The original idea for *VAVAVAVOOM!*was something I had in mind many years ago when I ran a cabaret night with Andy Walker at the **Zap Club** in Brighton in the early 1990's called **Andy Walker's Fame**Frame - which developed into **The Billy**Silver Show, very popular with young and old alike. Here I had started trying out ideas for Burlesque routines, and enjoyed it so much, I wanted to do more!
- Stella Starr

Vavavavoom! Burlesque 1997 - 2012







MC FEZMAN BOB E. GOLD

DIRECTOR STELLA STARR

CHOREOGRAPHER FIFI DE MAINTENON

## THE ZAP CLUB TRIO

## ORIGINS OF VAVAVAVOOM!

I had always wanted to do something very elaborate, theatrical and glamorous, based on a combination of my love for The Golden Age of Hollywood movies + B-Movie trash + a desire to keep alive the art of Burlesque. At the time no-one even knew what Burlesque was in this country and certainly no-one else was doing anything like this. So, after much research and careful planning, the VAVAVAVOOM! Burlesque Revue Show was born. What started as a lavish themed club night with cabaret show developed into a dance theatre company who also staged large scale carnival events, street theatre and walkabout characters. We were pioneers of what became a model for site specific participatory theatre.

We came a long way from modest beginnings in a small dive bar (The Joint on West Street) in Brighton in November 1997. From the start we were turning people away in droves and we never looked back! It was always important the public participated in our events - mainly by 'getting into character' according to the theme. Everyone was made welcome - regardless of age, race, sexual persuasion, gender/non binary or shape and size – it was all inclusive. Everyone was a star at VAVAVAVOOM!

We were a local Brighton troupe who became internationally famous - the only UK company to perform in New Orleans, as part of the first ever Burlesque Festival called Tease-O-Rama 2001. This festival brought together the most amazing range of acts from across the USA – and us! It was fantastic to meet so many talented performers, all part of a thriving 'New Burlesque' revival in the States. We were honoured to be the only performers to be invited from Europe.

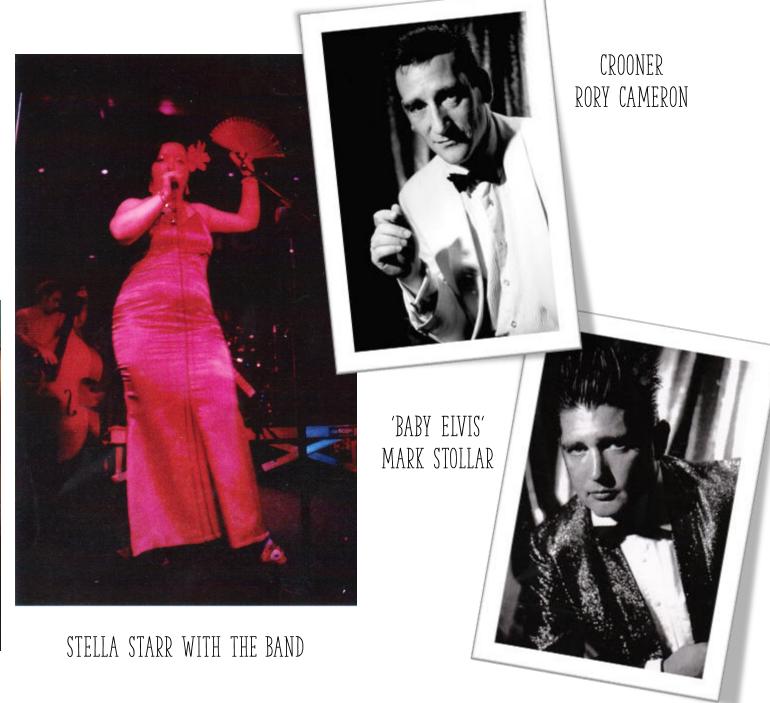
Vavavavoom! itself organised countless big events and festival shows, including the Brighton Body Positive Masked Ball. In London we performed at many venues including Cafe de Paris, Soho Revue Bar, Madame Jojo's, Dali Universe, Oval House & Bush Hall. We also performed at the World Famous Spiegeltent during the 2004 + 2005 Brighton Festivals, and in London as part of the Exploding Cinema Festival. - *Stella Starr* 







ACTOR GWENDOLINE CHRISTIE



### **Vavavavoom's Mission Statement:**

OUR AIM is to produce innovative and thought provoking work that's beautiful, surreal and often humorous.

