

Steve's Vinyl: A One-night-only Celebration and Album Giveaway organized by Cathy Busby

Steve's Vinyl will be a festive soiree and give-away of the collection of almost 200 albums. Only 150 tickets will be sold at \$20 / \$15 unwaged and students. Admission includes an album of your choice and culinary delights prepared by local pros. Dress up, dress down, or come as you are. Look forward to an evening of celebration and a chance to rub shoulders with people you know and others you don't. Funds raised will be given to the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia and to the not-for-profit Khyber Arts Society. It's part fun(d)raiser, part vinyl give-away and dance party organized by artist Cathy Busby at the time of World AIDS Day, Dec 1 and Canadian HIV/AIDS Awareness Week, Nov 24 – Dec 1, 2011.

Entering the Khyber Ballroom, guests will be greeted with the album collection filling the walls creating a 70s and 80s graphic extravaganza. Live or re-live the sounds and graphic experimentation of these decades from classics like the Beatles, Rolling Stones and Bob Marley to cult favourites like The Village People and Bette Midler. Along with these, there are classical music selections and Québécois pops, like Robert Charlebois. See cathybusby.ca for complete list of record collection.

Dapopo Theatre's Garry Williams will host the evening with Al Barbour dj-ing. **Hold onto your tickets!** Every half hour, 20 of the numbered ticket-stubs will be drawn. Ticket-holders will claim the album of their choice from the wall. Arrive early and choose from the whole collection. By the end of the evening every ticket-holder will take home a piece of the collection. Not only are these albums great to play again (and again) but also many feature stunning graphics, ideal for home decorating.

But, you ask, "Who was Steve?"

Steve was my older brother, Stephen David Busby (1953-1993). He loved music and left his record collection to me, his younger sister, artist Cathy Busby. Steve was restless and adventurous and travelled into different worlds. He also had a domestic side, learning to weave and doing extensive home renovations. In the early 70s he came out as a gay man, at times more leather, more denim or more Bay Street. He loved music and dancing at the clubs. He played the piano – pops, classical, ragtime, Cole Porter and when I was a kid, I'd sing and he'd accompany me on the piano. His record collection is familiar, yet suggests a portrait, tapping into his eclectic world. He lived in Montreal and Toronto and moved easily between French and English. He spent a few months in Europe, mainly France and the UK.

He was extraordinarily intelligent, especially at math. After a little university and some years doing manual labour jobs, he struck out into the computer field as a systems analyst in Toronto. He and his long-time partner Yvon moved from Montreal where Steve had finished a degree in math and computer science at McGill.

Sum-up

It's been 18 years since Steve died of AIDS-related illness (Dec 2, 1993). I see this event turning the weight of this collection into lightness, activating it to make something interesting happen, with the funds raised going to continue important work in our community. In a way, it's like enlarging Steve's circle and spreading his energy around, transforming the collection from something tucked away, heavy with the loss of a loved one, into a means of creating a life-affirming event. Come and enjoy a colourful and lively soiree!

The Barebones:

Steve's Vinyl: A one-night only celebration and vinyl giveaway

\$20 / \$15 students and unwaged

Includes an album of your choice

8 pm, Saturday, Dec 3, 2011

Dancing, Djs, Culinary delights

Support the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia and the Khyber

19+ / Cash bar

Steve Busby (1953-1993) loved music and left his record collection to his sister, artist Cathy Busby. This event, in conjunction with World AIDS Day, Dec 1, and Canadian HIV/AIDS Awareness Week, Nov 24 – Dec 1, will be an occasion to give away the collection of almost 200 albums.

See cathybusby.ca for complete list of record collection.

Tickets available (cash only) at: Whet Café at FRED, Lost and Found, Venus Envy, Taz Records

Nov 17, 2011