

LAWRENCE HELMAN *PUBLIC RELATIONS* - E-mail lhelman@sbcglobal.net
Ph. /Fax: 415/ 661- 1260 / Cell 415/ 336- 8220 - DO NOT PUBLISH

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www.press-push.com/arturo

For immediate release - Sept. 3, 2014

A Celebration of Arturo Galster (1959 – 2014)

Mon. Sept. 22, 2014

7:30 pm

Castro Theatre

429 Castro St. in SF 94114

Free & Open to the Public

https://www.facebook.com/arturo.galster?fref=ts&ref=br_tf

Arthur Francis Galster, known to his friends and loved ones as **Arturo**, died suddenly on Aug. 25, 2014. With innumerable friends and theatre colleagues in disbelief that Arturo is no longer with us on earth, a CELEBRATION OF LIFE - one that he would be proud of - has been planned for **Mon. Sept. 22, 2014 at 7:30 pm at the Castro Theatre - 429 Castro St. in SF 94114.**

The event is **FREE** and open to the public.

The evening will be a multimedia celebration of all stages of Arturo's life and work, including song, dance, visual art, video, film and photography.

The event is **FREE** and open to the public.

Please come as who you are - Festive attire is highly recommended and encouraged!

An **Indegogo Campaign** has been created to help defray costs for the memorial service. To contribute please visit:

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/a-celebration-of-arturo-galster/x/157923>

What: A Celebration of the Life of Arturo Galster

Location: Castro Theatre - 429 Castro St. in SF 94114

Date: Mon. Sept. 22, 2104

Time: 7:30 pm

Cost: Free & Open to the Public

Submissions -

We are asking folks who have any media - photographs, film or video of Arturo to submit to ensure the most inclusive celebration possible.

Please contact hostess2@earthlink.net for guidelines.

Arturo Galster - Bio:

Born [Arthur Francis Galster](#) (known to his friends and loved ones as **Arturo**) on May 7, 1959, Mr. Galster was raised in Philadelphia, where he began performing in musicals while in high school. He moved to the Bay Area in 1978 and enrolled at the SF Art Institute, which he attended for 4 years.

By the early '80s, Mr. Galster was a rising star in the city's drag cabaret and theater world, a leader in what's been described as a new wave of ironic camp performance. Besides his iconic cabaret work as Patsy Cline, he created tribute performances to Marlene Dietrich and to Chet Baker, in the guise of the jazz musician's fictitious widow, Chesty Baker.

In 1986, he moved to Japan for four years, where he studied Japanese and traditional kyogen and kabuki theater. In recent years he was an active participant in hula studies and supporter of the preservation of traditional Hawaiian culture, as well as an enthusiastic Airbnb host.

Arturo Galster appeared in plays, musicals, cabaret shows and films in the USA and several other countries from the early 1980s until his death in 2014. He appeared in two cult drag films: as Noodles Nebula in *Vegas in Space* (Troma Entertainment, 1991) and as Patsy Cline in *Virtue II* (Margin Films, 1999). In addition, he appeared as a drag-queen streetwalker named Fabrege in "Javelin Catcher," a 1996 episode of the television series *Nash Bridges*.

Onstage in San Francisco, Galster performed in a many high-profile and often high-camp theatrical productions that epitomized the city's renowned queer culture from the mid-1980s on. Among his stage turns were roles in *Naked Brunch*, *Phillip R. Ford's Dolls*, *Christmas With the Crawfords*, *Eve*, *Dirty Little Showtunes*, *Naked Boys Singing*, *Half-a-Dozen Dorotheas*, *Lavender Lockerroom*, *Stale Magnolias*, *Simply Stunning: The Doris Fish Story*, *Scalpel! The Musical*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* and *Pearls Over Shanghai*.

From 1982 to 1989, Galster toured every summer as the incarnation of country music superstar Patsy Cline accompanied by a tribute band dubbed the Memphis G-Spots. The act appeared at nightclubs in Atlanta, Dallas, LA, Miami, New Orleans, NYC and SF, as well as London and Tokyo.

From 1995 to 2012, Galster was a regular performer in shows presented by impresario Marc Huestis at the Castro Theatre that brought together camp and classic films with appearances by stars of the movies accompanied by drag tribute shows. Galster performed in 15 of the productions, singing live in such personas as Conrad Birdie from *Bye Bye Birdie*, Endorra from *Bewitched* and Tim Gunn from *Project Runway*.

Galster also performed in a number of San Francisco's noted queer nightclubs of the 1990s and 2000s, including Klubstitute, Dragstrip at the DNA Lounge and Trannyshack.

At various points in his career, Galster worked administrative jobs to supplement his theatrical work, most recently at Theatre ZinZanni and the Immune Enhancement Project, both in San Francisco. Galster spoke German and Japanese, as well as some French and Spanish.

The circumstances surrounding his death and its immediate cause remained unclear at press time, but friends and family said there was no indication that a hate crime was involved. Mr. Galster is survived by five brothers and three sisters - Rod, Gerry, Rick, Joseph, Greg and Miriam Galster and Helen Elliott and Cate Fetterman - as well as 17 nieces and nephews and 11 great-nieces and nephews. He is also survived by a wide circle of chosen family, friends and colleagues in San Francisco, around the USA, and in numerous other countries.

For journalists working on obituaries and tributes:

Below is a link to the bio backgrounder and photos in a dropbox.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nhqzlab4ecdckn/AADciq3DD-rNgdDJ2undo398a?dl=0>

ARTURO GALSTER – performance Clips:

Patsy Cline and the Memphis G Spots: Like the Rio Grande (circa 1989)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBaMZKz1x-g

Serving as Drag MC at Dragstrip at the DNA Lounge (1996)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=zO_MJVi9MPo

As Fabrege, a drag-queen streetwalker, on Nash Bridges—Season 1, Episode 5 (1996)

Posted online only in a version dubbed in French for broadcast in Luxembourg; skip to 32:30.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=zconzTJz8QQ

Arturo Galster as Tim Gunn: Bad Boys of Project Runway (2007)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yAWN2LJYWc

Pearls Over Shanghai: Petrushka (July 2014)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=8wb1FwdewYc

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