

LadyLike

Issue No. 13

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ADULTS ONLY



SPECIAL!
A Tribute to "Tippi"
LADYLIKE PROFILE:
Stephanie Cramer
AND LOTS, LOTS MORE

LadyLike

ISSUE #13

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You'll hate her too. She's cute, adorable and very passable.

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Princess Angel ("Tippi") and Queen Veneer (Miss X)
Photo by Robin Clark



Stephanie Cramer



"Tippi"

Special: A Tribute to TIPPI



"Tippi" as Barbie the Doll. She was a runner-up in the San Francisco Examiner's Barbie Look Alike Contest in 1986.

During the interview, the reporter kept wanting to ask her if she was really a woman, but never did.

Outfit - Solo In The Spotlight

Special: A Tribute to TIPPI



*'Tippi' with her heart as Joan Collins. She rarely did dark hair.
Photo Ken Towles, West Graphics.*

Special: A Tribute to TIPPI

**Another Comic Card
from West Graphics.
Inside it says,
"Raisins Everywhere"
Photo by Ken Towles**

The Easter Bunny
Is Coming To Your House
And You Know
What That Means...



Left: On the steps in front of City Hall, San Francisco for VD Awareness Day in the early 1980's. These are the legs that won her the Most Beautiful Legs Contest in Sydney in 1979.



28 One of the first comic cards: Nurse with Neck Brace. Photo by Ken To

A Tribute to...

You knew her, but
then you really
didn't.

"Tippi"

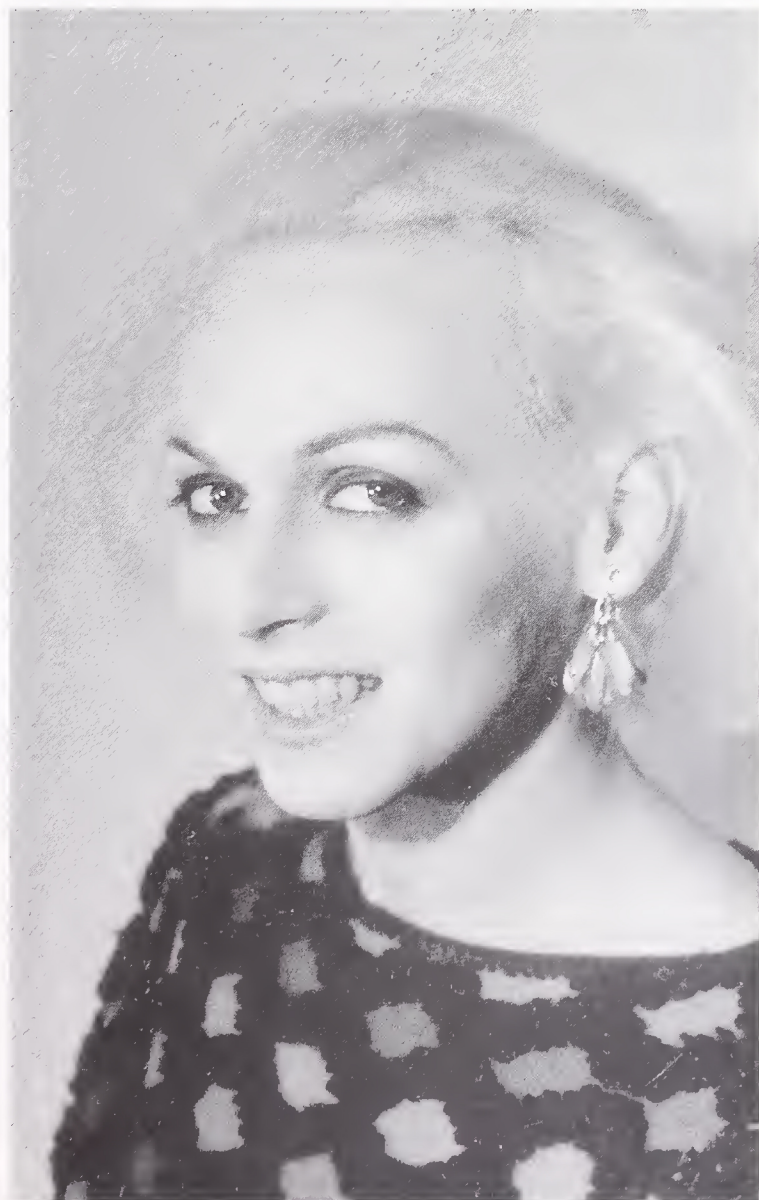
More likely, you knew "of" her. She graced (if we may be so bold) the covers of so many of those wacky greeting cards you see in the malls, that her face had become familiar. Yet, the person we "knew" as "Tippi" had a depth that was for the most part unknown outside of San Francisco.