OUR WORK is designed to inspire, cross boundaries, be socially inclusive and reach as wide an audience as possible.

OUR MISSION is to develop exciting collaborations with artists and newcomers, as well as mentoring and teaching wherever possible.

WE CREATE work to be performed in a wide variety of venues and site specific areas.

We worked with an array of local talent and an astounding attention to detail went into the sets, costumes and acts for our events. We transformed spaces to create a completely immersive experience, giving the audience a chance to enter a glamorous fantasy world, and escape their everyday concerns - for a few hours at least... We featured a great mix of background music, mainly from the 1940's/50's/60's - Swing, Blues, Mambo Latino, Rock 'n Roll and Trash Exotica - played by our inhouse DJ's.

Themes included Hawaiian Elvis, Film Noir, Voodoo Horror, Circus Freakshow and a Roman Orgy! The atmosphere was always playful and inclusive to all.

The Burlesque Cabaret, hosted by fabulous character MC's, featured choreographed routines by our 'corps de ballet' and a set by our supersuave house big band - The Dimestore Jive Revue. These were professional world class jazz musicians with our very own Sinatra style crooner + a young Elvis lookalike rockin' singer + myself as 'chanteuse', doing a range of classic standards from the period, to fit the theme. There were also a vast array of guest acts including traditional Music Hall/Vaudeville speciality acts. As part of the welcome committee at Vavavavoom, there were a host of exotic walkabout characters: Cigarette girl, Kitty Girl Waitresses, Go Go dancers and Showgirls in glitzy costumes and feather headdresses.

This winning formula was then copied by many different companies and festival groups around the UK as the Neo-Burlesque movement took hold.





# VAVAVAVION! Club with Cleavage!

Down a dark and lonely street, a man waits in the shadows, gun in hand. The blonde leaves the club at 2am. She lights another cigarette and walks the long walk home, her heels tip-tapping on the pavement...

• 11. 15pm ~ Burlesque Cabaret hosted by your compere for the evening, FezMan, Bob E. Gold •

Featuring

· "Slaughter on Fifth Avenue"

A dark and deadly drama played out between Stella Starr, Roger Duncan & Miguel •

• The Dime Store Jive Revue - our suave burlesque band of jumpin' hepcats rock da joint! Featuring torch songs from Stella Stærr, Mærk Stollær & special guest Rory Cameron •

> "Black Coffee" by the Vavavavoom corps de ballet: After hours with the broads from the backstreets...

+ Resident D. J., The Earl of Suave, Odee Spodee! (Master of Sleaze 'n 'Tease)

& Fife of Ratpack Lounge fame (Swing it low down 'n' dirty, Daddy')
Plus sleazy New York street scenes \* Speakeasy style casino \* Shootouts and
dirty deals! \* Murderous Visuals by Hellivision \* Classic Cocktails & Bar
snacks & Cigars! + regulars: Showgirls and Kitty Girl Waitresses \* Cigarette
girl and chorus girls \*

• Sponsored by: Masquerade, Revolucion, Circe's Island, Dolly, the Flamelight Co. • Costumes by Masquerade, Preston Rd. Bton • Fabulous Sets & Props by students at Northbrook College Theatre Studies + Laurie Hilton-Ash. • Choreography: Fifi de Maintenant, Carina Westling & Roger Duncan. • & BIG THANK YOU's all round to EVERYONE for their hard work in making this happen!

Dress Code: Sophisticated Hollywood glamour/evening wear - Private dicks, Femme Fatales and shady Crimelords of the Underworld are most welcome! (STRICTLY No Camezas')

ALL AGES/PERSUASIONS WELCOME! Everyone's a star at VAVAVAVOOM!

Please note necessary inflation on door price due to high cost of production, as we rely solely on door takings, so many thanks for your support.

You know how to whistle don tyou? Just put your lips toge ther and blow. .

Posters & Flyers designed by Stella Starr. Tel: (01273) 570686

Email: starr@fastnet.co.uk

Posters printed by Digaprint - (01273) 887 575

Flyers printed by AA Design & Print - (01705) 2 930 50



### PUBLICITY DESIGNED AND WRITTEN BY STELLA STARR

# VAVAVAVA Club with Cleavage!

Beam aboard the Starship VAVAVAVOOMI and get ready to ZOOM light years ahead where no earthling has gone before Explore strange new exotica & alien lifeforms on distant planets. Let's go Supernova, baby, on that Satellite of Lovel 10.. 9.. 8.. 7.. 61..

