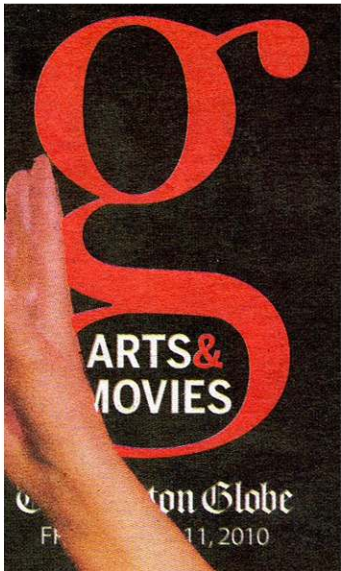


THE WEEKEND



DOUBLEDATE

A NIGHT ON THE TOWN — WITH A THEME

A thriving culture

Celebrate all things Cuba at CubaCon in Provincetown and then hit the town for a mojito or two

THE ARTS

Maybe Cuba still only rarely makes an American's travel itinerary, but that hasn't stemmed interest in or curiosity about the Caribbean island nation's culture. This weekend Provincetown turns into a Little Havana for CubaCon 2010, three days of Cuban art, culture, dancing, and dining. On Friday the conference will host sessions on travel to Cuba and how to get involved in humanitarian aid for the country. Saturday focuses on the country's dynamic art world. "We'll talk about buying and selling Cuban art, architecture in Havana, and Cuban music," says organizer Rob Sequin, who points out that importing and selling Cuban art in this country is legal.

After the informational and inspirational stuff, let loose Saturday night at the Cuban-style dance party. On Sunday there will be a Cuban film series and an art auction. "It's a great gathering of Cuba experts and aficionados and people interested to learn more about Cuba," Sequin says.

Why Provincetown, aside from the vague waterfront similarities? "In Boston it would probably have more of an academic and political feel," says Sequin, who fielded many requests to do it again after he held a similar event in South Yarmouth in 2008. "It's a little out of the way for most people, but it gives a lot of people a reason to

come to Provincetown and enjoy. We're trying to leave the politics out of it; that could be controversial. We're just focusing on culture and the art."

CubaCon 2010, Provincetown. Through Sunday. 508-744-6790. www.cubacon.com

THE EATS

Of course you will want to focus on Cuban cuisine, too. Provincetown has an eclectic array of dining options, and one of your best bets if you head out this weekend is the Caribbean Corner Cafe, a colorful, lively restaurant with waterfront views in the heart of the Commercial Street strip.

"Our menu is mostly Latin American dishes, and our drinks are Latin American inspired as well," says the restaurant's Veronica Hernandez. "For the week of the CubaCon, we have many specials designed specifically for the occasion, since we are hosting one of their lunches at our place." Some of those options include arroz con pollo, Cuban sandwiches, and frioles Latinos.

Don't forget the drinks. They will be featuring specials like the Cuba Libre, Wiki Waki Woo, Avocado Daiquiris, and, of course, mojitos made with fresh juices. "We have a full bar open all day, with a big range of exotic drinks aside from the regulars you find anywhere else." Unless by anywhere else you mean Cuba.

The Caribbean Corner Cafe, 269 Commercial St., Provincetown. 508-487-2023. www.caluvesu.com

LUKE O'NEIL



JANET KNOTT/GLOBE STAFF/FILE 2005



JUDY JALBERT

Judy Jalbert's photograph of a Cuban mural painted on a building, at her Provincetown gallery. Top: a Cuban sandwich.