

Wigstock performer
Candis Cayne does
her best Groucho
Marx impression.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JONGE



endframe

Frederike de Jonge | Social photographer

Girls who are boys who like boys to be girls...



Name: Frederike de Jonge
Age: 33
From: Brighton
Occupation: Landlady and photographer
Motivation: "There's nothing better than being in a field with 40,000 screaming drag queens and creating 'good documentary'."
Website: www.deadringers.com

If you've ever seen *The Crying Game* you'll know just how easy it is to mistake a man for a woman when he's decked out in stockings, lipstick and a shiny wig. The sheen of nylon and curve of fake boob is enough to soften even the most hardened Catholic. So imagine the mass hysteria caused by over 50,000 drag queen *femme fatales* marching through New York en route to Wigstock, the biggest and most notorious drag festival on the planet, to catch a glimpse of Debbie Harry (whose name is firmly etched into Wigstock lore after she started an on-stage brawl with a drag act drunkenly slurring their way through a Blondie song) and Hedwig and The Angry Inch.

Frederike de Jonge is a Wigstock veteran, and, with many other drag and fetish shows framed through

her viewfinder, no stranger to alternative style and fashion. "I love photographing people who stand out in a crowd and make a point of doing so," she says. "Drag queens, vampires and goths, musicians, dandies... it's very inspiring. And with so many wigs and heels flying about the place the odd hair-raising moment is inevitable, but this makes for great reportage." Sadly though, Wigstock is no more, having bowed out gracefully in 2001, with *Wigstock: The Movie* left to bring glamour and style to the shelves of video stores the world over.

Shortly before the festival's untimely demise Frederike was able to snatch this shot of 'notorious trans-gendered actress/cabaret performer' Candis Cayne. A resident Wigstock dancer and a performer for many years, Candis is also the star of such cult classics as *Stonewall* and *Mob Queen*, and a regular at New York's infamous Bar Barracuda. "My thoughts on style, image and content are continuously challenged by the people I meet and the subjects I choose to shoot," says Frederike. ■

BEN HAWKINS

"With so many wigs and heels flying about the odd hair-raising moment is inevitable, but it is great reportage"

→ Len Deeley, Surrey

"This fish is the species that stars in *Finding Nemo* and is called a False Clown Anemone (*Amphiprion Ocellaris*). I took the photo in waters off the coast of Sulawesi in Indonesia with my camera protected in an aquatic housing unit, and lit the shot with a ringflash built into the lens port of the waterproof housing. Clownfish live within the stinging tentacles of anemones, which affords them protection from predators. They are extremely territorial and continuously duck and weave in and out of the tentacles when approached. They will also attack anyone who gets too close, although can't do any damage to a camera. There are many different species of clownfish and I can say without hesitation that they are among my favourite subjects to photograph."

Camera: Nikon F90X, Lens: 105mm macro, Film: Fujifilm Velvia

**↓ Frederike de Jonge, Brighton**

"I took this photo at the Venice Carnival in Italy. It draws numerous tourists and photographers, and I had to battle with the other photographers to get my shot. I thought there would be more people with masks, but they were minimal compared to the amount of tourists present. I took the photo towards the end of the carnival, when there's a competition to judge the best mask. This meant that there were more people walking around in costume, giving me a better chance to get my shot."

Camera: Nikon F100, Lens: 24-120mm, Film: Kodak Elite Chrome 400