• II. 15pm ~ Burlesque Cabaret hosted by your cyborg compere for the evening, FezMan 2000. Robot E. Gold •

featuring

- Those suave space cadets The Big Combo playing a cosmic collection of far out tunes that zoom with more than enough rocket fuel from Mark Stollar & Stella Starr
  - The Inimitable Astronaut Barbershop Quartet hum from "2001 A Space Odyssey"! •
  - •"Astral Six" an Interstellar Explosion from starry eyed Stella Starr! •
- •"Heavenly Bodies" Extraterrestrial exotica from the Interplanetary Babes! Bring on the Dancing Slave Girls! •
- + Resident D.J., The Earl of Suave, Odee Spodee! (Supernova Rollercoaster!) & Guest D.J.

  Bruce Lee! (Barbarella Psychadella!)

Plus B Movie decor • 3D planet terrain! • Crashed spaceship! • Intergalactic duels! • Radioactive Robots! • Strange Creatures • Super Visuals and Sound FX by Geiger Counter • HyperSpacey Cocktails & Astro Snacks & Novelties! + regulars: Alien Showgirls • Spaceship Stewardesses • Miss UFO Cigarette Girl & a galaxy of GoGo dancers! • On the Door & throughout the night... The Sensational Lady Laverne! •

- \*Sponsored by: Masquerade, Revolucion, Circe's Island, Dolly Costumes by Masquerade, Preston Rd. & Glitzy Tartz, Sydney Street, Btn. Fabulous Sets & Props by students at Northbrook College Theatre Studies + Laurie Hilton-Ash. • Stage Management: John Allcock. Choreography: Fifi de Maintenant, Carina Westling & Roger Duncan. Publicity: Esther Spence. Admin: Vanessa Clifton & Simon Dagnall. & BIG THANK YOUs all round to EVERYONE for their hard work in making this happen!
- •The Big Combo are: Jules (Sax), Alan (Guitar), Mim (Bass), Tom (Drums) + Mark Stollar (Yocals)•

Dress Guide: Astronaut/Intergalactic explorer/Spacebabe/Alien/Robot and the like... (STRICTLY No Cameras!) ALL AGES/PERSUASIONS WELCOME! (Within reason, of course!...) Everyone's a star at YAYAYAYOOM!

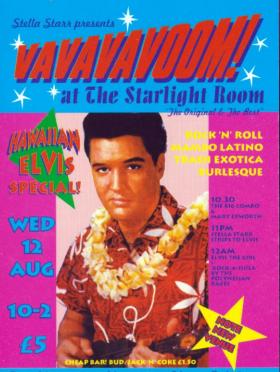
BABY, I'm gonna take you on a spaceship to Mars..

Posters & Flyers designed by Stella Starr. Tel: (01273) 570686

Email: starr@fastnet.co.uk

Posters printed by Digaprint - (01273) 887575
Flyers printed by AA Design & Print - (01705) 293050

\* + Thursday 5th August - Special Private Star Wars Launch Party at the Gloucester - 10 till 2 Invite Only \*



The Gloucester, Gloucester Place, Brighton

The Gloucester is a Tiki Lounge for Hawaiian Elvis Night...

DI's - Resident Earl of Suave, Odee Spodee and Marco "The King" Magnifico

• 10.30pm - The Big Combo and Mary Epworth •

• I Ipm - Stella Starr Strips to Elvis •

12am - Burlesque Cabaret hosted by Fez Man Bob E. Gold Featuring

· Elvis the Girl ·

· "Rock A Hala" bu The Polunesian Babes ·

Plus Elvis Love God on Stilts • A Shrine to The King • Blue Hawaii Cocktails & Burgers - Prizes for the best Elvis and Priscilla lookalikes & regulars Las Vegas Showgirls • Hula Hula Gogo • Cutie Kitty Girls • Cigarette Girl • Hawaiian Costumes from Masquerade Rancy Dress Hire . Sponsored by: Cuttle, Circe's Island, Revolucion, Masguerade, Glitzy Tartz, Angel, Pussy, Dolly, Leather Workshop

Dress: Gold Lame suits and grass skirts are encouraged.

