

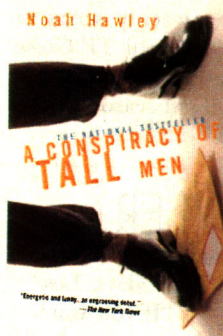
## Sexpositive Productions

**WHO** Good Vibrations' video-production wing. **AGE** 1. **HOME** The Mission. **SISTERS ARE DOING IT** What in the ever-loving world were women from the pleasure emporium Good Vibrations doing at the *Adult Video News* awards last spring? Answer: Celebrating their nominations for Best Director and Best Bisexual Film, for *Slide Bi Me*—which isn't exactly a documentary; more like talking heads, working bodies. **PORN AGAIN** Sexpositive Productions has two more unabashedly erotic tapes out (with DVDs on the way), with good-natured titles like *Whipsmart: A Good Vibrations Beginner's Guide to S&M for Couples* and *Please Don't Stop: Lesbian Tips for Givin' and Gettin' It*. "Their work is feminist, mature, and very hardcore," raves porno star turned sexologist Annie Sprinkle, Ph.D. "They're the tip of the arrow in the evolution of porn and sex education." Politically correct? Maybe. Hot? You betcha. **PAY ATTENTION** in September, when the company releases its next video, *Voluptuous Vixens*, a tribute to size 16s and up.



## PIXAR

**WHO** Masters of the animation universe. **AGE** 6. **HOME** Emeryville. **NO KIDDING** Just because Pixar isn't putting out a film this year doesn't mean that director-producer John Lasseter and his East Bay elves have been slacking off. They're entitled to a hiatus after the success of *Monsters, Inc.* shushed cynics who suggested Pixar was nothing more than the house that *Toy Story* built. **BUGS BUNNY IS SO LAST CENTURY** The animation aces are hard at work on *Finding Nemo*, an undersea adventure featuring Pixar's trademark blend of wit, warmth, and anarchic action. And Lasseter recently took charge of casting and dubbing for the English-language version of *anime* master Hayao Miyazaki's stunning, full-length *Spirited Away*. **PAY ATTENTION** in September, when *Spirited Away* opens and *Monsters, Inc.* is available on video and DVD.



## NOAH HAWLEY

**WHO** The city's busiest author-auteur. **AGE** 35. **HOME** The Mission. **THE TOAST OF HOLLYWOOD** With *Being Vincent*, his first short film, in the can, courtesy of Fox Searchlight's lab for new directors, Noah Hawley is officially a hyphenate. While the newly christened writer-director mulls feature-film ideas, he monitors what's going on with his various screenplays. **YOU KNOW THAT CLICHÉ ABOUT JUGGLING PROJECTS?** Former San Francisco performance artist and theater director Charles Herman-Wurmfeld (who moved to L.A. and directed the indie film hit *Kissing Jessica Stein*) is preparing to shoot Hawley's action-comedy script *The Yes Man*; meanwhile, *The Alibi* is set up with the company that produced Chris Nolan's *Memento*. Oh, and remember *A Conspiracy of Tall Men*, the taut first novel that got Hawley noticed in the first place? He's writing the screenplay for Paramount. **PAY ATTENTION** in January, when *Being Vincent* could debut at the Sundance Film Festival.

## EHREN KRUGER

**WHO** Shocking screenwriter. **AGE** 29. **HOME** Cole Valley. **WRITING SCARED** Highbrow films have their place, but we have a definite soft spot for the crafty thrillers that aren't, alas, allowed anywhere near the spotlight on Oscar night. So does Ehren Kruger, who declares, "I would be more than happy to be considered a writer of quality B movies." **HOT CHILLS** Kruger's ultraparanoid *Arlington Road*, with Jeff Bridges and Tim Robbins, creeped us out good in 1999, and his latest shocker, *The Ring*, which stars Brian Cox and *Mulholland Drive*'s Naomi Watts, is a remake of a recent Japanese chiller that gave nightmares to thousands. Who said horror films can't be smart as well as scary? **PAY ATTENTION** in October, when *The Ring* opens.

## Amanda Micheli

**WHO** Documentary daredevil. **AGE** 30. **HOME** Potrero Hill. **NO GUTS, NO GLORY** In *Double Dare* (its tentative title), Amanda Micheli trains her camera on stuntwomen at opposite ends of their careers. Legendary pioneer Jeannie Epper has paved the road over four decades, while Zoe Bell recently jumped from *Xena: Warrior Princess* to Quentin Tarantino's *Kill Bill* to do the acrobatics for Uma Thurman. **HER HEROES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN COWGIRLS** Micheli's Harvard thesis film, a portrait of female rodeo riders, aired on PBS in 1996. "What I really admired," says S.F. filmmaker Jay Rosenblatt, "was her courage in embracing her subject. She not only put herself in the film, she put herself on the horse." **PAY ATTENTION** in January, when *Double Dare* may get a berth at Sundance.

...Wayne Wang's *The Chambermaid*, starring Jennifer Lopez, in December...Poetry slam star Beau Sia in Russell Simmons's *Def Poetry* on HBO...Director Chris Columbus's second Harry Potter film, in November...Screenwriter Pamela Gray's San Francisco-set CBS series, *Sharon McCone, P.I.*, based on Marcia Muller's mysteries...

AND WATCH FOR