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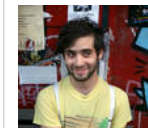
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La Dolce Musto



"Facts of Life" Sweetie Costars with Gay Porn Studs

Meeting Mindy Cohn in Fort Greene. Side trip to Nashville.

By Michael Musto

Monday, July 13th 2009 at 12:49pm

J. Cherrae Photography

In a Fort Greene apartment awash in naked genitals and Boy Butter the other day, I could have sworn I saw **Mindy Cohn**, the twinkly, mildly neurotic Natalie from the girl-on-girl '80s sitcom *The Facts of Life*. Had I sat on my figurative remote and landed on some channel not normally in the cable box? Had we entered a very special episode of *The Fags of Life*?

No, it was the set of *Bye Bye, Fruit Fly*, a **Casper Andreas**-directed movie about the title character's quest to find a straight man, and Mindy was playing the part, barely wincing as a porn star sauntered by with a shiny hard-on.

As my spinning head slowed down into its normal rotation, I chatted with the unlikely star and felt like I'd entered a TV Land holiday special as produced by **Michael Lucas**. In a perfectly sensible tone, Cohn told me her character realizes she needs a "fag stag"—i.e., a straight man who is OK with her gay friends—and she ends up nabbing one in a hetero gogo boy with HIV. Is the role a stretch for her? "In *Fire Island*, I was getting drinks for **Calvin Klein's** butt-boy," she told me, with an "Oh, please" grin. "It's my life!"



The Cohn Brothers

Cohn is so yay-gay that, in any new town, she immediately gravitates to the LGBT street so she can find her bearings. ("I don't even need to see a rainbow flag," she boasted—not to mention a *Spartacus International* guidebook.) She even found her way to the gays working on *The Facts of Life*, though she wouldn't tell me who they were. (Tootie? Miss Mahoney? **George Clooney**?) Not surprisingly, Cohn's real-life best friend is a gay man named Glenn with whom she shares a house in Laguna Beach. "Some of my boyfriends have had issues with that," she admitted, so some of them ended up looking for the exit, though she usually showed *them* the gay door first.

Career-wise, Cohn has made some similarly decisive choices. She's been doing voiceovers and smallish films like this, "so the perception is I'm not working." But she's actually building a career and realizes, "I have to age!" (When is the last time you heard an actress utter *those* words? Especially in a room full of Boy Butter?)

In the meantime, the 43-year-old has been turning down reality shows faster than **Mrs. Garrett** swatted away the girls' pleas to stay up late. She said nyuh-uh to *The Surreal Life*, *Celebrity Fit Club*, and *But I'm a Celebrity*, knowing such ventures build bank accounts more than credibility. "There was talk of a *Celebrity Amazing Race*," Cohn told me, "and that's the only one I wanted to do. Duty-free shopping around the world!"

Meanwhile, the surreal life of a fruit fly seemed to be suiting her apple cheeks just fine. As screenwriter/co-star **Jesse Archer** told me, "Mindy's a brave girl. We put her through hell. Her character talks about her fat upper-pussy area and her anal health. Everybody ditches her." Not me—I'm her new gay best friend and ready to move right in with lots of luggage. But Glenn's gotta go!

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