

# the Buzz



*Live Nude Girls UNITE!*  
Julia Query

## What Mother doesn't know

In the new documentary *Live Nude Girls UNITE!* filmmaker Julia Query comes out to her mother on-camera—as a stripper. Mom already knew she was a lesbian, and that was fine. Query was also a union organizer. *Live Nude Girls UNITE!* is the serious but funny chronicle of the women of the Lusty Lady Theater in San Francisco—the first (and, so far, only) strippers to unionize. Hearing women on a picket line chant “2-4-6-8, don’t go in to masturbate!” is priceless, but Query’s personal story gives this film its kick: Her mom, Joyce Wallace, a long-time activist for New York’s streetwalkers, is aghast to find out that her college-educated daughter takes it all off. “I had never had her be so disapproving before,” says Query, 32, who has since reconciled with her mom. “I’d never had her walk away and not call me for three months. I’d never had her actually say she was not proud of me. Before I told her what I did, I’d have these incredible moments of shame. By telling her, I became free. It’s much easier for me to be a stripper now. It’s much easier for me to be gay. Everything in life is easier when you’re out about it.”

