8914 • GoGayMiami.com
Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri: 9 A.M. – 6 P.M. • Sat & Sun: 11 A.M. – 4 P.M.

The Miami-Dade Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (MDGLCC) is the largest not-for-profit corporation in the county for gay and lesbian businesses. MDGLCC offers the Pink Flamingo Hospitality Certification by training and certifying hospitality service professionals on issues related to gender and orientation, and giving them tools to respond appropriately to all people. This is essential for creating environments where all visitors and employees are welcome.

For a list of Pink Flamingo Certified Hotels and Businesses in Greater Miami and the Beaches, please visit GayBizMiami.com

This publication was produced by the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau, with the support of the Miami-Dade Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.
Over the course of its illustrious 20-year history, the event known as Aqua Girl has left an indelibly positive mark on the lives of tens of thousands of lesbian, gay, bi and trans women. Attracted by the prospect of an all-women’s weekend in the tropical sun, steps from the Atlantic, and the excitement that South Beach promises (and delivers), women from across the country and around the world have made the pilgrimage to Aqua Girl a “must,” year after year.

**Kissed by the sun and embracing of all colors, shapes, and flavors.**
Friendships both occasional and lifelong have been forged during Aqua Girl’s three-day festival. Lots of flirting has transpired and many a connection has been made. But the enticement of going to Aqua Girl 2019 isn’t based solely on its reputation as an amazing party weekend for 20 years running—but also on its pledge to proudly promise (and deliver), women from across the world have made the event known as Aqua Girl has left an indelibly positive mark on the lives of tens of thousands of LGBTQ women. If you’re lucky enough to be in South Florida one year after year, as singles, with friends, in couples… all flavors under the sun, under a recipe for all-capital-letter FUN.

Not to be overshadowed by the in-the-sun fun, the nighttime parties bring the excitement indoors and to another level with sophisticated venues that epitomize South Beach nightlife, such as Pearl lounge, at Nikki Beach. “Dulce” on Friday turns the spotlight on the melting pot of Latin and Caribbean music—and beauties—that Miami is known for. Throw down (or admire) sensuous salsa dance moves, inspired by music from DJ Citizen Jane and captivating performances by the Aqua Girl Dancers.

**A party with a commitment to the LGBTQ community.**
Aqua Girl donates a portion of its proceeds to two weekends before Aqua Girl, by making a separate donation to the Foundation, you can attend their VIP cocktail parties—chic, dress-up events—held at glamorous private homes in Fort Lauderdale and Miami.

And speaking of locations, ground zero for Aqua Girl is oceanfront, at the luxe, artful, Art Deco Marseilles Hotel. With special rates for Aqua Girl guests that include two passes to the Saturday pool party, it’s a vacation package that’s hard to resist. So hard to resist, in fact, that a second hotel, The Hyatt Centric, has also been reserved for Aqua’s “girls”—and yes, it also includes the pool party passes. Visit AquaGirl.org for more info.

Despite the name, Aqua Girl is big on community inclusion. Women of all pronouns are welcomed, and so are their straight friends. Co-producer Yesi Leon affirms, “Aqua Girl is where you can come and be free, open, not be judged—but yourself, celebrated and accepted.” This validation and support create the dynamic that keeps so many LGBTQ women energized about coming—and coming back—to this party, year after year, as singles, with friends, in couples... all flavors under the sun, under one [beach] umbrella—or maybe a poolside cabana.
The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University is hosting “Art After Stonewall, 1969-1989,” a first-of-its-kind exhibition of a collection of work from some of the most important artists of the 20th century as well as many others whose names you should know!

The exhibit, which will take over the entire second floor and the Grand Galleries of the 46,000-square-foot museum, opens on September 14, 2019 and will run through January 5, 2020 before moving on to the Columbus Museum of Art, which organized the show. This is the first national museum show of its kind to survey the impact of the LGBTQ civil rights movement on visual culture during the pivotal two decades after the Stonewall Riots. It will be the first time the entire exhibit has been shown together—previously displayed in separate venues in New York City. Miami is lucky to serve as the second of only three stops that the exhibit will make.

