

Wolf

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[Chit Chat with Movie Director, Wolfgang Busch](#)

Article By [Website Administrator, John Frazier](#) May 23, 2010

By John Frazier
Sr. Entertainment Correspondent
& Chief Editor



In 2008 I had the pleasure of interviewing director and visionary, I Wolfgang Busch for GBMNews. He was a fan of the popular classic "Paris Is Burning", and was about to take it to the next level with I film, "How Do I Look?" If you haven't seen it, it's a must to add to collection, as it's a part of our LGBT community, it allows us to tak look, see what's behind the makeup, outlandish clothes and the pe Mr. Busch has a new film, "Flow Affair", The Fan dance has its roots

which is a Fan, Flag and Voguing combined which is called "Floguing", to premiere on Friday, April 23rd in NYC. Broadway diva and recording superstar, Ms. Melba Moore and highly respected recording artist, Ms. Me'lisa Morgan, are to perform in celebration of this big event.

From Wolfgang Busch's website: "Flow Affair" is flowing and it's visually stimulating existence can be on the most fabulous circuit parties and dance floors around the world, parades, theater, and concerts. Flow Affair is a historic art film about the New York City.

Flag, Fan and Floguing dancing community, capturing the passing down of a thirty year old Greenwich Village disco dance tradition.

is a 5000 year old tradition, which evolved into a gay flag & fan dance in the NYC's disco scene in the late 1970's and peeked in the early 80's at the Saint in the East Village.

I do recall during our first interview Wolfgang touched on the development of this new art form. According to his bio: FLOW AFFAIR explores the evolution of dance by showcasing the emergence of "Floguing". Just in case you don't know, "Floguing - it's like voguing but with flags or fans in your hands.

I'm grateful that Wolfgang had a moment to "chit chat" with me.

INTERVIEW

John: It's a long time since we've spoken. First of all, thank you for taking the time to "chit chat" with me again. How have you been?

Wolfgang: I'm good, we've getting ready, we have a "How Do I Look?" screening today, with a performance, and a Q's & A's at William Patterson University. For "Flow Affair", on April 23rd, we have the flyers and we have the limited DVD edition.

John: You know I can recall your mentioning this new art form, "Floguing", and now we have a film, the premiere about this subject. Has this new art for replaced "Voguing" in the Ball world?

Ron replied almost immediately, saying that Melba would love to be a part of it. Melba came through with two songs, one is a great dance track and, "The Other Side of The Rainbow", a beautiful ballad. Me'lisa offered to perform at the fundraiser on the 23rd. I sent out e-mails to see who would like to perform.

Then I got an e-mail from Ron stating that Melba would love to perform also, at the fundraiser. (With no cash flow or financing) I couldn't afford to pay celebrities/stars to perform; we don't have that kind of money.

It's the results of "How Do I Look?", that other opportunities have become available. It's been noticed that my focus is to put back into the community. It's

Wolfgang: Yeah, there's "Floguing" categories. The kids are coming out and in participating "Floguing" now. By introducing a new art dance form, its generating excitement within the "Ball" community. Fans and fabric is now with fans, fabric and flags, the kids are coming out to do it.

John: Since your film, "How Do I Look?", have you become more popular? Or should we say, famous since its release?

Wolfgang: "How Do I Look?" really opened a lot of doors for me. Because of it, I was introduced to Michael O'Hare, a songwriter and he's the one who introduced me to Me'lisa Morgan, he does a lot of stuff in the background. He's a multi Grammy songwriter.

He worked on the song for Octavia St. Laurent, the underground song that she co-wrote. Melba Moore was suppose to be in "How Do I Look?", but there was some drama so Ms. Moore declined. There was a problem with a designer; I didn't have anything to do with that. However, I approached, Ron Richardson, Melba's manager, and asked if there was a possibility of Melba appearing in "Flow Affair".

easier to get exposure when you have financial backing, but I do this without any money.

(It's a labor of love for Wolfgang, he has been accepted within the gay Black and Latino community because of his unconditional love, devotion, vision, his selflessness and he doesn't play politics. Wolfgang is grateful that performers like Melba Moore and Me'lisa Morgan have volunteered their time to be a part of this fundraiser, they can command thousands of dollars per performance but due to his reputation, the divas have offered their time without pay.

Wolfgang feels that this is a blessing. Wolfgang added, "Melba has been extremely great and supportive to the gay community through different fundraisers past and present."

He feels that with the record industry changing, many recording artist who are not associated with a record label and may not have financial backing, by lending themselves to fundraisers and other charitable events, they will benefit by the exposure and getting their product out to the community as well.)

