

THE SAGE/PRIME GENTLEMEN MOVIE



PLAINCLOTHES is a 2025 romantic thriller. Set in 1990s New York, a working-class undercover police officer is tasked with entrapping and apprehending homosexual males cruising for sex, only to find himself drawn to one of his targets. He defies professional orders when he falls in love. This tension-filled coming out story, *Plainclothes*, showcases the perils of love and the effects of isolation. *Plainclothes* is a heart-felt love story that

deals with internal conflict, family, and the complexities of sexual identity in the face of societal and personal expectations.

The story has echoes of human rights group *OutRage* protesting against the Metropolitan Police over their entrapment of gay men in the 1990s—a world before dating apps and legislation protecting gay rights. Last year, the Metropolitan Police finally admitted to “failings of the past”. The protagonist of the film, Lucas’s professional betrayal of other gay men, reminds the viewer of the deep self-loathing gay men were still made to feel during the Clinton administration. This was the era of the “Defense of Marriage Act” and “Don’t Ask. Don’t Tell.” policy that demanded LGBTQ+ people in the military keep their identities secret. *Plainclothes* saves its best scene for last when a family dinner whirls off in an unexpected direction following the discovery of a letter. The fallout powerfully shows the consequences of such institutional repression.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20th, 2026
1:30PM at the PRIDE CENTER
FREE POPCORN and SODA