

"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



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Cover: Big things come in small packages, and our delivery this month, to mark our eighth anniversary, is no exception.

Opposite page: What do you get when you uncage the beast? Something that waits for your pleasure. Photos by Jim Wigler.

GETTING OFF

This is Drummer's Eighth Anniversary issue and this issue is loaded, not only with things to come, but things that already are. Not mentioned herein is the release finally of John Preston's powerful novel *MR. BENSON*, which to date has been turned down by four homophobic printers, each after sitting on the finished pasteps for at least a month apiece. The new *MR. BENSON* begins our trade paperback efforts and will be followed by Carlo Carlucci's *HE AIN'T HEAVY, HE'S MY LOVER*, then an S&M triumph *THE BRIG*, excerpts of which is in this issue.

You'll find also *THE COMPOUND*, *PIERCED, SHAVED & TATTOOED*, *DOWN BOY* and *DRUMMER DADDIES II* represented in this issue. There simply wasn't room for any parts of Robert Payne's forthcoming *MANHOOD RITUALS*. We'll save that blockbuster for another issue.

Mark Chester is represented with a magnificent centerfold and Bill Ward is aboard with his incomparable *DRUM*. Much of the work of this issue is by contributors who have been with us for some time but there are several first-time contributions. That's the way it should be after eight years. *DRUMMER* has never had more to offer or had more friends to offer it all to.

As this issue goes to press, the entire staff starts packing for the big move three blocks away to Folsom Row in San Francisco. And the first of October will see the debut of our *STUDSTORE*. It is at a somewhat historic site at 960 Folsom. We hope you will be as excited about it as we are. When you are in San Francisco, drop by to see us. The *STUDSTORE* should be a very unusual institution.

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