Artist and art historian Jonathan Weinberg, who is currently consulting curator of The Maurice Sendak Foundation, a critic at the Yale School of Art and a lecturer at the Rhode Island School of Design, curated the show with Daniel Marcus and Drew Sawyer. “Art after Stonewall is all about using art for empowerment and community, making visible queer identities in a myriad of fabulous forms,” said Weinberg. The Stonewall Riots of 1969 provide the jumping off point for the exhibit. The riots are widely seen as an important flash point of the modern LGBTQ movement. The immediate 20 years after that momentous “birth” of the movement inspired artists to proclaim, “We’re here, we’re queer, get used to it!” The art that will be shown will reflect that era—from the sexual revolution to the absolute need for political representation during the early days of the AIDS crisis. This period blazed with new creativity from these communities. These artists cleared a path through uncharted cultural territories, across intersections of avant-garde art worlds, radical political movements and profound social change.

“When the police raided the Stonewall Inn on June 28, 1969, that night’s events changed the course of American history. Art after Stonewall brings to light the evolution of the modern LGBTQ movement and its undeniable impact on the art world,” said Dr. Jordana Pomeroy, the Director of the Frost Art Museum FIU. “The exhibition acknowledges the guts and grit of these artists, gay and straight, to make declarative and public visual statements about gender and sexuality in a predominantly homophobic world. The Frost Art Museum FIU is honored and delighted to bring to Miami the tour de force Art After Stonewall, which encompasses the passion, energy and excitement that inspired the art world at this time.”
Besides highlighting the work of well-known artists like Andy Warhol, Robert Mapplethorpe, Annie Leibovitz and Keith Haring, Art After Stonewall will pay homage to Miami’s own influence on culture and art of this period. The exhibit will feature original artwork by Felix Gonzalez-Torres and Martin Kreloff. Gonzalez-Torres, who died of AIDS in Miami in 1996, was a prolific artist known for his haunting billboard that stood above the original Stonewall Inn reminding NYC residents of the need for action. Martin Kreloff, along with a group of friends, created the first White Party, which was the original party with a purpose to raise money for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Kreloff’s poster for that first White Party will be on display. The exhibit, which is free to the public, runs from September 14, 2019 – January 5, 2020.
ELEVATING MIAMI’S ART SCENE

Master gallerist David Castillo; amplifying Miami’s art scene on an international scale.

Preeminent gallerist David Castillo is a Cuban-American pioneer who reflects the vibrant culture of Miami through the artists he showcases at his eponymous gallery on Miami Beach’s Lincoln Road. As a champion for minority artists, his groundbreaking vision has helped shape contemporary art in the city and amplified the spotlight on Miami’s art scene on an international scale.

Born in Madrid, Spain in 1973, Castillo and his family moved to Hialeah, Florida when he was an infant after years of refuge from the increasing political turmoil in Cuba. He grew up in Hialeah and immediately felt welcomed, relishing in the city’s strong sense of community. “I was proud to call that place home,” Castillo said. And even though he describes his childhood as normal, his achievements later in life have proven to be nothing but extraordinary.

As a child, Castillo recalls wanting to study medicine, but it was art that fascinated him the most. He frequented Downtown Miami cultural gems such as the Center for the Fine Arts and Gusman Cultural Center, now known as the Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) and Olympia Theater, respectively, to see art and photography shows with his family. Art and culture were very appealing to him, yet he never saw his passion as a viable career path. After pursuing his academic degree at Yale University, Castillo enhanced his skills early on by working in the curatorial department at the university’s art gallery and then as a registrar at the Miami Art Museum (now PAMM), further inspiring him to pursue a career in the art world.

Cut to Wynwood circa 2005. Castillo opened his contemporary art gallery space with a clear vision focusing on the concept of identity and how minority cultures, including African Americans, Latinos, LGBTQ+ and women, are often labeled as “other.” This label is something he too was very familiar with as a person of color.

“The vision has been exactly the same since the beginning because it has a lot to do with who I am as a person. It has to do with a lot of intellectual moments that I had as a student where I realized that I myself was seen as the ‘other,’” said Castillo. “This idea fascinated me—this concept of identity.”