John: How long did it take for you to direct "Floguing?"

John: How long is the film?

Wolfgang: First I spoke to Luna Khan, I asked him, "What do you think about flagging?" This was in 2006, we have our first discussion in regard to the documentary.

George brought some flags. (Flagging and Voguing equals Floguing)

During the summer of 2006, Wolfgang introduced this idea to both communities and invited the mother of Khan, Luna Ortiz and several of his house members to meet George Jagatic from the Axis Danz Flagging Company.

John: Did you hold auditions for this film?

Wolfgang: No, auditions, none of that. I created the name, "Floguing", however, Aaron Enigma of Chicago is the Granddaddy of it. Aaron has been doing this since the 1980's. He was "floguing", before it had a name. I brought the two communities together (flagging and voguing).

Once again, it's the black gay community that created this, not the white kids, I want to have this recorded properly; I want them to get credit for this new art form. People can be very shady. (As when Madonna brought "voguing" to the mainstream, this art form was originated by the gay black underground community.)

John: In the film you do have Black, Latino and white kid's floguing, right?

Wolfgang: In the film, Latino and Black kids.

John: With "Floguing" are there competitions in different categories or is it a huge dance production?

Wolfgang: Floguing has been received, introduced and yes.

Wolfgang: 65 minutes.

John: I know that the premiere is in NYC. Where there be other premieres around the country for this feature film?

Wolfgang: We have sent out request to different film festivals and are still waiting to hear from them.

John: What type of music was used in this film? Was it house, club and classics?

Wolfgang: Melba and Me'lisa are like 80's, R&B, club, house music. The other music is white club music.

John: With the success of "How Do I Look?" do you feel pressured?

Wolfgang: No, there's no pressure. (He didn't do it for the financial gain) When you document the community, you don't feel pressure. I don't do it for Hollywood; I do it for our community. (What the film didn't make it dollars, in the community it was overwhelming, appreciated and embraced.) I received like 500 responses. Now I have someone out there shopping it. Perhaps we will receive an offer to have it seen on cable, television or something.

Wolfgang feels that he hasn't been able to get the exposure and the financial backing due to his German background. Many avenues in the industry are controlled by Jewish individuals who may have a discord towards him because of the history between the two groups, German and Jews.

Wolfgang has been accepted in the gay Black and Latino communities, who have become family; it feels like home for him. He feels that if he were a nice Jewish boy, he would probably be in Hollywood making movies by now.

John: Do you believe that your current film will have a straight audience?

Wolfgang: I think it will, because it's not a gender film. It's like after the release of "How Do I Look?" we had white women who wanted to come to the "Balls". The husbands were wondering, "What's going on?" (Laughing) It's an art form, it has fashion, music, when it comes to sexuality is a mute point.

John: What type of success are you looking for?

Wolfgang: My success is to make it into the history books. I want to set the record straight, the white man has always stolen from the black man, his creativity; I want documentation, to give credit where credit is due. I want to have our work available for the younger generation, so they will know the difference between "Paris Is Burning" and "How Do I Look?"

(Wolfgang feels that "Paris Is Burning" gave the impression that the lifestyle consisted of prostitutes, hustlers, thief's and drug addicts, which is far from the truth. After the release of "How Do I Look?", he's receive awards and acknowledgement within the community, showing their appreciation for his efforts in bringing the truth to light.)

John: With the success of "Voguing", as Madonna made it mainstream, do you believe that "Floguing" could have the same kind of success?

Wolfgang: We don't know, not sure. Do I wish, sure. We would love that kind of success. In "Paris is Burning", it introduced the world to voguing. We are hoping that "Flow Affair" -Fan, Flag and Floguing will have the same affect. When "How Do I Look" was release, people said, "Oh, yeah, I saw "Paris Is Burning", it was compared, whereas "Flow Affair" - Fan, Flag & Floguing is something totally different, totally new. It hasn't been seen by the world before.

John: And lastly, directors have been known to become legendary, like Hitchcock among others, what would you like your legacy to be?

Wolfgang: I want to be the gay Michael Moore. (laughs) I've been compared to him. Someone said to me, "Wolfgang, you are becoming the gay Michael Moore". Michael is an activist in the political arena whereas I'm an activist on the artistic side. The money I made from "How Do I Look?", I was able to invest in "Flow Affair", then I will take the money made from "Flow Affair" and invest into the next documentary. We will continue to invest in our community with education. In the event, of my passing, the monies will be poured back into our community for education and empowerment. I've tried to get funding and we know why that hasn't happened..... but we have to take matters into our own hands, we have to create our own economy, our own infrastructure.