"Tippi" was born in Cleveland, Ohio and spent her childhood moving from city to city in the Midwest. As a teen, she studied ballet in Chicago, which later helped her win the Most Beautiful Legs title in Sydney, Australia in 1979.

Arriving in San Francisco in 1971, "Tippi" studied and performed with the San Francisco Free Theatre. Under the guidance of the late Doris Fish, internationally famed drag performer, "Tippi" grew to a performer of confidence and talent. Along with Miss X, as Sluts-A-Go-Go, the three created and appeared in a legendary string of nightclub and theatre extravaganzas, commencing with *Blonde Sin* that ran for more than a year.

Other memorable nightclub performances included *Screamgirls*, *Naked Brunch*, *The Happy Hour Show*, *Box Office Poison*, *Sluts A-Go-Go Still Alive*, and *Nudies Go Berserk*, a "two-woman" show in which she played Neely O'Hara to Doris Fish.

"Tippi" with her own hair, fresh faced.





Above: "Tippi" as Princess Angel from Vegas In Space. Photo by Robin Clark

"Tippi" also danced her heart out onstage with the rock bands **Calling All Girls** and **The Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra**, for which she was named *Official Go-Go Girl of the 1984 National Democratic Convention* by Maury Povich in *Newsweek*.

Among "Tippi"'s legitimate stage appearances were roles in Tennessee Williams' *Hello From Bertha* and Jean Genet's *The Balcony* at Theatre Rhinoceros. Her quintessential performance was as the eight-year-old psycho-killer, Rhoda Penmark, in *Bad Seed*, a long running hit in 1987 and 1988.

All uncredited photos are courtesy of Bob Davis. Thanks to WEST Graphics for permission to use their photos in this layout.



*Above: One of "Tippi"'s Fave pix
Below: That Beehive is her own hair.*





Big hair, big eyes & a handfull of pearls. Those hands & nails belong to Miss X.



"Tippi"'s final performance is yet to come as of this writing. Throughout the '80s, she was filming *Vegas In Space* with longtime collaborator Phillip R. Ford. The movie is set to open in San Francisco's Castro Theater during October, 1991.

Late in 1990, "Tippi" was diagnosed with AIDS-related illnesses, but continued to perform as long as possible. But, with the rapid onset of illness, she was no longer able to live her "art-life" to which she was completely devoted. She died quietly on August 25, 1991, just two months after the death of her best friend and roommate, Doris Fish.

"Tippi" is survived by her lover, Bob Davis, her parents, a brother, friends, Miss X and Phillip Ford, and countless others who love her both on and off stage. Her remains were scattered to sea at the foot of Fort Point, the spot where Kim Novak throws herself into San Francisco Bay in *Vertigo*, one of "Tippi"'s favorite movies.

[Thanks to Bob Davis for all the photos & copy. JoAnn]

Above: "Tippi"'s last public photo taken on Gay Pride Day, June 30, 1991 in San Francisco. "Tippi" was part of a float honoring Doris Fish who died on June 22, 1991. In this photo, "Tippi" weighs about 100 pounds. "Tippi" died less than 2 months after this photo was taken. Photo by LuLu. Below: A West Graphic Comic Card. Inside it says, "But it wouldn't fit in the box!" Photo by Ken Towle, West Graphics.



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