Remaining true to his gallery’s vision was never easy, however, Castillo’s steadfast determination and self-imposed responsibility to represent a diverse group of trailblazing artists—whose narratives not only continue to influence the art world, but cultural conversations in Miami, the U.S. and beyond—has paid off over the years. And in 2018, success hit an all-time high when the David Castillo Gallery was selected to join the Galleries sector at Art Basel Miami Beach, making it only the second Miami-based gallery to be included in the fair’s top-tier show space—an honor reserved for the most important galleries in the world.

According to Castillo, this was more than a personal achievement, it was a moment of pride for his home. “Miami is very important to me so any banner that I can carry as a small participant or as one individual is awesome. The city is part of me as much as I am part of the city and who I became as I person has a lot to do with where I grew up. And I hope that that is well represented in that accomplishment.”

Castillo credits Art Basel for galvanizing culture in Miami. Small galleries and cultural institutions were present in the past, but he believes the revered art fair truly helped in cementing it with the international level of attention it has brought to the city since 2002. To that point, visitors of the David Castillo Gallery, which is now located inside Lincoln Road’s historic 420 Building, can enjoy some of the best things Miami has to offer—world-class culture and stunning beaches—all within a few blocks.

Miami’s robust landscape of cultures has remained a constant theme and an organic sense of inspiration for the gallerist throughout his career. “The city can see itself in the gallery,” he shared. That is why Castillo is so keen on artists that represent themes of diversity via paintings, sculptures, video and more. He adds, “I feel like these artists are making the most important work of our time... obviously there are many artists doing that, but these artists in particular are doing that and also speaking to these narratives of identity which include the LGBTQ community, people of color and women.” On that note, Castillo shared that he’s working on a major presentation with a gay artist for Art Basel this year, which will soon be announced in full detail.

Outside of exhibiting at Art Basel, placing artists in major institutions such as The Guggenheim and Museum of Modern Art in New York, and selling artwork to the top collectors in the downtown Miami, Castillo enjoys taking a break from his busy life to relax at home. He currently lives in the downtown Miami and loves to walk his dog Harry and take in the panoramic views of Biscayne Bay and PortMiami. Other places he likes to visit to escape and just chill? “Vizcaya and The Deering Estate are places that are special and never get old for me,” he said. “And I like to go to museums for unexpected shows every now and then. The Wolfsonian-FIU is a little gem in this city!”

When in the mood for good cuisine, Castillo loves to go to La Petite Maison in Brickell or to MC Kitchen in the Design District where he likes to order a Bloody Mary during brunch on the weekends. As for his favorite LGBTQ hangout spots, he said, “Twist remains a neighborhood bar and a welcoming watering hole.” The Palace, famed for its drag shows on the iconic Ocean Drive, is another favorite of his. “It’s cool because you see tourists, LGBTQ people and everyone coming together,” he said.

As Miami’s cultural scene continues to flourish and grow, the David Castillo Gallery (DavidCastilloGallery.com) will continue to be a driving force at the forefront of artist representation.
Miami Swim Week has always been about pushing the boundaries of fashion, art and creativity, but the 2019 event was one that truly raised the bar in an entirely new way. The annual event has long showcased the creative efforts and inspired designs of both international and local fashion designers, serving as one of Miami’s most beloved and acclaimed events since 1989.

Exactly 30 years after models first walked the world-famous runways at Miami Swim Week, one talented designer made history when he combined his distinctive approach to style with a passion for cultivating inclusion in the fashion community.

Redefining the concept of fashion for all.
Based out of Wynwood, Bo Khasamarina has long been fueled by a desire to create stylish, unique pieces that defy the traditional creative limitations of fashion. His artistic career began in design and photography, evolving as Khasamarina continued to explore his creative interests and his love for music, visual arts, art direction and fashion design. The result was KHASAMARINA, an extraordinary clothing line that refuses to adhere to any preconceived notion of what fashion can or should be.

Using only his signature slits and knots, Khasamarina crafts each of his one-of-a-kind pieces without the use of threads, needles, machines or measurements. His collections are completely gender-neutral and intended to appeal to a diverse range of personal styles, ages and lifestyles. The KHASAMARINA mission is to not only reimagine the creative possibilities of fashion but also to take an all-inclusive, non-gender conformative approach to design.