No cameras!

Email: starr@fastnet.co.uk

## VAVAVAVANIA

CLUB WITH CLEAVAGE!

The Gloucester becomes a Louisiana Swamp for our Voodoo Horror Night

- 10.30pm live on stage Noked Good •
- I I pm Leopard Girl, Stella Starr Strips and does a Drum Duet with Arthur Lager .
- DI's Resident Earl of Suave, Odee Spodee and Rohan the Man •
- \*Burlesque Cabaret hosted by Fez Man Bob B. Gold \*

### Featuring

• The Big Combo with guest singers • Yampire's Kiss • Ritual Dance by the Voodoo Slave Girls • plus A Sacrificial Altar • Voodoo Cocktails & Choulish Food . Witch Doctors . Prizes for the best Monstrous Costumest & regulars . Spooky Showgirls . Cutie Kitku Girls • Cigarette Girl + Monsters A GoGo • Sponsored by: Cartie, Circe's Island, Revolucion, Angel, Passy, Leather Workshop

· Costumes by Alex Berardt and Masquerade ·





Roll Up! Roll Up! The Circus of Freaks and Great Wonders is in town! Marvel! Be Amazed! Step Right Up!

- ·11pm live on stage Suck Baby Suck ! ·
- 11.30pm Stella Starr Trapeze Striptease before your very eves! .
- •DJ's Resident Earl of Suave, Odee Spodee and The Lovely Laura .
- •12.30pm Burlesque Cabaret hosted by Fez Man Sideshow Bob E. Gold .

SEE!

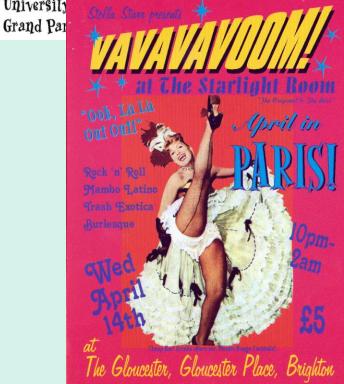
 The Big Combo with Mark Stollar & Ms. Starr!
 The 3 legged Ballerina! • Lion tamer - Mistress Divine Inspiration! plus Surprise Guests! Fire-eaters! Stilt-walkers! Bareback Riders! Strongmen! Roustabouts! Freaks Galore! . Carnival Cocktails & Freakish Food + regulars: Circus Showgirls • Cutie Kitty Girls • Cigarette Girl & Fairground A Go Go! . Sponsored by: Cutie, Circe's Island, Revolucion, Dolly, Leather Workshop, Masquerade . Costumes by Alex Berardi, Leather Workshop, Angel and Masquerade, Preston Rd. Btn. .

Dress Guide: Circus/Freak/Carnival/Tattoos etc.

(No Cameras!)



In the grounds and marquee of the University



## VAVAVAVOOM!

### Cinp All Cleanadel

Eh Amigos! Gringos and Senorita's! Arriba! Grab your sombreros and Whips, muchachos, and ride into town for this leetel Mexican Fiesta We 'ave preepared for you! Hotter than any chilli pepper!

• II. 30pm ~ Burlesque Cabaret hosted by your compere for the evening, El Hombre en el Fez

featuring

• Los Diabolos Negros The Big COMA playing a Fiesta of Sleaze seasoned with more than a dash of

Tabasco from Senor Stoller & Senorite Storr + Guests .

"ZOTTO TOMES his Mistress!" a Passionate Paso Doble from Migyel & Estellity Storm.

. Low down dirty FIGMENCO from a Special Guest! .

. MAMBOtastic mayhem from LOS MOTOGOS! Bring on the Dancing Girls! .

+ Resident D.J., The Earl of Suave, Odec Spedec (Digwelef) & Guest D.J. Jake Veges! (Ay Chibarhar!)

POIDA4DA41)

Plus • Adobe Haciendas! • Desert scenes! • Masked Wrestlers! • Mexican Cocktails & HOT Snacks & Novelties from Revolucion! + regulars: Showgirls • El Gato Negro Girls • Cigarillo Girl & Senoritas A Go Go! • On the Door & throughout the night... The Sensational Lady Laverne! •

\*Sponsored by: Masquerade, Revolucion, Circe's Island, Dolly \* Costumes by Masquerade, Preston Rd.

