

industry, among non-bisexuals it seems to appeal more to heterosexual men than to the gay-identified.

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Daniel Eisenberg

PORTER, COLE (1891-1964)

American composer and lyricist.

Porter was born to wealthy parents in Peru, Indiana; Cole was his mother's maiden name. After studying music and law at Harvard and Yale Universities, he served in the military in France in World War I. There he met Linda Lee Thomas, and they were married in December 1919. The couple spent most of the following decade conducting a lavish version of the "lost generation" lifestyle in Europe, though Porter occasionally returned to the United States for triumphal productions of his songs in Broadway musicals. On his various travels he was sometimes accom-

panied by his comrade-in-arms Monty Woolley, and the two made no secret of their attraction to handsome young men.

In 1936 Porter wrote the score for the Hollywood musical *Born to Dance*, the first of a number of such films. The following year he suffered a riding accident in which both legs were crushed; in the course of his life he required more than thirty operations to avoid amputation. For long he bore the pain stoically, but in his later years he became reclusive, his days enlivened only—so it has been claimed—by a sadomasochistic relationship with actor Jack Cassidy. In 1946 Cary Grant impersonated Porter in a slick Hollywood film, *Night and Day*, which, true to form, entirely omitted the homosexual aspects of his life.

Porter, who wrote both the lyrics and the music to his songs, chose to operate in the field of commercial music. Through his often sly wit he almost single-handedly raised the medium to an art form. Evidently he relished seeing just how far he could go in an era that exercised strict watchfulness on sexual innuendo. He was not always successful, and such songs as "Love for Sale" and "My Heart Belongs to Daddy" were long kept off the radio, while others underwent bowdlerization. In his 1929 song "I'm a Gigolo," the evidently bisexual character admits that he has "just a dash" of lavender. "But in the Morning, No" disturbed the prurient on several occasions, and alterations were made. Needless to say, these and other songs have enjoyed continuing popularity as cult favorites among homosexual audiences.

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Ward Houser

PORTUGAL

This nation of almost ten million people in the southwestern corner of Eu-