In addition to receiving international recognition for his design work, Khasamarina has also established himself as an advocate for the LGBTQ community. Over the years, he’s consistently partnered with many of Miami’s LGBTQ organizations, working to support their efforts to move society forward toward a positive place of inclusion and acceptance.

A groundbreaking year at Miami Fashion Week.
Khasamarina has already become known as one of Miami’s boundary-breaking designers, and he continued to demonstrate his tireless dedication to inclusion in the fashion industry at this year’s Miami Swim Week. For the first time in the history of the event, transgender models walked the runway during the KHASAMARINA show, marking an important moment in the fashion history of both Miami and the world. The swimwear show by Khasamarina was included in Strike a Pose PRIDE Night, a fitting evening for the inclusive, historic event.

The Miami designer joined a handful of other fashion trailblazers across the globe, including brands such as Marco Marco, in sparking new conversations about what it means for fashion to make efforts toward inclusion. While Khasamarina acknowledged that the fashion scene is certainly changing for the better, he wondered if it was moving quickly enough to keep pace with the world at large.

Despite his revolutionary showing at Miami Swim Week 2019, Khasamarina expressed his hope that such inclusive efforts would become less newsworthy in the future, eventually evolving to simply become the norm. He noted that the transgender community is so often forgotten in the movement toward inclusion, with Latin and black women particularly being left behind. Because of this, he sought to make the community a part of his Miami Swim Week show, breaking the mold with both transgender and androgynous models and entrusting them to bring his revolutionary fashion designs to life.

KHASAMARINA: looking to the future.
When you consider the heart and soul of Miami, a city that has long been revered as a welcoming home for the LGBTQ community, it seems appropriate that such a progressive shift in fashion would be based here. With open arms and a diverse, vibrant population, Miami proudly serves as the inspiration for and backdrop to the world-changing efforts of Khasamarina and other creatives.

While the future of KHASAMARINA remains to be seen, it seems certain that there are no limits that can restrain the creative possibilities ahead. Undoubtedly, the brand’s dedication to inclusion will continue to be a guiding force in both its creative efforts and global mission.
FALL 2019 IN MIAMI
Making the most of your time in Miami this fall

OCTOBER
9/14/2019–1/5/2020
Art After Stonewall, 1969-1989
Frost.FIU.edu

10/1-15
Celebrate ORGULLO
CelebrateOrgullo.com

10/10-13
Miami Film Festival: GEMS
MiamiFilmFestival.com/GEMS-2019

10/3-6
Aqua Girl
AquaGirl.org

10/5-1/8
Luminosa Chinese Lantern Festival
JungleIsland.com/Events

10/11-15
Cinema Italy
Cinemaitaly.com

10/12
Grovetoberfest
GrovetoberFest.com

10/13
Hialeah Pride
HialeahPride.com

10/13
Miami Carnival
Parade and Concert
MiamiBrowardCarnival.com

10/19-20
South Florida Seafood Festival
SouthFloridaSeafoodFestival.com

10/22-26
South Beach Seafood Week
SobeSeafoodFest.com

NOVEMBER
11/1-3
France Cinema Floride
FranceCinemaFloride.com

11/1-10
Miami International Auto Show
MiamiAutoShow.net

11/6-10
Miami Short Film Festival
MiamiShortFilmFestival.com

11/7-10
The Seed Food & Wine Festival
SeedFoodandWine.com

11/8-10
Miami Beach Pop Festival
MiamiBeachPop.com

11/9-10
Miami Smooth Jazz Festival
MiamiSmoothJazzFest.org

11/13-17
Sunny Isles Beach Jazz Fest
SunnyIslesBeachJazz.com

11/17-24
Miami Book Fair
MiamiBookFair.com

11/21-24
Recent Cinema from Spain
Miami.RecentCinemaFromSpain.com

11/28–12/2
Circuit Miami
CircuitFestival.net/miami

12/4-8
Art Gaysel
Gaythering.com/Artgaysel

12/4-8
Design Miami
Miami2019.DesignMiami.com

12/5-8
Art Basel Miami Beach
ArtBasel.com/Miami-Beach

12/30
Capital One Orange Bowl Football Game
OrangeBowl.org

For a full list of events in Greater Miami, please visit:
MiamiandBeaches.com/events

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