

Friday, October 22

**Union
Theatre**



5pm Florent: Queen of the Meat Market

(David Sigal, USA, 89 min., 2010)

Community Co-Sponsors: AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

Community Co-Presenter: Wisconsin Foodie

Campus Co-Presenter: UWM Libraries

A wildly entertaining documentary about the antics and activism around New York's legendary diner/clubhouse/community center. For 23 years, Florent, the all-night eatery in the city's once-unglamorous Meat Packing District, was prime stomping grounds for a surprising mix of A-list celebrities, tourists, families and club kids—Julianne Moore, Isaac Mizrahi, Diane Von Furstenberg, Christo, the Dueling Bankheads, and Penny Arcade all have cameos here—and the restaurant also played an important role in LGBT activism and culture. All was set aswirl by the insouciantly flamboyant owner, Florent Morellet, a French expatriate who, devoted as much to community as he was to pleasure, to social justice as well to a social space, extended his hospitality and generosity beyond the doors of his business and into the streets, rallying his coterie to fight for civil rights and against AIDS. David Sigal's suitably rowdy documentary celebrates this colorful entrepreneur and off-the-cuff philanthropist and also mourns the final days of this landmark establishment, an eventual victim of gentrification.

WINNER: Best Feature Film, NYC Food Film Festival 2010