Thank you so much Wolfgang for our "chit chat". We wish you total success with your latest project. For additional information on purchasing tickets or you wish to contact Wolfgang, click below: WolfgangBusch@earthlink.net

[Chit Chat with Recording Star, Meli'sa Morgan](#)

May 23, 2010

By John Frazier
Sr. Entertainment Correspondent
& Chief Editor



Ms. Meli'sa Morgan became a household name when she released the "Prince" penned song, "Do Me Baby", in the 1980's. I remember the first time I heard this song, at first, I thought that she sounded like Chaka Khan. But once I sit back and truly listened, it became clear that she has a sound of her own. The Queens, NYC beauty who's a songwriter, producer and actress has been singing to audiences all around the world ever since.

If you don't know this talented diva, just go to her "my space" website and hear the magic of Ms. Meli'sa Morgan. Listen to hear song, "Will You", which is excellent radio friendly and it promises to be re-mixed made especially for the club kids and at the same time will be enjoyed by the hip-hop generation. She's done a club re-mix of "Body To Body", boy did that song, take me back.

On April 23, 2010, Ms. Morgan will be lending her talents at a fundraiser at the LGBT center in NYC, to celebrate the release of a new film directed by Mr. Wolfgang Busch, titled, "Flow Affair", which is a documentary on Fan, Flag and Flopping. I'm so honored that Ms. Morgan had a moment to "chit chat" with me.

INTERVIEW

John: I'm so honored that you are taking a moment to chit chat with me. I've loved your music for years.

Meli'sa: I appreciate that, you know, that's what keeps me going.

John: I know you did background singing for Ms. Chaka Khan. What was that experience like?

Meli'sa: Oh, it was wonderful, I sang background for her, it was the "Ain't Nobody" tour. She was so my idol, it wasn't even funny. It was a great experience for me. It transformed me from being a club singer to singing professionally with someone of her caliber, to seeking my own solo career. It was a wonderful time in my life.

John: How did the Prince recording of "Do Me Baby" come to your attention?

Meli'sa: It was a song that was placed on hold by the owner of Capital Records, he had said to himself, the next good R&B singer

I find, she's going to do this record, it can be a number one record, and he was right!

John: I know you're a church girl. Were you comfortable singing the lyrics to "Do Me Baby?"

Meli'sa: No, no, I wasn't, I was fresh out of high school, I graduate high school when I was 16, so I didn't feel comfortable with it at all, at that time my father was still alive, I spoke to my father about it, his advice to me was, "The song is a little racy, can you sing this song?"

And I said, "Yeah I can sing this song". Then he asked, "Can't you sing the "hell" out of this song?" I answered, "Yes, I can sing the "hell" out of the song". He then said, "Well sing the hell out of the song." So then I sang that sing. (This was a lovely, wonderful gift from her father, a blessing.)

John: Wow, that's a wonderful father.

Meli'sa: That's what I said (laughing at the memory).

John: Have you ever met Prince? And did you two discuss "Do Me Baby"?

Meli'sa: Oh, yes, I've met Prince several times, when the song was actually number one, I met him back stage at a Lionel Ritchie concert, it was the after party for the Rose-Bowl or something like that in Los Angeles, they had arranged for me to meet Prince during this time and he came over to me and he said, "Thank you for a great song". I said, "What do you mean, it's your song. He said, "Yeah but you made it great!" That was a really nice compliment.

John: What is it about entertaining, do you like?

Meli'sa: Oh, everything, (laughing) I love the "diva-ism", I love the power, I love the control, I love the money, I love the audience, I love singing the songs and the fans reaction, the traveling is wonderful, it's in my blood.

John: Do you consider yourself a diva?

Meli'sa: Not that kind of diva, I'm not one of those, "get out of my way" kind of diva but I've reached a certain level and I'm not going to settle for anything less.

John: I understand that you, Ms. Melba



Moore and the Floguing Dancers will be performing at the "Flow Affair" Documentary fundraising at the LGBT center in NYC on Friday, April 23rd, 2010. How did you become involved with this event?

Meli'sa: Well, it's the strangest thing, I wrote some songs with Jericho and Michael O'Hara some years ago, so Jericho, I guess is friends with Wolfgang, and Wolfgang must have heard some of the songs that we had written in 1996 - 97, that far back, and Wolfgang heard the songs,

Wolfgang heard "Oh, In The Name Of Love", which is a great song with a nice melody and uplifting lyrics, Michael O'Hara, wrote songs, like, "Just Because . So I guess the songs, "Oh, In the Name Of Love", works for this independent film. I'm very excited about it.

