



Urban living with Southern charm

Carolinas cities offer variety in downtown, metro living by Matt Comer . Q-Notes staff

You don't have to move to Atlanta, D.C., or New York to get a taste of urban, downtown living on the East Coast. Cities small and large across the Carolinas offer exciting options for those who desire something a bit more than the usual Southern suburban experience.

Charlotte

The newest and most luxurious development in the Queen City is bound to draw excitement from across the Carolinas, and perhaps the entire southeastern region.

The Vue, set to be completed in mid-to-late 2010 according to sales manager Rob



Vue Charlotte, currently under construction at the 31st floor.

McCrorey, will include more than 400 luxury units in a 51-story, towering building over Uptown's First Ward.

The Vue's units start at \$319,000 and continue upward to \$2 million or more. It will be the tallest residential building in North Carolina.

McCrorey said that the tough housing market and economy has "definitely slowed down the pace of sales," but that units are still being sold.

"We're at 65 percent sold right now," he told Q-Notes. "We are considered a luxury building in Charlotte. People can really perceive how scarce this opportunity is going to be in

the future because so many other projects here are being postponed or canceled."

The development will feature state of the art amenities and security. McCrorey's especially proud of the building's bio-metric finger-print control. A 25-yard, Olympic-sized pool, 4,000 square foot work-out facility, a concierge and 24-hour doorman service is just the beginning of what might turn out to be the place for Uptown Charlotte living.

info: www.vuecharlotte.com

Raleigh

It's beginning to look a lot like gay town — you won't have to wait too awful long before a veritable gayborhood pops up in downtown Raleigh.

The Hue, a seven-story condo development with first floor retail sits on the corner of Glenwood and Hargett — right across the street from The CC and next to Legends. Those LGBT nightlife lovers might enjoy themselves living so close to their favorite watering holes in what



A rendering of the Hue Raleigh's pool and courtyard.

developers are calling "the future of downtown Raleigh living."

Amenities in the Hue, scheduled for completion this year, include a resident's cocktail lounge, contemporary courtyard with pool and barbecue grill, private fitness room and concierge service. Individual unit features include spacious private balconies,

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'Dangerous' liaisons with queer lust, seduction, betrayal

Queen City Theatre to present all-male version of play based on classic French novel

by Matt Comer . Q-Notes staff

Since the 1782 publication of the French novel "Les Liaisons dangereuses," better known as "Dangerous Liaisons" to the English-speaking world, European and American playwrights, and later filmmakers, have been obsessed with capturing the spirit and risqué sexuality of author Pierre Choderlos de Laclos' characters.

In April, Charlotte will get a taste of the classic French tale in an all-male, gay version produced by Queen City Theatre Company.

While mainstream media will likely turn their attention to the retelling of the 1996 Charlotte "Angels in America" drama presented in "Southern Rapture" by Actor's Theatre, "Dangerous" will present a much more openly sexual tale that has managed to stay alive in the minds of Westerners for centuries. This contemporary adaptation of "Les Liaisons dangereuses" by playwright Tom Smith is bound to turn some heads;

thank the heavens above Charlotte isn't as conservative as it was in 1996.

Director Glenn Griffin, one of four Queen City Theatre founders, says that despite the raw sexuality of the production, the piece has artistic and real-life meaning. If art celebrates life, how can it not celebrate and explore sex, a key component of it?

"I think the original novel could only do so much for the period it was in," Griffin told Q-Notes during a recorded conversation available exclusively at Q-Notes Online. "There is so much sexual energy suggested. The movies and plays based on novel once again suggested all of that. But this play really plays into the sex of it; the game of it and the manipulation — all of the ways that sex can be used, even as a weapon."

The sheer amount of open sexuality in the play made casting difficult, a Queen City Theatre founder and "Dangerous"



Cast of Queen City Theatre Company's production of 'Dangerous.'

Photo Credit: QCTC

actor Kristian Wedolowski said.

"Glenn was very clear in the auditions as to what the show would be about," he said. "Some people did audition and did get cast and got our phone call and had to

turn it down. Either they were gay and their partners wouldn't allow them to do such a show on stage and others were

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