Btn. • Fabulous Sets & Props by students at Northbrook College Theatre Studies + Laurie Hilton-Ash. •

• The Big Combo are: Jules (Sax), Alan (Guitar), Mim (Bass), Fyfe (Drums) + Mark Stollar (Singer) •

Production Manager: Denise Gough.
 Stage Management: John Allcock.
 Choreography: Fifi de Maintenant,
 Carina & Roger Duncan.
 Publicity: Esther Spence.
 Admin: Vanessa Clifton & Simon Dagnall.
 & BIG THANK YOUs all round to EVERYONE for their hard work in making this happen!

Dress Guide: Gaucho/Zorro/Cantina senorita/El Clinto/Cowgirls/Love&Rockets and the like... (STRICTLY No Cameras!)

ALL AGES/PERSUASIONS WELCOME! (Within reason, of course!...) Everyone's a star at VAVAVAVOOM!

\* COMING SOON to London! Watch this space for info on VAVAVAVOOM in the Big Smoke! \*

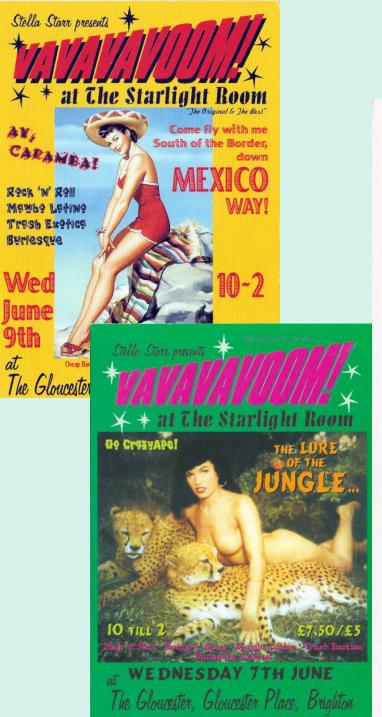
### PASION PARA LA VIDA!

Posters & Flyers designed by Stella Starr. Tel: (01273) 570686

Email: starr@fastnet.co.uk

Posters printed by Digaprint - (01273) 887575

Flyers printed by AA Design & Print - (01705) 293050



### VAVAVAVOOM!

### Club with Cleavage!

Deep in the Jungle so mething stirs... listen to the distant native drums... venture into the Heart of Darkness... a world of deadly swamps and bestial beauty... respond to the Call of the Wild! Let's get SAVAGE!

 11. 15pm ~ Bur lesque Cab aret hosted by your compere for the evening, that big bad Voodoo Daddy - FezMan, Bob E. Gold •

• "The Bride of KONG!"

SEE Leopard Girl Stella Starr writhe in ecstasy in the hand of Kong! Half
Animal - All Woman!

- HEAR The Dime Store Jive Revue our congo crazy burlesque band of jumpin' wildcats! Featuring swingin' safari songs from Stella Starr, Mark Stollar & special guest Ton'Ga, King of the Apemen! •
- SCREAM at "Slaves of the Cannibal God!" by the Vavavavoom corps
  de ballet with Roger Duncan as The Voo doo Witchdoctor!
  A tale of dark ritual depravity and virgin blood sacrifice!
- + Resident D.J., The Earl of Suave, Odee Spodee! (Man Cub of Rockin' good Mayhem!) & Guest DJ Bongo Bruce Lee (Beatin' out those Jungle Rhythms!) Plus swampy Jungle scenes Rainforest Visuals by Hellivision Cheap Bar with Voodoo Cocktails & jungle snacks & cigars rolled on the thighs of native girls! + regulars: Amazon Showgirls and Kitty Girl Waitresses Cigarette girl and the Wild Women of Wongo! + Queen Tigress Lady Laverne get's her claws out!
- Sponsored by: Masquerade, Revolucion, Circe's Island, Dolly, the Flamelight Co. Costumes by Masquerade, Preston Rd. Bton Fabulous Sets & Props by students at Northbrook College Theatre Studies + Laurie Hilton-Ash. Choreography: Fifi de Maintenant, Carina Westling & Roger Duncan. & BIG THANK YOU's all round to EVERYONE for their hard work in making this happen!