John: You have a huge gay following.

Meli'sa: Yes. (laughing and I can tell that she's happy about it and grateful for this fan base.)

John: Do you know why the gay community has connected with you in such a way?

Meli'sa: I believe it's because they feel my passion. They probably feel my love. I love everybody, that's nothing in my heart but love and I appreciate everyone for who they are. I hope that comes across in my music and also in how I carry myself. And in return (her gay fans) they send the love back.

John: Who inspired in musically when you were growing up?

Meli'sa: Oh, I would have to say, my mom, she was the first one, she promised me if I would sing Aretha Franklin for her and her friends, she would take me to "Showtime At the Apollo Amateur night" but of course she didn't. (laughing at the memory). Apollo didn't happen to later in my life.

Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight, all of those wonderful,

wonderful singers from back in the day who paved the way for us, Diana Ross and the Supremes, Chaka, all of them, their voices just touched me. By the time I was in high school, I knew that I was to be a singer.

Most of the kids would be playing in the park, I would run home with the new Chaka Khan record or Aretha Franklin record and play it on the stereo and get in the mirror and sing for hours. (laughing) I knew then singing was what I wanted to do.

John: Throughout the years, I've only heard lovely things about you. How do you stay grounded and humble?

Meli'sa: I guess it was the way I was raised. I do have my moments; I don't take no stuff from anybody, just like most people. If you treat me good, I will treat you good.

I just try to love myself and if I love myself from within to out, instead of the other way around. I love spending time with myself because we are constantly growing. We need to nurture that before we can love somebody else.

John: You have been compared to Chaka. Do you Chaka in your voice?

Meli'sa: Oh, yes, yes, can't help it. When I was out singing background with her, if she would get tired, she would say Meli'sa you hit the note, (as she would lip-synch) she would say, "I want you to hit this note tonight, I don't feel like doing it. (We both were laughing) I would hit the note and people wouldn't know the difference.

John: How does it feel to be known in your country and around the world?

Meli'sa: It lets me know that I did something that was appreciated. When I go into the studio, I give 150 percent, it would break me to do it and people don't get it. I'm grateful that people got it, lets me know that my music has stood the test of time. It allows me to be able to work and take care of myself. So I'm just humbled. I appreciated my fans and my audience.

John: You are very beautiful, have you ever done any modeling?

Meli'sa: When I was a child I went to modeling school, that was the beginning then when I started to sing and record, I didn't feel that I would need to model. The photos would come with my career, which allowed me to be photographed in magazines etc.

John: A lot of singers once discovered move to California, what made you stay in NYC?

John: Do you have any new, complete CD's coming out?

Meli'sa: I'm working on some songs now, will be going back into the studio. I will be featured on some rap stuff coming out. I'm a writer, so I have some songs in Tyler Perry's movies, "I Can Do Bad By Myself", that was the Mary J. Blige song, "Can't Keep A Good Woman Down", and I'm enjoying my three or four platinum records, where I co-wrote. I hope that the next record deal that I sign with, the label will believe in me, that's the beginning of something great, cause you have to believe.

John: Do you real that since you are ageing gracefully, it's hard to get a recording contact? Yes, artist like Alicia Keys, Beyonce, the funds are there, but for the more seasoned singers like herself, record companies will not apply funds and promote. She ended this



Meli'sa: I went out to California and lived there for two years, I made a promise after that, it's a nice place to visit, I have to be where my heart is, I love Los Angeles for recording and for the kind of industry that I'm in, but I have to have New York City.

thought by saying that the funds should be unlimited.)

Meli'sa: No, it's not hard for me, I was just discussing that with someone the other day, if I release something, radio's going to play it, I've been blessed with that, it's the marketing factor, the money factor. (Ms. Morgan feels that the record companies have to promote the product, in order for it to get the exposure necessary, it will not sell just on the recording artist name alone.



John: I've never been to Europe, but I hear that our older, "seasoned" singers are more appreciated.

Meli'sa: Yes, I have a song that's released over there, I did some work with two German guys, producers, and its getting great response, I'm going over there in May and do a couple of shows. Yes, it's really different over it, there's a different kind of appreciation for real R&B music.

John: And my last question, where can we find your upcoming concert dates?

Meli'sa: I'm on facebook, go to facebook and also "my space". (To her fans) Listen out; I have some summer concerts coming up. I'm working on those now (Information will be available at a later date on her website).

<http://www.myspace.com/meli39samorgan>

Thank you for the music Ms. Morgan, I truly enjoyed the interview. Lets "chit chat" again.