

**"EVERY COMMUNITY NEEDS A GROUP  
OF ANGELIC TROUBLEMAKERS."**

**BAYARD RUSTIN** (1912-1987) maintained a low profile throughout his life, but his creativity and attention to detail made him an essential force in the societal changes of the mid twentieth century. He once described his activist methodology as "social dislocation and creative trouble." He was a committed activist, organizing around issues including civil rights, racism, classism, the Vietnam War, Japanese internment camps and later, discrimination against gays and lesbians. His strategic and creative means of passive resistance landed him in jail over 20 times. Rustin was an instrumental advisor to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., helping to organize the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1956. He was the chief organizer for the 1963 March on Washington, which culminated King's historic "I Have a Dream" speech. Senator Strom Thurmond used Bayard Rustin's homosexuality to denounce the upcoming March on Washington. Thurmond's attempts at using homophobia to disrupt the monumental unifying event failed miserably when King defended his queer advisor. Though he was more comfortable outside of the spotlight, Bayard Rustin never wavered in his commitment to civil rights for all human beings.

**CHANCES DANCES** invites you to celebrate the magic of Bayard Rustin and all queer revolutionaries, deviants, and witches! These masks portray a selection of radical queers and allies, some from the past and some from the present, some recognized and others hidden. We hope their lives and work will inspire current and future generations to

**SUMMON A NEW QUEER REALITY!**

We offer this mask as a symbol of power through knowledge and community through history! Please pass it on!

to see the other 26 masks and  
info on Chances events, go to  
**CHANCESDANCES.ORG**

Chances Dances is a LEZ BI GAY TRANS INTERSEX HETERO DANCE PARTY  
that functions to bring together the varied queer communities of Chicago.  
It happens on the third Monday of every month,  
at Subterranean, 2011 North Avenue