Dress Code: Me Tarzan, You Jane - Animal Print Heaven + Great White Hunters, Dusky Natives, Jungle Warfare, Predator & Ravaging Beasts are most welcome! (STRICTLY No Cameras)

ALL AGES/PERSUASIONS WELCOME! Everyone's a star at VAV AV AVOOM!

PYGMY ATTACK! GATOR BAIT! UNTAMED! UMGAWA!

Posters & Flyers designed by Stella Starr. Tel: (01273) 570686

Email: starr@fastnet.co.uk

Posters printed by Digaprint - (01273) 887575 Flyers printed by AA Design & Print - (01705) 293050





Dive into the Wonderful undersea world of Vavavavoom!

Note: now on Thursdays

Thursday 10th August

Concorde 2, Marine Parade, Brighto

10pm - Bam

£7.50/£5 conc



Heave Ho, me hearties! Avast behind! Splice the mainbrace and lash the cabin boy! Step aboard the good ship Vavavavoom and let's go a Jolly Rogering! To celebrate our move to the seaside, we'll take you on a swashbuckling adventure across the Seven Seas... Yo Ho Ho and a bottle of Rum!

- 10pm ~ a Parade of "Wondrous Flora & Fauna from the Ocean Floor" along Marine Parade! •
- II. I5pm ~ Burlesque Cabaret hosted by your piratical compere for the evening, Buccaneer Bob ye Goldtooth .

- Those suave seadogs The Dimestore Jive Revue servin' up a Clambake with guest singers Cap'n Mark Stollar, Pirate Queen Stella Starbuck & Rollicking Rory Cameron from the Burt Bacharach Orchestra returns .
  - · "Lorelei's of the Blue Lagoon" An Underwater Mermaid ballet by the **Vavavavoom Dance Troupe!** •
- · "The Oyster Girl" the girl with the pearl Siren Stella Starr climbs out of her shell to lure you to her watery lair! .
- + Resident D.J., The Earl of Suave, Odee Spodee! (Swingin' sea shanties!) & Guest D.J. Bruce Lee! (Ocean's Eleven!)

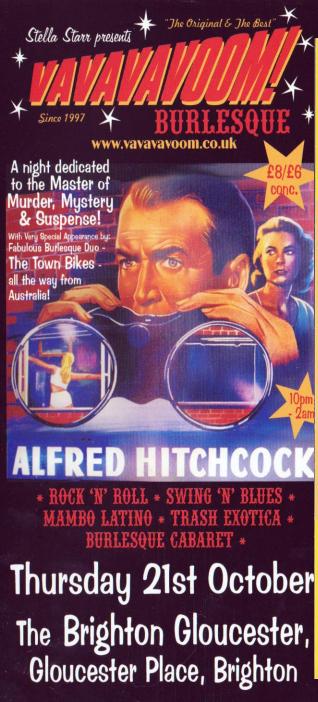
Plus Undersea decor • Tropical Island delights! • Galleon and Giant Sea Monsters! • Crazy Crustaceans! • Piratical Swordplay! • Oceanic Visuals by Hellivision • Tonga Room Cocktails & Novelties! + regulars: Seaside Showgirls • Kitty Girls • Caribbean Cigarette Gir & an ocean of GoGo dancers! • Queen of the South Seas Lady Laverne proves she can man her ship with plenty of seamen!

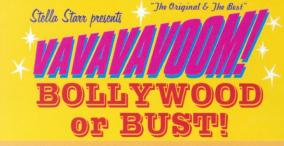
· Sponsored by: Masquerade, Circe's Island, Dolly · Costumes by Masquerade, Preston Rd + Harveys of Hove. • Fabulous Sets & Props by students at Northbrook College Theatre Studies + Laurie Hilton-Ash. • Choreography: Fifi de Maintenant, Carina Westling & Roger Duncan • Stage Management: Abbie. BIG THANK YOU's all round to EVERYONE for their hard work in making this happen!

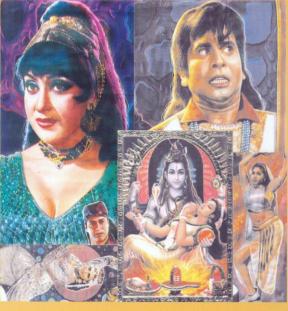
Dress Guide: Buccaneers & their Pirate Queens/Sailors/Mermaids/Exotic Island babes/Sea Creatures and the like...

