

## Inside The Raincoat: December 2009

Life is a rich tapestry of diversity. I think Cole Porter put it best in his classic song, Let's Call The Whole Thing Off, with that brilliant opening line, "You say tomato and I say tomato," although the joke obviously works best when you hear it sung. Personally I believe it is those things that differentiate us that actually define us. Take as an example the humble Lemon Lime & Bitters. Now that the warm weather is back, so is the Lemon Lime & Bitters. And why wouldn't it be. It is after all a delicious and refreshing non- alcoholic beverage on a warm summers afternoon and I hope that I have the opportunity to bring you one soon. When I do pay special attention to its appearance. For there are two schools of thought here at the Raincoat when it comes to the presentation of the LLB. Let us call the two approaches the K camp and the J camp. In the K camp, the idea is to serve the LLB as a pre-stirred, uniformly mixed beverage the colour of iced tea or perhaps water from a stagnant pool contaminated by the tannin of fallen pine needles. Clearly this is the consistency you need before you consume the drink in order to distribute the flavours equally throughout the vessel. Those in the J camp freely acknowledge the importance of this state but we differ in our belief of who's right it is to do the actual mixing. The preference is to carefully assemble the ingredients into layers like a bottle of coloured sands. Firstly a generous mound of ice, then the golden syrup of lime juice cordial. Next it is important to carefully place a translucent slice of lemon upon the ice so you can then pour in the crystal clear fizz of the lemonade without disturbing the lime. Finally drip in the tan kick of the bitters gently disturbing it with a couple of taps on the ice with a straw to create a crowning glory. Then the triptych of delight is delivered to your table so that you can stir it to your hearts content and ultimately quench your thirst. I would not presume to prejudice your assessment of these two competing philosophies. You be the judge.

### Kazzy's corner

**Stagnant contaminated pond vs layers of coloured sand – tosser ! Anyone that has actually bothered to train in a cocktail bar knows that correct way to build & serve a LLB is to; firstly roll the bitters around the inside of a high-ball glass, add ice, pour in the lime juice, chuck in a slice of lemon and then fill with lemonade, pop in a straw and off you go, ready to drink, no stirring required and all that took about 30 seconds, unlike the J camp, as by the time they have finished faffing around you may feel like you have swallowed many layers of coloured sand – a triptych of delight, please someone just get me a drink!**

### RAINCOATS AROUND THE WORLD.

Here's something to try in your spare time. You may have noticed some photos on the wall of people in exotic locations wearing our shirts. We have started a Facebook page for these photos. Next time you're traveling somewhere fabulous, grab one of shirts, take a picture and we'll post it on our page. Everyone's doing it so get on board soon.



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## FRIDAY NIGHTS IN DECEMBER

4th: Raw Sylke

Caberat style jazz

11th: Peter Chapman  
Trio.

18th: James Wakeling's  
Roaring 40's.

The music is free, played from the heart and often original, so come and support live music.

Music starts at 8:30.