

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

Henry David Thoreau



## GETTING OFF

This issue celebrates DRUMMER's seventh year in its present form as a leather magazine. It started out as a TV Guide-sized entertainment publication, then a gay lib newspaper and, after a hiatus, became the official organ of the Leather Fraternity in June 1975. Like some other successful publications that are still around, DRUMMER was one that came along at the right time, fulfilling a definite need and has never been a copy of anything else. DRUMMER is one of the three or four oldest national gay publications.

It is flattering that DRUMMER has had so many imitators, that its style and content have influenced many other publications. Even more of an accomplishment is the long list of artists, writers and photographers that DRUMMER has had the pleasure of discovering and publishing. Many of them have been very loyal and have brightened our pages for years. DRUMMER has always told it like it is and has never been ashamed of its frank sexuality.

To remain competitive, we have offered other publications which DRUMMER usually supported. And there are many causes in our community which we have supported and continue to support. DRUMMER is one of the few national gay magazines which is actually gay-owned. We are part of the community that we serve.

As we begin our eighth year, DRUMMER has never offered more, looked better or been more of a bargain. There are rows of books in adult book stores with \$6 to \$12 cover prices that haven't a fraction of what each 3.95 issue of DRUMMER has to offer. And this magazine you are holding in your hand right now can't be completely devoured in a few minutes at the newsstand. It was never intended to be a picture book of recycled stills from major physique studios.

We are proud of this issue and the issues that are past, still selling for their cover price or more. There is no such thing as an old issue of DRUMMER. We hope we can always say that and to keep it fresh and new and innovative.

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Page four photo of Luke Daniel, MR. DRUMMER '82  
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