(STRICTLY No Cameras!) ALL AGES/PERSUASIONS WELCOME! Everyone's a star at VAYAYAYOOM!









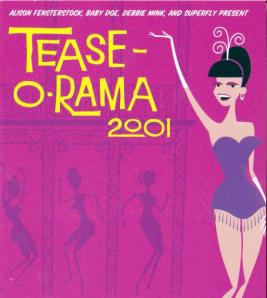
\* Rock 'n' Roll \* Swing 'n' Blues \* Mambo Latino \* \* Trash Exotica \* Burlesque Cabaret \*

Friday 4th July £8/£6 Concorde 2.

Madeira Drive, Brighton

"Burlesque is a particularly fabulous form of theatrical behaviour that I have enjoyed reviving the appreciation for, as well as inspiring others to join in! It represents a delightfully enticing and innocent approach to sexuality, which is rapidly being lost in these very knowing times. It's about bringing back the naughtiness and fun of sex, while retaining the innocence.

The thought and work that goes into creating these remarkable "tableaux vivantes" is immense and very rewarding. It's also very important to me that all women - regardless of age, persuasion, size etc. - should feel glamorous, sexy and powerful. Burlesque has always seemed to me to be the perfect form of expressing this." - Stella Starr, 1998



A sultry, sizzlin' celebration of burlesque and dance!
Friday, Saturday,





Thursday 15th February
Concorde 2, Madeira Drive, Brighton







### WHAT THE PRESS SAID:

A vision of old style decadence. Glittering burlesque. Chanteuse and exotic dancer Stella Starr switches the glamour controls to maximum for a celebratory night. Kitty girls and cigarette girls are on hand to point you to the buffet or mop your brow after you have wit nessed the dancing bear, white rabbit on stilts or any of the other glitter-clad cabaret acts. - *The Guardian Guide* 

Just when you thought clubbing had got too safe and cosy for its own creative good, something new hits the scene to remind us how it's done. - ID Magazine

Club renaissance staking a high heel through discoland. - Loaded Magazine

Gazing longingly at the filmic innocence of the 1940's and 50's. Become a star for a night and wonder at the naughty nuns chorusline high-kicking their way through a kitsch wonderland. - The Big Issue

They have classy strippers and cigarette girls, all that stuff - it's very glam! - Vavavavoom regular, actor Joe McGann interviewed in New Woman Magazine

Posing is out - your average Vavavavoomer just wants to have fun, using any old excuse to dress up in a preposterous outfit and visit fantasy heaven. - Sky Magazine

Stella Starr is nothing short of a local treasure. It is the likes of individuals such as her who keep Brighton on the map as a town of mischief, glamour and saucy fun. Stella is a woman with a mission, and whether it's emerging from a giant clam to do a strip or writhing around in King Kong's hand(!), she achieves what most people merely dream of; by bringing her fantasies alive, through the ever-growing and sensational Vavavavavoom! Look out for Vavavavoom's Les Girls who will be Moulin Rouging it in a way that would make even young Ewan blush. - New Insight Magazine

Vavavavoom is the club where Dean Martin meets Peter Pan, where Nancy Sinatra flirts with Eric Morecambe, where Andy Warhol and Elvis are caught in a Carry On movie. A knowing recreation of a bygone era which now seems so innocent and absurd, when there really we re real men and real women, sending out these signals and playing this game with the utmost seriousness. Now we act out the same roles with a light peal of laughter, an exaggerated gesture, and no, that isn't a tear frozen on our cheeks; it's just the glitter catching the light. - Article on the New Burlesque in The Brighton Reporter

## VAVAVAVOOM SCHOOL OF BURLESQUE



Stella Starr mentored many new performers who went on to have successful careers of their own through her hugely successful School of Burlesque.

The showcases for these workshops at the Pavilion Theatre in Brighton were a great opportunity for the new talent to try out ideas in front of a live audience.



oirected by stella starr - extra choreography by fifi de mainteno tosted by the sensational Dolly Rocket + After Show Party;



Featuring an amazing variety of performances by Burlesque newcomers
- all recent graduates from the Yayayayoom School of Burlesque

Doors open 7.15pm - Show starts 8pm Tickets £10/8 conc. in advance from Dome Box Office Tel: (01273) 709709

**SAT 11 DEC 2010** 



"This was glamour beyond my wildest dreams!"

- Vavavavoom customer

